



Cate Gentry, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Education:  
James Carmichael  
Cheryl Jefferies  
Kimberly Skeen  
Dr. Dee Stokes  
Judy Younts

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***PRESS RELEASE: for immediate release***  
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After a comprehensive search and extensive interview process, the Thomasville City Schools Board of Education is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Jesse Pratt as its Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, K-12, commencing July 16.

Dr. Pratt is an exemplary educational leader who will oversee the K-12 academic program and serve as an integral part of the executive leadership team for the TCS school district. His commitment to excellence and his dedication to every student's success are hallmarks of his approach to his work.

Dr. Pratt comes to Thomasville from his current position serving as an Academic Improvement Officer for Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS). Dr. Pratt has been working with 34 schools (K-12) which provides service to 14,000 students. During his time in IPS, he implemented a Transformation Zone which focuses on turning around some of the lowest-performing schools in the district. Dr. Pratt also began an initiative called 'Opportunity Culture' which allows the district to extend the reach of their excellent teachers. He assisted with improving the graduation rate from 71% to 82%, which is the highest in the IPS district's history.

Prior to IPS, Dr. Pratt was a comprehensive high school principal in Guilford County Schools (GCS) in North Carolina. During his tenure, his innovative leadership brought a low performing high school to a highly successful performing school. Dr. Pratt was named GCS Secondary Principal of the Year in 2012. He also served as a principal of an alternative school for all boys called Middle College at North Carolina A&T State University. While at the Middle College, he improved the school culture, improved the learning environment, and restored community pride by focusing on academics. Dr. Pratt accepted his first principalship at Allen Middle School in Guilford County Schools. He was an Assistant Principal for two years at Southeast Middle School



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in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools. He taught sixth grade Language Arts and Social Studies in Guilford County Schools at Allen Jay Middle Schools.

Dr. Pratt received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Middle School Education, Master of School Administration, and his Educational Specialist degree from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. Dr. Pratt completed his doctoral degree in Educational Leadership at High Point University in High Point, NC. He also completed the Atlanta Research Partners' National Superintendents Academy in Chicago, Illinois.

"We are thrilled to welcome such an outstanding and visionary educator to Bulldog Nation. Dr. Pratt will lead the charge toward every student's success as our school district continues moving forward in the implementation of specific, focused, strategic academic plans," Superintendent Dr. Cate Gentry says.



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