Emily Papadopoulos grew up on a family farm in Independence, VA along New River. She earned a B.A. in English from Davidson College and a M.A. in English from North Carolina State University. Upon graduation, Emily married her husband Paul and moved to West Virginia, where she worked as the Development Director for the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra. From there, she moved to the Education Alliance, where she served as a Program Director and later as the Executive Director. Emily has also worked as an adjunct faculty member for West Virginia State University and as a major gift coordinator for the Kanawha County Public Library Foundation. Most recently, Emily served as the Director of Principal Programs for the West Virginia Center for Professional Development, where she planned continuing education experiences for new and experienced K-12 public school principals. Emily has two children: Kate, a freshman at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Gabriel, who is a freshman at Hurricane High School.