DEVON HORTON, *Ed. D* Biography

Since 2020 Dr. Devon Horton has served as the proud Superintendent of Evanston/Skokie School District 65, a pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade school district just north of the City of Chicago. Dr. Horton is a native Chicagoan who was impacted by redlining and learned the true value of equity early. Throughout his experience across multiple states in education, from the lens of a teacher, Assistant Principal, Principal, Assistant Superintendent, Chief of Schools, and now Superintendent, passion, persistence, and powerful practices is his proven formula for success. Dr. Horton's research is focused on school leaders' impact on Turnaround Schools.

He is a Disruptive leader with an unwavering belief in the potential for success for all children. He has a proven track record of transforming educational institutions into sustainable, highperforming organizations. His accomplishments in leadership were rooted in Chicago Public Schools. Under Dr. Horton's leadership, every team he has led developed a robust culture of equity-centered decision-making. Data and research provide the target, but the art and science of teaching is where the magic happens for all marginalized students.

Dr. Horton is eager to support communities to help identify leaders and educators who have the desire and passion for making a difference in today's society. He is a leader who operates with a sense of urgency to create systemic and sustainable change. Dr. Horton is seen as an anti-racist leader across the nation and has presented his work at a number of local, regional, and national education-related conferences. He was recently honored with the 2022 RTM National EdTech All-Star award for his support in the field of education of other dynamic leaders.

Dr. Horton lives by the creed *"Equity in Action"* and believes it is the only way to build systemic change with a focus on shifting policy, people, and practice. He has built Urban Teacher Residency programs for three different school districts. These programs prioritize selecting

DEVON HORTON, *Ed. D* Biography

and training future teachers who must have a strong belief that all students can learn and meet their maximum potential. While serving in his third year as District 65 Superintendent, he was awarded the National Alliance of Black School Educators 2022-2023 Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Horton created and lives by the motto, *"Students do not fail; it's the systems that we create as adults that fail our students!"*