

## Office of Superintendent of Schools

I'm Jerry Weast, superintendent of schools. We have built a strong Executive Staff that's committed to supporting your success. Because we know that it's leaders like you who make MCPS one of the most successful school systems in the nation. My role as superintendent is to ensure that we have the right plan, being executed by the right people to give every child the opportunity to achieve at the highest levels.

That's where you come in. You are stepping up to leadership positions in one of the largest and most diverse school systems in the country. As a leader in the Montgomery County Public Schools, you must have the passion, the knowledge, and the skills to raise achievement for each and every child. You must hold the highest expectations – for students and staff -- and model that attitude every minute of every day of every week.

You are taking on a difficult and challenging job, but it's also the most rewarding. For we live in a county that's making a huge investment in public education. We are given that support because we get results. And that's because we have the best and the brightest teaching in our classrooms and leading in our schools. I'm committed to investing in you – to building your capacity so that you can continue to be the most capable.

Just as we strive to create the right conditions under which you can excel – you too must work diligently to create the right conditions where students and staff can grow.

You must model good teaching and learning. You must collaborate in good faith. You must be courageous about saying "I don't know." And you must be committed to being a lifelong learner. For as John F. Kennedy said, "leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."

In your role, you will often face ambiguity, uncertainty, and change. But you'll be able to handle these and any other issues as long as you stay focused on what our work is all about. And that's preparing every student for success. You've taken on an awesome responsibility. Know that we believe in you and will do our best to support you as one of the leaders of MCPS.