

Benny L. Bolden, Jr., MS
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TALLAHASSEE, FL 32311
(305) 788-8423 (CELL)

December 11, 2018

To: Office of the City of Tallahassee
Treasurer-Clerk at City Hall

Re: City Commissioner Vacancy

It is with great hope and anticipation that I submit to you my application for the available City Commissioner Seat within the City of Tallahassee. One of my primary goals is to bring our community at large together in a spirit of cooperation, teamwork, trust, respect, and collaboration as we move toward our shared vision of preparing every citizen for ongoing learning as well as community and global responsibilities.

As a 15-year educator, I motivated my students in ascertaining their inner strengths and abilities and discovering what truly inspires them. Throughout my years in education and instruction, I have been able to work with various levels of students, staff, and faculty skills while developing community programs to enhance their personal skills and abilities. My extensive experience in all areas of education, coupled with intensive training and unwavering commitment to our city, has prepared me for this opportunity and the hope that I will be able to serve the City of Tallahassee in the aforementioned positions.

One of my most significant accomplishments has been my ability to work in a spirit of trust and respect with students, faculty, staff, parents, and community members. Extensive professional development experience, which began early in my professional career in the area of leadership, human interaction, and communication has enabled me to work cooperatively with others and to build communities.

I have come to realize how vital public work is in the preparation for people to achieve success in all endeavors set before them. Together, we can continue to create an environment that values the educational, management, and economic growth and success of every citizen within Tallahassee. Please review the enclosed contents and contact me so we can further discuss this opportunity. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Benny L. Bolden, Jr.

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2500 MERCHANT ROW BLVD #238

TALLAHASSEE, FL 34105

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OBJECTIVE: To obtain a position with a vigorous establishment that will enable me an opportunity to expand current curriculum practices that will improve students' educational development and create programs that will foster students of character while applying my background in education in music management, planning and organization, to the benefit of the institution.

EDUCATION:

Aspen University; Denver, CO

Presently Enrolled

Doctor of Education (EdD): Higher Education

Capella University; Minneapolis, MN

March 2008

Master of Science (MS): Educational Leadership

Florida A&M University; Tallahassee, FL

August 2005

Bachelor of Science (BS): Music

Miami Norland Senior High School

June 1999

High School Diploma

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATION

- Successful in creating and implementing strategic plans, setting and administering budgets, and developing improved process to meet short and long term objectives.
- Friendly, enthusiastic and persuasive in learning situations.
- Excellent communication skills and a professional demeanor gained through extensive interaction with the public, leadership roles in college activities.
- Recognized for reliability and "getting the job done" through persistence and a strong work ethic.
- Unique combination of creativity and analytical skills with a high educational aptitude and detail orientation.
- Turn-around Principal moving Jefferson M/H from an "F" to a "D"

AREA OF EXPERTISE

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| • Change Management | • Instruction | • Problem Solving |
| • Data Driven Decision Making | • Data Analysis | • Communication & Interpersonal Skills |
| • Community Development | • Instructional Leadership | • Innovation and Reform |
| • Conflict Resolution | • Organizational Development | • Process Development & Implementation |
| • Curriculum and | • Team Building | |
| | • Strategic Planning | |

MEMBERSHIPS:

National Association of Secondary School Principals, Florida Association of Secondary School Principals, Florida Bandmasters Associations (FBA), Music Educators National Conference (MENC) National Education Association (NEA), Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency (FCCD), Member of 500 role models of excellence, FAMU Marching 100, Collegiate Music Educators National Conference (CMENC) (president 2000-2001), and Ordained Elder at Family Worship & Praise Center (FWPC)

CERTIFICATION: Florida Department of Education Professional Certificate in *Music K-12, Educational Leadership*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**2018-2019 R. Frank Nims Middle School*****Assistant Principal for Administration***

Primary responsibilities included student discipline, instructional supervision, and staff evaluation. Providing support to the instructional process with specific responsibility for directing assigned programs and services at the high school; providing information and serving as a resource to others; supervising assigned staff; coordinating school activities and addressing issues, situations and/or problems that arise on campus or with enrolled students. Responsibilities include the Math Department/Music Department/21st Century Grant/Discipline.

2017-2018 Fort Braden School (K-8)***Assistant Principal for Administration***

Responsible for all aspects of school operation including curriculum, instructional leadership, planning and implementation, staff selection and evaluation, staff development, student placement and PLC, and plant supervision. Supervises all standards and curriculum development and implementation for Fort Braden School from Pre-k through eighth grades. Supports principals and teachers in their efforts to integrate national best practices in daily classroom interactions. Designs, develops and implements a comprehensive assessment system for summative and formative evaluations of student performance, based on standards-based curricular benchmarks. Spearheads district-wide focus groups and other initiatives to reach agreement on rich and rigorous standards for all students.

2016-2017 Godby High School***Assistant Principal for Student Affairs***

Primary responsibilities included student discipline, instructional supervision, and staff evaluation. Providing support to the instructional process with specific responsibility for directing assigned programs and services at the high school; providing information and serving as a resource to others; supervising assigned staff; coordinating school activities and addressing issues, situations and/or problems that arise on campus or with enrolled students. Responsibilities include the Math Department/Music Department/21st Century Grant/Discipline.

