

## Superintendent's Message

Walter R. Clemons, Ph.D.

September 27, 2019

Dear Gloucester County Community:

Gloucester County Public Schools has gotten off to an outstanding start in the 2019-2020 school year. I want to personally thank all faculty and staff, students, parents and the entire community for your efforts as we continuously strive for excellence in all that we do. To that end, there have been some exciting things happening in the school district that I would like to share with the community at this time.

Academic results from the spring 2019 Standards of Learning Assessments will be released on September 30, 2019. We anticipate that all eight of our schools will once again earn "Full Accreditation" status. In addition, Abingdon, Achilles, Botetourt and Petsworth Elementary Schools received recognition from the Virginia Department of Education regarding student academic performance. As always, we will continue to move forward to even higher levels of academic excellence. Please take time to thank all the teachers and support staff for all that they do for our students and families on a daily basis and please visit the GCPS website homepage under "GCPS Highlights" and click on Virginia's School Quality Profiles for more detailed information on each school and the division.

We have added eighty four (professional and support) new staff members (full-time & part-time) to the Gloucester County Public Schools family for the 2019–2020 school year and we are extremely excited to have them as part of our team. We also have building level and Division level administrative changes and additions as follows: Mrs. Gwendolyn Wallace (Petsworth principal), Ms. Cathy Balderson (Page assistant principal), Mr. Stefan Mygas (GHS assistant principal), Mrs. Jenna Dominguez, (Division Secondary Literacy Specialist) and Mrs. Lisa Jones (Division Nurse Coordinator). In addition, Mrs. Jessica Duren has joined our team as the new Executive Director of Human Resources & Compliance and Mr. Scott Mecca has joined us as our new Director of Technology. Also, Mrs. Tanya Deckard has joined our team as our new Director of Transportation and Mr. Bryan Hartley is now serving in the capacity of Executive Director of Operations.

Finally, I encourage you to support the Gloucester County Educational Foundation as plans for the annual 3K Walk/8K Run (which currently is scheduled to be held on March 7, 2020) are now underway. Your contributions will be greatly appreciated as the Educational Foundation provides scholarships for students, mini-grants for teachers and sponsors our annual Teacher of the Year program. I also encourage you to join and support the various parent/teacher

associations/organizations. All of these organizations are extremely vital to the school division and provide support in various areas including grants, awards, fundraisers, materials and supplies, equipment and other incentives. Your participation, support and involvement is greatly welcomed and appreciated. In closing, I look forward to continuously working with all community stakeholders and I sincerely thank you for your time.