

Biography of Mrs. Maggie Lewis-Butler

Maggie Lewis-Butler has spent her entire professional life serving children their families, her community and the less fortunate in Leon County. Her service to education and Leon County reflects selflessness and a total concern and commitment to the well being of her community and students.

After graduation from Florida A & M University, she spent 30 years as a classroom science teacher. Her service as a teacher totally was dedicated to the academic excellence and achievement of her students. She was admired and respected as a leader in the classroom who willingly accepted total responsibility for all of her students being successful.

After retirement as a classroom teacher, she felt a compelling need to continue her work educating children and assisting their families. This urge led her to run for the Leon County School Board where she has served her District with distinction during the entire period of her School Board tenure. The most noteworthy of Mrs. Lewis-Butler's accomplishments as a School Board member includes; the first African American female School Board Chair. Mrs. Lewis-Butler commands the respect, admiration and cooperation of her Board colleagues, Superintendent and her constituents. Her accomplishments have been quite significant. She singularly led the effort for the building of the new Bond Elementary School on the Southside. To accomplish this she had to lead the charge in changing "public policy" that did not allow for the building of new public schools in the inner city. Her "bulldog" tenacity in changing the major public policy led to the new Bond Elementary School. Currently she is leading the

charge for a new high school on the Southside. Maggie Lewis-Butler has successfully lobbied for policies and programs to combat high school dropout rates for students, especially African American children. She has demonstrated a unique ability to enjoy the admiration and respect of her School Board colleagues and her Superintendent while simultaneously insuring that the school district maintains a priority on the best interests of parents and students.

Mrs. Lewis-Butler has not allowed her heavy professional schedule to interfere with her humanitarianism and her heavy commitment to community activities. Throughout her career, she has been heavily involved in community activities, she is a member of the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority; Board member of the NAACP; a member of the Tallahassee Urban League; FAMU Alumni Association; she serves actively on the Board of the Riley House Museum; past member of the Executive Board of the Suwannee River Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America; Tallahassee League of Women voters and serves with distinction on the Democratic Women's Club just to mention some of her many community activities.

Mrs. Maggie Lewis-Butler for her entire career, as a classroom teacher, a School Board member, a community leader and a political leader has made substantial contributions to public education in Leon County.

Mrs. Maggie Lewis-Butler wife of Reverend Dr. Robert M. Butler, Jr., mother, grandmother and great grandmother for her extraordinarily outstanding contributions to public education in Leon County, is nominated for induction into the FAMU College of Education Gallery of Distinction.