Julie G. Pierce was principal of Gulf Shores Elementary School (GSE) for eight years before taking over as principal of Fairhope Elementary School (FES) one year ago. Pierce’s leadership style is highly collaborative and driven by her rigorous commitment to lifelong learning. GSE is a Title I school with transiency rates often over 50 percent, which is why Pierce committed herself to building a consistent school culture by responding to the needs of the student population while leading with a growth mindset. In her short tenure at Fairhope, Pierce has already begun to replicate her impressive accomplishments at GSE, where she is proud to have begun the transition to a project-based learning model. Pierce brings openness and listening to stakeholder relationship management. At GSE, she took an honest and transparent approach to building trust with parents, businesses, and local and city government when the school was under scrutiny during a classroom shortage. As a result, she built coalitions leading to creative outcomes while contributing greatly to the school’s success. Pierce brings a spirit of lifelong learning that is a model for her staff and her students. She holds a B.S. in Administrative Science from the University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, an M.A. in Elementary Education from University of Alabama Birmingham, and a Certificate in Education Administration from University of South Alabama.