To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure and honor to support Dr. Greg Ross for superintendent of Fayette County Public Schools. I first met Dr. Ross through my move to Meadowcreek. As we settled into our new home, I noticed a pattern. As soon as children in my neighborhood became of school age families either moved or sent their children to private schools. Concerned about this pattern, I began asking questions and found that they were avoiding the Millcreek school. As a member of UK’s College of Education Faculty, I asked to be placed at Millcreek to supervise student teachers. What I found was truly exceptional and something I could share with my neighbors and friends.

Dr. Ross had brought wonderful, needed changes to Millcreek Academy of Leadership. His determination to use this school to create leaders in the school and the community began with the large amount of revenue he brought in for projects that funded afterschool programing, supplemental educational experiences, and much needed support materials. He instituted daily schoolwide assemblies that focused on the choices students make and the students’ ability to shape their own future, which brought together a sense of community for a very diverse body of students and staff. This sense of unity not only spread across race, socio-economic and ability issues, it spawned a new sense of community within the neighborhoods the school serves. Clearly demonstrating this sense of community were discussions in town meetings and growing parental involvement in student daily life and school programming.

On any given day one can see Dr. Ross having lunch with special students, teaching a model lesson for a teacher, or giving awards for the cleanest room, or behavior in special classes. Students are affirmed with awards and general positive kind words, and staff model and speak of the goal of creating leaders. Perhaps the ability to bridge many gaps comes from Dr. Ross’s Masters in Adolescent Recreation and his certification in Law Enforcement. This ability has been honed by presentations and programs that he has led on equitable learning, the impact of teacher talent and diverse recruitment on overall school culture, his participation in the Chinese ambassador research and study program, as well as his partnership with the Gates Foundation to Improve Teacher Professional Growth.

If I were to choose words to describe Dr. Ross they would be caring, competent, supportive and genuine. Whether taking computers to families or tossing the ball among students at recess he demonstrates the kind of servant leadership needed in every school in Fayette County. I am proud to say that I can give positive affirmation to my neighborhood school, Millcreek Academy for Leaders. My wish is that by his leadership every school in Fayette County could raise leaders for our city and country who are well equipped to make the choices needed in the democracy of our nation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jeanette L. Groth