



Good morning, KIPP Families:

I'm writing this cold, winter day to share some very exciting news.

It is with immense gratitude and pride that I have had the opportunity to lead KIPP Columbus since 2008. From 50 students in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade to where we are today, and to what lies before us has been an impactful and inspiring journey. Amazing students and families, an engaged community, and a tremendous team that meets each day with commitment, passion, and an unwavering belief in the potential of each young person.

We are not where we were when we began in 2008, and also not where we will be *10, 20, 30.... years* from now. As we continue to evolve, we have limitless opportunities before us to continue to create schools that daily actualize our mission, and we have an incredible person on our team to lead us in the next part of the journey.

This upcoming school year, Ciji Pittman will become the first Superintendent of KIPP Columbus - leading and managing our schools, programs, and overall operations of KIPP Columbus. In her role as Superintendent she will provide leadership and vision to further develop and implement KIPP's mission, goals, and strategic priorities to best provide an exceptional educational experience. As she leads KIPP Columbus, Ms. Pittman draws on her considerable experience as a teacher, principal, and founding president of Schools for a network of 15 primary and secondary schools in three states where she improved outcomes and doubled the size of the network, and most recently as the Head of Schools for KIPP Columbus.

As I transition from KIPP Columbus as the Executive Director, I will be leading a Foundation that will support the work at KIPP Columbus as well as schools and children throughout our community, including the completion of the construction/expansion of KIPP's Learning Campus, exploring new initiatives and expanding existing community partnerships that support student success and well-being (ex: an expanded Nationwide Children's Hospital Community clinic), and more. This next step in KIPP's journey will ensure that even more children and families experience the increased capacity and innovative partnerships at KIPP- an important and exciting effort in our community.

I am forever grateful to every member of the KIPP Columbus community, and I couldn't be more inspired for what lies ahead. Thank you, families, for your partnership!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hannah D. Powell".

Hannah D. Powell