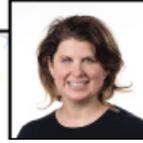




FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board Meeting Buzz



Fayette County Board of Education April 26, 2021

As part of our commitment to providing timely, clear, and accurate information to students, staff, families, and community members, we are please to provide a recap of our monthly school board meetings.

WELCOME & PUBLIC COMMENT

Board Chair Tyler Murphy welcomed members of the public watching the school board meeting online. The Lexington-Fayette County Health Department has advised adults in the school district to continue meeting virtually wherever possible, including faculty meetings, committee meetings, professional learning opportunities, and meetings of the Fayette County Board of Education.

General Counsel Shelley Chatfield updated the board on a question raised last week about Board Chair Tyler Murphy's election to the National Education Association's board of directors. She shared that given an extended timeline for receiving a decision from the Kentucky Attorney General's Office, she asked former board attorney Bob Chenoweth to render an opinion. According to Mr. Chenoweth, there was "no conflict of interest or incompatibility constitutionally, statutorily, or under common law."

During the portion of the meeting for remarks by citizens, Murphy explained that the board has instituted a process to allow members of the public to sign up to speak in advance of regular school board meetings similar to that used by the Lexington Fayette Urban County Council. Details on that process are available at <http://www.fcps.net/PublicComment>.

One member of the public addressed the board regarding vendors for graduation. Additionally, four members of the public submitted written comments. Their full submissions will be shared with the board members and included in the board meeting record, which is not the same as the board meeting minutes.

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH UPDATE

Susanne Griffin and Ann Bailey, from the superintendent search firm of Greenwood/Asher and Associates, shared that the Superintendent Screening Committee met for four hours on Friday, April 23, 2021.

Prior to the meeting, each of the six screening committee members reviewed applicant materials including curriculum vitae, resumes, and reference lists. During the meeting, the group identified a slate of candidates they would like to learn more about in a first round of interviews. Everyone invited to interview has accepted. Interviews will take place on Thursday and Friday of this week.

Griffin said the selected candidates are racially and culturally diverse, from a variety of

backgrounds, with many different district-level experiences, including superintendent, chief academic officer, chief of schools, deputy superintendent, and chief diversity officer.

After the interviews, the screening committee will choose which candidates they would like to learn more about through reference checks. The search firm will provide that information on Friday, May 14, 2021.

Additional information about the search for the next Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent can be found at www.fcps.net/search.



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Acting Superintendent Marlene Helm shared the exciting news that in partnership with the Mayor's Office and Wildhealth, vaccinations will be offered at six district high schools to students 16 years of age and older, FCPS families, and FCPS employees.

More than 750 individuals have signed up so far. Dr. Helm thanked all those who have worked to make this opportunity available and noted that participants will be able to receive both doses of the vaccine before the end of the school year. Volunteers from the district office will support this initiative to ensure that school staff are not pulled from their normal responsibilities.



CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

Chief Operating Officer Myron Thompson shared the [April construction highlights](#), focusing on the progress made on the new Tates Creek High School building, where 39% of the work is complete. The new school is slated to open in August 2022.

BOARD ACTION

The board voted to approve:

- Assurances that are required by the Kentucky Department of Education to receive federal ESSER II funds and a state grant to provide a Family Resource Center at Brenda Cowan Elementary School.
- An application to the Kentucky Department of Education that would allow the district to use Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) days if necessary during the 2021-22 school year.
- An application to the Kentucky Department of Education that would allow the district to continue to provide remote learning options through the Virtual Learning Academy for families that would prefer that option during the 2021-22 school year.
- A change that would allow classified hourly employees to receive service credit and a resulting salary adjustment for more than four years of prior experience.
- A job description for a recruitment and retention specialist to help the district attract and maintain adequate staffing in several critical shortage areas.
- A contract with Social Sentinel to provide social media monitoring for the district to identify potential threats for harm to self and others.
- The [monthly financial report](#).



The official minutes from April 26, 2021 will be posted within the agenda of the May 10, 2021 school board planning work session.

SEE FOR YOURSELF

The school board's action meetings are televised live on FCPS-ETV (Spectrum Channel 197, Windstream Channel 13, and MetroNet Channel 2) starting at 6 p.m. The meetings are also replayed the same week at 8 p.m. Wednesday, 10 p.m. Saturday, and 10 p.m. Sunday and are archived through the [FCPS YouTube channel](#). Planning and action meetings are also streamed live through the district's [YouTube channel](#) and [Video on Demand service](#). If watching on the district website, please hover over the Live Streams banner at the top and click on the play button to begin on your device.

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