Dr. Debra Y. Brooks, Ed.D.Bio

Debra Y. Brooks, Ed.D. has been in education for 30 years. She has held various positions ranging from teacher, building leader of comprehensive K-8 and Middle grade campuses and specialized schools for students ages 3-21 to central office leader.

Dr. Brooks has served in various central office positions such as Coordinator of Inclusion, Director of Low Incidence and Inclusion, Academic Director of Special Education all within Baltimore City Public Schools. During Dr. Brooks' tenure in Baltimore County she was the Executive Director of Special Education and Executive Director of Student Support Services.

As the Executive Director of Special Education for Baltimore City Public Schools, she worked with staff to ensure that the 12,000 students with disabilities received their specially designed instruction in their least restrictive environment. Dr. Brooks values the importance of student voice and self-advocacy. She believes that all students are capable of achieving greatness when given the appropriate supports and services while attending school and transitioning to post-secondary opportunities.

Dr. Debra Y. Brooks, Ed.D. was appointed to serve as Director of the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success (MOCFS) in July 2022. In this role, Dr. Brooks is responsible for bringing together the tools of City government, Baltimore's collective love for children, and the vast assets of our communities to radically improve the lives of Baltimore's children and families through advocacy, policymaking, and programmatic initiatives around MOCFS's core values:

- Increasing early childhood development;
- Decreasing youth food insecurity;
- Decreasing youth homelessness;
- Increasing youth literacy;
- Improving trauma-informed care for youth;
- Advancing youth diversion practices;
- And breaking down historical barriers to success for Black boys and young men.

Most importantly, Dr. Brooks is a proud resident of Baltimore City. She has three adult daughters who graduated from Baltimore City Public Schools and is a grandmother of seven, four currently attending City Schools.