



April 5, 2021

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Virtus Academy Selects New School Principal**

Florence, SC - The Virtus Academy Board of Directors is excited to share Shemekia L. Nero as the charter school's new principal. Ms. Nero brings a collaborative leadership style that will empower educators to create meaningful relationships with students and families. She currently serves as the assistant principal at South Florence High School and will take over the role on July 1, 2021.



"I am excited about the opportunity to join Virtus Academy as the school's principal," Nero said. "I look forward to working alongside the staff and board of directors to further advance Virtus' mission."

Virtus Academy worked with the Public Charter School Alliance of SC in vetting over 75 high-quality candidates from across the country for the position. "I am delighted the Board of Directors has selected Ms. Nero to serve as Principal of Virtus Academy," said Dr. Thomas Ducey, Board of Directors Chairman. "Her wealth of educational experience, her abundant leadership expertise, and her strong commitment to our mission makes her a great match for Virtus Academy. We know that vision doesn't come to life without dynamic leaders in every school; therefore, we are happy to welcome Ms. Nero to the VASC community."

Nero's experience includes serving as an English teacher, education specialist, and assistant principal. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in English, a Master of Business Administration, a Master of Education in Educational Leadership, and is currently working on a Ph. D in Curriculum Instruction and Assessment.

Virtus Academy is a public charter school located in Florence, SC. Virtus believes all students can be successful and works to advance student achievement by preparing them for civic and career success through rigorous academics, leadership development and project-based learning.

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