



**Williston School District 29**  
**Office of the Superintendent**  
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***District Vision***

*The vision of Williston School District 29 is to work as a unified faculty and community to develop exceptional citizens who possess the world-class skills necessary to compete in the global workforce.*

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**Mr. Michael L. Hutto**  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

**Marcella D. Shaw, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent

**Mrs. Ferlecia A. Cuthbertson**  
Vice-Chair, Board of Trustees

July 24, 2019

Dear Williston School District 29 Family Members:

Happy New School Year! I continue to be ecstatic, proud, honored, and humbled to serve the Williston-Elko communities. We are most committed to providing our Scholars safe and caring learning environments where we expect they will blossom into college ready, career ready, and citizenship ready contributors to society.

You can be assured that the Williston School District 29 Board of Trustees, administrators, faculty, support staff, and I will always work to advance student learning academically, artistically, and athletically. However, we recognize that we cannot do it alone, to this end, we rely on our families and friends in the community and beyond to help in this endeavor. In collaboration with our community, we will provide stellar instructional opportunities that will prepare our Scholars for success beyond high school. We earnestly believe that the WSD29 diploma is a symbol that signifies academic excellence and personal achievement of the highest order.

We are excited to share with you some of the enhancements for the upcoming school year. We will begin the Early Scholars Academy at Kelly Edwards Elementary for fourth and fifth grade Scholars. We are planning to implement a STEM Lab at Williston-Elko Middle School. Additionally, WEMS will offer Art classes during the second semester for the first time in several years. Next, we have expanded our Dual Credit offerings at Williston-Elko High School in anticipation of our first cohort of students receiving Associate degrees when they graduate in 2021. In conjunction with the Barnwell County Career Center, a new Cyber Security course will be offered. Also, Williston-Elko High School will have a staffed virtual lab to afford more virtual offerings to our High School Scholars. We will be adding a brand new PAES Lab (Practical Assessment Exploration System) to help our Scholars gain knowledge and experience career success. The PAES lab is a work development lab that will be housed in a classroom at the high school and used by students with disabilities primarily in the SC Credential program. Finally, we have added MTSS Administrative Specialists to each of our schools to assist our Scholars and Principals.

Attached you will find the Superintendent's Goals, which will guide us throughout the school year. Together, we can achieve these goals if we work interdependently and hold one another mutually accountable. We will have a relentless focus on learning. We will ensure a collaborative culture with collective responsibility. We will focus on RESULTS.

Welcome Back to School

July 24, 2019

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The following four questions will guide every instructional action we make:

- What is it **WE** want **OUR Scholars** to know and be able to do?
- How will **WE** know if each **Scholar** has learned it?
- How will **WE** respond when some of our **Scholars** do not learn it?
- How will **WE** extend the learning for some of our **Scholars** who have demonstrated proficiency?

Our theme for the school year is **#WeRISE2LEAD!**

WE will be **Resilient** in raising growth targets.

WE will **Impact** instructional improvements.

WE will **Set** the standard for teaching and learning.

WE will **Effectively** analyze various data points.

We wish our parents, scholars, and staff members a glorious and victorious 2019-2020 school year. Please do not hesitate to let us know how we can be of service to each and every one of you. We look forward to seeing each of you Tuesday, August 13, 2019.

Committed to Excellence,

Marcella D. Shaw, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

**Attachments:**

Superintendent's Goals

Back to School In-Service Agenda