

August 23, 2021

Dear Scholar families:

The beginning of this school year has been particularly challenging. Our desire to return to the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program <sup>®</sup> (WYSP) in-class environment has been impacted by the virulent COVID-19 Delta variant. We were eagerly planning to meet with you and our Scholars face-to-face at the upcoming Educational Clinics (EC) and Parental Institute (PI).

As we have reviewed the current situation it was determined that bringing students from over 70 Jefferson County area schools, along with teachers and Lincoln Foundation staff together is simply not in the best interest of safety and public health. The ECs and PI scheduled for this Saturday, August 28, 2021, will be presented virtually. Access information for Scholars, parents and guardians will be distributed in Wednesday's email communication.

Please know the Lincoln Foundation staff and teachers are committed to providing outstanding and impactful virtual programming comparable to that experienced in-class. We ask that you support our efforts by ensuring your Scholars are signed-on and prepared for each Saturday session. Distance learning requires a different level of focus and participation. This is the new normal. Your engagement and support will help produce a successful outcome.

Detailed information is forthcoming but, please feel free to contact me or Ms. Venita Benboe, Director of Educational Programs if you have any questions about this decision or WYSP.

Sincerely,

Marshua Budly

Marshall Bradley, Jr. President