

## ADE PHENOMENAL WOMAN

**Dr. Kiffany Pride**

**Assistant Commissioner of Learning Services**



Dr. Pride is a strong role model by demonstrating attributes of high moral values, earning the trust of leadership and staff, being respectful of others, displaying a positive attitude toward work, being persistent in displaying a great work ethic, and meeting deadlines despite her vigorous schedule.

When Dr. Pride faces adversity, she overcomes the obstacles by reaching out to others who are experts in the field, as well as working late or from home without further compensation. Dr. Pride works through a challenge in order to achieve the goals of Learning Services and the agency. She does whatever it takes to get the job done in a professional and timely manner. Dr. Pride is passionate about her work at ADE.

When a call is received in the Division of Learning Services but should be directed to another division or staff member, Dr. Pride not only refers calls and information to the appropriate division and contact, but she also follows up with the person to whom the call was referred to ensure the caller's concern was addressed.

Also, Dr. Pride shows support by encouraging staff to seek further education and/or professional development. This support proves that she is engaged with her employees. Dr. Pride understands the importance and benefits of giving back to her community. She participates in community service through the work of her sorority.

In the past, Dr. Pride served as a literacy specialist and a RISE assessor. Her outstanding efforts landed her the role of Assistant Commissioner of the Division of Learning Services, where she is an excellent leader. Despite having to attend many in-person and virtual meetings, Dr. Pride sets aside time to meet with the Learning Services leadership individually on a weekly basis, as well as a group monthly.

Additionally, Dr. Pride's open-door policy is welcomed and utilized by many, including the leadership within and outside of the Division of Learning Services as well as support staff. She takes the time to ensure she knows staff in the Division of Learning Services, regardless of their role (leadership or support), and introduces herself to those she greets for the first time in an effort to know everyone who works in her division.

Dr. Kiffany Pride began serving as assistant commissioner for Learning Services on July 1, 2020. She started working for DESE as a Response to Intervention coordinator for literacy, a position she held from August 2018 until February 2019. She then served as a R.I.S.E. (Reading Initiative for Student Excellence) assessor until August 2019, when she assumed the role as the director of curriculum and assessment. Before joining DESE, Pride was the program administrator for the Pulaski County Special School District's Department of Learning Services. Her previous experience also includes serving as a teacher, literacy coach, and athletic coach for the Little Rock School District. Pride has a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Hendrix College, a Master of Science in Middle Childhood Education from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, a Master of Science in Reading and Literacy from Walden University, and an Education Specialist in Educational Leadership and a Doctorate in Education in Educational Leadership from Harding University. Pride is a member of several professional organizations, including the Mid-South Educational Research Association, the Arkansas Reading Association, and the Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators.