

## **Statement Read at January 9, 2018 Meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Education**

The Board of Education has received nine applications from candidates interested in serving as the Superintendent through a nationally advertised application process that was concluded on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Superintendent Screening Committee, whose role is to provide recommendations to the members of the Board, held its organizational meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup> and held meetings on December 8<sup>th</sup>, December 20<sup>th</sup> and January 8<sup>th</sup> to review candidate applications and to make preparations for interviews of candidates.

The Screening Committee has communicated to the Board of Education that, of the nine completed applications received for Superintendent, the Screening Committee has narrowed the candidates to two. Independently of the Screening Committee, the Board of Education has narrowed the list of nine applicants to the same two individuals. Given this widespread consensus among these 13 different people representing a wide range of community voices, the Board of Education believes the most transparent and productive course of action is to reveal the two finalists at this time. Those two individuals are Dr. Marty Pollio, Acting Superintendent of JCPS, and Dr. Mike Raisor, Chief Operations Officer of JCPS.

The Board of Education has contracted with a Louisville public relations firm, Bandy Carroll Hellige, to solicit substantial community feedback that will help the Board when it interview the finalists and makes its decision. The Board will interview the two finalists after receiving this feedback from Bandy Carroll Hellige, which it will receive by February 15th. Bandy Carroll Hellige has already conducted a number of internal focus groups within the JCPS community. There were 11 focus groups, including employee groups and parents. Each group was made up of 6 to 8 persons. Also, Bandy Carroll Hellige will be meeting with the Superintendent Advisory Committee during the first week in February for student feedback. In addition, the Board will ask Bandy Carroll Hellige to conduct a number of community forums throughout the city so the community will have several opportunities to ask questions of the two candidates. Specific information about the dates and locations of the community forums will be forthcoming soon. In addition, there will be an online survey on the JCPS website that all members of the community can respond to. The survey will be translated into five languages. The survey should be available on the JCPS website next week.

The Board will make its final decision by March 1<sup>st</sup>.