‘Greetings & Salutations’! I am Mr. Woody Hemphill, honored to be serving as your new English Language Arts (ELA) teacher at A.R. Johnson this year! Born in Augusta and raised in Thomson, GA, my mother worked in education for 30 years, and dad coached four children’s baseball teams each Spring for equally as long. Suffice to say, I've benefitted from pointed instruction, and the art of practicing consistency. From an early age, I fancied myself as a performer figuring along the way that a book was about the best script for playing my way out of a small town. Luckily, through good luck and a good network of people in my life, this culminated into a lifelong love of reading, and a deeply seeded appreciation for the underdog!

After embarking on a series of post-high school academic journeys, I earned a Bachelor of Science in Outdoor Education, as well as a Master of Education from Georgia College and State University. Upon graduation, I focused on outdoor education, municipal and county parks and recreation, and business administration pertaining to outdoor hospitality campgrounds and resorts.

After living in 7 states from sea to shining sea in the outdoor programming and hospitality industry, I have taught and learned from students and teachers from K-12, adults, and even some corporate folks from all walks of life. None of that experience compares to the thrill of helping students find themselves through developing new habits and skills to build towards a better future! As this is my 3rd year of classroom teaching, I see teaching as an opportunity for daily performance and am ready to help you on your way to ‘check-in’ to the next phase of your academic journey toward graduation and beyond!

Let’s have a great year! Even if you don’t enjoy reading, we’re going to learn lots about ourselves to become the best characters we can be!

Mr. Hemphill, Room 711