

# NOMINATION FORM

**2021-22 A Craig Phillips North Carolina Superintendent of the Year  
AASA 2022 National Superintendent of the Year**

## **SUPERINTENDENT INFORMATION**

Name: Dr. Rodney Peterson

School System: Person County Schools

Mailing Address: 304 S. Morgan Street Room #25

City, State, ZIP/Postal Code: Roxboro, NC 27573

Telephone: Office: 336-599-2191 Cell: 919-902-9773

Email: [petersonr@person.k12.nc.us](mailto:petersonr@person.k12.nc.us)

## **NOMINATOR INFORMATION**

Name: Mrs. Freda Tillman

Relationship to Superintendent: Board Chair

School System: Person County Schools

Mailing Address: 304 S. Morgan Street, Room #25

City, State, ZIP/Postal Code: Roxboro, NC 27573

Telephone: Cell: 336-597-1515

Email: [tillmanfboe@person.k12.nc.us](mailto:tillmanfboe@person.k12.nc.us)

**Please complete this form and a letter (no more than 2 pages) providing justification and supporting information for your nomination. The letter should include information about the nominee's leadership for learning, communication, professionalism, community involvement, and overall impact on the school district.**

**Mail or email the completed nomination form and supporting letter by May 1<sup>st</sup> to:**

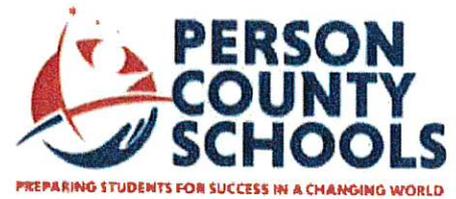
**Ed Croom, Central Carolina RESA Executive Director**

**Mail: Central Carolina RESA, Suite 104, 7208 Falls of Neuse Rd, Raleigh, NC 27615**

**Or**

**Email: [croome@ccresa.net](mailto:croome@ccresa.net)**

**If you have questions, contact Ed Croom ([croome@ccresa.net](mailto:croome@ccresa.net)) or Dana Stutzman ([officemanager@ccresa.net](mailto:officemanager@ccresa.net)) at 919-882-5951.**



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**Dr. Rodney Peterson**  
Superintendent

**Freda Tillman**  
Board Chair

**Phillip Gillis**  
Board Vice-Chair

**Margaret Bradsher**  
Board Member

**Harriett Tillett**  
Board Member

**Jason Torian**  
Board Member

### Superintendent of the Year Selection Committee:

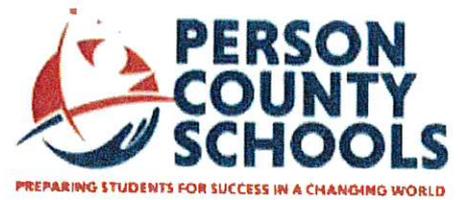
I am writing to share the accomplishments of Dr. Rodney Peterson since becoming the superintendent of Person County Schools four years ago. He has brought a new perspective to improving the quality of education that our students receive.

His first order of business was meeting with all stakeholder groups to develop a strategic plan for the district. This document is reviewed with stakeholders annually and revised as needed. This plan has provided a clear direction for the district with well-defined actionable goals in four focus areas.

His ability to negotiate effectively and build partnerships with leaders in the community have resulted in advancements in our district's vision and the implementation of change. In addition, he serves on the Economic Development Commission and Person County Recreation, Arts, and Parks Advisory Board. He is a member of Theresa Baptist Church and the Roxboro Rotary Club. He also serves on the boards for CCRESA and NCASCD.

Dr. Peterson also strives to continue his growth as a professional and also expects the same for his central services staff, administrators, and teachers. Professional development is differentiated to meet the needs of each staff member to ensure that Person County Schools employs and retains the best of the best. Central Services staff are in the schools, not at the office a majority of the time. Dr. Peterson prides himself on the relationships he has built with stakeholders, as well as the support that his central services staff is able to provide. To promote his own continued learning, he has participated in the Next Generation Superintendent Development Cohort, he attends the NCSBA law conferences, and has recently surveyed staff in efforts to develop his own professional development plan.

For the past three years we have ranked #1 in the state in our Career and Technical Education performance with the highest number of credentials earned as a percentage of CTE course enrollment for courses aligned to a credential. Our course offerings have been



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expanded based on student interest and collaboration with our local community college. We are working with local businesses to increase internship opportunities for our students. In addition, every student in grades 6 - 14 has a plan of study developed by the student, parent, and guidance counselor to focus the student on their future goals and appropriate pathway. These are reviewed at least annually.

Our four and five year cohort graduation rate has increased to as high as 86% which is an almost 10% increase during his tenure. Subgroup data shows significant increases for African American, Hispanic, and students with disabilities.

Under his innovative leadership, Person County Schools offers a Dual Language Program at two elementary schools. One of these schools is a high poverty, high minority Title I School. The program has resulted in an increase in enrollment and diversity. Parents are now choosing to enroll their students in this school due to the dual language component and a focus on global education.

Most recently, Dr. Peterson has been a pioneer in allowing our students to participate in "in-person" learning since school started in August of 2020. His forward thinking approach allowed him to anticipate every challenge the district may face in the reopening process with an emphasis on the well-being and safety of all students and staff. Throughout this school year, Person County Schools has operated with a mix of in-person, hybrid, and virtual learning. By his example, our staff and students have persevered and excelled in this unprecedented environment. His goal all along has been to have as many student return as possible and we are currently operating with about 80% of our students in the buildings on a daily basis. Understanding that some families are not going to be comfortable returning next year, he has led the charge to open the PCS Virtual Academy for the 2021-2022 school year.

For the reasons above and so many more, I am pleased to nominate Dr. Rodney Peterson for consideration as Superintendent of the Year.

Sincerely,

Freda Tillman  
Chair, Person County Board of Education Chair