

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year! I trust you have had a restful yet fun-filled summer vacation. As you enjoy the last few days of summer and prepare for the opening of school, I hope this letter finds you healthy and happy; ready to teach and learn together.

I am honored to serve as the Director of Schools, but I know that the successes we have experienced in educating our children would not have been possible without the vital role played by our dedicated teachers, staff, and administrators. As we begin this new school year, we want to build on our tradition of excellence and provide opportunities for all students. We certainly have a great deal to be proud of, but we still have much to accomplish.

Our central office staff and administrators have been working hard this summer to hire new personnel; analyze data to make programming decisions; and establish professional development and instructional needs. We will kick off our Teacher Induction Program (TIP) on July 31st for our newly hired teachers. All teachers will report to their schools on August 4, 2009 for the first administrative day.

The challenges that lie ahead are obvious:

- Learning gaps created by the implementation of a new curriculum
- Changes in state reporting of district, school, and teacher performance
- New achievement assessments
- Implementation of the Tennessee Diploma Project
- Economic shortfalls
- Overcrowded conditions in our schools

With dedication and support, we can and will tackle these challenges. I am enthusiastic and ready to work with you in striving to improve and grow. I know we will continue to increase student achievement because we have the best teachers, staff, and administrators that our profession has to offer. Thank you for all that you have done and all that you continue to do in support of our students. Let's work together to make this the best school year yet for Jefferson County students and meet the challenges that lie ahead to ensure their future success.

Sincerely,



Connie Campbell
Director of Schools