

Dear AASA Colleague,

Public education is filled with moments that remind us why we chose this work. Each day, we witness resilience, possibility, and the life-changing impact of strong leadership. Serving as a superintendent is a calling grounded in courage, clarity, and an unwavering commitment to children and communities.

For 36 years, including 19 as a superintendent, I have served rural, urban, and suburban districts. Our communities may differ in size, demographics, and circumstance, but the responsibility we carry unites us. I understand the pressures unique to each setting, and I know that regardless of geography, we share the same calling—to expand opportunity, uphold excellence, and safeguard the futures of students entrusted to our care.

Today, as Superintendent of Alabaster City Schools in Alabama, I lead 6,200 students in a community that reflects the tapestry of America. Our classrooms include students from diverse cultural and economic backgrounds, each bringing unique strengths and aspirations. Alongside great promise, we navigate complex realities. Meeting both requires steady leadership and a firm belief in the power of public education to change lives.

That belief is personal. Public schools changed my life. Educators saw potential in me and opened doors my family could not have opened alone. Their influence shaped my purpose and continues to guide my leadership.

AASA plays a vital role in this moment. Our association exists to help leaders stay bold, united, and unwavering in delivering on the promise of public education. Through service on the Governing Board and Executive Committee, I have advocated for superintendents nationwide and worked to strengthen our collective voice.

I humbly ask for your vote as I seek to serve as President-Elect of AASA. Together, we can keep our profession strong, our voice clear, and our commitment to children unshaken. I would be deeply honored to earn your trust and support.

With gratitude and resolve,

L. Wayne Vickers, Ed.D.

