

February 8, 2021

Dear FCPS Families:

Your Fayette County Board of Education team met this afternoon to interview two executive search firms with extensive national experience to assist us with the recruitment and selection of the next Fayette County Public Schools superintendent. Our conversation centered on each firm's commitment to involving our entire community in conversations about what we are looking for in the next leader for our district, as well as its track record of recruiting a diverse pool of highly qualified candidates.

Both firms spoke highly of the Lexington-Fayette County community and our public schools, indicating that many leaders would be interested in serving in this role. They shared that FCPS has a reputation nationally for high achieving students and innovative program offerings designed to meet the individual strengths of each learner.

Following an informative conversation with the individuals from each firm who would be assigned to our search, the board consensus was to negotiate a contract with Greenwood/Asher & Associates LLC. Their portfolio of searches includes the Fairfax County Public Schools, LA Unified School District and New York City Public Schools, higher education institutions including historically black colleges and universities, as well as three previous commissioner searches for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

We were impressed with their experience and expertise as well as their eagerness and enthusiasm to partner with our district in facilitating an inclusive, transparent search process. When we shared our desire to have community groups host focus groups, they welcomed the suggestion and embraced board interest in holding "virtual town hall feedback sessions" in multiple languages.

Our intent is to approve a contract with Greenwood/Asher & Associates, LLC at our Fayette County Board of Education planning meeting on Thursday, February 11, 2021.

We want to affirm the intention of our entire board team to involve all stakeholders in this critical effort. Input from students, employees, families, and community members will be critical as we move forward. We recognize that COVID-19 will require us to reimagine some of the ways we gather public input and feedback and we are confident in Greenwood/Asher & Associates' ability to help us achieve these goals.

There will be opportunities for you to participate in the development of a candidate profile and share input on what qualities you value in our next superintendent. Once top applicants are identified, you will also have a chance to meet them and provide feedback before the board makes a final decision.

The Fayette County Board of Education is committed to conducting this search in a way that builds upon and strengthens student, employee, family, and community engagement in order to attract a leader who can carry on the great work happening in the Fayette County Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Tyler Murphy,  
Fayette County Board of Education chair