



January 10, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We have exciting news to share with you. The Missouri State Board of Education has demonstrated its confidence in Saint Louis Public Schools and the significant improvements we have made by voting today to restore Full Accreditation to the District.

Reaching this milestone has taken nine years and unwavering dedication by students, staff, community partners and you—our amazing parents and guardians. Above all else, we believe our students can achieve, and they continue to prove it.

So, what does this mean for you and your family? This vote means we have reached a level of success worth recognizing. We have met benchmarks set by the State, sustained our progress and are many steps closer to our Number 1 goal of creating a system of excellent schools for all students. This means:

Your child attends school in a safer, renovated building now that hazards have been removed, technology has been updated, and air conditioning has been installed in all schools;

Your child's teacher receives more support, including mentorship from experienced educators and professional development, to provide the best education he or she can;

Our youngest learners are entering kindergarten more ready than ever before, and twice as many have access to our high quality early childhood education program than they did nine years ago;

All of our high school students now receive college counseling and have access to dual-credit, dual-enrollment and/or Advanced Placement courses.

While we do recognize the importance of noting milestones—and this certainly is a significant one—please know we will not truly celebrate until we are confident we are serving every child to the best of our ability. This is a pause, not a period. We certainly have room to improve, and every stakeholder of SLPS will be encouraged and expected to play a role.

Thank you for entrusting your child to the capable hands of SLPS teachers, principals and support staff. Thank you, also, for supporting public education in St. Louis. We are dedicated to providing an excellent educational experience for your child and every child. Your partnership is essential to our success. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kelvin R. Adams
Superintendent of Schools
Saint Louis Public Schools