

Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools

Education Center

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August 22, 2008

Mary Beth Gentry
Executive Director
Young Women on the Move
15621 W. 87th Street, Suite 185
Lenexa, Kansas 66219

Dear Mary Beth,

I wanted to thank you for your continued hard work with Young Women on the Move. We have seen what the program has meant to the young ladies of the district and are hopeful that your efforts will materialize to bring these much needed services to more schools and more girls.

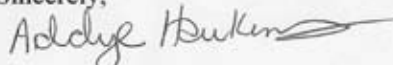
It is because of your hard work and the program's success that the district has decided to endorse Young Women on the Move as its girls' mentoring program. Congratulations! It is not surprising to me that this choice has been made as I have heard the girls' stories and seen the deep commitment of you and your staff to help the girls have empowerment, healthy lives, and positive options.

As Director of the Department of Equity for Student Achievement, I view this program as a critical enhancement to our classroom instruction that will help to erase the many disparities that keep our students from being on a competitive playing field. Therefore, I enthusiastically support our continuing collaboration.

I am especially pleased to see that Young Women on the Move and the Department of Equity are collaborating with a new pilot for a mentoring and leadership program at Wyandotte High School. I know that Dr. Sonia Willis, project director for the Department of Equity, sees great potential for the impact this model will have for duplication in other schools.

Thanks you for your many efforts, and best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,



Addye Hawkins
Director,
Office of Equity for Student Achievement