



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Halifax County, NC – January 3, 2022

Halifax County Schools celebrates 'School Board Recognition Month'

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Halifax County Schools is joining with other districts throughout the state to recognize the important contribution school board members make to their communities. "Our school board members spend countless hours of unpaid time working to provide the best possible education for our students," said district Superintendent Dr. Eric Cunningham. "Celebrating School Board Recognition Month is one way to say thanks for all they do."

"School board members represent their fellow citizens' views and priorities in the complex enterprise of maintaining and running the community's public schools," Dr. Cunningham said. "They also reinforce the principle of local control over public education, which is an important, highly valued aspect of education in North Carolina. Too often the efforts of school board members go unrecognized," Superintendent Cunningham said.

The school board's main goal, is to support student achievement. To achieve that goal, the board focuses on the following needs:

- **Student Achievement-** Halifax County Schools will drive accelerated achievement for all students to eliminate the achievement gap and low performing schools, while increasing the well-being of students and professional development for teachers and other school personnel.
- **Health and Wellness-** Halifax County Schools will improve the overall physical and mental health and wellness of its student and faculty populations to reduce preventable health care costs and increase teacher and student productivity.
- **Fiscal Management and Resource Development-** Halifax County Schools will ensure sound fiscal management through budgets and audits in compliance with all governmental regulations and guidelines producing unqualified audits through internal audits; following a procedural manual for monthly, quarterly and end of fiscal year audits.
- **Governance and Leadership-** Halifax County Schools will build and maintain clear, realistic governance structures and leadership development opportunities at all levels.
- **Human Resource Development and Management-** Halifax County Schools will adhere to human resource development best practices that result in the recruitment and retention of high-quality staff and comprehensive, ongoing professional development opportunities.
- **Communications and Messaging-** Halifax County Schools will use effective, diverse, innovative, methods of communications to increase internal and external stakeholder awareness and engagement in the educational process from the classroom to the community.



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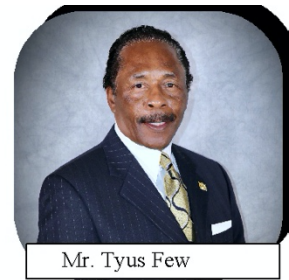
“Even though we are making a special effort during January to show appreciation for our school board members, we recognize their contributions reflect a year-round effort on their part. They are dedicated individuals who are committed to improving student achievement and to fighting for the best for all of our students,” Dr. Cunningham stated.

The men and women serving Halifax County School District and their years of service are:

- Dr. Joyce Lashley- Board Chair, 9 years
- Mr. Tyus Few- Vice Chair, 7 years
- Mr. Claude Cooper- Member, 9 years
- Mrs. Susie Lynch-Evans- Member, 11 years
- Ms. Carolyn Hawkins- Member, 27 years
- Mr. Charles Hedgepeth- Member, 11 years
- Mr. James Mills- Member, 2 years



Dr. Joyce Lashley
Chairman



Mr. Tyus Few
Vice- Chairman



Mr. James Mills



Mr. Charles Hedgepeth



Mrs. Susie Evans



Ms. Carolyn Hawkins



Mr. Claude Cooper

Halifax County Schools
Board of Education