

Board Report  
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#### **Superintendent's Summit on Behavior, 5/25/2015**

This was the second summit on this topic – I was grateful to be able to attend both. At the first summit, I was at a table of school and district administrators. At the second, I sat with mostly teachers. It was enormously beneficial to hear their range of views and experiences in addressing challenging student behavior, as well as to hear the widely varying degrees of support they feel from their school administrators. While several clearly understood the limitations of suspension as a behavioral consequence, all also expressed a need for additional tools and supports for behavior in order to be able to carry out their primary duties as teachers.

#### **Burnett Avenue Baptist Church, 5/25/2016**

I was honored to be the guest of Pastor Daniel Corrie Shull at a congregational community conversation. This vibrant church community was interested to meet with their school board member to learn more about my views on student behavior and disproportionality of school exclusion for African American students, and to discuss ways for their congregation to support students. Burnett Avenue Baptist Church has a strong educational mission; as Rev. Shull says, "When JCPS is not in session, we are." The church offers tutoring throughout the summer and throughout the school year on non-school days, and sponsors an annual tour of colleges for their high school students.

#### **Passport Health Plan and JCPS Staff, 6/1/2016**

I attended this exploratory meeting with JCPS staff and the Passport Health Plan medical director to consider how a cooperative arrangement between JCPS and Passport could create opportunities for the significant number of Passport members who are JCPS students to access preventative health services.

#### **School Ceremonies, 5/25-27/2016**

I was honored to participate in the 5th Grade Promotion Ceremonies at Rangeland and Smyrna Elementary Schools, and in the graduations at Mary Ryan Academy, Male Traditional, Moore Traditional, Liberty, and Eastern High Schools. Seeing the happiness and pride in accomplishment of the students and their families during these important rites of passage was a powerful reminder of the significance of our work as a school district and board.

#### **Muhammad Ali Memorial Service, 6/10/2016**

My daughter and I, neither of us early risers by nature, got up at 5am in order to stand in line for tickets to this momentous world event. The service represented and honored all that is best about our world and our community: striving for and achieving greatness, valuing and honoring every kind of human diversity, building bridges and not walls, and The Greatest's six core values. Being present for this rich celebration was humbling and deeply moving.

#### **Fairness Campaign, 6/11 and 6/13/2016**

Last Saturday I was overjoyed to join in the celebration of Fairness's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and to honor their many accomplishments over those years. The event included a 1991-2016 visual timeline of events. It was interesting to see on the timeline several years of opposition to Fairness recommendations by the JCPS Board of Education, and the eventual 2015 landmark inclusion of both sexual orientation and gender identity in all JCPS non-discrimination policies. The 2015 decision made me proud to be a member of this board! Two days later, I was with the Fairness Campaign again, this time for a vigil to commemorate those killed in Orlando. Thank you to Mayor Fisher for his leadership at the vigil in reminding the community of the power of love and compassion. Wonderful to meet up with board colleagues David Jones, Jr. and Chris Brady at the vigil.

#### **Schools, Etc.**

Thanks to Principal Nicole Adell for the warm welcome to Newburg MS, and for her wonderful leadership in connecting Newburg students with the history and resources of their community.

Since the time of my last report, I've also emailed, spoken to, and met with many constituents on a broad range of issues. Thank you to the JCPS District Staff for their responsiveness on the several occasions when I have referred questions and concerns to them.