

Deborah S. Phelps
Principal of Windsor Mill Middle School and
Mother of Fourteen-Time Olympic Gold Medalist Michael Phelps

Deborah Phelps is widely recognized as an innovative, energetic and talented leader with more than three decades of teaching and administrative experience. As the proud mother of three children and grandmother of two, Deborah is Principal of Windsor Middle School in the Baltimore County Public Schools system. A highly sought after motivational speaker and author, Deborah addresses a range of topics related to education, child development, and life lessons.

Deborah began her career in education as a teacher at Havre de Grace Middle School in 1974 and later moved on to team leader and then department chair, which has served as the foundation of her successful role in administration. Over the course of her distinguished career, Deborah has developed a state-of-the-art food science lab, designed and implemented award-winning nutrition and food science curriculum, and has been actively involved in the successful launch of two middle schools.

Her dedication and commitment to excellence in the field of education has earned Deborah many honors including Baltimore County Public School's Teacher of the Year Finalist, two-time Maryland Family & Consumer Science Teacher of the Year and Baltimore County's Baby Boomer of the Year (2004).

Beyond the school halls, Deborah is also affectionately known as a "swim mom" to three accomplished swimmers: her daughters Hilary (University of Richmond) and Whitney (U.S. Olympic Trials), and son, Michael (14-time Olympic gold medalist). She recently added "author" to her resume with the release of her first book, *A Mother for All Seasons*, which reveals the universal themes of her life story. Her newest book is rich with struggle, humor, hope, advice and passion, rallying readers to cheer for all of our children at every stage of their growth and in every endeavor.

Deborah serves on multiple business and community-advisory boards including the Board of Directors of the Maryland Center for Character Education and American Students' Fund. Deborah is also a member of the Kids Helping Hopkins Board of Directors, as well as a board member for Northwest Hospital. She has been actively involved with a variety of charity organizations, such as the Boys & Girls Clubs of Harford County, Make-A-Wish Foundation Mid-Atlantic region, Pathfinders for Autism, and John's Hopkins Shock Trauma Medical Center among others. Deborah is also a spokeswoman for Chico's.

An adored public speaker, Deborah has addressed various education conferences and business seminars including Every Child Matters Education Fund, POWERED by ME!, Strategic Air & Space Museum's Brain Educators Conference, and Children's Mental Health Institute.

A native of Allegany County in Western Maryland, Deborah received her Master's degree in Education Management & Supervision from Loyola College (MD) and B.A. in Education from Fairmont State College (WV). She currently resides in Baltimore, Maryland where she enjoys spending her free time with family.