

Board Report
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Submitted June 13, 2017

**By All Means Convening, Education Redesign Lab, Harvard Graduate School of Education,
May 17-19**

I participated in the third “By All Means” convening at the Harvard Graduate School of Education along with Louisville’s cross-sector delegation. The goal of the By All Means initiative is to “rethink education and child development systems” in order to break the correlation between socioeconomic status and educational achievement outcomes. This third convening particularly focused on equity with an explicit focus on racial disparities and realities in our country. Keynote speaker Dr. Michael McAfee, President of PolicyLink, challenged participants to think and feel deeply on the issues, urged us to focus on *scale*, and to distinguish between real systems transformation and what he called “charity work.” By Dr. McAfee’s estimation, solutions that focus on changing outcomes for less than 60% of a defined population are charitable work. While this work is important and has its place, he urged us to keep our focus on transformational and systemic problem solving. The sessions were challenging and affirming of my belief that as a board, and as district leadership generally, our focus must be on transformation of a system that historically and currently is not benefitting all students.

Board Retreat Planning with KSBA - Ongoing

I’ve appreciated the opportunity to be involved in planning this summer’s board retreat in conjunction with board development specialists at the Kentucky School Board Association. This year’s retreat will focus on board team development, training in ethics and principles of good board governance, and work on developing effective systems and processes for the Board/Superintendent leadership team to best guide and support the important work of the district.

Cradle to Career Cabinet - Ongoing

I come away from these meetings with a strong sense of gratitude for our community’s engagement in ensuring positive outcomes and strong supports for our students. The Cabinet is in a transition process, moving out of the Mayor’s office and working toward building its own staff, mission, and vision. The Cabinet’s work during the transition is being guided by the leadership and staff of 55K Degrees. Now that we’ve learned that “Say Yes to Education” is not a feasible option for Louisville, the Cabinet is receiving progress reports on a modified plan that will involve contracting with the Weiss Institute for technical assistance and support in order for our community to offer post-secondary tuition supports to public school students, and extensive “wrap-around” supports to students and families as they progress through the school system. I welcome the upcoming opportunity for board members to meet directly with representatives of the Weiss Institute, and I am looking forward to learning more. I have also requested additional school board representation on the Cradle to Career Cabinet.

Deeper Learning Symposium, June 7-9

This was fantastic!! I was moved by the level of engagement and excitement of participants, and impressed by the talents and commitment of so many of our JCPS educators who presented and actively participated. The Friday morning plenary address by Dr. Christopher Emdin was a HUGE highlight! So powerful to see the community's vision behind Vision2020 being translated into action at this conference. Enormous congratulations and thank you to all involved in the planning – and a big shoutout to all who participated and are preparing to put these learning experiences into action in the classroom!

JCPS Schools

Congratulations to all of our JCPS grads! I was honored to be with the graduates of Liberty, Male, and Moore HS. I'm also grateful for my end of year school visits at Rangeland, Slaughter, Male (for the best end-of-year vocal performance EVER, and featuring our country's national champion vocal percussionist!) and Marion C. Moore (amazing and inspiring work as always from Moore's poets, spoken word artists, and social justice champions).