

Dr. Elie Bracy, III

A lifelong educator, Dr. Elie Bracy, III serves as Division Superintendent for Portsmouth Public Schools. Dr. Bracy began working for the division in February 2015, bringing with him more than 20 years of experience as guidance counselor and school administrator.

In two years as Superintendent, Dr. Bracy has expanded career and technical education programs that prepare our students for industry-level jobs right out of high school. He also helped expand a dual enrollment program called First College, in partnership with Tidewater Community College. Under his leadership, graduation has steadily improved, from 74 to 81 percent in two years. He also led the creation and implementation of a 5-year strategic plan which builds upon the division's strengths and outlines steps to achieve greater success.

Realizing the critical importance of technology in education, Dr. Bracy established a Chromebook computer initiative, which provides each high school student with a laptop computer to use at school and at home. The program will be expanded to middle schools in the near future.

Dr. Bracy believes educating students involves the support of staff, parents, and the community. Early in his tenure, Dr. Bracy established teacher, student, and parent advisory committees. These working groups serve as a forum to share ideas and concerns. In order to increase parental involvement, Dr. Bracy began visiting neighborhoods to help sign-up parents for the PTA. In June of 2017, the Virginia PTA named Dr. Bracy as "Superintendent of the Year."

Dr. Bracy previously served as Superintendent of Weldon City Public Schools in Weldon, North Carolina. His professional experience also includes serving as an assistant principal, principal and assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction. While there, he received the Regional Superintendent of the Year Award in 2013.

Dr. Bracy earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Kentucky State University, and a master's degree in public administration and guidance counseling from North Carolina Central University. He also earned a master's degree in education administration and supervision from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. He later earned a doctorate in educational leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

He's a member of several professional associations, including the Urban Superintendent's Association of America, the Virginia School Boards Association, The American Association of School Administrators, the Virginia Association of School Superintendents, Locally he is a member of the Portsmouth Kiwanis Club, and the Portsmouth Partnership Board.

Dr. Bracy and his wife, Kimberly, reside in Portsmouth, and they have three children and one granddaughter.