

Superintendent's Report

February 23, 2015

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

Strategic Priority 1.3 is about the importance of early learning interventions Pre-K—3. We know it is important to invest on the front end. The take-away is that whenever a gap is detected, the rule is to "intervene early". It is cost-effective to close a small gap rather than a larger gap.

We are pleased to be at Central High School. Our mission — the work that we do — is instruction that inspires students to learn. This school is a great example of engaging students in learning that is relevant to their interests.

I am pleased to recognize in the audience — Sam Corbett who was unanimously hired by the Jefferson County Public Education Foundation Board as its new Executive Director. In this position, which is new for the foundation, Sam will serve as a key advocate of JCPS, independently from the District, working to harness community energy and resources to help JCPS fulfill its mission. We are grateful to have such a long-standing district ally and partner in this important role. Sam was most recently the Director of Community Engagement for the University of Louisville College of Education & Human Development.

I would also like to announce that Kristin Wingfeld will be joining Jefferson County Public Schools as the Coordinator, School Business Partnerships. In that role, she will facilitate relationships between a wide variety of stakeholders to ensure that JCPS curriculum and programs are aligned with the 21st Century workforce needs of our region. Kristin will work to collaborate with our great business and community partners, including our work with the Ford Next Generation Community, and to build new ones that align with ways to increase opportunities for our students.

Kristin joins us after many years at the Fund for the Arts, most recently as Vice President and Director, Education Initiatives & Campaign Partnerships. She begins her new role with JCPS on March 9, 2015.

I would like to thank Mayor Greg Fischer and Louisville Metro Government for their collaboration and support during last week's inclement weather.

I appreciate the collaboration between the Equity Office and Nutrition Services. Our Director of Homeless Students, Giselle Danger-Mercaderes and Manager Dan Ellnor put their heads together and delivered 5,665 meals valued over \$8,500 this past Friday.

During the inclement weather, JCPS students were encouraged to use Wonderopolis, an online site for engaged learning with a "Wonder of the Day".

Now an update on Louisville Linked — which is a systematic way to link resources and services to needs. 45,266 links were made through the 5th month serving 150 schools and 22,166 students. We want to recognize our 2014 Louisville Linked Community Heroes — Joe Autry from Home Depot, Polly Mayer and

Gloria Moorman from Neighborhood Place, Paul Miele from K&I Lumber, and Heather Wampler of the 15th District PTA.

Throughout the year, I have the opportunity to present to the Focus Louisville cohorts. I ask them to forget what they think they know, to listen to my overview and about our progress, and then to visit a school and to make up their own mind. This Focus Louisville group visited PRP High, Frost Sixth-Grade Academy, and Eisenhower Elementary. Here are some of the quotes from the group that visited Eisenhower:

- "I just realized that I could have saved myself more than \$15,000 by sending my children to Eisenhower, a public school, rather than a private school."
- "This school is fabulous."
- "You have resources here that other schools must be very envious of — even private schools."
- "Your students are so well-mannered and well-behaved."
- "The hallways and classrooms are so clean."
- "The college banners are a nice touch."
- "Kids have the opportunity to learn about engineering and French."

While working through snowstorms in two states, JCPS staff and Tyler Technologies staff continue to work to identify the discrepancies between our accounting system and their reporting platform. We have worked a significant number of hours tracking differences to even smaller subsets, but we have not found the problematic transactions. We are still off many millions of dollars and are not comfortable publishing the site before it is accurate.

PLANNING CALENDAR

- What is coming up?
- First meeting in March.
- A Work Session on the Alternative Schools Redesign and the 1/2 way status of the Budget Process leading to the Tentative Budget.
- You will see how we are aligning spending to our strategic priorities.
- Moving the SBDM report to May.

Chair Jones, this concludes my report and my recommendation for approval of the consent agenda later in the meeting.