

Superintendent's Report

March 22, 2016

Chair David Jones, members of the Board, thank you for the opportunity to present the Superintendent's Report.

As requested by the Board, I plan to use this time to bring you up to speed on initiatives of importance in the district and how those initiatives align with our strategic plan.

First, as we discussed in our last Board meeting, the district is busy working to reconcile seclusion and restraint data with the Kentucky Department of Education's Infinite Campus system. That process is ahead of schedule, and I would like to personally thank Dena Dossett for her commitment and diligence in moving this project forward. I would like to update you on where we are on this project – as of today.

- The good news, many of our reports were able to be uploaded directly to Infinite Campus after Dr. Dossett's discussion with KDE.
- Right now, Dr. Dossett's team is reviewing each individual report that wasn't able to be uploaded because of a data field that did not align with Infinite Campus.
- Her team is gathering that information from each school, and the rest of the upload will be complete by the first week in April.

Communication about the Infinite Campus process has been sent to all principals and assistant principals. The Behavior Manual was also sent to staff again and has been posted online. The data issue is important. The issue of restraint and seclusion is the substantive issue. When we have a complete, clear picture from the data, I will notify the Board and we can discuss next steps on how to best move forward as a district.

We have contacted our internal auditor, Dean Dorton, to begin the audit of our data management system to look at the district's data points and determine risks and how the district can ensure accuracy and transparency in its reporting.

Jim Tencza is here with us tonight to provide some details about Dean Dorton's testing approach.

(JIM TENCZA SPEAKS)

I think the District's swift and transparent reaction to rectify this issue aligns with the core values of our strategic plan as we strive every day for excellence.

I also believe this Board meeting and work session tonight are examples that our strategic plan is a document that is working – and you are seeing it in action in everything we do.

In this afternoon's work session, you received an update on the budget. This year, we implemented zero-based budgeting and required budget requests be aligned with priorities in the strategic plan.

In addition, you received a briefing from Dr. Raisor about the facilities review his team has been conducting over the last several months. The review looks at the condition and capacity of our schools, which aligns with our key focus area – improving infrastructure and integrating systems.

We've also created a districtwide project management tool to update Cabinet and Board Members on key deliverables and timelines for those deliverables. I think this aligns with the strategic plan's vision to develop high-performing teams that are continuously improving. It also provides increased accountability and ownership of projects.

Later in this meeting, you will have a briefing on the new JCPS website that will be unveiled to the public during the first week of April. This website and ensuing mobile app were outlined as priorities in Strategy 3.2.2 as we work every day as a district to increase access to information and improve communications with our stakeholders, parents, and students.

In this Board meeting, you will also be considering the new middle school plan developed with community input, which I believe is aligned with our focus area of learning, growth, and development.

And I was honored over the past two weeks to host Senator Rand Paul and Lieutenant Governor Jenean Hampton in our schools. Senator Paul visited Valley High School and Lt. Gov. Hampton visited Zachary Taylor Elementary and Westport Middle schools. Both visits created opportunities to build on our core values of collaboration.

And finally, it was an honor to stand alongside Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer this week as we announced plans for this year's Give A Day initiative. Last year, JCPS had 100 percent participation from our schools, and students donated more than 802 hours of service – that's almost two years of service in ONE week.

The projects organized by our students last year include:

- Ballard High School raised more than \$46,000 for pediatric oncology research during its six-hour Dance Marathon.
- Our students at Byck Elementary organized a schoolwide collection of items for the Kentucky Refugee Ministries.
- Students at Coral Ridge Elementary held a book drive for children at Wayside and Home of the Innocents.
- Farnsley Middle participated in a Brightside community cleanup and planted healthy vegetables.
- Jefferson County Traditional Middle School provided tens of thousands of meals through the Kids Against Hunger program.
- Newburg Middle School planted an urban garden.
- And students at our TAPP School for pregnant or parenting mothers collected makeup, nail polish, and cosmetics for victims of domestic violence.

Participation by our students helped set the world record here in Louisville for acts of compassion.

At the press conference to announce this year's initiative, we helped get a head start on the Build A Bed project, and our students from Meyzeek Middle School wrote notes on the wood slats that will be used to build 100 beds for children in Louisville. The notes read, "You can FLY" AND "Tomorrow will be a brand new day."

I am thrilled young children in need will wake up in beds built by JCPS and with notes to inspire them written by our students. Our core values of stewardship, creativity, and opportunity are showcased by students who participate in these service projects.

I am proud of our students in the classroom, and I am proud of them as citizens who give back to our community. This is our strategic plan in action – these are our students – and I am incredibly proud to be their superintendent.

Board Agenda Item IX.T. Approval of Participation in the National Writing Project, College-Ready Writers Program, has been pulled. The remaining agenda items will be considered for approval by the Board.

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