



Date: 2/18/22  
Re: Dr. Joe Clark as Inspirational Speaker  
By: Dr. Dave Silverberg

Dear Event Producer,

I'm writing to enthusiastically recommend Dr. Joe Clark as a speaker for your program. Joe is not only a celebrated superintendent and the dynamic author of *If the Dance Floor is Empty, Change the Song* (2020), but he is one of the most inspirational speakers that I've come across in my near-decade work as Ashland University's Director of the Telego Center for Innovation.

Joe delivered the kickoff keynote address earlier this year at the Ashland Leadership Academy Seminars (ALAS), an annual event serving dozens of school and district leaders across Ohio, and was incredibly well-received. He enchanted them with real-world stories, modeled humility and heroism, and inspired them to make a difference every day.

These are not small gifts for such a high-impact audience during these challenging and exhausting times, but his message came through naturally because of his unique blend of humor, authenticity, wisdom, and hopefulness. His book mirrors those features and serves as the backbone for our ongoing reflection and professional growth under the program's overarching theme of "Educational Leadership in Chaotic Times."

Joe referenced his life as a superintendent, DJ, and youngest-of-eleven and then announced that "miracles happen in public schools every day because of the work we do" - you could have heard a pin drop. He went on to say that "you are here because there's something great in you." He repeated that message with the kind of warmth and urgency that is so needed in our profession today.

I hope that you will consider Joe for your speaking engagement and I invite you to contact me if you have any further questions.

All the best,

Dave

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