



## **Bibb County School District**

**Department of Communications / Community & School Affairs**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **SOUTHWEST HIGH ALUMNA AND U.S. SCIENCE ENVOY DR. LASHANDA KORLEY RETURNS HOME FOR MASTERCLASS SERIES WITH BIBB STUDENTS**

January 3, 2024

(MACON, GA) – University of Delaware distinguished professor and recent U.S. Science Envoy appointee Dr. LaShanda T.J. Korley will serve as the next lecturer for the W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy On the Menu Masterclass Series slated for Monday, January 8, 2024, from 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM. W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy is located at 1780 Anthony Road, Macon. Members of the media are invited to attend.



Dr. Korley, a proud alumna of Southwest High School, will engage healthcare and environmental science CTAE students on the importance of women, diversity, and mentorship in STEM-related fields. On the Menu is a series of “invitation only” presentations that affords CTAE students the opportunity to learn from and interact with industry experts. This is the second event in the series.

The U. S. Department of State selected Dr. Korley as one of seven distinguished scientists to serve as a U.S. Science Envoy in 2023. Through the Science Envoy Program, eminent U.S. scientists and engineers leverage their expertise and networks to forge international connections and identify opportunities for sustained international cooperation to advance solutions to shared challenges, champion innovation, and demonstrate America’s scientific leadership and technical ingenuity.

She is a Distinguished Professor in the Departments of Materials Science & Engineering and Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Delaware (UD). She is the Director of an Energy Frontier Research Center – Center for Plastics Innovation (CPI) funded by the Department of Energy and the Co-Director of a Materials Research Science and Center – UD Center for Hybrid, Active, and Responsive Materials (UD CHARM).

Following her graduation from Southwest High School in 1994, Dr. Korley received a Bachelor of Science in both Chemistry and Engineering from Clark Atlanta University, as well as a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1999. She completed her doctoral studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Chemical Engineering and the Program in Polymer Science and Technology in 2005, and she was the recipient of the Provost's Academic Diversity Postdoctoral Fellowship at Cornell University in 2005.

Among her myriad commendations, she was named a DuPont Young Professor in 2011 and was awarded the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) Lloyd N. Ferguson Young Scientist Award for Excellence in Research and the American Institute for Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Minority Affairs Committee Gerry Lessells Award, and the William W. Grimes Award for Excellence in Chemical Engineering.

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