

**For Immediate Release**

**May 9, 2013**

***U.S. News & World Report Ranks Multiple JCPS High Schools Among Best in the Country***

*Eleven Schools Recognized for Test Results, College and Career Readiness*

*U.S. News & World Report* released its analysis of more than 18,000 high schools across the nation, and more than half of Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) high schools received recognition for their efforts to provide equitable and rigorous education for all students. Statewide, JCPS had four of the top five ranked schools and six of the top ten. Three of the schools recognized are designated as Priority Schools.

JCPS high schools earned the following awards:

<b>Gold Medal:</b>	DuPont Manual	<b>Silver Medal:</b>	Eastern	<b>Bronze Medal:</b>	Butler
	Ballard		Male		Central
	Brown		Atherton		Fairdale
					Fern Creek
					Western

Using a three-step process developed by the American Institute for Research, *U.S. News & World Report* awarded schools medals based on their performance; factoring in state reading and math results (step 1), the performance of the school's at-risk students (step 2), and the school's college-readiness performance (step 3).

A gold medal was awarded to schools that met the requirements of all three steps and ranked in the top 500 schools nationally. A silver medal was awarded to schools that met the requirements of all three steps and were not ranked in the top 500. A bronze medal was awarded to schools that met the requirements for the first two steps. The awards are based on data from the 2010-11 school year.

"Our students and staff work tirelessly toward college and career readiness every day. It is rewarding to see that hard work and dedication being recognized nationally," said JCPS Superintendent Donna Hargens. "I am confident that through the strategies outlined in our *Strategic Plan: Vision 2015*, these schools and others will continue to see improvement in student achievement."

For more information, contact Ben Jackey, communications specialist, at **485-3357**.

###JCPS###