

Dear Fellow Educators,

Greetings and a heartfelt welcome back to the start of a brand-new school year! As the academic year commences, it brings with it a renewed sense of anticipation, opportunities, and growth for both students and staff. As Mississippi's 2023 Administrator of the Year, I extend my sincerest wishes for a successful and fulfilling year ahead.

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. Our students' return to school is a momentous occasion, and your dedicated leadership plays a pivotal role in shaping their educational journey. Your commitment to fostering a nurturing and inclusive learning environment is truly commendable, and I am confident that the upcoming academic year will be nothing short of extraordinary under your guidance.

As we embark on this exciting journey together, I want to express my gratitude for your unwavering dedication to your respective school communities. Your vision, enthusiasm, and steadfast commitment to excellence continue to inspire and motivate us all. Thank you for working collaboratively to empower our students, nurture their talents, and instill in them the values of compassion, resilience, and lifelong learning.

In the face of the unique challenges that we have encountered over the past few years, we have witnessed the resilience and adaptability of educators across the state. Our collective efforts in navigating uncharted territories have proven that we can overcome any obstacle and emerge stronger together. Let us build upon these experiences as we embrace new beginnings and work towards creating vibrant, engaging environments for our students to flourish.

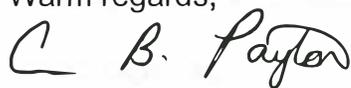
As we welcome the return of our students, staff, and families to a new and exciting school year, let us keep in mind that education is not just about imparting knowledge but also about nurturing the holistic development of our students. Let us encourage curiosity, critical thinking, and creativity, ensuring that each child receives the support he/she needs to thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Allow me to express to express my deepest appreciation to all teachers, support staff, and administrators for your relentless efforts in creating a safe and stimulating learning environments. Your dedication and passion for education are truly commendable, and I am confident that you will continue to serve as CHAMPIONS for our students, inspiring and empowering them to reach their full potential.

In closing, I would like to extend my best wishes to all educators and allies of public education as we embark on this exciting journey together. Let us make this academic year a memorable one, filled with countless opportunities for growth, discovery, and success!

Wishing you and the entire school community a fantastic school year!

Warm regards,



Dr. Catterria B. Payton
2023 MS Administrator of the Year