

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Resolution in Support of Males of Color

WHEREAS, some 32 percent of the nation's African American males and some 39 percent of the nation's Hispanic males attend school each day in one of the Great City School systems;

WHEREAS, the academic achievement of Males of Color in the nation's urban school systems and nationally is well below what it needs to be for these young people to be successful in college and careers;

WHEREAS, disproportionate numbers of Males of Color drop out of urban schools and often have low attendance rates;

WHEREAS, across the nation, Males of Color disproportionately attend under-resourced schools and are taught by the least-effective teachers;

WHEREAS, the nation's Great City Schools have an obligation to teach all students under their aegis to the highest academic standards and prepare them for successful participation in our nation:

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Public School District pledges to ensure that its pre-school efforts better serve Males of Color and their academic and social development, and

That the Jefferson County Public School District will adopt and implement elementary and middle school efforts to increase the pipeline of Males of Color who are succeeding academically and socially in our urban schools and who are on track to succeed in high school, and

That the Jefferson County Public School District will keep data and establish protocols that will allow it to monitor the progress of Males of Color and other students in our schools and appropriately intervene at the earliest warning signs; and

That the Jefferson County Public School District will adopt and implement promising and proven approaches to reducing absenteeism, especially chronic absenteeism, among Males of Color, and

That the Jefferson County Public School District will develop initiatives and regularly report on progress in retaining Males of Color in school and reducing disproportionate suspension and expulsion rates, and

That the Jefferson County Public School District will develop initiatives and regularly report on progress in increasing the numbers of our Males of Color and other students participating in advanced placement and honors courses and gifted and talented programs, and

That the Jefferson County Public School District will strongly encourage colleges of education to adopt curriculum that addresses the academic, cultural, and social needs of Males of Color, and that the district will maintain data on how these teachers do with our Males of Color, and

That the Jefferson County Public School District will develop initiatives and regularly report on progress in increasing the numbers of Males of Color and other students who complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and

That the Jefferson County Public School District will work to reduce as appropriate the disproportionate numbers of Males of Color in special education courses, and

That the Jefferson County Public School District will work to transform high schools with persistently low graduation rates among Males of Color and others and to provide literacy and engagement initiatives with parents.

That the Jefferson County Public School District will engage in a broader discussion and examination of how issues of race, language, and culture affect the work of our district.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that this Resolution in support of Males of Color is consistent with Jefferson County Board of Education policies and the Strategic Plan—Vision 2015.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the Board of Education of Jefferson County, Kentucky, to be affixed the 10th day of June 2014. This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and adoption.

I _____, Assistant Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the above is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted at the June 10, 2014, meeting of the Jefferson Board of Education at which a quorum was present and voted.

Diane Porter
Chairperson

Donna M. Hargens, Ed.D.
Superintendent/Secretary