

## South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators

Eric L. Jeffcoat Marcus Foster Distinguished Educator Award

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October 15, 2025

Dear Members of the Committee,

It is my privilege to offer my support for Eric Jeffcoat as a candidate for the Marcus Foster Distinguished Educator Award. As President-Elect of the South Carolina Alliance of Black School Educators (SCABSE), I have witnessed his unwavering commitment to equity, innovation, and meaningful change in education.

Eric's dedication is rooted in his own experiences overcoming adversity. The guidance of a compassionate sixth-grade teacher shaped his understanding of how mentorship, advocacy, and encouragement can transform a student's trajectory. That foundation now drives his work to uplift students and educators, ensuring all children have access to opportunities and support to reach their full potential.

As a district-level administrator, Eric strategically leverages his leadership to strengthen schools, improve teacher effectiveness, and create pathways for aspiring educators. His initiatives address immediate challenges while building sustainable solutions that foster long-term growth for students and staff.

Beyond his district, Eric advances statewide equity initiatives through SCABSE. He leads professional development programs that equip educators to support all children, develops strategies to recruit and retain diverse educators, and fosters mentorship programs connecting experienced educators with emerging leaders. His work addresses systemic inequities while ensuring every child benefits from high-quality education and inclusive learning environments.

Eric Jeffcoat embodies the qualities celebrated by the Marcus Foster Distinguished Educator Award: transformative leadership, equity-driven service, and measurable, statewide impact that supports all children. I offer my wholehearted support for his nomination.

Sincerely,

Tasha Joyner President-Elect

Tasha<sub>,</sub> Joyner