



Indianapolis Public Schools

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Eugene G. White, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

To Whom It May Concern:

At a recent meeting with urban clergy in Indianapolis, I sought to create and support school-community partnership opportunities for the benefit of Indianapolis Public Schools. Both scholarly research and in-classroom experience tell us that the future success of Indianapolis Public Schools relies on greater community involvement, in the form of collaborative relationships between schools and churches, neighborhood associations, and other local area institutions.

I invited the clergy in attendance to challenge their congregations to adopt a school in the area around their churches – to know what is happening in the lives of the students and their parents and others in their households, encouraging education and supporting the families in their lives. If we are going to succeed as a school corporation and as a city, we need these types of partnerships – congregations and community joining hands to work together.

What is happening in the Mapleton-Fall Creek neighborhood is building on the good work we are doing in IPS. Working together, the area's congregations and neighborhood leaders are already making a substantial contribution to the building of community that is so essential to the success of our schools, our young people, and our families.

Rev. Mike Mather of Broadway United Methodist Church has shared with me what is currently happening in Mapleton-Fall Creek, as well as the additional opportunities that will become available through *The Miracle on 29<sup>th</sup> Street*. Innovative efforts to engage residents of the neighborhood and enhanced offerings on behalf of the community's children and youth will provide opportunities that were previously unavailable.

*The Miracle on 29<sup>th</sup> Street* is really a campaign for the people of the Mapleton-Fall Creek area – the individuals and families that live there, as well as the churches, schools, businesses, and other institutions that make up the rest of the community – to invest in each other's lives. I enthusiastically support the aims of this campaign and happily provide this letter of support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eugene G. White".

Eugene G. White, Ed.D.  
Superintendent