

Dr. Perry Phillips

Dr. Perry Phillips, a National Board Certified Teacher, is a master teacher in the Jefferson County School System, located in Birmingham, Alabama (USA). After working with an inner-city summer enrichment program in Washington, D.C., Phillips attained degrees from the University of Montevallo, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, and Samford University. In 2008 Samford University recognized Dr. Phillips' work in public schools by presenting him with the "Quality Leadership Award," and again recognized Dr. Phillips in 2016 by naming him as one of the top 100 educators to graduate from Samford University's School of Education since 1915. Dr. Phillips was also a finalist for the 2017 Alabama Teacher of the Year; which ranks him as one of the top 500 educators in the U.S. Dr. Phillips is also a National Board Certified Teacher; only 2% of educators in the U.S. hold this certification.

Drawing from his experiences while teaching in Washington, D.C., Dr. Phillips began his teaching career in Central Alabama and continues to prove that all students can be successful when placed in classrooms where the talents of students and parents are both valued and respected. Dr. Phillips' classroom is an environment where students learn to form relationships with others as opposed to building walls of intolerance. Through project-based learning (PBL) lessons and his unique incorporation of higher level thinking strategies, Phillips teaches students to go deep in their learning regardless of the content area. It is common practice for his students to be engaged in preparation for formal debating, script writing plays for short historical scenes, and blogging about current events. Dr. Phillips believes in creating authentic and engaging lessons that are easily relatable to the real world.

In addition to working in Alabama schools, Dr. Phillips has taught at the University of Changchun in China, led teacher development workshops in Jordan and Lebanon, and served as an education consultant on the Pacific Islands of Guam, Saipan and Hawaii. In the USA, Dr. Phillips has led professional development for classroom teachers at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, as well as in Manhattan, New York, on the campuses of Bank Street College and Columbia University. Dr. Phillips is currently filling a dual teaching role by working as a teacher for Jefferson County Schools and as a mentor teacher for UABTeach (a teacher certification program at The University of Alabama at Birmingham).

Dr. Phillips completed his Doctorate in Educational Leadership at Samford University in 2008 where he conducted an international study in Lebanon looking at Perceptions in Gender Differences between Male and Female Teachers and Administrators. Dr. Phillips is currently a member of the Council for Leadership in Alabama Schools, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the Executive Board for the Jefferson County Educational Association, and formerly served on the Executive Board for the Alabama Federation's Council for Exceptional Children.