The Randolph County School System is a special place

The Randolph County School System has an enrollment of 16,700 students. In addition, our school system employs approximately 2,500 individuals in a variety of roles, such as teacher, teacher assistant, clerical assistant, principal, assistant principal, counselor, social worker, bus driver, training manager in the School Nutrition Services Department, mechanic in the Transportation Department, technician in the Information Systems Department, director and program specialist.

All of these individuals, students and employees work together throughout a school year in order to create an inviting and positive school system. Furthermore, the important role of the members of the Randolph County Board of Education and our county commissioners must not be overlooked. These elected officials continue to provide a high level of support for our school system on a daily basis.

Our school system consists of 17 elementary schools, five middle schools, one school with only grade six, six traditional high schools, one early college high school and one school with grades 6-12. On all 31 of these school campuses, staff members deliver engaging academic instruction for our students in numerous curriculum areas on a daily basis. Our students continue to take advantage of these learning opportunities.

In addition, activities/events outside of the classroom, during the school day and after the conclusion of the school day, take place on a daily basis. Examples of these activities include special programs presented by students, awards ceremonies, band concerts, chorus concerts, art exhibits, middle school athletic contests and high school athletic contests.

During the past 57 months as the superintendent of the Randolph County School System, I have had the great pleasure of observing many exciting developments throughout the school system. I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing the great work of our students and staff members at the school level as well as the positive results created by the numerous employees who are not school-based.

In an effort to capture the great variety of exciting opportunities occurring throughout our school system, our staff members have worked with one of our community partners, Randolph Communications, to create a promotional/highlight video. This video initially will be released on youtube.com on March 29. After that, it will be posted on the school system’s webpage (www.randolph.k12.nc.us) as well as our Facebook page and Twitter page.

While this video does not include all of the numerous activities/events/occurrences, it paints a picture of “what is right with the Randolph County School System.” I hope you enjoy our video. It does not contain a large number of words; however, in my opinion, the pictures are more powerful than any words that could be included.

In closing, I am extremely proud to be a member of the Randolph County School System. My work with the school system since July 2013 has only strengthened my feelings that it is a “special place.”

While the students and staff members play a major role in our school system’s efforts to continually improve, I also am extremely appreciative of the high level of parental support and community support received by our school system.

Dr. Stephen Gainey is superintendent of the Randolph County School System.