

Dr. Barbara M. Jenkins
2010 WPHS Alumni Circle of Distinction

After graduating from Winter Park High School, Barbara Jenkins became dedicated to serving the needs of students for more than 25 years. She was named superintendent for Orange County Public Schools in 2012.

As the former deputy superintendent for Orange County, she served as the superintendents designee and oversaw five area superintendents and the division of Teaching and Learning. In her prior tenure as Chief of Staff, she also oversaw Human Resources, Public Relations, Labor Relations, Strategic Planning and served as the chief negotiator for the district. As the superintendents designee she also coordinated executive functions for the district and provided support to the school board.

From 1998 through 2005 she was the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources for the 120,000-student district, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (Charlotte, North Carolina), where she was responsible for Employee Relations, Licensure, Benefits, Information Systems, Compensation and Employment. During her time in Charlotte, she was recognized for innovative strategies to increase equity among schools, including accelerated staffing strategies, teacher incentives, and use of a balanced scorecard.

She previously served as Senior Director for Elementary Education in Orange County, supervising principals and schools. Dr. Jenkins has been a classroom teacher, staff developer and principal. Her undergraduate and doctor of education degrees were received from the University of Central Florida. She is a fellow of the nationally recognized Broad Urban Superintendents Academy.

Dr. Jenkins was named the 2013 District Data Leader of the Year by the Florida Department of Education. She was honored to receive a Professional Achievement Award from the University of Central Florida College of Education and Human Performance in November 2013.

Deeply engaged in the community, Dr. Jenkins serves on the board of the United Arts of Central Florida, the Winter Park Health Foundation, the YMCA of Central Florida, the Central Florida Regional Commission on Homelessness, and the Orange County Youth Mental Health Commission. Recognized for her commitment and influence, an Orlando Sentinel-hosted survey of "informed" Central Floridians voted Dr. Jenkins the ninth most powerful person in Central Florida in December 2013. Orlando Magazine also recognized her as one of the regions 50 Most

Powerful People in Orlando, in July 2013.