Kama Bruce has been with St. Andrew's Episcopal School since 2003. Holding an M.Ed from the University of Texas, Kama is currently a Ph.D. candidate there, studying Educational Change. When he's not at school, Kama and his wife, kindergarten teacher Elva Negrete-Bruce enjoy spending time with their children, Isaiah and Ellie.

In your own words, what is the mission of St. Andrew's?

For me, the mission of St. Andrew's is meeting every child where he or she is, engaging with every child, and making sure each child can grow up with a strong understanding of self and the ability to meet his or her full potential. The foundation for that mission is the relationships students have—with themselves, their peers, and their teachers. At a school like this, those relationships can have a very profound effect for children, giving them a strong sense of what their strengths are, and how they can use those strengths to make the world a better place.

What do you see as the most important thing St. Andrew's does for our students?

Every student here is honored and understood as an individual. There's not an opportunity to fly under the radar because each student is known to us, from the teachers up through the administrative team. Those connections are what allow students to explore the roles they might take on, to think about the risks they want to take, and to do that in a very safe and nurturing environment.

What is your vision for the future of St. Andrew's?

My vision is that we continue to be an innovative force in education and continue to serve children on a very individual level. As an Episcopal school, St. Andrew's does a phenomenal job of connecting children with their own specific and unique purpose. That will never go away, and I think it's firmly entrenched in the future of the school and its students.

What do you want each student to feel when they come onto campus each day?

I want our students to feel and pursue joy each day in what they're doing, in the purpose they find, and in the engagement they experience, by making sure every child knows that he or she is a valued individual in our community as they're known, understood, seen, and heard each day. Too often, schools operate like machines and just run kids through. That's not how we operate. Each day, our kids can experience a sense of joy, satisfaction, and challenge, and I think that's phenomenal.

What are the qualities you hope every student shows upon graduation?

So much of the world today is changing so quickly, and we give our students the opportunities to understand themselves through that change, to be able to find resilience and agility in the face of change. I want our kids to possess strong communication skills, an aptitude for agility, and a strong sense of understanding how to be innovative and creative in the face of a challenge. As they explore and grow their strengths, they are better-equipped at the end of their time here to select the right next steps for themselves to make the world a better place.