

Alignment Jackson Elementary Team  
JPS Superintendents Room  
February 26, 2015 8:30 AM

**Committee Members Present:** Dr. Michelle King, Amber May, Dr. Shauna, Cassandra Welchlin, and Kimberly Smith

Welcome and Introductions  
The meeting commenced at 9:08 am

**Eye Exam Update**

Ingrid Adams (IJA Associates) conducted eye examinations to support the AJ elementary team's literacy reading initiative. About 58 students were identified at four elementary schools. About half of the students agreed to participate in the eye examination. It is hope that the eye exam will impact the performance on future assessments. A special thanks to Ingrid and her team for taking the time to support academic success.

**State Meetings**

There were state meetings held at Cardoza and Kirksey were sponsored by the Mississippi Department of Education. Anthony stated that he attended the meeting at Cardoza and the information seemed to be more consistent. The meeting also provided more information about how students will have more than one opportunity to pass the test.

Dr. King stated that we actually invited MDE to host one for our district and do one for JPS. We had a great turn-out and it was broader with more schools involved. A lot of the information was the same about the testing window and they did get into more activities and shared the information we with the parents. Most of your magnet schools are out North and it's a different response from the South schools.

Nevertheless parents are concerned everywhere and they want to know what they can do to help if they will be retained. We have to approve some type of summer program to help the students that will be retained. Last year we did the BOOST program and we started with the upcoming third graders and the retained third graders. When we close our summer program we will assess the last 2 days before school is over. The first one starts in April and the last in May, the summer one is the last opportunity. During the summer program we will administer the test during the last 2 days of the summer program.

There has been talk about them giving us one more year and assess and then get the baseline data. JPS has done a great job with making the parents aware of the assessment. The parents have gotten the information about the waivers. This information was given to the parents in the fall and many parents are calling now to find out where the child is according to the benchmark.

Amber stated that the parents stated that they received the information at the last meeting and they did not get the information

The parents received the info and allowed parents to get the sheets specifically related to the parents. The audience is not getting the information and we are missing the mark somewhere. Kim stated that a lot of times that we do things they think it is JPS. I'm constantly defending JPS but our direction is coming from MDE. There is a lack of trust from JPS so when we have the parent meetings

We started this back in May at Galloway and there are opportunities for parents to be involved.

We need to talk about the plan and all the effort that is going on with the plan that is consistent. The message is there and we just need parents, media, and organizations to here this information.

Do we put signs in the grocery store or talk to the parents on a one on one basis. Essentially we asked the parents do you think you are getting information in a timely manner from JPS. It's a disconnect like communicating in stores, daycare,

Look for your child's star report and we can put this information in blackboard.

Are we solving the wrong problem?

It take a strong PTA, PPS, and creating parent social groups

The other part is focusing in and getting results

The results will help with the parent social piece

How do you change the parents?

The parents don't have to show up but you have to build the ramp to show them how to be involved. This is not a JPS issue alone this is a cultural issue.

There is one idea that has come up and some parents have expressed that they would like videos of instruction. If there was a video and if teachers taught like a Webinar. We can reference them to the teaching [channel.org](http://channel.org)

However, JPS has two elementary videos were shot at the school

If they could download the app with the teacher teaching and we can figure out how they did that they

We can streamline the teacher teaching in the classroom.

In order for JPS to be successful parents have to be successful

Every test parents seem to think that JPS is behind this testing

JPS, Rankin County, Clinton, and Desoto this must work because the testing starts on Monday

Dr. King is very optimistic about the direction that JPS is going in so I have seen the upside and the downside and I see the shift with everyone wanted to go in the right

I'm going to attribute that to Alignment Jackson

Our system will only be as strong as our community

Will summer BOOST be half day or full day? It's a 4 week program starting June 8 and end June 29th. If they are at the summer boost program at the first part of the day and then operation shoe string at the last part of the day. It will be 3 sites.

Let's set up a meeting with the key players and there is a summer school committee and we have submitted an invitation to operation shoe string and els

Three sites with 400 students

If they can guarantee a home than they can get a double whammy of enrichment.

If there is a curriculum that you want to share and we will use the STAR data

### **Data**

Of the students that were identified we have to take time on tasks and the Smith Elementary

This is the progress that the children have made since the winter screening. These are scale scores so a 393 is a proficient reader. The students reading level has increased but we need to take the data and keep marching ahead. Eight out of the 11 has increased in reading skills. 73% of students have increased reading skills.

We want to tell a complete story and make a complete distinction between the Book Buddies

When having conversations with schools going forward we inform the principals of the information that is needed.

### **Next Steps**

- Name change: Reading Mates
- Anthony will create a graph for the pilot that the schools can use going forward for the volunteers
- Put something in writing in a include a protocol and checklist Check list that each child's folder should have that include Expectations and Protocol for volunteers
- Revise training
- Do individual schools and then a collective of school data

- Model pilot after most successful pilot

Meeting adjourned: 10:30 AM