

Educating the Whole Child

On Tuesday, October 28, 2014, Harrisonburg City Public Schools, in cooperation with the United States Western District Court, hosted a community education event entitled “Educating the Whole Child.” The purpose of the event was to provide information to parents and community members regarding bullying, student stress, and parenting tips.

Nearly 200 people attended the event, with translation services provided in four languages. Childcare was also provided for over 80 children, who enjoyed participating in full-filled activities. Older school-age children were offered homework help.

The evening began with a complimentary dinner, followed by a keynote address by the Honorable Judge Michael Urbanski. Judge Urbanski gave a clear and powerful message, emphasizing that young people who break the law and end up in the federal system risk long sentences in prison. He provided real examples from our community.



Breakout sessions followed the keynote. One session provided information on the division-wide bullying prevention program. There was also a discussion about the impacts of stress on children and strategies to reduce stress, and a workshop for parents of children ages 2-10 that addressed the importance of setting limits and techniques for how to do so.

“Comments from attendees were very positive and the breakout sessions were lively and informative,” says Dr. Scott Kizner, Superintendent of Schools. “Parents and others expressed the hope that we can do this more often.”

Harrisonburg City Public Schools believes in the importance of partnering with parents and the community to “educate the whole child.” This event was one of many ways in which we work together to ensure the success and happiness of every child.

