

2024 Hall of Fame Inductee
HILDA HAMILTON

Hilda W. Hamilton is a passionate advocate for children and fellow educators, serving as a teacher, tutor, instructional coach, and mentor. She spent the bulk of her career at Rugby Middle School teaching Math, Algebra, and Science. Mrs. Hamilton was not only an exceptional teacher and team leader but also an educator who has dedicated her life to improving educational opportunities for underserved communities. As one of her students, Alexis Lovern (Hoover), stated, "Teaching is an art, a calling that she had a natural gift for; the classroom was where she herself flourished."

In addition to being a well-respected educator, Mrs. Hamilton was one of the first National Board Certified Teachers in the entire nation, certifying in November 1994 during the first trial of candidacy. After earning her National Board Certification, she also offered support to Henderson County teachers working on their National Board Certification. Along with Lynn Davis Carter, they achieved a pass rate of over 70% for the district, compared to the national pass rate of 40%.

Mrs. Hamilton's leadership and tireless efforts made a lasting impact on countless students and teachers, which continued into her role as an Instructional Coach for Balfour, East Henderson, and Hendersonville High Schools, bringing her skills and talents to teachers across the district. Following her experience as an instructional coach, Mrs. Hamilton moved to Virginia to join her husband in his new job in DC. She returned to the classroom as an 8th-grade science teacher to finish out her exceptional professional career.

"She was first of all, and most importantly, a teacher who connected with each student and instructed each student according to his/her individual needs and abilities," said Lynn Davis Carter. This inspired many of her students, and even her daughter, to pursue careers in education. Mrs. Hamilton exhibits the best of what Henderson County Public Schools offer: pride in what she does, excellence in all she does, and hope for what our schools can become.

Written by Morgan Marshall