

Alisha Cromartie– Austell, GA



Alisha T. Cromartie (formerly Alisha T. Morgan), M.Ed., is Superintendent of Schools at Ivy Preparatory Academies, a network of all-girls public charter schools of excellence. She is recognized nationally as a trailblazing education leader and has proven to be the transformational leader that Ivy Preparatory Academies needed.

Prior to fearlessly leading Ivy Prep Academies, Morgan made history at age 23, by becoming the first African American to serve in the Georgia legislature representing residents of one of Georgia’s largest counties, Cobb County, Georgia. Morgan was elected to six terms in the Georgia House of Representatives

where she served on the Education, Appropriations and Health & Human Services Committees. During her tenure in the legislature, Morgan led some of the most pivotal education reforms in the state. She coauthored the state’s Teacher and Leader Evaluation System, and authored the state intra-district transfer law, allowing parents to choose the best public school within their district, regardless of zip code. She was also appointed by Former United States Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan to a bipartisan working group to address the need to reauthorize ESEA, as well as look at the nation’s need to raise its academic standards.

Morgan has been featured as a thought leader in several publications including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *CSPAN*, *Georgia Trend*, *Marie Claire*, *Ebony* and *Essence* magazines. Superintendent Morgan is a graduate of Spelman College with a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology and Drama and holds a Master’s of Education in Educational Leadership from Kennesaw State University. Morgan is also a current member of the 2017 Future Chiefs Cohort, a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and an active board member of the Joseph & Evelyn Lowery Center for Human Rights Institute. Alisha is the mother of a fifth-grade scholar of Ivy Prep and recently married to Cobb County fire fighter Marcus Cromartie. She and her family reside in Cobb County, GA.

“I am honored to be nominated for this award on behalf of mothers like me everywhere. I am often in awe of all that moms can do, starting with my own mom. Thank you HMHB for honoring women who have figured out how to run the world while serving our communities and families at the same time.”

From her Nomination: *“Superintendent Morgan was convinced that the nearly 1.6 million students in Georgia deserved to have similar high-quality educational opportunities. She was inspired to champion the effort to create the State Charter Schools Commission, a state-level, independent charter school authorizing entity. During the highly-intense debate, her floor speech entitled “The Little Girls in Green Jackets” highlighted the inspiration the scholars sparked in her to expand public school choice opportunities for children in Georgia.”*