



Katrina T. McCombs
STATE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

CAMDEN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
1033 CAMBRIDGE STREET, CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY 08105
www.camdencityschools.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Sheena Yera | 856-308-3061

Statement from Superintendent Katrina T. McCombs on the passing of Former Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mary Arnold-Frazier

Camden, NJ – With profound sadness, we announce the passing of our esteemed former Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mary Arnold-Frazier. Dr. Frazier's remarkable career in the Camden City School District exemplified dedication, excellence, and visionary leadership for over four decades.

Dr. Mary Arnold-Frazier was a living "lesson in success," serving as a role model through her hard work, uncompromising pursuit of excellence, and her rise from an elementary teacher to the first African American woman in the district's history to hold the posts of Special Assistant to the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

Her steadfast belief that every child could learn, coupled with her natural love for children and her profession, led her to achieve numerous accomplishments. These included roles as an elementary teacher, reading teacher, helping teacher, supervisor, and principal of three district schools—Broadway, Forest Hill, and Cooper B. Hatch. Dr. Frazier was also Forest Hill's first Principal and was instrumental in implementing various innovative programs, including the Teacher Corp Program, through which twenty-six Forest Hill teachers and support staff received Master's Degrees from Glassboro State College (now Rowan University) in 1977.

Dr. Frazier's exceptional knowledge in curriculum development and curriculum writing, coupled with her expectation for solid, effective instruction, significantly elevated the quality of education within the district.

We extend our deepest condolences to Dr. Frazier's family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time, sharing in their grief and offering our support and solidarity.

In honor of Dr. Mary Arnold-Frazier's memory and her exceptional contributions to our district, the Camden City Advisory Board of Education will observe a special moment of silence during our June board meeting.

We express our sincere sympathies to all who knew and admired Dr. Frazier, recognizing that her visionary leadership and dedication to educational excellence will continue to inspire us as we strive to uphold her values and carry forward her vision.

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