

Dear DCS families and community members,

As we begin 2014, we are optimistic about achievement and growth in Davidson County Schools. As a new superintendent, I see much reason for pride and celebration in our district. My top priority is to ensure that we are providing the best educational opportunities to all students in order for them to be college and career ready.

The 2012-13 school year involved tremendous change in North Carolina public schools and in Davidson County classrooms. During the 2012-13 school year, the State Board of Education adopted a new READY Accountability Model in addition to creating new assessments to align with College and Career Ready content standards. These new standards challenged our students with additional rigor and increased academic performance requirements.

Davidson County High Schools have continued to increase in the area of four-year graduation rates. Six of our eight high schools have four-year graduation rates over 85%, all above the state average of 82.5%. Our district has a combined rate of 85.2% in 2012-13, an increase from 82.5% in 2011-12.

In the area of academic growth, 24 of our 34 schools met or exceeded expected growth mirroring the performance of our state. The performance composite or overall proficiency for Davidson County Schools is 47.6 percent compared to the state composite of 44.7 percent. All EOGs and EOCs are included in the assessments for this measure. In the state there were only 27 school systems out of 115 that outperformed Davidson County Schools. When looking at the district Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) we met 93.5 percent of the state goals and 94.4 percent of the federal goals. Our district is in the top 19 school systems for meeting federal level goals.

We are fortunate to live in a community that values public education and understands that teaching our youth is a shared responsibility. Please take time to review our district's report card and your school's report card. It is important to keep staff members, students, families and the community informed about the progress we are making to ensure that all students are prepared for the future.

Together we will continue to provide a safe, orderly and caring learning environment filled with high quality instruction for all of our students. Thank you for your support and commitment to Davidson County Schools.

Sincerely,



Dr. Lory Morrow  
Superintendent