



COLOR OF EDUCATION

Dr. Valerie Bridges

Dr. Valerie H. Bridges has served as the Superintendent of Edgecombe County Public Schools since 2017. Prior to assuming the role of Superintendent, she served as Associate and Assistant Superintendent in Edgecombe and Washington County Schools.



Before transitioning to the eastern region of North Carolina, Dr. Bridges worked in both Guilford and Wake County Public Schools as a high school teacher, middle school assistant principal, and elementary principal. During her tenure as principal, she was nominated as Principal of the Year for three of the six years she served in that role and was also named the 2007 Principal of the Year by GCAEOP. Her school was selected as one of the fifteen most improved schools during the 2007 school year and met high growth standards during the 2008 and 2009 school years. In 2019,

she was a finalist for the We Are Leading Educational Leadership Award where she was recognized for her leadership and mentorship to other leaders.

In her varied leadership roles, she has implemented multiple programs to improve academic achievement, facilitate student support, and establish school culture (40 Days of Purpose, Princi”pals”, Days of Peace, Covey Moments).

Dr. Bridges is a graduate of the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, where she received a BS in accountancy. She also holds a Master’s degree in business administration from Meredith College, teaching certification from St. Augustine’s College and an additional Master’s degree in school administration from North Carolina State University. She also earned her Doctorate in Educational Research and Leadership from North Carolina State University.

Dr. Bridges is an active member of the Fulbright Principal Exchange program. Through this program, she has traveled to Brazil and Argentina to establish empowering connections with the societal, cultural and educational needs of other countries. As a result of these connections, she has hosted principals from Argentina in Guilford and Edgecombe County.

Dr. Bridges is married and has two children. She enjoys professional football and college basketball. Her hobbies include reading, traveling, and shopping for shoes. The driving force

behind her work is her real passion and joy for children and helping students to reach their full potential. Her motto is "Whatever it Takes" in order to help students succeed.