



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

August 9, 2023

**Cannon County Schools Strengthens Safety Measures for the New School Year**

*Woodbury, TN, August 9, 2023-* Cannon County Schools is continuing to strengthen measures to ensure a safe environment for our school community. Due to Governor Lee's new safety legislation, new security procedures will be implemented this school year. Principals were trained on the new laws and procedures and will educate their staff and students. Hiring a new Safety Director and restructuring staff duties at the Central Office will also allow for a more focused and targeted approach to all school safety and student support facets.

Mr. William (Bill) West II was recently hired as the new part-time Safety Director for Cannon County. Bill is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University. He brings over 36 years of law enforcement and SRO experience to our school system. Mr. West is a certified trainer for the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) and a certified trainer for CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environment Design). He is also certified in threat assessments and the Past President of the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO). Mr. West and his wife, Lynn, have been married for 37 years and have three children, Will (32), Taylor (28), and Devin (23). He is the proud foster grandfather to Bentley (2) and the proud grandfather to Liam West (1).

Mrs. Stephanie Alexander has transferred to the Coordinated School Health and Supervisor of Attendance/Data role. Mrs. Alexander will continue her work as the ESSER coordinator, which will end at the end of this school year. By streamlining this position, Mrs. Alexander will have more time to focus on students' physical, social, and emotional needs and track student attendance. Her experience as a teacher, principal, and supervisor and her attention to detail will strengthen student support and help bring about additional TISA funding.

Director of Cannon County Schools, Mrs. Bonnie Patterson, stated, "We are extremely fortunate to have both Bill and Stephanie in these positions. They bring a wealth of experience to our school system and will add additional support for our students and staff."

For media inquiries, please contact Bonnie Patterson, Director of Cannon County Schools, at 629-201-4815 or [bonnie.patterson@ccstn.net](mailto:bonnie.patterson@ccstn.net) for local Cannon County Schools information.