



Golding Named 2025 TPSD Administrator Of The Year

TUPELO — In an announcement that caught him off guard, second-year Pierce Street Elementary principal Dr. Anthony Golding has been named the 2025 Tupelo Public School District Administrator of the Year.

TPSD Board of Trustees president Hope Huey introduced him as this year’s winner at Tuesday’s meeting at the Hancock Leadership Center, with his family and peers in attendance.

He is now eligible for the Mississippi Administrator of the Year accolade, which will be announced in the Spring.

“I am deeply honored to be chosen for this honor,” Golding said. “This recognition is a testament to the incredible school community I am privileged to serve — my dedicated staff, my amazing students and our supportive parents.

“I extend my heartfelt thanks to the school board, Dr. Rob Picou, Ms. Kim Britton and Dr. Brock English for their unwavering support and belief in our mission. I truly love my job and everything I do for our students, and I am grateful for the opportunity to make a positive impact every day.”

A native of Union County, Golding transitioned to PSE after spending the previous four years as assistant principal at Milam Elementary, where he was instrumental in helping reduce the disciplinary infraction count with the implementation of Capturing Kids' Hearts.

During a three-year stretch from 2020 to 2022, Milam also received the Mississippi Association for Partners in Education Governor's Award.

During his brief tenure at Pierce Street, he has led the 3-5 school to back-to-back A-ratings by the Mississippi Department of Education.

"During his interview rounds, Dr. Golding did a great job of showing his vision for continued success," TPSD Superintendent Dr. Rob Picou said. "He has delivered on what he outlined to us and developed a culture of excellence that has become contagious with his staff, students and parents."

Golding's career in education began in 2013 as a secondary history teacher at Tupelo Middle School. During his four-year stint, he served as an administrative intern for three semesters.

In 2017, Golding became principal at the Houlika Attendance Center, where he was also the transportation director and athletic director. In 2019, he was named the Chickasaw County School District Administrator of the Year. After a highly successful two-year stint, he made the move to Milam Elementary.

He earned his bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University in 2013 and received his master's from Ole Miss in 2015. In 2021, he completed his doctorate from Belhaven University.

He and his wife, Caitlin, a 2014 graduate of Tupelo High School, have two children — a 3-year-old daughter, Lincoln, and a 1-year-old son, Rivers.

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