



MARCUS WHITFIELD

PRINCIPAL

School leader with 9 years guiding Title I middle and high schools through improvement cycles. Track record of raising attendance, lifting reading proficiency, and rebuilding teacher retention after years of turnover. Hold NC Principal License and a Master's in Educational Leadership.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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KEY SKILLS

- School improvement planning and Title I compliance
- MTSS and tiered intervention design
- Instructional coaching and teacher evaluation (NCEES)
- Data-driven PLCs and common formative assessment cycles
- Master schedule design and staffing
- Budget management and federal funds allocation
- Family engagement and community partnerships
- Restorative practices and PBIS implementation
- Attendance and chronic absenteeism strategy
- Teacher recruitment, retention, and induction
- Crisis response and school safety planning
- PowerSchool, Canvas, and NC Check-In data analysis

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal | Cedar Hollow Middle School, Raleigh, NC | 2021 – Present

- Lead a 740-student Title I middle school with 58 staff; oversee instruction, budget, family engagement, and MTSS.
- Raised 8th grade reading proficiency from 41% to 63% over two cycles by anchoring PLCs on common formative assessments.
- Cut chronic absenteeism roughly in half through home-visit teams and weekly attendance huddles with counselors.
- Negotiated a community-schools partnership with WakeMed adding on-site mental health clinicians two days a week.
- Rebuilt teacher retention to 87% after inheriting a building with three straight years of double-digit turnover.

Assistant Principal | Briarwood High School, Durham, NC | 2017 – 2021

- Supervised 9th grade academy of 410 students, including master schedule, discipline, and freshman transition supports.
- Coached 22 ELA and social studies teachers; 14 moved from Developing to Proficient on state evaluation rubric.
- Led restorative practices rollout that reduced out-of-school suspensions by 38% in two years.
- Co-wrote the school's Title I plan and managed \$310K in supplemental funds across tutoring and family liaison roles.

Instructional Coach & Department Chair | Briarwood High School, Durham, NC | 2015 – 2017

- Chaired 11-person English department; designed common assessments aligned to NC Check-Ins.
- Built a sophomore writing intervention that moved 70% of below-grade-level students up at least one performance band.
- Mentored four first-year teachers, all retained at the school for a third year.

EDUCATION

Master of Education in Educational Leadership, North Carolina State University, 2015

Bachelor of Arts in English Education, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2011

North Carolina Principal License (Pre-K through 12), active

