



# Principal

# Spotlight

**Dr. VaRee Harrell**  
**Matt Arthur Elementary**

## **What do you love about your school?**

EVERYTHING! I love the students, teachers, staff, parents, and the atmosphere. MAES is a great place to be each day!

## **What do you love most about being a principal?**

What I love most about being a principal is watching the students grow socially, emotionally, and academically. It is fun to watch them grow and learn. They love to show you when they have a wiggly tooth or new shoes or come read to me when they master a new reading level. There is no better job in the world than spending the day with the children!

## **Tell us about the person who inspired you to become a leader.**

My principal, when I taught at Shirley Hills Elementary, inspired me to become a leader. Charlie Harper believed in me and encouraged me to pursue a leadership degree while I was a teacher under his administration. He often gave me leadership roles to help prepare me for the day I had my own school to lead. Mr. Harper was a compassionate, kind, and caring leader that genuinely led by example. He loved his students, faculty, and families and made sure we all knew it! I strive to be like him every day.

## **Fun Fact**

I love fishing, but I have to use a napkin to put the worm on the hook (because it is gross!)