



## Dr. Valerie Griffin Andrews

Valerie Griffin Andrews is a native of Elizabeth City, North Carolina. Mrs. Andrews is a graduate of North Carolina Central University, earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology. In addition she has a Master's Degree in School Counseling from Campbell University and a Master's of School Administration degree from North Carolina State University. Most recently, she graduated with a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Supervision from North Carolina State University.

Ms. Andrews is a dedicated, experienced, visionary and collaborative leader. She prides herself on being data driven and an advocate for establishing a positive school culture. She believes one way to do this is by having shared decision-making and successful professional learning communities. Ms. Andrews is an instructional leader that has enjoyed building her career working on the secondary level with students, staff, parents and the community. She began her career as teacher assistant and since then has worked in the capacity of a guidance counselor and administrator. She has fourteen years of experience as principal and assistant principal in North Carolina and Georgia. Prior to being an administrator she was a guidance counselor on the secondary level for six years.

During her tenure as principal, Ms. Andrews enabled students to realize their full potential. Under her leadership at WG Pearson Middle and Sandtown Middle School saw growth in proficiency and student achievement. Recently Ms. Andrews piloted a program entitled "Accelerate8" which allowed selected eight graders to enroll in three high school core courses while completing the requirements for eighth grade. This program was a success with 98% of these students being accepted into competitive magnet programs in several high schools in Georgia. In addition, with the implementation of a high school Engineering course as well as Spanish, five of these students entered their perspective high school with five high school credits.

Ms. Andrews is a leader who enjoys instituting a culture of rigor and results that is shared among all school stakeholders. She is the proud mother to daughter Jade and proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. Lastly, Ms. Andrews is a diehard Washington Redskins and NC State Wolfpack fan. She is ecstatic to be a part of the River Oaks Middle School family.