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As the State Director of the NCPFP, Dr. Edmonds expanded the program reach and increased the number of participants in the program by almost 30%. Under her leadership, minority participation more than doubled and the number of minority male participants increased significantly. Prior to joining the UNC System, Dr. Edmonds was the Director and Executive Coach for the Northeast Leadership Academy District and School Transformation at NC State University where she provided professional development, coaching, and technical assistance to aspiring school leaders in high-need schools.

Before assuming her role in higher education, Dr. Edmonds had an extensive career in the K-12 space at both the local and state level. Dr. Edmonds served as the District Transformation Coach Team Lead and Halifax Lead for the NC Department of Public Instruction. In that position, she led reform efforts to turn around low-performing schools and improve educational outcomes for under-performing students. And in 2012, the District and School Transformation Halifax Team led by Dr. Edmonds received the State Superintendent's Team Leadership Award.

Dr. Edmonds has worked in the roles of high school math teacher, principal, program director at North Carolina New Schools Project, and area superintendent in Guilford County Schools. Dr. Edmonds received her Bachelor's in Mathematics Education from NC A&T State University. She earned her Master's in School Administration and Doctorate in Educational Administration and Supervision from NC State University. She was the recipient of the 2013-2014 Wilcox-Hodnett Doctoral Fellowship for Public School Administrators in North Carolina.

Dr. Edmonds has received numerous honors and awards. She was most recently recognized by Capitol Broadcasting as a member of the Class 2019 Salute to Champions and appeared on The Sports Shop Radio. Dr. Edmonds received The Bobbie Parker Impact Award presented by Relay

for Life of Bertie County. She was recognized by the United Service Group "Girls on Fire". Dr. Edmonds was featured in Un-Rappin' the Gift and He-Matters magazine from her hometown of Oxford. She is recognized as a "Listen First Leader" by the National Listen first Project. She was inducted into the Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education, Omicron Rho at NC State University. Dr. Edmonds received the Wicox-Hodnett Doctoral Fellowship for Public School Administrators in NC and the 2012 State Superintendent Team Excellence Award for her work in leading the state team in school turnaround efforts.

Dr. Edmonds currently serves on the American Cancer Society Board, Region Q Workforce Development Board, Vidant Bertie Advisory Council, and the Roanoke River Valley Education Consortium (Vice-President).

Dr. Catherine Edmonds is the youngest of five daughters born to Weldon and Novella Edmonds of Oxford, NC. She has two foster brothers that live in Georgia. Dr. Edmonds has one son, Thomas. Thomas is a member of the U.S. Coast Guard and lives in Marquette, Michigan with his wife Claudia, their two dogs, Duke and Bruce, and bearded dragon, Jason.

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