Greetings Colleagues:

My name is Michelle Phillips and I have been in the field of Education for over twenty years. My experiences include teaching elementary, middle, and high school and working at the Virginia Department of Education. I value education, because I am a witness that it can change one’s life to give back to society and to help others. Principals, teachers, and professors have always encouraged me to learn and to help others receive a good education. I want to continue to encourage students from all backgrounds and take the time to pour into them what no one can take away and that is a good education. As a principal, I want students to be literate in all areas and get ready for our global society. As an educational leader, I will strive to ensure that our school, staff, and community does everything to empower, help, and teach our future citizens of tomorrow. As, principal a safe and positive learning environment will help students feel welcome. I want the students to believe in themselves and receive the best education with the help of my staff and I working as a team to make this happen. Parents send their children to us and those children are the best they have. When someone is sending you their best, as educational leaders we want students to not only be better than when they entered the school door but, strive for academic excellence. I sincerely desire for our school to have the best volunteers and stakeholders to build, trust, confidence and unity in our community.

As an educator, I have a love for all students inside and outside the classroom. No matter what background they may come from they can learn. It brightens my day when I know that all students have left school with something from their classes or from learning experiences outside the classroom. It is my mission to implement and encourage the teachers to utilize learning strategies and goals that will help them in the world that awaits them. As an educational leader I want to promote positive change in the school as a principal. I believe we must address the education of all children although, many learn differently, come from diverse backgrounds and communities. We must focus on an education that will prepare our students to be 21st century learners and citizens of tomorrow.

As an educational leader, I will help to provide teachers with the professional development strategies and tools to assist them in devising, assessing, reflecting, and adjusting their teaching to make lessons relevant and to meet the needs of students. I strongly believe in the African Igbo and Yoruba proverb that “**It takes a village to raise a child.”** The next generation is depending on strong leaders and that includes principals, teachers, parents, and stakeholders to make a positive difference in their lives.