

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Missouri Educators Unified Health Plan (MEUHP) Announces Ashley McMillian as New Executive Director – [June 11, 2025] –

The Board of Directors of the Missouri Educators Unified Health Plan (MEUHP) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Ashley McMillian as the new Executive Director, effective July 1, 2025.



As Executive Director, Dr. McMillian will be responsible for the successful leadership and management of the MEUHP, subject to the oversight and direction of the Board. His duties will include establishing and executing major goals and objectives, implementing policies established by the Board of Directors, providing leadership and guidance for MEUHP activities, analyzing and evaluating the effectiveness of operations, developing and maintaining organizational structure, attending Board meetings, and serving as representative and spokesperson for the MEUHP to member school districts, third-party administrators, and the general public.

Dr. McMillian brings extensive experience to the role, with 29 years in education and 23 years in administration. His distinguished career includes:

- Serving 13 years as a Superintendent, specifically at Central R-III from July 2019 - June 2025 and Holcomb R-III from July 2012 - June 2019.
- Serving as MASA Southeast Region President for 2023-2024.
- Serving on the MASA Southeast Executive Committee since 2013.
- Participation in numerous MSHSAA advisory and leadership committees, including the Flagship Peer Review Committee (2016) and Ad Hoc Committee on Home School Participation (2016).
- Being honored with the Missouri Association of School Administrators (MASA) New Superintendent of the Year Award in 2015.
- Receiving the Most Outstanding Dissertation Award at William Woods University Commencement in May 2017.
- Being a Pearce Award Nominee (MASA Superintendent of the Year) for the Southeast Region in 2023.

Academically, Dr. McMillian has a Doctoral degree in Education from William Woods University, graduating in August 2016. He also holds a Specialist degree in Education (December 2004) and a Masters degree in Education (August 2000) from William Woods University, with his Bachelor of Secondary Education from Arkansas State University (December 1995).

John French, President of the MEUHP Board of Directors, stated, "We are incredibly excited to welcome Ashley McMillian as our next Executive Director. His 29 years of experience in education, including 13 years as a superintendent and his past experience within the MEUHP and other health insurance groups will provide him with the knowledge and background to lead the MEUHP. Additionally, his significant leadership within MASA and MSHSAA, demonstrate a deep understanding of the educational landscape in Missouri. We are confident that his extensive background and commitment to excellence will be invaluable as the MEUHP continues to serve our member school districts."

Ken Cook, past Executive Director and current Interim Executive Director of the MEUHP shared, "Ashley is an exceptional leader with a proven track record of successful administration and collaboration. Having worked closely with him in the past, I know his dedication to the well-being of educators and his strategic vision will greatly benefit the MEUHP and its mission. He is an outstanding choice for this critical role."

Drew Beaugard from Forrest T. Jones said, "Dr. McMillian has been a long-time supporter and advocate of the MEUHP. And we at FTJ are excited to have had the opportunity to forge a great working relationship with him over the years, which will lead to a seamless transition as he takes over leadership of the MEUHP. There is no one in the state more qualified to lead the MEUHP into the future."

Dr. McMillian shared, "Thank you to the MEUHP Board of Directors for trusting me with the role of Executive Director. I am excited for the future and honored to serve. I look forward to working closely with the Board, membership, and our partners to provide the best possible healthcare solutions for our educators and their families. This has been a program I believed in from its beginnings in 2009 and will work to continue and build on the strong foundation in place."

About MEUHP: The Missouri Educators Unified Health Plan (**MEUHP**) *is a non-profit corporation* which was ***established by school districts, for school districts to provide quality health insurance benefits on a statewide basis to Missouri School Districts for their employees, families, and retirees.*** The Board of Directors develops, formulates, and adopts policies for MEUHP, with the Executive Director serving as the chief executive officer.

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