**WES PHINNEY** is currently enjoying his retirement and being a grandfather to his first grandchild. Wes was the Fine Arts Academy Coordinator for Dalton Public Schools/Head of the Fine Arts Department/History and Drama Teacher/Director at Dalton High School, where he directed more than forty productions, including four Region Champions, four Runners-Up, and one State Runner-Up One-Act Competition Play. In 2023, Wes received an Honorable Mention for Best Direction from the Georgia High School Musical Theatre Awards (aka The Shulers) for his work on the Dalton High musical *The Addams Family*, which received three nominations and eight Honorable Mentions from the GHSMTA. In 2019, Wes was named the Theatre Educator of the Year by the Georgia Thespians, an affiliate of the International Thespians Society, a division of the Educational Theatre Association. In 2020, the Georgia Thespians elected Wes to their Hall of Fame, and in 2023, he was named Dalton High’s Teacher of the Year. Prior to working at Dalton High, Wes was a co-founder and Managing Director of Artistic Civic Theatre, where he supervised fifteen seasons of community theatre productions, directing and/or performing in more than fifty productions, and authoring *Appomattox*, an original Civil War drama, and the libretto of an original musical adaptation of Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol*. Together with Lane Davies, Chase Parker, and the late Jeff Burr in the summer of 2018, Wes co-founded the Conasauga Shakespeare Coalition, which is dedicated to presenting Shakespearean productions in Dalton and Whitfield County. Wes is a graduate of Auburn University (BA Theatre) and has been happily married to his wife Jennifer for 33 years. He is the proud father of daughters Emma, Kate, and Meg, the proud father-in-law of Bryce Southerland, and a very proud and doting grandfather to eight-month-old Harper Jane.