

Board Report
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New Board Member Orientation, 12/17/2016 Participated in this session for new board members.

Newburg Ministerial Association, 12/17/2016

Attended the monthly meeting as the school board representative for the Newburg area.

Kentuckiana Works/GLI, 12/20/2016

Met with representatives from both organizations to discuss their interests in the JCPS Talent Development Academies, and the importance of school district-business community collaboration to jointly meet the academic/career-readiness needs of students and the city's workforce development needs.

Cradle to Career Cabinet Meeting, 12/21/2016

Received updates on the extended timeline for Louisville's selection as a "Say Yes" city, and participated in discussion of the Harvard Graduate School of Education's By All Means initiative. Despite the current uncertainty of the Say Yes time frame, there was broad consensus among cabinet members to continue exploring opportunities for cross-sector engagement, alignment of resources, and developing a shared governance structure in order to meet a broad range of student needs and to improve outcomes for students. The Cabinet charged the Behavioral Health Project Scoping Team with selecting and developing a project.

Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Oppression End-of-Year Recognitions, 12/31/2016

I was humbled and honored to receive recognition by the Kentucky Alliance for my service on the school board. Louisville civil rights champion Anne Braden has long been a personal hero of mine, and to have received recognition from the Louisville-based civil rights organization founded by her was deeply meaningful.

C.L.O.U.T., 1/6/2017

Met with representatives of the group's Restorative Practices Committee, and received updates from them on the upcoming JCPS training dates and plans. They communicated concerns about the lack of information provided to the board about the progress and planning of RP implementation, little public awareness of the whole school restorative practices about to get underway, and that no plan has yet been presented to the board for how progress monitoring will occur for whole school restorative practices once the approach is underway. An additional concern relayed was that schools will apparently be asked to design their own implementation plans rather than implementing with fidelity to the IIRP model.

By All Means Project Team Meeting, 1/9/2017

Pursuant to the charge from the Cradle to Career Cabinet to define and adopt a project, activity at this meeting focused on identifying a problem statement that will guide the group in defining a cross-sector project, adopting metrics, and developing an implementation plan. The general focus area for the project team is Social and Emotional supports. There is some push-and-pull within the group regarding the nature of the project: should the focus be on driving systemic change/transforming environments, or on the clinical needs of individuals with a goal of increasing access to and availability of clinical services and supports. Two specific topics were highlighted in the discussion: 1) high rates and disproportionality of student suspensions, and 2) school connectedness/sense of belonging as a public health issue.

Schools:

Price Elementary School, 12/15/2016.

Attended the school's primary and intermediate student holiday performances and demonstrations of learning about international celebrations. What a great start to my own holiday celebrating!

ESL Newcomer Academy, 1/6/2016.

Visited to learn more about the fastest growing school within JCPS, serving the fastest growing student population district-wide. The school's population has grown by 60% since the start of the school year, and new students continue to arrive daily, representing a broad range of countries, languages spoken, and formal educational history. The concentration of resources provided at the school to serve the diverse needs of students newly arrived in the US is a tremendous asset. Yet despite being spread across two campuses, it is clear that the facility needs of the school already exceed current capacity. It appears that the school and its needs will continue to grow, and must be addressed as both an *excellence* and an *equity* issue. According to the KDE district report card, per pupil spending of \$7,343 at ESL Newcomer Academy is well below the District average per pupil spending of \$12,257. The Student:Teacher ratio compares unfavorably as well, with 16:1 across the District, and 26:1 at Newcomer.