



Biography

As an educator of twenty-eight years, James Rayford earned his Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics Education from Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Georgia State University.

Currently, he serves as Director of Academic Support for Gwinnett County Public Schools' Community-Based Mentoring Program where their primary mission is to provide mentors for identified male students. He has seen the program grow from 57 students and 33 mentors in its pilot year to having served 500 students and 227 mentors during the 2016-2017 school year.

Prior to this position, he served five years as principal of both Lilburn Middle School and Nesbit Elementary School. He also worked as a Program Manager at Georgia Tech's Center for Education Integrating Science Mathematics and Computing (CEISMC), where he managed the Georgia Industrial Fellowships for Teachers (GIFT) Program which places middle and high school math and science teachers in summer internships.

He has been married to his wife Dawn, for 26 years and they have four children, a college graduate, a college student, and twins in high school.