

## INTERVIEW WITH JADA BRACKETT, MOTHER OF JERMAINE BROWN

### **Why did you choose St. Luke's for Jermaine?**

We chose St. Luke's because of the Christian principles and perspectives and because it is a college preparatory school. Our future and beliefs were a big part of this decision.

### **How long did Jermaine attend SLES?**

Jermaine attended SLES 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

### **Do you feel that Jermaine received MORE or less opportunities at a small school?**

I know Jermaine was given more opportunities due to being at a smaller school. With his hard work and dedication he would've played at a larger school, but not as much. As an athlete the more chances u get to showcase your talent, the better the chances you will have.

### **What did you love about SLES?**

What I loved most about SLES was the family atmosphere, everyone came out to support, from lower campus to the upper campus. The teachers and the admin office was always an email or phone call away.

Academics always came first, the teachers taught Jermaine to be consistent. In 6<sup>th</sup> grade there was a slight struggle, the teachers offered help (tutoring) immediately after school (before practice) daily. I was promised that year, that Jermaine would be prepared for college. The teachers would always reach out if assignments were missed, late, or grades were dropping.

### **Do you have any regrets about sending Jermaine to St. Luke's to play sports, but most of all GROW into the person that he is today?**

One of the best decisions I made was to send my son to SLES (a smaller school). There's so much going on in the larger schools, I would rather have my kids at a school where I feel he is safe and reachable at any time.

The family atmosphere and the love was incredible and amazing, the encouraging words, the support, the cheering, etc. We became family and friends, with unbreakable bonds.

I was slightly nervous about Jermaine playing varsity in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, but the older kids always accepted him with open arms, which made him more comfortable with competing no matter the size or height. The more u practice at whatever it is your heart desires, the better you will become.

Jermaine has played sports since 4yrs old. At one point, our teams were losing a little more than winning. I explained to him that everyone has not played as long as you have and some kids were only helping out due to there not being enough kids participating in sports. We came up with using that same energy to cheer your teammates on and help them if needed, encourage them to work hard and it worked. The kids formed unbreakable bonds from the field, to the court, to the class. Coach Davis was one of the coaches who would always remind him to keep it together, always be presentable, reliable, be on time and most of all if you fail to prepare, you prepare to fail. Coach Davis pretty much molded him into the leader his other coaches became familiar with.