

Welcome, Principal Brandon Poyner to Bolton AgriSTEM High School! Principal Poyner has served students and families for 12 years; eight in middle school administration, and most recently, as the Principal of Millington Middle School. Principal Poyner has earned a B.S. degree in Behavioral Science from Mid-Continent University, an M.A. degree in Administration and Supervision from University of Phoenix, and as an extension of his leader preparation, Principal Poyner received *Principal and School Leadership: The Art of Leader Education* certification from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.



His career began as a middle school social studies and optional school coordinator for four years. During this time, he earned a TVAAS Level 5 status and reinforced the partnership between the Wooddale High School Aviation program and the program at Wooddale Middle School. Because of his background in recruiting, he was moved to Fairview Middle School to recruit for the developing 6-16 program. While serving at Fairview Middle School, the school was named as an "In The Zone" Reward school for moving from a TVAAS Level 1 to a TVAAS Level 5 status. Principal Poyner worked closely with Christian Brothers University and Middle College High School to develop a strong 6-16 program, which prepared students on the middle school level to begin taking college classes in high school.

As the Principal of Millington Middle School, under his leadership the school established an award-winning STEAM program, ACT and college & career readiness programs, college tours, and an advisory program. Principal Poyner supported the STEAM program and career readiness program through grant writing and serving on the advisory board. In January 2020, Principal Poyner served on the Advisory Board and secured a grant from the American Rocket Society that allowed students to compete in a national rocketry competition. The Advisory Board helped to develop a curriculum designed to prepare students for the workforce. Local business leaders reviewed student-created resumes and students participated in mock interviews. Once the interviews were completed students were given immediate feedback by these leaders.

Principal Poyner has learned what students will need to be successful and has established relationships with businesses and community leaders, as well as parents and teachers to ensure success. He has always been able to build on the great things that were already happening in schools, by listening and working collaboratively to develop strong teams. Therefore, he is looking forward to the opportunity to apply his skills to help support Memphis-Shelby County Schools in developing and supporting students and staff at Bolton AgriSTEM High School.