


# THE SUMMIT ROOM SESSION

- ▶ It is about getting the right people together in a room to talk about important stuff ... “stuff” that matters and can’t be dealt with in isolation

- ▶ Attributes for success in the days ahead ...
    - ▶ Hard work
    - ▶ Thought
    - ▶ Big picture thinking
    - ▶ The ability to see connections
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- ▶ Anticipation
- ▶ An orientation to action
- ▶ Loyalty
- ▶ Integrity
- ▶ Humor

- ▶ Integrity- “Speak and live the truth ... no matter what.”
- ▶ Responsibility- “Be dependable, be trustworthy.”

- ▶ Thoughtfulness- “Think of others before yourself.”
- ▶ Patience- “Be willing to wait. Fight irritability.”

- ▶ Purity- “Reject anything that lowers your moral or ethical standards.”
- ▶ Compassion- “Have a heart, when another hurts, feel the pain and act accordingly.”
- ▶ Diligence- “Work hard. Tough it out. Finish what you start.”

# WE ARE ALL “TEACHERS”

People hear what we say, but they see what we do. And seeing is believing.

- ▶ The past – is past
- ▶ I am not troubled by those who wish to celebrate the past – I just don't want to hang around people who are stuck there



- ▶ I gravitate to people with solutions – not reasons why something may not work
- ▶ I am convinced from listening and working with you ... that Washington County once held the status of a shining district on a hill

- ▶ I am convinced that we can once again reclaim that status if we want to ... because of the talent in this room and the talent of many more great people who work with us ...

- ▶ If we are to create a compelling picture of a better Washington County Public Schools together ... I hope it looks something like this ...


▶ “Great teaching matters hugely”

- ▶ It is not rocket science ... it doesn't take Race to the Top, complicated metrics or years of training to know great teaching ... We will know great teaching – when we see great learning ... and the converse is likely true ...

- ▶ If we say we have high expectations for kids ... we will act like it
  - ▶ We will not offer remedial courses, rather we will vary time and resources to have our kids meet the expectations

- ▶ The default curriculum will be a college/post-secondary bound curriculum, as I believe it will put our graduates in the best position to be employable and promotable

- ▶ We (all of us) will recognize the inherent goodness in each child we are privileged to serve (an asset orientation). We will build from strength, not deficit and we will catch kids being good – in an attempt to build the behaviors we want to see ...

- ▶ We will not make excuses for our inability to reach and teach our kids ... we will seize the challenge presented to us ...
  - ▶ We will celebrate the dignity and worth of each individual in our words and actions
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- ▶ We will agree that “Literacy” – is job one and serves as a “gatekeeper subject” for our kids ... so we are absolutely committed to the idea that our kids will read, write and speak well.

- ▶ They will meet grade level expectations each year they are with us and to do so we will leverage the time and resources necessary to support our kids and teachers in this work.

- ▶ Every student in this district will read at or above grade level each year they are with us

- ▶ Every child will be on track to take and successfully complete four years of challenging mathematics and English.
- ▶ Every child will have access to a full and rich curriculum which includes science, social studies, and other academic disciplines.

- ▶ We will honor and support the fine and performing arts for all kids as critical academic disciplines.

- ▶ We will support and provide access to other languages and cultures.
- ▶ We will support and encourage studies in the career and technical arts.

- ▶ We will serve students with disabilities and their families with a commitment to service that exceeds their expectations
  - ▶ We should measure ourselves by our service to those who need us the most