

*** “Marty Pollio is doing a great job, he’s phenomenal. You think of this ... this guy who ran one of the most success(ful) ... one of the best principals we ever had. A guy who was willing to take on a task that’s pretty tough. Following Donna Hargens, the work that needed to be done was not easy. Nobody anticipated that ... Marty stepped in and did a phenomenal job.”**

Speak up if you don't want a JCPS takeover

If you live in Jefferson County and you oppose a state takeover of JCPS, now is the time to speak up.

A takeover — as recommended by interim Kentucky Education Commissioner Wayne Lewis — means JCPS would lose control of its finances, personnel, operations and other responsibilities that are handled by Superintendent Marty Pollio and the school board elected by you.

Lewis says a takeover is needed to fix long-standing problems in the state’s largest school district — problems that include low-performing schools and unacceptable and persistent achievement gaps between black students and white students.

But Lewis also notes that Pollio has already made “incredibly positive steps” to fix the district’s problems.

Pollio has been leading the district for only 10 months and wasn’t named superintendent until February. He deserves more time.

Ultimately, the decision to allow a state takeover or block it rests with the 11 members of the state education board, all appointees of Gov. Matt Bevin.

It’s time to speak up. Tell the board to reject a takeover.

Be smart, be polite, and be clear. And if you’re looking for some guidance, you can use the quote above to help you frame your thoughts.

Ben Cundiff

Business: 270-350-0930

Mobile: 270-350-0930

Email: cundiffarms1979@gmail.com

Tracey Cusick

Mobile: 859-817-0686

Email: cusick71@yahoo.com

Richard (Rich) Gimmel

Business: 502-584-7262

Mobile: 502-558-0595

Email: RFGimmel@atlasmachine.com

Kathy Gornik

Business: 859-492-8521

Mobile: 859-492-8521

Email: kathygornik2@gmail.com

Hal Heiner

Mobile: 502-552-0012

Email: hallheiner@gmail.com

Gary Houchens

Business: 270-745-4999

Mobile: 270-799-9081

Email: gary.houchens@wku.edu

Alesa Johnson

Business: 606-451-6693

Mobile: 606-875-2083

Email: alesag.johnson@gmail.com

Joseph Papalia

Business: 812-282-0488

Mobile: 502-271-8811

Email: jpapaliaky@gmail.com

Milton Seymore

Business: 502-931-8525

Mobile: 502-931-8525

Email: ceemore1@gmail.com

Amanda Stamper

Business: 859-239-6059

Email: amestamper@gmail.com

Laura Timberlake

Business: 740-574-2113

Mobile: 606-232-1790

Email: ltimberlake@bigsandysuperstore.com

** The quote at the beginning of this piece? That’s Gov. Matt Bevin. On Tuesday, May 1, 2018.*