



About Dr. Hardy

Dr. Nakia Hardy began her role as Deputy Superintendent of Durham Public Schools in January 2018. Since that time, she has led efforts in the creation of the District Strategic Plan and in developing and supporting a culture of academic excellence. She leads Academic Services including the departments of Academically Gifted, Exceptional Children, Student Services, Professional Development, Curriculum and Instruction, Federal Programs, Diversity and Equity, School Innovation, School Relations, and principal supervisors.

Originally from North Carolina, Nakia chose teaching as a career and earned the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Scholarship. She attended Appalachian State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry with a concentration in Secondary Education and Physics. Nakia taught all levels of Chemistry, including Advanced Placement, at Walter Hines Page High School for 5 years. In 2000, she received the Guilford County Excellence in Science Teaching Award. Nakia received both her Master's in School Administration and Doctorate in Education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 2005, Nakia was named principal at Broadview Middle School in Burlington, NC. In 2009, her work was recognized at the regional/state level as she was selected as the Central/Piedmont Region Principal of the Year for North Carolina.

Nakia continued to impact the educational process in 2010 as she moved to become Assistant Superintendent for K-12 Curriculum and Instruction with Rockingham County Schools where she increased the graduation rate from 72.9% to 76.0%, obtained grant funds exceeding 1.5 million dollars for technology integration and STEM initiatives and implemented a one-to-one environment for all high schools. Following her tenure there, she joined Baltimore City Schools as the Executive Director for Teaching and Learning in January 2014. Among her accomplishments there were the implementation of district curriculum for all content areas in grades pre-k through 12 and the analysis of district formative and summative assessment data to improve content, sequence and outcomes of instructional strategies.

Most recently, Nakia served as the Chief Academic Officer of Guilford County Schools, the third largest district in North Carolina, from July 2015 to December 2017. While serving Guilford, she implemented core literacy programming in grades 4-9, Restorative Practices at 16 middle schools, district-wide professional development on understanding implicit bias, equitable practices and culturally responsive pedagogy and successfully implemented NCStar for school improvement in all schools. Under her supervision, EVAAS growth for schools who met or

exceeded targets grew from 80.3% to 86.3% and grade level proficiency increased from 53.2% to 55.6%.

In her free time, Nakia enjoys spending time with family and friends, cooking and watching QVC.