

Press Release
June 1, 2020

ASHE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCES NEW SUPERINTENDENT

The Ashe County Board of Education announced **Dr. Eisa Cox** as the new Superintendent of Ashe County Schools effective July 1, 2020.



Dr. Eisa Cox has been an award-winning teacher and leader and has worked in award-winning school districts. She has spent the last seven years of her career working for Rowan-Salisbury Schools and currently serves as the Executive Director of Programs, providing leadership for the departments of exceptional children, academically gifted, federal programs, instructional programs and the implementation of several district projects for the 19,000 students and 34 schools within Rowan County. Dr. Cox previously served as the Executive Director of Secondary Education for Rowan-Salisbury Schools, providing curriculum and leadership for six traditional high schools, one alternative school and one Early College. In March 2019, Dr. Cox graduated from the NCSA Aspiring Superintendent's Program.

Dr. Cox earned her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Wingate University in 2016 and was awarded the Most Outstanding Capstone for her dissertation research. The abstract of her award-winning dissertation, *Profile of a Digital Superintendent*, was published in the December 2017 issue of *The School Administrator*. In addition to her doctorate degree, she earned a Master of School Leadership from UNCG and graduated with honors from West Virginia University. Earlier in her career, Dr. Cox served as a high school assistant principal, a high school biology teacher in and middle school science teacher. In 1999, she was awarded the Guilford County Schools Sallie Mae First Class Teacher of the Year and later the Rookie of the Year in 2000.

Dr. Cox and her husband Kevin have been married almost 22 years. They have two sons, Spencer and Wyatt. Dr. Cox is originally from West Virginia and enjoys the family and community of a small town. When asked why she wanted to come to work for Ashe County Schools, she replied, *"I love the rich tradition of community and success in Ashe County Schools."* She also spoke of her love for the area, the family-oriented community, and is a self-described *"mountain girl."* **Congratulations to Dr. Eisa Cox!**

When asked about the superintendent interview process, **Board Chairman C.B. Jones** said,

"We are saddened to lose Superintendent Phyllis Yates because she has been such a valuable asset to our county for many years. However, we understand that after 44 years of service to the county, she needs to take time to enjoy her retirement that will certainly include traveling and spending

time with her family. With that being said, we were looking for someone who would be a good fit for Ashe County. Dr. Cox is from West Virginia and understands the mountain culture. We also wanted to find a superintendent who has a vision to continue on with the successes that we've had while also pushing us to grow and improve. Dr. Cox has the background and ability to lead the school system and our board is excited to welcome her to our team."

When asked about what drew her to Ashe County Schools, **Dr. Cox** said,

"I am honored and humbled to be given this opportunity to serve the children, parents, teachers, leaders, staff, and the community of Ashe County Schools. Ashe County Schools has a rich tradition in success, a focus on community, and a commitment to continuous improvement. I am looking forward to working with the Board of Education and the school system staff to build on this success preparing all students with the knowledge and skills necessary for them to be successful in their education, careers and family lives after graduation."

Please join the board in welcoming Dr. Eisa Cox as the new superintendent of Ashe County Schools.