

INT. SCHOOL LIBRARY - MORNING

The staff is seated in folding chairs. PRINCIPAL MORRIS, 50s, stands at the front, speaking warmly.

PRINCIPAL MORRIS

Before we get into today's agenda, I'd like to introduce our new assistant principal - Mr. Daniel Carter.

Enter DANIEL CARTER, late 30s, sharp suit but approachable demeanor. He carries himself with quiet confidence. Lisa watches as he shakes hands with the principal, then steps forward.

DANIEL

(smiling)

Thank you. I'm excited to be here. I grew up in Baltimore, spent the last decade in education leadership, and I'm looking forward to bringing that experience here. My door is always open - for teachers, staff, and of course, our students.

Polite applause. Lisa claps, her eyes lingering on him a moment too long. She quickly looks down at her notepad as Rachel gives her a side glance, smirking knowingly.

RACHEL

(whispering)

You're smiling.

LISA

(clears her throat,
defensive)

I'm just being polite.