

For Immediate Release

May 1, 2008

Thurman Pate to Chair Metro's Teacher Education Council

NASHVILLE, TN—Dr. Thurman Pate, chairman of the Teacher Education Department at Free Will Baptist Bible College, was elected chairman of Nashville's Metro Council for Teacher Education for the 2008-2009 school year during the April 25 meeting at the Board of Education. The council is composed of representatives from Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools and the colleges of education at area colleges.

Among Dr. Pate's duties as chairman of the council will be presiding at meetings which convene four or five times annually and working in conjunction with the vice president to develop each meeting's agenda. The council is responsible for determining contractual arrangements between public schools and the colleges providing Teacher Education candidates for the classroom.

Pate has served 20 years on the council, longer than any other member. Before coming to FWBBC in 1999, he logged 27 years (1968-1971, 1975-1999) as a teacher/principal in Nashville area schools, during which time he served 11 years as the council's elementary principal representative. He has been a consultant with the Tennessee State Department of Education since 2000.

Dr. Pate said, "This group (council) works to strengthen the working relationships between the public schools and the colleges of education in regards to field experience, practica, and student teaching. The colleges/universities involved in this council include Austin Peay State University, Belmont University, Lipscomb University, Tennessee State university, Trevecca Nazarene University, Vanderbilt University, and FWBBC. The work of the council impacts relations with all surrounding counties."

Dr. Pate is a member of Cofer's Chapel FWB Church (Nashville) where he serves as a deacon. He is the son of a Free Will Baptist minister, Reverend Thurman Pate, Sr.