

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2017

DARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

News Release

**DARE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
ANNOUNCES SUPERINTENDENT SELECTION**

The Dare County Board of Education is pleased to announce that John D. Farrelly has been selected as the next Superintendent of the Dare County Schools. He is expected to begin in the position on July 1, 2017, immediately upon the retirement of Dr. Sue Burgess, who has served in the position for the last 17 years.

Mr. Farrelly is currently superintendent of the Edgecombe County (NC) schools, where he has enjoyed great success since 2012. Prior to his role in Edgecombe County, he was superintendent of the Washington County Schools, Plymouth, NC, for three years, and assistant superintendent of the Alleghany County Schools, Sparta, NC, for eight years.

Mr. Farrelly will soon be earning his doctoral degree from East Carolina University, where he currently ranks number one in his class in the Doctoral Program for Educational Leadership.

In his application, Mr. Farrelly noted that, "strong communicative relationships both within the school system and throughout the school community are vital to an effective school system. As Superintendent, I am highly visible and involved throughout the community."

Addressing his philosophy of teaching, Farrelly stated, "teaching strategies are most successful when they are implemented in a system that encourages collaboration among staff and students, and in which each is a part of a well-planned, vetted system. Teaching strategies are most effective when they are applied in positive, supportive environments where there is recognition of the emotional, social and physical needs of students and where individual strengths are recognized, nurtured and developed."

Farrelly was chosen from a highly competitive field of 78 applicants from 30 states and the District of Columbia. The Board of Education reviewed video interviews of the top ten applicants, narrowing the field to five candidates who were interviewed. Four finalists were then selected for further interviews, leading to the selection of Mr. Farrelly.

Mr. Farrelly is married to a former school administrator and they have two young children. The family will be looking to move to Dare County as soon as possible.

The Board invites the entire Dare County community to a reception to meet Mr. Farrelly and his wife Rena to be held at Nags Head Elementary School at 6:30 p.m, Wednesday, June 14.