

Prior to becoming NC State Director for Elementary and Middle Schools two years ago, **Linda Little** was principal of Arthur W. Edwards Year Round Elementary School in Craven County. During her principalship there, the school was recognized for being a Distinguished Title I School, an IRA Exemplary Reading Program and a School of Excellence with high growth and meeting its Annual Yearly Progress in No Child Left Behind.

Little received her Educational Specialist Degree in Administration and Curriculum and her Master of Arts in Early Childhood from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. Her undergraduate degree in Elementary Education is from Lenoir Rhyne College in Hickory, North Carolina.

In addition to being an elementary principal, she has been a K-12 general supervisor, a middle grades and an early childhood consultant with the former Northwest Regional Education Center and a classroom teacher. She was instrumental in opening two year-round education schools and initiated many innovative organizational and instructional practices.

Linda Little has served on the Teaching Fellows Commission since its inception in 1986 as one of the Governor's appointees. During her tenure, she chaired evaluation teams at various universities including the University of NC at Chapel Hill. She was instrumental in helping design program components for the Teaching Fellows' experiences as well as developing operational policies.

She has presented various workshops on the local, state, regional, and national levels. These include sessions on using effective planning frameworks, facilitative leadership skills, Baldrige principles, and appropriate child development programs. She has been involved with accreditation for most of her 37 years in education. Recently she's been an adjunct professor at East Carolina University.

Linda is a proud grandmother of four girls and a mother of three children, all of whom are in education related fields. Two of her children are Nationally Board Certified while her third one is working on his doctorate. (Her husband is a music teacher.) She's active in her church and in Delta Kappa Gamma where she has held various leadership positions. She's received recognitions such as NC's Distinguished Educator Achievement Award, DPI's Technology Administrator Award, Wilkes County's Principal of the Year, and Havelock's Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year Award.