

Mr. Ed Clarke bio

Edward "Ed" A. Clarke is the Director of School Safety and Security for Montgomery County Public Schools.

Mr. Clarke spent more than five years leading the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS), where he helped craft the Maryland Safe to Learn Act of 2018, which enhances protocols and increases funding for school safety. Mr. Clarke previously served as MCPS Director of Safety and Security and is a retired captain from the Montgomery County Police Department, where he served for 24 years before moving on to oversee security in the same schools he attended as a child. His 42 years of combined law enforcement and public education experience make him uniquely qualified to lead MCPS into a new era of school safety and security.

Under his leadership during his first tenure, MCPS was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a leader among the nation's school systems in its emergency/crisis preparedness and readiness efforts. In 2006, Mr. Clarke became a consultant to school districts and public safety agencies throughout the country.

A nationally recognized expert in school security, Mr. Clarke was recently nominated to receive the 2019 National Association of School Psychologists' Outstanding Advocate award. Psychology and education advocates have cited his tireless commitment to and focus on mental and emotional health as a key component of any comprehensive school safety plan.

Mr. Clarke holds bachelors and master's degrees from American University. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the National Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Fund Officer of the Month for distinguished exemplary service and devotion to duty.