



October 14, 2025

To the NABSE Scholarship Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Ms. Ada Y. Carter for the Dr. Charles Mitchell, Jr. Leadership Scholarship. Ms. Carter is one of our district's most capable and forward-thinking leaders, and her work exemplifies the leadership qualities this scholarship seeks to promote. Over my three years as superintendent, Ms. Carter has achieved significant success as a principal. This prompted me to promote her to the position of Director of Community Schools during the 2024-2025 school year.

In her role as Director of Community Schools for Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Ms. Carter has brought exceptional vision and execution to a complex portfolio that touches nearly every corner of our system. She leads with purpose, keeps equity at the center of every decision, and demonstrates a rare balance of strategic thinking and relational leadership. Her efforts to strengthen collaboration among principals, community partners, and central office have resulted in more coherent supports for students and families, particularly in our highest-need communities.

What stands out most about Ms. Carter is her ability to build trust and alignment across layers of leadership. She models professionalism and integrity, and she consistently anticipates how district decisions will impact schools and students. Those traits, coupled with her deep commitment to developing others, have made her a valued colleague among senior leaders and a trusted resource to principals.

Ms. Carter's long-standing involvement with the National Alliance of Black School Educators—including her service as State President of the Maryland Alliance of Black School Educators and Affiliate President of the Anne Arundel Alliance of Black School Educators—demonstrates her belief in lifting others as she climbs. Under her leadership, our district now has the largest NABSE chapter in the state. Furthermore, her pursuit of a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction further reflects her drive for continuous growth and her desire to contribute to the broader field of educational leadership.

I fully support Ms. Carter's application for the Dr. Charles Mitchell, Jr. Leadership Scholarship. She is an exceptional leader whose influence extends well beyond her immediate role, and I have every confidence she will continue to advance the mission of NABSE and the success of public education.

Yours in Education,

Dr. Mark Bedell
Superintendent of Schools
Anne Arundel County Public Schools

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