

Dr. Erin Berry-McCrea is an interdisciplinary *teacher-scholar* with a background in media & communication studies, sociolinguistics, digital literacy, and intercultural competence. She holds a Ph.D. in Language, Literacy, and Culture from The University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) and a M.A. in Organizational Communication (Public Affairs and Media Technology) from Bowie State University. Dr. Berry-McCrea is currently a Curriculum Coordinator for NCVirtual Public School in Raleigh, NC. In this role, she assists in the facilitation of course development and continued course revisions across academic disciplines.

In 2018, she was awarded the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Early Career Educator of Color Leadership Award for her community engagement work in Black digital literacy, digital sociolinguistics, and culturally responsive pedagogies. Her research has been published in *Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism*; *PHILLIS: The Journal of Research on African American Women*, *the Journal of Negro Education*, and *the Radio Journal: International Studies in Broadcast and Audio Media*. She is also an adjunct professor in the Department of Mass Communication at North Carolina Central University.

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Dr. Leslie Locklear, a member of the Lumbee, Waccamaw Siouan and Coharie tribes, hails from Hoke County, NC. Leslie received her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education, her Masters in Professional School Counseling, both from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and completed her doctoral degree in Educational Studies and Cultural Foundations at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Leslie is currently employed at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke as the Program Coordinator for the First Americans Teacher Education (FATE) program and First Americans Educational Leadership (FAEL) program where she trains American Indian teachers and administrators to work in American Indian schools. She also serves as the Co-Chair of the North Carolina Native American Youth Organization (NCNAYO) Adult Advisory Committee. As a student and educator Leslie's passions include culturally relevant curriculum, working with American Indian youth councils, college and career counseling, and supporting educators in the classroom.

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Matt Scialdone is in his 19th year teaching high school English in Wake County Public Schools. In 2018, Matt and his students began a collaboration with the Equal Justice Initiative to conduct a truth and reconciliation campaign focused on a 100 year-old lynching case in Wake County. That collaboration continues today and has led to other projects focused on social justice in their community. Matt and his students are currently piloting a course called "Hard History and Civic Engagement" in hopes of it becoming an English/Social Studies elective course option available

across NC. Matt is a National Board Certified teacher and served as the 2015-16 Wake County Public Schools Teacher of the Year.

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Rodney D. Pierce is a sixth-year educator teaching middle school Social Studies in Nash County Public Schools, where he helps lead the district's Equity Council. Pierce was the 2019 NC Council for the Social Studies Teacher of the Year and is a Fellow of Carolina Public Humanities, the Public School Forum of NC's Education Policy Fellowship Program and the NC Equity Fellowship through CREED (Center for Racial Equity in Education). An avid historian, Pierce's research on charter resegregation in his native Halifax County has been published in The Washington Post. He is currently serving terms on the Carolina Public Humanities Advisory Board and NC Council for the Social Studies Executive Board.

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KaLa Keaton is a senior at Middle Creek High School. "What Does Culturally Responsive Curriculum Mean to Our Students" is her fifteenth event as a student speaker. Since working with the Equal Justice Initiative on a lynching investigation, she's discussed the role of race in education, police brutality, and remote learning at multiple forums. She's the founder and president of her school's Social Justice Club and has collaborated with the Raleigh-Apex NAACP to produce a video in the midst of current protests. KaLa recently earned the Girl Scout Gold Award and an honorable mention for the Yale Bassett Award for Community Engagement for her activism. She's excited to join the other panelists for this webinar!

Kaloni Walton, is a member of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. She is a senior at Lumberton High School. She is very involved in her school and community, allowing her the opportunity to speak at various events. She serves as her school American Indian Student Association President, she also serves as the Female Co-Chair for North Carolina Native American Student Association (NCNAYO). She also served as a Youth Climate Activist for Eastern North Carolina with Alliance for Climate Education (ACE). She would like to say thank you for allowing her to speak before you all!

Abby Rogers is currently a Global Gap Year Fellow at UNC-Chapel Hill. She attended Middle Creek High School where she collaborated on a variety of social justice projects with students from her African-American Literature class. She plans to double major in English and Philosophy and eventually become a public defender.