



Haywood County Schools Press Release

HHS Administrative Announcements

June 9, 2020

Press Release

Haywood High School Administrative Announcements

Haywood County Schools are pleased to announce the following administrative appointments for Haywood High School.

Haywood High School

Principal - Ms. Brittany Avent will serve as the Principal of Haywood High School beginning July 1, 2020. Ms. Avent has been an accomplished math educator at Bolivar Central High School, a district-level Teacher of the Year agriculture educator for Ripley High School, and an involved Director of Secondary and Career Technical Education for Haywood County Schools. Ms. Avent has a bachelor's degree in agricultural education from the University of Tennessee at Martin, and master's degree in Educational Leadership from Arkansas State University. She has been a key member of the district leadership in HCS by being an active participant in the paradigm shift within academics, leadership, and culture.

Avent's leadership in Career Technical education served well to implement a shared vision for Haywood High School by developing dual enrollment partnerships with TCAT and work-based learning opportunities with local industry. Evaluating local needs is a critical component of creating a seamless pipeline, transitioning students from K-12 to industry and postsecondary opportunities. In the past two years, Haywood High School introduced more than 300 industry-recognized certifications and received over \$670,000 through grants.

While Ms. Avent understands a focus on Career Technical education and local needs are critical to economic success for Haywood County, she does not forget the importance of equitable access to education through the investment in high-quality instructional materials and opportunities. As the Director of Secondary Education, she has worked simultaneously with the current administration team to provide the high school with structured professional learning communities, implemented cyclical and continuous walkthroughs, and worked to build capacity among the administration staff around ELA shifts and rigor and coherence in Math.

Finally, Ms. Avent's qualities and experiences working alongside Mrs. Jackson will allow the least amount of impact on progress and provide a seamless transition for students and staff reconvening in August. As principal of Haywood High School, Avent will assume the role of the executive officer of the building to lead and continuously grow employees, partner with family and community, and develop an environment where all decisions are student-centered.



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Assistant Principal - Ms. **Kelsey Nave** will assume the role of Assistant Principal at Haywood High School July 1, 2020. Ms. Nave joins the administrative team after serving as a motivating mathematics teacher with ten years of experience at the secondary level and seven years of experience at the post-secondary level. She holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in mathematics from Southern Illinois University, and she holds an additional master's degree in educational leadership from Arkansas State University.

As an experienced secondary and post-secondary teacher, Nave has developed a passion for creating students that leave high school prepared to be a successful citizen. Mathematical skills are vital for students to master because they promote logical thinking and problem solving, and students who leave high school with these skills can apply them in their careers and be much more successful than those who do not. Teaching at the secondary level has taught her how to motivate and educate students from various backgrounds and socioeconomic situations. She has learned to develop highly effective lesson plans that motivate students to master the standards. The accomplishment that she is most proud of in her teaching career is creating an advisory program through the state-funded program Setting Students Up for Success. This program completely changed her teaching identity and lead her to understand the importance of creating holistic students.

Ms. Avent and Ms. Nave will be joining Mr. Aitken, Mr. Lambert, Ms. Boyd, and the entire team at Haywood High to commit to knowing every student by name, strength, and need so that our Haywood Tomcats graduate for the future they choose. This leadership team will model the expectation that every child and adult at Haywood High School is safe, seen, respected, and valued.

Please join me in welcoming Ms. Avent and Ms. Nave to their new roles.