

Helping Neighbors Find the Best Choice

Ms. Nia Campbell stood in front of a group of community members as an ambassador of the Cleveland Transformation Alliance. “Our children deserve the best choice we can give them,” she said. As she looked out at the crowd, she was glad that the faces before her were so varied. A young mother sat up front, a baby in her arms, her eyes wide and excited. An older man sat in the back corner, his interest keen, but his eyes solemn. “Education today is much different,” Ms. Campbell continued. “Now, we need to do more research. We need to know what our children need, what choice will be best for them.” The audience nodded their heads in agreement. Ms. Campbell knew that each of these parents wanted what was best for their children, but with so many options “best” was sometimes difficult to decipher. When she had been looking for a school for her three young children, the choices had felt overwhelming. Luckily for Ms. Campbell, that was when Stepstone Academy came in to her life.

Ms. Campbell heard about Stepstone Academy from other parents in her neighborhood who had raved about the charter school. The more she learned, the more convinced she was it was the right place for her family. She loved that Stepstone Academy offered an innovative curriculum and gave scholars the opportunity to use



Nia Campbell, Stepstone Academy Parent

technology in their learning every day. But what she truly appreciated was the wide variety of resources that families at Stepstone could access and that the school truly seemed to care about the community.

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~ Nia Campbell, Stepstone Academy Parent

When the school year began, Ms. Campbell joined the Stepstone Academy Parent Committee to get more involved. She wanted to be part of the discussion about the school environment, and she also wanted to

spread the word about the importance of education. Ms. Campbell was also a part of the Cleveland Transformation Alliance, which works to ensure every child in Cleveland can attend a quality school. As an Ambassador for the Alliance, she visited libraries, schools and community events to make sure families knew they had a choice.

“All of our children deserve high quality teachers,” Ms. Campbell said to the group. “We all have to make sure a good education is the top priority of the school we choose.” The group in front of her began to clap as Ms. Campbell finished her presentation. She hoped each of the parents would be able to find a great school for their children, just like she had. Stepstone Academy was not only an excellent school where her children

were receiving a quality education, it was an important part of the community that helped Ms. Campbell find ways to connect with other parents and better the neighborhood that they all share.

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