May 2, 2016

**Halifax County Board of Education Names New Superintendent**

The Halifax County Board of Education is pleased to announce the selection and appointment of Dr. Eric Cunningham as the next Superintendent of the Halifax County Schools (HCS). Dr. Cunningham will take office on July 1, 2016.

During the search process, the board carefully reviewed applications and supporting documentation from a diverse field of 20 excellent candidates. Although many qualified candidates applied, the board felt that Dr. Cunningham’s leadership, experience, and dedication to students would best serve the HCS students, staff, and community for years to come. The board is confident that Dr. Cunningham will lead the district to even higher achievement.

Dr. Cunningham has enjoyed a successful career in public education a spanning over 20 years in North Carolina and Virginia. He currently serves as Associate Superintendent for Facilities and Operations for Nash-Rocky Mount Schools – a position he has held for the last four years. As a key member of the superintendent’s administrative team, Dr. Cunningham is responsible for the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the district’s operational goals and manages related support services such as maintenance, transportation, facilities, nutrition, and energy. Prior to his current position, Dr. Cunningham served as Assistant Superintendent for Administration in Caroline County, Virginia from 2008 to 2012. Dr. Cunningham also has an extensive background in personnel management, serving as a supervisor and director of human resources for 10 years in Spotsylvania County, Virginia and an Assistant Director of Personnel Services for 3 years in Lynchburg City Public Schools. He began his educational career as a high school coach and guidance counselor in Virginia.

Dr. Cunningham has an impressive academic background as well, including an associate’s degree in science from the Richard Bland College of William and Mary and a bachelor’s degree in science from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. He went on to obtain several graduate degrees including a master’s degree in agency counseling from Liberty University in 1991, an education specialists degree from the University of Virginia in 1997, and ultimately a doctorate in education administration and supervision from the University of Virginia in 2006.

Dr. Cunningham greatly looks forward to the opportunity to lead the Halifax County Schools and become part of the community. He has two daughters: Erica, 19, and Mallory, 17. Dr. Cunningham has issued the following statement about the position:

“Although there are many challenges in Halifax County, I also see many opportunities to accomplish something great for our children and the entire community. I am excited and look forward to establishing collaborative relationships with the division’s teachers, principals, support staff, and community members.”

Please join the board in welcoming Dr. Cunningham as the new Superintendent of the Halifax County Schools.