



Loudoun County Public Schools Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 18, 2024

ASHBURN, Va. - Dr. Ashley Ellis, Loudoun County Schools (LCPS) Chief Academic Officer, was awarded the 2024 Virginia Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (VASCD) Leadership Award at a luncheon ceremony in Richmond. The award is presented annually to one Virginia educator for outstanding leadership in curriculum, instruction and/or assessment. Nominees include leaders whose understanding of and dedication to best instructional practice is reflected both in their own work and in the work of those they lead.

Dr. Ellis was nominated by multiple LCPS staff, including Chief of Staff Dr. Daniel Smith. In his letter of support, Dr. Smith said, "Dr. Ellis is one of the strongest and most courageous instructional leaders that I have observed in my tenure in education. She is intentional and strategic, but unwavering in her insistence that we provide equitable learning opportunities and supports that lead to deeper learning for all students."

Dr. Ana Cingel, Supervisor of Strategic Planning and Continuous Improvement, wrote, "Dr. Ellis is a transformational leader with an ability to bring out the best in others with a vision that is focused on ensuring all students and staff have access and opportunity to excellent education and resources. I am inspired by how she does it all with such humility and fortitude."

When asked what the award meant to her, Dr. Ellis said, "This VASCD leadership award is such an honor, and I am humbled to be recognized for the hard work being done in LCPS. I am grateful to VASCD for this recognition and for their continued dedication to supporting educators and promoting best practices in education in Virginia. To me, this award is not about anything that I have done in isolation; it is a testament to the hard work and commitment of my amazing team and the educators we support, and I share this honor with them."

Dr. Ellis described her philosophy on education as "centered around my belief that every student deserves a high-quality education that prepares them for success in whatever path they choose. I strive always to listen to understand, respect individuals' differences, and make decisions based on the best interests of students. I believe one of my most important jobs as an

educational leader is to ensure educators have the support they need to be successful in providing high-quality learning experiences for our students.”

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