

Barbara Byrd-Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Education

Rev. Hilton O. Smith
Chair

Margaret M. Hopkins
Vice Chair

Rashidah Abdulhaqq
Erskine L. Bevel
David J. Carney
Louise P. Dempsey
George F. Dixon
Sandra Morgan
Elaine A. Murphy

Ex Officio Members
Dr. Michael Schwartz
Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton

Michael Joelson
President, Chess for Success Program
3653 Burbridge Rd.
S. Euclid, Ohio 44121

Dear Mr. Joelson:

Allow me to commend you for taking the initiative to make the Chess for Success Program a reality for Cleveland Municipal School District students. I am truly grateful for the way in which you, your treasured friends, and colleagues gave unsparingly of your time and expertise. Based on evaluative observations, teachers have reported an increase in student performance. Principals indicated that "teachers were crawling over each other" to express the details of their positive experience at the "Chess Challenge". Students were provided the inspiration and motivation to attain their educational and lifetime goals.

A common belief binds us together. The education of Cleveland's children is truly a community responsibility. I look forward to future collaborative efforts to shape the instructional component of the Chess for Success Program in Corridor of Excellence schools.

Sincerely,


Barbara Byrd-Bennett

BBB/jd