



Muscogee County School District

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For Immediate Release

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MEDIA RELEASE

Board of Education Names

David F. Lewis

Superintendent of Education Finalist

(Columbus, GA)-The Muscogee County Board of Education announces David Lewis is the finalist for the position of Superintendent of Education. Following a 14 day public comment period, which begins today, the Board plans to formally tender the position to Lewis.

“I am honored at the prospect of joining the Muscogee County School System and becoming an involved citizen of Columbus,” Lewis said. “I believe my experience, loyalty, vision, initiative; integrity and commitment to high standards have prepared me to join the Muscogee County School Board in ensuring a high quality education for all students.”

Lewis’ educational philosophy has been shaped by his personal and professional experiences.

“He is a strong coalition builder who believes that every child can learn,” said Rob Varner, Muscogee County School Board Chair.

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Lewis currently works in a system roughly three times as large as Muscogee County and one that includes over 18 separate municipalities. He knows how to include all stakeholders in the educational process. He has a deep understanding of the new skills students need in today's highly competitive global knowledge economy and understands that failure to deliver those skills to our students will place them at an alarming disadvantage.

Lewis currently serves as Associate Superintendent for Teaching and Learning for Polk County School District in Florida, which is one of the largest systems in the country with more than 95,000 students. He has served as middle and high school principal for 10 years and received the Florida Principal of the Year Award. With a Bachelor of Science and Master in Music Education, Lewis served as Director of Bands and has a deep appreciation for the Arts. In this current role, Lewis has led the district to numerous notable achievements including:

**The College Board's Advance Placement District Honor Roll for the second consecutive year for increased enrollment and performance in AP classes, particularly that of minority students (176% increase) making Polk the only Florida district to receive this award multiple times in successive years.*

**Conceptualized and implemented STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) Academics in all Polk County Middle Schools with planned expansion to feeder elementary schools.*

**Seven consecutive years of increased graduation rates during tenure as Senior Director of High Schools and Associate Superintendent*

**2013 recipient of Best Communities for Music Education from the National Association of Music Merchants*

David and his wife, Karen, who is a 32 year music educator, have three children, Monica, Douglas and Stephanie. Monica (29) resides in Polk County, Florida with her husband Drew and their six month old son, Noah. Douglas (24) currently lives in Shanghai, China, where he is employed as a marketing director. Stephanie graduated from high school in June and will be attending Jacksonville State University in Alabama on a Division 1 softball scholarship where she will major in criminology.

For more information, contact the Board of Education Chair, Rob Varner, (706) 649-5509.

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