

# Bobby Thompkins



## Class of 1964

- A high school and college basketball standout, Thompkins is a graduate of Jackson Public Schools and member of the Jackson High Hall of Fame, he attended Jackson Community College from 1962-1964.
- Worked as an assistant recreation director and director of Martin Luther King Center.
- Earned his bachelor's degree in education with majors in physical education and a minor in math from Spring Arbor College while playing basketball for the Cougars. He was also inducted into the Hall of Fame at Spring Arbor College, Men's 1,000-Point Club, NAIA All-District Team, NAIA Top 20 scoring, MVP, and Trailblazer. He earned a master's degree in administrative arts from Michigan State University.
- Beginning as an intern, he went on to a 31-year career with Jackson Public Schools. He served as assistant principal, associate principal and principal at Jackson High, and associate principal and principal at the Middle School at Parkside.
- He retired from Jackson Public Schools and served on the JPS school board for eight years.
- Thompkins served as principal at Albion High School for a year and a half.
- In 2016, he received the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Medal of Service Award from Jackson College.
- Active in the community, he has been a member of the NAACP and received a community service award from the NAACP. He has also been recognized by the Jackson Human Relations Commission and a service award from WIBM Radio.
- He has four sons, Gary, Brian, Anthony, Parrish, a daughter, Kimberly, and a host of grandchildren.

“If the plan doesn't work, change the plan - but never the goal.”