

Superintendent's Report

June 22, 2015

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

A special thank you to 1967 Valley High School graduate, Marshall Goldsmith, and Jim Moore, a founding member of the Marshall Goldsmith Group, for sharing their expertise in coaching the Cabinet Team to become more effective leaders by achieving positive, lasting change.

Two Valley High School students recently passed the phlebotomy certification exam through the National Health Career Association. The phlebotomy program is part of Valley's Medical, Health, and Environment Program of Studies. These students are now employable with health care agencies, such as physician's offices, hospitals, and laboratories. They plan to work in the healthcare field as phlebotomists while going to college to pursue degrees. They are the first students in the district to achieve this honor. As word spreads about this certification, we expect many more students will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

Coding @ The Beech involved six students from Ballard High School. It was a collaboration with JCPS, Louisville Metro Government's Code Louisville Program, and KentuckianaWorks. Students learned basic coding techniques from local coding professionals. At the completion of the program, students were given *Google Chromebooks* from Code Louisville. They are being paid this summer to apply their skills.

In updating the *Success Pathways* timeline:

- The staffing process is continuing.
- Building modifications have begun.
- Planning for administrative and staff professional development is currently underway.

A Success Pathways meeting is scheduled tomorrow, Tuesday, June 23, 9 a.m., @ VanHoose Education Center.

In reviewing FAFSA data, we have made great progress over the past five or six years, but we have more work in planning for the Class of 2016. We know that the College Transition Action Network facilitated by 55,000 Degrees will bring another level of support for our students and families.

Fund for the Arts President and CEO Christen Boone said the organization is working on a new master plan for the arts in Louisville, which will address how Louisville can build on the existing arts and how it envisions its arts community in the future.

The Area Assistant Superintendents, Vice Chair Diane Porter, and Fairdale High School Principal Brad Weston will join me as a team at this year's Public Education Leadership Project (PELP) at Harvard University, July 6-11. District teams choose a strategic problem of practice that is clearly defined, strategically aligned, focused on outcomes, measurable, and directly linked to improving the instructional core.

The Teacher Union Reform Network (TURN) Regions are partnering with the Consortium for Educational Change to sponsor a summer conference, July 9-10, in St. Louis, Missouri, to strengthen teacher leadership in building communities of practice linked to issues related to poverty, proficiency, professional practices and partnerships. Board Member Dr. Lisa Willner will attend along with members of the Jefferson County Teacher Association and JCPS administrators.

In regard to Agenda Item VIII.BB School Improvement Grant — 12 of our Priority Schools are eligible to apply for and receive dollars (regardless if they get out of Priority Status after this year). These schools would continue implementing the same intervention model — turnaround (restaffing). The dollar amount is \$130,000/year per school for three years.

We now have 50 days before the 2015-16 first day of school on Wednesday, August 12.

[Countdown to First Day of School - August 12, 2015](#)

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