

# TaMikka Sykes

Founding Principal, LEARN Charter School Network

TaMikka Sykes is an educator with years of experience as both a teacher and school leader. Her passion for educational equality and her commitment to urban education has led her to her current role as the founding principal of LEARN Charter School, Campus Seven, an elementary school on the west side of Chicago serving students in the East Garfield Park neighborhood.

Ms. Sykes started her career in education as a Teach for America corps member, where she fulfilled a two year commitment to teach the second

grade in Compton, CA, an experience that solidified her commitment to teaching. She went on to live and teach in both urban public and charter schools in Washington, D.C. for nine years. By teaching first, second, third and fourth grades, she developed her multiple areas of expertise in curriculum development, effective use of data, and co-teaching models. Her interests include developing teacher leaders, cultivating high-quality teacher teams, and promoting social and emotional learning.

Ms. Sykes is a 2016 Surge Institute Fellow whose work is indicative of her commitment to equity in education for all students. Ms. Sykes earned her bachelor's degree in Human Communication Studies from Howard University and her master's degree in School Leadership from Harvard's Graduate School of Education. When she is not working to ensure her scholars have the academic foundation and ambition to earn a college degree, she enjoys spending time with family and friends and intense Scrabble games.

