

Meet the April 2 America to Me Panel

Moderator

Barbara Hamm Lee is an award-winning journalist, TV and radio host, and the owner of Sharing Info, LLC., a media and communications consulting company. She is executive producer and host of Another View, a weekly WHRV talk show that discusses issues from an African American perspective. She currently leads communications and community engagement activities for the St. Paul's Area Revitalization, a project of the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority and the City of Norfolk. She is a product of Baltimore City Public Schools and the mother of a daughter who graduated from Maury High School in Norfolk.

Hampton Roads Panelists

Viviana Andrade-Fullwood owns All Academics Plus, a Hampton Roads-based personalized tutoring service. She volunteers at Sage and Page Homeschool Cooperative, serves on the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Coast Virginia board of directors, and is an advisory board member of Essential Peace-Life Enrichment Services, a counseling, coaching, consulting and community outreach program in Hampton Roads.

***Why was she selected for the panel?** Andrade-Fullwood is passionate about education and works to help children succeed. She is the mother of two sons attending Smithfield Public Schools and is the product of New Jersey public schools.*

Myaah Hayes is a junior at Norfolk State studying psychology and English. She plans to become an autistic resource teacher and a clinical psychologist. She is passionate about helping others and helping marginalized groups gain better representation. Last summer Hayes participated in the University of California at Santa Barbara's HBCU Scholars in Linguistics Program, which helps researchers better understand African-American language, culture and community.

***Why was she selected for the panel?** Hayes is a Norfolk native and a 2016 graduate of Norview High School in Norfolk. She is a student in NSU's Robert C. Nusbaum Honors College and has worked as a teacher assistant at Academy for Discovery at Lakewood in Norfolk.*

Rodney Jordan is chief community engagement officer for McKinley Megginson Group, a technology company. He has served on the Norfolk Public Schools board since 2012 and is its former chair. He is board liaison to the Norfolk Council of PTAs and Council of Great City Schools. He is president-elect of the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) and chaired its Tidewater Region board.

***Why was he selected for the panel?** He co-chairs the VSBA Task Force on Schools in Challenged Environments and was a founder of Norfolk United Facing Race. He champions policies and initiatives to create diverse schools, neighborhoods and workforce housing. He is a graduate of First Colonial High School in Virginia Beach and the father of two daughters who are graduates of Granby High School in Norfolk.*

Dr. Aaron Spence has led Virginia Beach City Public Schools as superintendent since 2014. He oversees the operation of 86 schools serving more than 67,000 students. In 2018 he was named Virginia Superintendent of the Year by the Virginia Association of School Superintendents. One hallmark of the school district he is proud of is its African-American Male Summit, which for 12 years has focused on mentoring, workshops and team building. Spence is an advocate for public education and providing all students the best opportunities in school.

***Why was he selected for the panel?** He leads the Hampton Roads region's largest school district and is recognized nationally as a leader in K-12 public education. Spence is leading the division efforts to address equity and poverty issues and their impact on academic achievement, student engagement and discipline. He is a graduate of Green Run High School in Virginia Beach and often says it is his greatest professional joy to lead the school division where he got his early education. He is the father of six public school students.*

