



OUR TEAM

PAUL C. HARRIS, Ph.D., NCC, NCSC

Professional Learning Specialist



BIOGRAPHY

"I believe every student has a unique and brilliant voice that adds value to the world. I am passionate about disrupting racist systems that systematically silence some voices while privileging other voices and facilitating the empowerment of said systems to promote the thriving of all."

Dr. Paul Harris currently serves as founder of Integrity Matters, LLC, which exists to promote racial justice through social emotional learning in education, athletic, and faith communities. He previously served as a tenured Associate Professor of Education at The Pennsylvania State University and the University of Virginia and as a high school counselor in Newport News and Loudoun County, VA. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Health & Physical Education with a concentration in Sports Medicine and his Master's degree in School Counseling from the University of Virginia, and his Ph.D. in Counselor Education from the University of Maryland. He also holds a Master of Divinity degree from Virginia Union University.

Dr. Harris is the former president of the Virginia School Counselor Association and a former member of the Board of Directors for the American School Counselor Association. He also formerly served on the editorial review board for the *Professional School Counseling* journal. He currently serves on the Senior Advisory Board for *The Professional Counselor* journal.

In collaboration with education scholars, practitioners, and community partners, Dr. Harris has co-authored over 35 peer-reviewed manuscripts and book chapters. His contributions to the field have been acknowledged by the American School Counselor Association, American Educational Research Association, Southern Association of Counselor Education and Supervision, and Education Trust.

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Former President of the Virginia School Counselor Association
- Former member of American School Counselor Association Board of Directors
- Over 35 published articles and book chapters
- Over \$1.5 million in grant funding
- Tenured Associate Professor of School Counseling at University of Virginia and Penn State University

FUN FACTS

- Paul and his spouse Taylor have been married since 2005. They have 3 amazing children and a goldendoodle named Bean.
- Paul enjoys watching sports, especially basketball.

TESTIMONIALS

"Dr. Harris delivered an exceptional message for our Black History Month assembly. He captured the attention of over 2,000 students, encouraging them to "define the curve" and own their collective and individual responsibility toward creating and sustaining inclusive, kind, and just communities. Through authenticity and humility, Dr. Harris gently invited students into the conversation, met them where they were, and acknowledged the different levels of comfort and confidence with the work of cultural competence. He shared exemplars within the African American community, both past and present day, who defied odds, shattered ceilings, and broke down barriers in a way that inspired students to see their own opportunity to do the same. That many students and faculty shared that they wished the assembly were longer because they felt Dr. Harris had more to say and they were eager to listen is a testament to his message and delivery. I've always held immense respect for Dr. Harris and am continually inspired by him as a school counselor and educational leader, so I was thrilled that our students could connect with him."

-Jaclyn Smith, Director of Counseling at Independence High School, Loudoun County Public Schools

"Dr. Harris is a phenomenal presence. He was our featured Town Hall speaker for the topic, "Teaching to Save Black Lives: On Teaching, Protesting and Revolutionizing Education." Our Town Hall series features experts and scholars who address current themes and diverse issues in education Dr. Harris' expertise, content knowledge and first-hand experience as a practitioner working with underrepresented student populations helped to situate the conversation and connection with our student and scholarly community. Dr. Harris' "real talk" style and presentation resonated deeply with our students, and his concrete, solution-oriented wisdom was the impetus our urban educators needed to continue championing the cause of freedom for all."

-Nathaniel Smith, Director, NYC Men Teach/Queens College of the City University of New York

"Dr. Harris provided training for our college advisers. He covered areas such as school counseling for underrepresented populations and cultural awareness/competency. Dr. Harris has a unique ability to quickly and genuinely build community in a space. This enables participants to dig deeper even in a short training session. He can connect with all kinds of people, and ultimately, that is key to creating environments where learning and growth take place."

-Joy Pugh, Executive Director, Virginia College Advising Corps



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