2015-2016 Jefferson County Middle High School

Principal/APC

Serves as the educational leader of a school or designated area of responsibility, responsible for implementing and managing the policies, regulations, and procedures of the Board of Education to ensure that all students are supervised in a safe learning environment that meets and exceeds the State Core Curriculum Content Standards, following the approved curricula and directives of the school. Work collaboratively to lead and nurture all members of the school staff and to communicate effectively with parents, members of the community, and colleagues in other districts and schools. Inherent in this position are the responsibilities for planning, curriculum development, program evaluation, extracurricular activities, personnel management, financial management, emergency procedures, resource scheduling, and facilities operations. Successfully moved our school grade up from a three-year consecutive “F” grade in my first year to a “D”. Responsible for all aspects of school operation including curriculum, instructional leadership, planning and implementation, staff selection and evaluation, staff development, student placement and PLC, and plant supervision. Supervises all standards and curriculum development and implementation for JCMHS from six through twelfth grade. Supports principals and teachers in their efforts to integrate national best practices in daily classroom interactions. Designs, develops and implements a comprehensive assessment system for summative and formative evaluations of student performance, based on standards-based curricular benchmarks. Spearheads district-wide focus groups and other initiatives to reach agreement on rich and rigorous standards for all students.

2014-2015 Estero High School

Assistant Principal for Attendance/Discipline

Assistant Principal for 1800-student high school serving grades 9-12. Primary responsibilities included student discipline, transportation, attendance, instructional supervision, and staff evaluation. Providing support to the instructional process with specific responsibility for directing assigned programs and services at the high school; providing information and serving as a resource to others; supervising assigned staff; coordinating school activities and addressing issues, situations and/or problems that arise on campus or with enrolled students. Responsibilities include the Music Department.

2012-2014 State Board Executive (District 18 Chair – Collier, Lee, and Hendry Counties)

Govern any and all business that relates to the organization: budget, organizational leadership, providing support to the instructional process with specific responsibility, Presides at District meetings, collects assessments for District Music Performance Assessments, serves as District treasurer, Administers District Music Performance Assessments, Represents the District at Executive Board meetings, Maintains financial records pursuant to FBA and FSMA policies and procedures.

2010-2014 Barron Collier High School

Director of Bands

Marching Band (230 members), Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble I & II, Percussion Ensemble.

- 2007-2010** **Miami Northwestern Senior High School - (*Title I School*)**
Department Chair/Director of Bands and Choral Studies
 Marching Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble,
 Percussion Ensemble, AP
 Music theory, Chorus, and Instrumental Techniques, Keyboard, and also
 managing our PAVAC magnet program
- 2006-2007** **Belle Vue Middle School - (*Title I School*)**
Director of Bands
 Marching Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble,
*(Our Band program was featured on the front page of the Tallahassee
 Democrat on five different occasions this year, was a featured story on
 ABC 27, and earned a superior rating at the FBA district 3 concert band
 festival, the school's first superior in 18 years).*
- 2005-2007** **James S. Rickards High School**
Assistant Band Director
 Assist band director in overall guidance and instruction, drill design, and
 organization, for the building of the music program.
- 2005-2005** **Leon High School**
Student Internship
 Assist in instructing the Leon Concert Band which gives instruction, training in
 music concepts, and instrumental music for teacher preparation.
- OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE:**
- 2006-2007** **Florida Department of Correction**
Office of the Secretary (Public Affairs)
Public Information Specialist
 Responsible for educating the public about the mission, goals, and operations of
 the department. Public Affairs staff responds to requests for information from
 state and national media, as well as the general public.
- 2005- 2006** **Florida Department of Correction**
Bureau of Program Services (Education Department)
Education Services-Grant-Even Start
 Grant writing (*Barbara Bush Grant*) as well as Central point of contact for
 institutions when scheduling activities, transportation, and coordinates delivery of
 documentation between partners. Transition specialist-track all referrals.
- 2004-2005** **Family Worship & Praise Center**
Publication Manager
 Responsibilities included formatting, editing and production of media items for
 procurement. Responsible for training of staff, as well as daily operations and
 promotions.

OTHER SUPPORTIVE DATA

Community/Professional Involvement

- Florida Bandmasters Association (FBA) District 18 Chairman - Member of the State's Executive Board of the Florida Bandmasters Association (FBA). I serve as the Chairman of District 18, which serves band directors in Collier, Lee, and Hendry Counties. Florida Bandmasters Association and the Florida School Music Association as professional associations are to assist in the professional growth of our members, to improve music education, and to provide musical opportunities and activities for all Florida students.
- Member of the Naples Youth Jazz Orchestra Advisory Board (2011)
- Member of the National Educators Association
- Professional Development and teaching clinics throughout the State of Florida
- Invited guest speaker for the Florida Christian Athletic Association
- Regular volunteer at Moorings Park, Brooksdale, Center point Assisted Living
- Member of 500 Role Models of Excellence
- Artistic Director of the Southwest Florida Winds
- Ordained Elder and speak often a local churches and throughout the States
- Turn-around Principal moving Jefferson M/H from an "F" to a "D"