McCullough Named 2027 TPSD Administrator of the Year

TUPELO, Miss. — For Wesley McCullough, it's always been about the students.

On Tuesday at the Tupelo Public School District board of trustees meeting, however, it was all about him.

In front of an overflowing crowd where numerous people were recognized and celebrated, board president Jon Milstead announced McCullough as the 2027 Administrator of the Year.

Even in his acceptance speech, the 4th-year Lawhon Elementary principal and 2007 Tupelo High School graduate made it all about the students, as well as his staff.

"This means more to me than I can put into words," said McCullough, who has guided Lawhon to numerous MDA A-ratings, including this year. "All of the credit belongs to the teachers, staff, administrative team and students of Lawhon Elementary. Our teachers and staff pour their hearts into our children every day, and our students give us every reason to keep giving our best. This is a Lawhon Award. It belongs to all of them.

"I am also thankful for my fellow administrators, their support, and the work they do each day for our district," he continued. "Each of them deserves this recognition every year, and it means a great deal to me to get to work alongside them. I am so thankful to be Lawhon's principal and proud to represent a school district and community that mean so much to me."

McCullough, a Mississippi State graduate, came to the district after being an assistant principal at New Albany Elementary for four years.

Known as a great communicator and relationship builder, his extensive experience at the K-5 level was instrumental in helping NAES become a consistent A-rated school and a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. He broke into the administrative ranks in 2018 as an assistant principal with the Alcorn School District.

"Mr. McCullough has worked hard to build a culture of excellence at one of our most historic schools, Lawhon," TPSD superintendent Dr. Rob Picou said. "His students and staff believe in him, and he believes in them. They work tirelessly every day to make Lawhon theschool it is. McCullough and his wife, Hannah Claire, have two daughters, Lilah Kate, a 6th-grader at Milam, and CeCe, a 2nd-grader at Lawhon.





