

LEADERSHIP PREPARATORY ACADEMY

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Dr. Wanda S. Gilliard

Dr. Wanda Gilliard is a lifelong educator with more than 30 years of experience in improving student success. She began her career as a high school mathematics teacher working with a special project for Teacher Corps/Peace Corps in Ghana, West Africa. Upon returning to the United States she worked with the Houston Independent School System as a mathematics teacher, system-wide curriculum review writer, demonstration teacher for struggling teachers, lead teacher trainer for summer institutes, department chair, mathematics representative on the district wide curriculum advisory committee, supervising teacher to student observers from the University of Houston and administrative office assistant to the Instructional Assistant Principal.

In 1990 she joined the DeKalb County School System in Decatur, Georgia. During her nineteen year tenure there she served as a high school mathematics teacher, Instructional Assistant Principal, Principal, K-12 Director for Mathematics, K-12 Senior Executive Director for Curriculum and Instruction and Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction K-12. Under her leadership Smaller Learning Communities and Career Academies were implemented in high schools. As a principal she designed and implemented the first Video Broadcasting and Pre-engineering Career Academies at a local school in the school system. She was also the lead administrator for the Math/Science Partnership grant which supported system-wide initiatives for mathematics and science improvement. As Senior Executive Director for Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Gilliard was instrumental in working with the instructional team in expanding AP courses and providing opportunities for more students to take college entrance tests.

Dr. Gilliard holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics from Benedict College in Columbia, S. C., a Master of Education in Secondary Mathematics from Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas and a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia. She has served on the Board of Project Destiny Alternative School, review teams for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), Education Committee member for the Georgia Biotechnology Institute, Board Member of the GIFT Summer Internship Program for teachers and students at the Center for Engineering, Information, Science, Mathematics Collaborative (CEISMC) located at Georgia Tech University and Advisory Committee member for the Georgia State University's Robert Noyce Urban Mathematics Education Program in the College of Education.

Upon retiring she established WS Gilliard Consulting which specializes in Leadership Development, School Restructuring and Strategic Planning. She presently serves as an Adjunct Professor in the Educational Leadership Department at Clark Atlanta University and as an Elder at New Birth Missionary Baptist Church. Her life's motto: With God all things are Possible!