

## **Greetings,**

As a new superintendent and resident of Polk County, it is critical that I get as much information as possible as we work together to create a new strategic plan for improving our schools, and better supporting our students.

I recently traveled around Polk County and held several Community Conversation forums. I put a lot of miles on my truck and got to see different parts of this beautiful county. Most importantly, I had many interesting and enlightening discussions with parents, grandparents, students, teachers, business leaders, community advocates, government officials and just about every imaginable stakeholder.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to me and share your thoughts.

These forums were only the beginning of how you can help us develop our strategic plan and shape the future of our educational system.

Please continue your support by participating in our Portrait of a Graduate survey.

**You can access the survey at:** [polkschoolsfl.com/portraitofagraduate](https://polkschoolsfl.com/portraitofagraduate)

I want to get your thoughts on what skills, attributes, traits and characteristics are most important for our graduates.

Our survey contains a list of 30 possible qualities or competencies. Each sounds wonderful, but I need you to focus on selecting the top 10 most important or valuable competencies for our students to possess upon graduation.

The most effective way to fill out this survey is to carefully read all of the definitions first. Think of this like a shopping trip where you need to browse what's available before deciding what's essential.

Don't see an important competency on the list? That's ok. You can add up to two competencies, but you must provide a detailed definition to accompany them.

Rest assured your feedback isn't going into some report, only to be forgotten. This survey's data will help us design our strategic plan goals, so we can target this vision for our graduates.

We need to hear from all of the members of our diverse community. Please spread the word and encourage others to fill out this survey. You can simply forward this email or ask them to visit: [polkschoolsfl.com](https://polkschoolsfl.com).

Thanks again for spending your precious time to help us transform our schools and better serve our students.

Sincerely,

Fred Heid

*Superintendent, Polk County Public Schools*