

PEARL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

“Pearl gave me a great educational foundation and a wonderful community to grow up in. Pearl taught me to work hard, be responsible, and to have pride in my school and community.”

Dr. Raymond Morgigno, Class of 1989



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Senior Class Favorite, Senior Beau, Football, Tennis

Favorite Pearl Memory:

“Beating our rival Brandon during our senior year in a mud bowl that ended with a brawl is a memory that I will never forget!”

Dr. Raymond Morgigno, Pearl High School Class of 1989, has served as Superintendent of Pearl Public School District since 2010. Prior to assuming the role of superintendent, Dr. Morgigno served as a classroom teacher, an assistant principal, and principal of Pearl High School.

Morgigno says that among the numerous teachers, coaches, and administrators that had a positive influence on his life, PHS Principal Mr. Mac Curlee influenced his educational career: “He really made an impact at PHS, and I later had the opportunity to work under him at Tupelo High School. He showed us what excellence and high expectations looked like. His leadership example has influenced me during my whole career in education.”

Morgigno was the first in his family to attend college. After graduation from Pearl High School, he attended Hinds Community College before continuing his education at Delta State University. At Delta State, Dr. Morgigno earned a Bachelor’s degree in Social Science Education in 1993. He earned his Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Mississippi in 1997 and his Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Mississippi State University in 2012.

In addition to his service in education, Dr. Morgigno served for over twenty years in the Mississippi Army National Guard. He has served one tour of duty in Iraq in 2005 and has held numerous leadership positions throughout his military career. He retired from the Mississippi Army National Guard in 2011 as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Dr. Morgigno currently serves as a member of the American Association of School Administrators Executive Board, State Superintendents Advisory Board, Mississippi School Boards Association Workers Compensation Board, and Pearl Kiwanis Club. He also serves on the executive board of the East Mississippi Center for Educational Development. He has also served on the board of directors for the Mississippi Association of School Superintendents and the Mississippi High School Activities Association. He was selected as Mississippi Superintendent of the Year in 2016-2017.

He has been married to the former Gina Box of Pearl for 26 years. They have two children who both graduated from Pearl High School. Kyle is a recent graduate of Mississippi State University and will begin his teaching career in the fall. Alyssa Kate just finished her freshman year at Mississippi State University where she will be a sophomore in the fall. They are active members of McLaurin Heights Baptist Church in Pearl where Dr. Morgigno serves as a deacon and Sunday school teacher.

Morgigno says that "Pearl Public Schools and the Pearl community are truly a special place." We are grateful for Dr. Morgigno's dedication and service to the families of Pearl Public School District and continuing to make Pearl a special place. We wish him the best in his retirement!

What advice do you have for current students/graduating seniors?

"Set your goals high, work hard, persevere, and good things will happen. Also, stay grounded. Keep your faith and family at the forefront of your life because at the end of the day, that is what really matters."