



RUST COLLEGE

150 Rust Avenue, Holly Springs, MS 38635 – Phone (662) 252-8000,

Mary LeSueur
Director of Public Relations
mlesueur@rustcollege.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 25, 2022

Mary LeSueur
Director of Public Relations
Office of Public Relations
662-252-8000, ext. 4915
662-544-0950, Cell
mlesueur@rustcollege.edu

Rust College Student Selected for Thurgood Marshall Teacher Quality and Retention Program

HOLLY SPRINGS, MS - Rakiya Boone, Rust College senior, elementary education major from Aberdeen, MS, was selected to participate in the 2022 Thurgood Marshall Teacher Quality and Retention Program (TQRP).

TQRP is a five-year fellowship supporting new and aspiring teachers, providing high-quality, pre-service training, as well as personalized support once teachers enter the classroom. Fellows are a part of a close-knit network of diverse teachers passionate about teaching in high-need urban and rural communities. TQRP supports three individual areas of focus: HBCU Males, STEM and New Teachers in developing sound pedagogy and research-based educational practice— all with the goal of becoming future teacher leaders.

Boone started her fellowship on July 10 and has already completed 60 hours. "This program was an awesome learning experience and served as a major contribution to my future in education," Boone stated in a Facebook post she shared last week. "I had the opportunity to teach, consult with many educators and other aspiring teachers, and attend seminars that gave insightful advice for my teaching career."

Boone is a graduating senior at Rust College. Post-graduation, she plans to obtain her master's degree In Higher Education while simultaneously working In Houston, TX as an English/Language Arts teacher.

About Rust College

Rust College is the oldest most prestigious historically black college in Mississippi founded in 1866 by the Freedmen's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Offering degree programs in business, education, humanities, science and mathematics, and social science, Rust College equips and inspires students for excellence and service in their communities and throughout the world. Located in Holly Springs, MS, just 35 miles southeast of Memphis, Tennessee, Rust College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate and baccalaureate degrees.

For more information about Rust College, call (662) 252-8000, ext. 4915 or visit www.rustcollege.edu.

###