

Building community trust and involvement in the Fayette County Public Schools plays a crucial role in becoming a world-class district that educates all children at the highest levels. In an effort to inform our community and employees about the issues facing FCPS and keep constituents up to date on actions taken by the Board of Education, we are pleased to provide a summary of our school board meetings.

Board meeting agendas and minutes are also available on the school district [Web site](#). Board meetings are televised live on Channel 13 and replayed that same week at 2 p.m. Tuesday, 8 p.m. Wednesday and 2 p.m. Saturday.

Here is a summary of the Jan. 26, 2009, meeting of the Fayette County Board of Education:

1. The board welcomed the evening's student representative, Ashley Jackson, a senior at Bryan Station High School and Southside Technical Center. The teacher representative, Catherine Carter of Crawford Middle School, was only able to attend the Jan. 12 planning meeting. As part of the 2020 Vision Initiative, each regular board meeting opens with a student performance. But because of Monday night's hazardous weather, the young violinists from William Wells Brown Elementary were also unable to attend; they will be rescheduled.
2. The board recognized students and employees for recent state and national achievements, including:
 - Cheerleaders from Lafayette High, who won first place in the [WinterJam](#) competition and second place in the Super Nationals;
 - Twenty teachers who earned [national board certification](#) and Betty Rhodes for renewing her 10-year certification;
 - The Communications Office and Web team for their 2008 [OASIS awards](#).
3. Superintendent Stu Silberman noted January is School Board Recognition Month, and this year's theme was "We Treasure Your Service." "Never have we had a board, as a whole, of this caliber," Silberman said, noting, "We are following the educational treasure map our board has designed." Representatives from the mayor's office, the 16th District PTA, Fayette County Education Association and Commerce Lexington Inc. also praised and thanked the board members for their service. Schools sent gifts of appreciation including handmade cards, posters and student artwork.
4. The board adopted a resolution honoring Dominique Rashawn Johnson, a seventh-grader at Beaumont Middle School who recently passed away.

5. The board approved its December minutes and a list of seven consent items, including revisions to the district's Minority Recruitment and Retention Action Plan.
6. Vince Mattox, director of School, Community and Government Support, presented the 2010 targets set by each school in an effort to close student achievement gaps in accordance with Senate Bill 168. The board voted 5-0 to approve the targets. We're going to continue to push extremely hard to close these gaps in my lifetime, Silberman said.
7. The board approved construction documents and ads for bids for the construction phase of the renovation of Arlington Elementary. "This is the next phase to get this project rolling," said Mary Browning Wright, the district's chief operating officer. The board also approved the bid and proposed contract for demolition at Arlington.
8. The board approved a design consultant and project application for the Miles Point Way bus facility. It's taking the place of the Spring Hill Road bus garage, which must move in order to make way for the new Lafayette High School football stadium.
9. The board accepted the monthly financial report, with a general fund balance of \$96.4 million as of the end of December.
10. During the time for public comment, a parent from Cassidy Elementary spoke of safety concerns she has about the upcoming school renovation. Board chairwoman Becky Sagan reassured her that district officials are taking the proper precautions. Silberman added that officials have previously met with the woman and addressed her concerns but would do so again. He also shared that the district has done 20 projects like this and as with those, all safety precautions are being taken on the Cassidy project.
11. The board went into closed session to discuss acquisition or sale of real property and proposed or pending litigation.