

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent Search: Candidate Presentation
February 6, 2021

Candidate - LaTanya McDade

- Ms. LaTanya McDade is Chief Education Officer of Chicago Public Schools (2017-2021), the 3rd largest school district in the country-355,000 students. Her responsibilities include overseeing all academic offices; responsible for improving all aspects of teaching and learning; supporting all principals and Network Chief Officers; and managing a 3.4-billion-dollar budget. Her 20-year career, all in Chicago, has run the gamut, beginning as a middle school teacher in a neighborhood that was underserved and disinvested for decades; as principal of a racially and economically diverse Gifted and Talented School in an affluent community; and finally, as Network Chief of Schools and Chief Teaching and Learning Officer.
- Ms. McDade developed her passion for education early, as a first-generation American born to immigrant parents and growing up in poverty on the south side of Chicago. “It wasn’t until I got accepted into a selective high school that I truly saw the gap between the “have” and the “have nots” in our city. I learned early that equality is not equity, and that our job as educators is not to treat every student the same but to give every student what they need to thrive”.
- Ms. McDade will complete her doctorate degree from Lewis University in May 2021. She has a master’s degree from Loyola University Chicago and a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Chicago State University.
- Ms. McDade describes her leadership as perfectly positioned to manage and grow large-scale strategic initiatives that benefit students and support educators in the Prince William County Public Schools. She believes her impetus for seeking the PWCPS Superintendency would build upon her amassed “body of work” with proven success in leading with equity to close achievement gaps and stabilize the educational experiences for all students. This would be an extension of her key leadership roles in the division’s strategic plan and PK-12 Curriculum Project to modernize and elevate instructional practices across the district.
- Ms. McDade has two grown sons. She and her husband are unified in the belief that Prince William County is “a place where we can establish roots, build a fulfilling life, and call home for many years to come.” In her personal time, she is a runner and has competed in several marathons...she leads a healthy lifestyle.
- Ms. McDade is not involved in any other searches, has submitted her application for a Virginia Superintendent certificate and her current salary is \$240,000. She desires a 4-year competitive contract.
- Ms. McDade, according to those who wrote letters of recommendations and other with whom we spoke, is confident natural leader who has limitless energy; is relentless in pursuit of excellence and exhibits a deep understanding of instruction and is committed to collaboration. She will work to forge trusting relationships and create a culture of shared accountability for advancing student achievement with a laser focus on equity.
- A long-term Board member praised her good judgement, professionalism, and experience when she stated, Latanya demonstrates a “indomitable spirit and sincere dedication to improving learning outcomes for all students.” The Board member noted she has built strong trusting relationships with each Board member through transparent communication and knowledge of both educational and operational functions of the district.
- Ms. McDade has demonstrated successful leadership and proven success in each executive position she has held in the 3rd largest school system in the country. We believe she is an excellent “fit and match” to your Leadership Profile and recommend you interview her.