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JOHN O. STOVER III SWORN IN AS NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF ROCKINGHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

John O. Stover III was sworn in as the new Superintendent of Rockingham County Schools the morning of Friday, July 1 at 9:00 a.m.. Mr. Stover was sworn in by Superior Court Judge Ed Wilson in the downstairs boardroom at Central Office.

“I believe in we,” Mr. Stover said moments after being sworn in as RCS’s new Superintendent. “We is what enabled a group of patriots to come together and form our great nation. We is what enabled us to come out of the Great Depression, victorious in World War II. We is what also enabled us to come together as a nation to end racial segregation. And we is what makes us the most powerful nation ever in the history of humankind.”

“In schools, we is powerful. In the classroom, the we of a student and teacher is what moves our kids. Add onto that our parents and our community, and you have an unstoppable force. At the district level, we at Central Office, and the Board of Education working collaboratively with our schools and our community, is what is going to make us a great school district.”

Mr. Stover has enjoyed a long and very successful career in public education spanning more than thirty years in North Carolina and other settings across the nation. He most recently served as the instructional superintendent of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), where he has also worked as chief of secondary schools. Over the last nine years, Mr. Stover has played a pivotal role in helping DCPS become the fastest improving urban district in the country.

Prior to joining DCPS, Mr. Stover spent a total of three years as superintendent and managing director of Uplift Education’s charter school district in Dallas, Texas. In addition, he previously served as a senior managing director for Teach for America (2007-2010) and a principal and assistant principal for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (2005-2007), Alamance-Burlington School System (2003-2005), Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools (1999-2003), and Roanoke Rapids Graded School

District (1997-1999). Mr. Stover began his career in 1990 as a teacher in the Hertford County Schools, where he taught elementary school as well as high school students in an alternative setting. In 1994 he was recognized as the Teacher of the Year for the district.

Mr. Stover has an impressive academic background as well. He received his bachelor's degree in economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He went on to earn a master's degree in school administration from East Carolina University. He is currently pursuing a doctorate in leadership and organizational innovation from Marymount University.