

Nick Barker, affectionately known as "Mr. B", began his journey at Jacksonville Classical Academy in 2020 as a 5th-grade teacher during the school's inaugural year. Over the next two years, he taught Literature and Composition before stepping into his current role as principal. Before joining the mission of JXC, Mr. Barker dedicated over a decade to teaching, with experience spanning high school science, history, middle school religion, physical education, pastoral ministry, and leadership in student development at colleges in Tennessee and Florida. A lifelong learner, he graduated with honors at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, earning a Master's Degree in Executive Leadership from Liberty University. Mr. Barker is passionate about classical education, mentoring students, and leading the JXC team with joy!

In addition to being JXC's principal, Mr. B is also a JXC parent to Jets: Paityn, Max, and Maddox. When he's not roaming the halls or joining the lessons in classrooms, Mr. B is living the good life with his kids and wife, Liane, and their 3 pets: Tucker (golden retriever), Jack (king charles spaniel), and Theodore (cat). Mr. B is committed to traveling to beautiful places, reading great books, and living his life to train the mind and improve the heart of himself and others! He has visited Europe, Asia, South America, and many historic cities and national parks of the USA!

While many quotes can speak to Mr. Barker's vision and mission of leadership at JXC, he loves this one by George Bernard Shaw:

“This is the true joy in life, being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one. Being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances, complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy. I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it what I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no brief candle to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.”