

For Immediate Release
June 23, 2014

Board of Education recognizes superintendent for increased student achievement, commitment to improvement

The Jefferson County Board of Education (JCBE) shared findings from its annual evaluation of Superintendent Donna Hargens during Monday evening's regular meeting.

The review—Hargens' third at JCPS—applauded her dedicated efforts to improve outcomes for all students and continuously advance the district. The Board provided a formative evaluation beginning June 13 and presented its summative evaluation Monday.

JCBE members assessed Hargens' progress in 2013-14 using three goals:

- Improve student achievement.
 - JCPS met its annual accountability target set by the Kentucky Department of Education for the first time in 2013, and all students groups showed progress. The evaluation stated, "There is clear momentum in all areas to support steady and continuous improvement in student learning. Dr. Hargens' task in the coming year is to build on and accelerate that momentum."
- Develop capacity within the organization.
 - Dr. Hargens has requested several internal and external analyses of JCPS to support this objective, including the Envision Equity Scorecard and the recent review by the Kentucky Auditor of Public Accounts. Her evaluation noted that she "welcomes and seeks external, objective feedback and uses insights and criticisms to define areas for improvement."
- Continuously improve the implementation of *Strategic Plan: Vision 2015*.
 - The evaluation praised Hargens for "consistently communicating the board's vision effectively throughout the Louisville community. She has been relentless in her commitment to develop a strong community presence."

Moving forward, the Board recommended that Dr. Hargens focus on the following objectives:

- Mobilize staff to improve students learning in pre-kindergarten through grade 12.
- Strengthen leadership within the school district and across the schools.
- Clarify consistently accountability and degree of urgency for decisions to be made.
- Create a culture of excellence to deliver predictable, effective, and responsive services.