

# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 24, 2020**

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## **Principals named for Duluth Middle, Sweetwater Middle, and Sugar Hill Elementary**

At its regular monthly meeting on January 23, 2020, the Gwinnett County Board of Education appointed principals for three schools—Duluth Middle, Sweetwater Middle, and Sugar Hill Elementary.

- **Cynthia “Cindy” Kinchen**, who currently serves as an assistant principal at McClure Health Science High School, was named as the next principal of **Duluth Middle**. She will transition to this new position with the retirement of **Principal Deborah Fusi** at the end of this month.
- **Chekquita Johnson**, principal of Radloff Middle School, will transition to the leadership role at **Sweetwater Middle School**. She will fill the role currently held by **Jay Nebel** who was named as the district’s executive director of Continuous Quality Improvement in November.
- In November, the Board also tapped **Dr. Taffeta Connery**, principal of **Sugar Hill Elementary**, to lead Simpson Elementary. This month, Board members selected **Dr. Nick Boyers**, who currently serves as an assistant principal at Mason Elementary, as Sugar Hill’s new principal. His appointment is effective January 27.

### **GWINNETT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Dr. Mary Kay Murphy**  
2019 Chairman  
District III

**Louise Radloff**  
2019 Vice Chairman  
District V

**Carole C. Boyce**  
District I

**Steven B. Knudsen**  
District II

**Everton Blair, Jr.**  
District IV

**J. Alvin Wilbanks**  
CEO/Superintendent

### **THE MISSION OF GWINNETT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

*is to pursue excellence in academic knowledge, skills, and behavior for each student, resulting in measured improvement against local, national, and world-class standards.*

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[www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us](http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us)

It is the policy of Gwinnett County Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, national origin, age, or disability in any employment practice, educational program, or any other program, activity, or service.

**2010 and 2014 Winner of**



### **Cynthia “Cindy” Kinchen, Principal, Duluth Middle School**

#### ***GCPS Employment:***

2019-Present	Assistant Principal, McClure Health Science High School
2013-2019	Assistant Principal, Duluth High School
2009-2013	Assistant Principal, Summerour Middle School
2008-2009	Special Education Department Chair, Norcross High School
2006-2008	Special Education Teacher, Norcross High School



#### ***Education:***

- Bachelor’s degree in Special Education— Florida International University
- Master’s degree in Special Education— Florida International University
- Specialist’s degree in Educational Leadership— Georgia State University

*-more-*

**Chekquita Johnson,**  
**Principal, Sweetwater Middle School**

***GCPS Employment:***

March 2018-Present	Principal, Radloff Middle
2012- Present	Assistant Principal, Sweetwater Middle School
2011-2012	Teacher, Moore Middle School
2002-2011	Teacher, Richards Middle School
1999-2000	Teacher, Richmond, VA



***Education:***

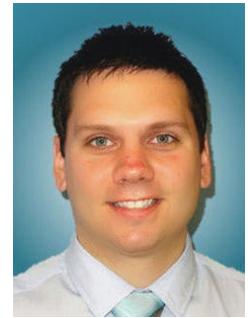
Bachelor's degree in Business— Knoxville College  
Master's degree in Education — Old Dominion University  
Specialist's degree in Administration and Supervision— Lincoln University

*Ms. Johnson is a graduate of Gwinnett County Public Schools' Quality-Plus Leader Academy Aspiring Principal Program (2018).*

**Dr. Nick Boyers,**  
**Principal, Sugar Hill Elementary School**

***GCPS Employment:***

2014-Present	Assistant Principal, Mason Elementary School
2009-2014	Fourth Grade Teacher, White Oak Elementary School
2008-2009	Fifth Grade Teacher, Sycamore Elementary School



***Education:***

- Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education— Taylor University (IN)
- Master's degree in Elementary Reading and Math— Walden University (MN)
- Specialist's degree in Educational Leadership— Georgia State University
- Doctorate in Educational Leadership— Georgia State University

*Dr. Boyers is a graduate of Gwinnett County Public Schools' Quality-Plus Leader Academy, Aspiring Leader Program (2014).*