



Interim Director of Schools

Maintaining stability and accountability in a district focused on growth and innovation.

CLARKSVILLE-MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM



2021-2022

Interim Director of Schools

In June 2021, the CMCSS School Board unanimously voted to approve Dr. Angela Huff as the Interim Director of Schools, following Mr. House's resignation to become the Superintendent of Houston Independent School District in Houston, TX. Dr. Huff will continue leading the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System until a permanent Director of Schools has been selected by the School Board. In addition to Dr. Huff's dynamic and tested leadership skills, CMCSS has strong systems and processes as well as dynamic school- and district-level administrators, faculty, and staff to maintain efficient and effective operations through the transition.



Dr. Angela Huff

About the Interim Director of Schools

Dr. Angela Huff had been the Chief of Staff for CMCSS since July 2018. As CMCSS' Chief of Staff, Dr. Huff has worked closely with the Director of Schools and School Board to support the ongoing development and improvement of the entire district, managing the Office of the Director, supervising the Student Services Department, and synchronizing the work of the Director's Executive Cabinet to ensure annual District goals are achieved. Before joining CMCSS, Dr. Huff worked as special projects manager for Williamson County Schools in Franklin, Tenn.

Dr. Huff retired from Georgia in 2016 after a successful 32-year career in education. She served in the roles of Chief of Staff, Assistant Superintendent, and Principal over her 24-year tenure with the Cobb County School District (CCSD) in Marietta, Ga. CCSD is the second-largest school district in Georgia and the 25th largest in the nation, serving over 107,000 students. Before entering administration, she had eight years of teaching experience in Gwinnett County Public Schools (GCPS), the largest school district in Georgia and the 14th largest in the nation. She earned the honor of Teacher of the Year in 1988. Georgia PTA Principal of the Year for 2004-2005.

She earned a Ph.D. in educational leadership from the University of Southern Mississippi, a master's degree in education from Emory University in Atlanta, and a B.A. in education from Clark College in Atlanta. She has served as an adjunct professor at Trevecca Nazarene University since 2017.



GOAL No. 1

Ensure high-quality teaching and learning continues throughout the district.

Learning Loss

In the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, national experts predicted that students may experience a degree of learning loss as a result of the disruptions that took place. Both the state of Tennessee and the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System anticipated this possibility for students. Educators and administrators have worked diligently throughout the year to identify and be prepared to address any possible gaps that students may experience.

Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, CMCSS will continue to use and monitor a number of locally-administered assessments, called FastBridge and Case. These assessments provide the district with the opportunity to track both students' skill development in ELA and Math, as well as their mastery toward the Tennessee Academic Standards.

Closing Achievement Gaps

Dr. Huff is committed to supporting CMCSS educators and their work to educate and empower students. As Interim Director of Schools, she will monitor progress; listen to the needs of students, educators, and parents; and ensure the District remains focused on evidence-based best practices.

Visibility

An important way to observe progress is to routinely engage with stakeholders at the school level. A consistent presence in our schools allows district leaders to see first-hand the innovation and high-quality instruction provided in the classroom. Dr. Huff will routinely visit schools to celebrate the wonderful accomplishments happening in our classrooms and to identify opportunities for refinement.





GOAL No. 2

Maintain accountability for accomplishing the district's 2021-2022 Strategic Goals.

Hold District Leaders Accountable for Accomplishing Strategic Goals

Strategic Goals are developed each year by district leaders through input from stakeholders. This process of continuous improvement provides accountability and benchmarks for all departments. Dr. Huff will tap into her over 37 years of public school experience to lead this work. She will stay in tune with the latest state and national research-based strategies to ensure the district remains innovative. Dr. Huff will remain accessible to school and district leaders while consistently monitoring, evaluating, and providing feedback on the progress towards achieving CMCSS' strategic goals. Additionally, Dr. Huff will focus on strategies to keep the community engaged on the path to progress such as surveys, communication groups, focus groups, and public speaking engagements.

GOAL No. 3

Lead the district in developing the 2022-2023 Strategic Goals and Operating Budget.

Align Strategic Goals with a Vision of a CMCSS Graduate

The CMCSS Strategic Goals are developed each year by district leaders, and these goals highlight ways CMCSS will continue to innovate to meet student needs. Dr. Huff will ensure accountability among all departments in making progress toward their goals, but she will also challenge all departments to ensure the goals they set are centered on advancing student success and developing the qualities the district strives to instill in all of its graduates. Strategic goals should ensure that CMCSS graduates are confident, lifelong learners, ready for college or career, and ready to take their place as members of our community, nation, and world. Similarly, she will keep these principles in mind as she leads the district to develop its Operating Budget.



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GOAL No. 4

Inform, engage, and inspire the community in support of student achievement.

Increased Communications with Stakeholders

In collaboration with the Communications Department, Dr. Huff is focused on refining existing stakeholder engagement strategies and implementing additional practices. Dr. Huff understands the critical importance of constructive feedback from families and the community. She also knows the importance of sharing the wonderful achievements of CMCSS students, faculty, staff, and administrators. The following are a few of the specific areas of focus:

- Refine listening and speaking opportunities.
- Promote the successes of our students, faculty, staff, and administrators.
- Continue effective communication with families, employees, and the School Board.
- Foster relationships with local, state, and national decision-makers and partners.



GOAL No. 5

Support the School Board and community through the search for a new Director of Schools.

Active Participation in a Permanent Selection

The CMCSS School Board selects the Director of Schools and makes the determinations on the process and timeframe. Although the search for a new Director of Schools is a function of the School Board, Dr. Huff will ensure that the District assists the Board through the process as requested. Ways the District might support the Board through this important process include developing marketing collateral to help with recruiting, supporting feedback opportunities, and keeping the community informed on the progress of the search. After a new Director is selected, Dr. Huff will ensure there is a smooth transition and that the new Director is set up for success.

