

Eric Williams, Ed.D.

Eric Williams, Ed.D., is in his third year of service as the Superintendent of the York County School Division. He has worked as an educator for 20 years, serving as a teacher, dean, assistant principal, principal, assistant superintendent, interim superintendent, and superintendent. Immediately before returning to York County, he worked for eleven years in Naples, Florida for the Collier County Public Schools.

During Williams' first two years as superintendent, students and staff again demonstrated the levels of excellence that has come to be expected in York County. Williams worked with the School Board, staff members, and community members to create a strategic plan that guides the work of sustaining and building on the excellence of the school division. The plan promotes the joy of teaching and learning while engaging students in rigorous educational experiences, rather than just covering content with students to prepare them for tests.

During his first two years as superintendent, Williams and the School Board faced a cumulative state revenue loss of 17%, the largest reduction in state aid in decades. They cut expenditures strategically, reducing instructional expenditures less than expenditures at the School Board Office and in Operations & Maintenance. Although 47 staff positions were eliminated, no currently filled classroom teaching positions were cut, reflecting the commitment of the Superintendent and School Board to seek to protect excellence in teaching and learning.

As an assistant superintendent in Collier County, Florida, Williams focused on K-12 curriculum. His duties included supervising the principals of 10 middle schools, eight high schools, alternative schools and the Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology. Williams served as interim superintendent of Collier County schools in August 2007.

Immediately before being named assistant superintendent, Williams served as principal of Gulf Coast High School, a school with an enrollment of 3,000 students. Under his leadership, the school was rated by the state of Florida as an A+ school for the first time. He was chosen as the Collier County Principal of the Year from a pool of 43 principals during his last year as principal.

Williams completed his student teaching within the York County School Division at Bruton High School. His teaching experience includes teaching American History, American Government, and ESOL (English-for-Speakers-of-other-Languages). Before teaching, he served as a Governor's Fellow with the Secretary of Education in Virginia.

Williams graduated with Honors with a concentration in history from the College of William & Mary. He earned a master's degree in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership from Boston University.

Williams is a recipient of the Robert F. Kennedy Award for Distinguished Public Service. He speaks Spanish and Portuguese proficiently.

Williams has six siblings. Growing up as the son of a Colonel in the United States Air Force, he lived in Virginia, Maryland, Texas, England and Missouri. His wife, Michelle, is a teacher. Their daughter, Lexi, is an eleventh grade student and their son, Bryce, is an eighth grade student in the York County School Division.