

## **Making It Work...**

*We must become the change we want to see in the world.*

Mahatma Gandhi

To accomplish the goals set in the areas of student achievement, safety and discipline, employee pay, and transparency and accountability to taxpayers, we will have to make changes at many levels.

I will set up a transition team that will focus on the question: What administrative and support structure is required for a school district of 42,000 students? Led by a group of volunteers, the transition team members will be selected based on the following criteria:

1. Expertise in various areas of our education system
2. No personal gain or loss through the reorganization process

This team will seek input and assistance from all stakeholders. Ideas from varied sources will be valued and welcomed. The team will be tasked with reviewing, reporting and establishing a

structure that is aligned with our needs, vision and goals.

If you believe that the best days of our school district are still ahead of us, join me in making this vision a reality. Together we will create an outstanding school system: a system where the students want to go to school and all students achieve to the best of their abilities; a system where employees feel valued, feel ownership and are well-paid; a system where local businesses work cooperatively with the schools and are confident that qualified and trained employees can enter the work force upon graduation; and a system where taxpayers realize a positive return on their investment.

I will collaborate to provide leadership, service, and support for all learners through the following actions:

- Provide, promote, and support environments that result in world-class learning.
- Secure and develop resources (human, fiscal, and informational) that support and promote the district's mission.

- Develop and maintain an organization based on trust, teamwork, communication, commitment and competence.
- Optimize customer satisfaction.

I have come a long way from my rural upbringing in northern Escambia County, but this I still know: we all want the best for all our children. The biggest part of their success and happiness begins with a good – no – an **excellent** education. Let's make this happen for each and every student. They deserve it!