

Superintendent's Report

November 11, 2013

Chair Diane Porter, members of the Board; it is my pleasure to call your attention to a few items of special interest.

As today is Veterans Day, I would like to recognize the thousands of veterans who serve our country. At JCPS, we are fortunate to have dozens of veterans who are continuing to serve our community as employees within our schools.

Congratulations to duPont Manual and Louisville Male high schools, and the Brown School as one of Kentucky's top ten schools with the highest college- and career-ready (CCR) rates and to Western High School as one of Kentucky's top ten schools with the highest one year's growth in CCR rates.

I would like to recognize the India Community Foundation of Louisville. I was invited to attend the Diwali Festival yesterday as the Chief Guest and was presented with an award. The Indian community has approximately 15,000 members in the metro Louisville area.

The 15th District PTA and Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS), in conjunction with WAVE-TV, WAMZ-FM, and WHAS-AM, began the **Wear It Forward Coats for Kids** drive on November 4. **Wear It Forward** began when WAVE-TV anchor Dawne Gee saw the need of our students and asked how she could help. We are primarily in need of new and gently used coats but are also accepting sweatshirts, gloves, mittens, sweaters, and pants in all sizes, both child and adult.

The Elementary Showcase of Schools will be held this Saturday, November 16, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., at the Kentucky International Convention Center. The application period for JCPS elementary schools is Monday, November 18, 2013, through Friday, January 10, 2014. The JCPS showcase offers detailed information for parents and students who are trying to make a decision about schools. Key JCPS employees will be available to answer questions about the application process, transportation, the English as a Second Language (ESL) Program, and the Exceptional Child Education (ECE) Program for special-needs students.

JCPS will kick-off its School of Innovation Design Competition on Tuesday, November 12, 10 a.m., at the Nucleus Innovation Park lobby, 201 East Jefferson Street. The communitywide contest will identify and develop innovative ideas for the creation of the next JCPS school. The process will provide the best innovators with support needed to bring their new vision of teaching and learning to life as early as the 2015-16 school year.

A Board member requested that we add language to support full-day kindergarten to our legislative priorities. That language has been added to our first priority and is similar to language in the KSBA legislative agenda.

Chair Porter, at this time, I recommend the consent calendar for the Board's consideration.