

## **Rob Eppes Biography**

In 2008, Rob Eppes assumed leadership of Junior Achievement of Delaware, Inc., a youth serving, educational non-profit organization that changed the direction of his life as a student at Newark High School in Delaware. Providing in excess of 270,000 instructional contact hours per year to more than 15,500 local students in Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, Junior Achievement of Delaware empowers young people to own their economic success through structured interactions with successful adult role models around engaging curricula.

Under Eppes' leadership, Junior Achievement of Delaware earned global accolades through the MetLife Foundation and JA Worldwide® for the concept, design and implementation of the JA Innovation Hub, where students use state-of-the-art technology to discover “how they can change the world” by pursuing a career in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math. The local operation continues to surpass other Junior Achievement operations in its infusion of technology in hands-on, inquiry-based learning.

In partnership with the Delaware STEM Council, Eppes coordinated the roll-out of the new *JA It's My Future*® curriculum, delivered by STEM professionals to 1,589 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in 60 classrooms across the state this past academic year.

In July 2015, he was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Delaware Workforce Development Board (formerly Workforce Investment Board); he has served as a We Work for Health Delaware Co-Chair since 2010; served on the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce Superstars in Education Selection Committee from 2009-2014; was a member of the board of directors of Communities in Schools Delaware and Performing Arts for Children of Delaware; and served on the Grace Episcopal Church Vestry, and as Cloutier Court Maintenance Association president.

Eppes is a Delaware native and graduate of the University of Delaware with a degree in communication. His evolving career with Junior Achievement began in Wilmington in 1987 as Manager of Projects and Research, later Business & Community Relations Manager and then Director of Communications. Eppes went on to become Director of Programs for Junior Achievement of South Jersey in 1995 before leaving to start his own business.

From 1995 to 2007, Eppes was self-employed in his own alternative health and wellness business, which grew to become the largest operation of its kind in this region. He sold this business after twelve years of operation and maintains his license as a Massage Therapist.

Eppes lives in Wilmington with his wife Jennifer and their daughter.