

We like to end our educator convocation event with a high-energy video or live activity to send educators into the new school year with positive inspiration. This "Walk-Up Music" video was shown at the end of the August 2024 convocation. It included cameos by our two assistant superintendents, one of whom was brand new to the district, having started his position just days earlier. It was received with a great deal of laughter, spontaneous applause, and appreciation. We know these videos are worth the effort when teachers are still talking about them and laughing about them weeks and months later. Here is the part of our superintendent's speech that queued up the video: "Before we wrap up, we wanted to share one last video with you. We were thinking about your first day of school and how important it is to start each day with positive energy. Some of you may be familiar with the baseball and softball tradition where players approach their turn at the plate with their personally selected walk up music playing over the arenas sound system. The players choose a song that inspires them and fires them up. Are you familiar with this? [Pause for response.] ...So, we asked a few of your colleagues to choose their own walk-up music for entering their learning spaces..."