



FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# DISTRICT SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY

March 1, 2018

*Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent Manny Caulk established the District Safety Advisory Council to examine best practices in school safety and develop specific recommendations to ensure all Fayette County Public Schools are safe places to learn and work.*

*The Council is comprised of 24 students, teachers, parents, principals, district officials, Lexington-Fayette Urban County representatives, community advocates, law enforcement officers, business representatives and faith leaders.*

*The group will meet six times during the month of March and deliver a white paper with recommendations during the first week of April. You can follow the work of the council by visiting [www.fcps.net/advisorycouncil](http://www.fcps.net/advisorycouncil).*

## TONIGHT'S DISCUSSION



The first meeting of the council focused on the topic of state and national best practices in the area of student safety. Guest speakers were: Jon Akers, the executive director of the Kentucky Center for School Safety, and Bill Modzeleski, a senior consultant with several groups specializing in school safety, threat assessment, emergency management, and homeland security, and co-author with staff from U.S. Secret Service on the Safe School Initiative.

Modzeleski gave a historical perspective and overview of trends in school safety over the years. He advised the council against knee-jerk reactions to individual

incidents and suggested that the group only consider programs, policies, and practices that have demonstrated that they are effective and that they don't harm students. He also told the council that schools need to ensure that as many partners as possible are available to provide assistance, recognizing that schools cannot address student safety in a comprehensive way without widespread support.

Both Akers and Modzeleski said that building strong connections with students was the best strategy for keeping schools safe. When asked directly how they would invest money in school safety, they both said more staff to work directly with students, such as counselors and social workers. Other areas of focus would be threat assessment teams to evaluate students in crisis and expanded training for staff. Neither supported the addition of metal detectors in schools.

Council members asked about ways to get families and students involved in addressing school safety issues, shared personal observations and sought suggestions about initiatives that are currently working.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### **March 8, 2018**

6 to 8 p.m.

Topic: Juvenile Justice

Location: Tates Creek High School, 1111 Centre Parkway

### **March 15, 2018**

6 to 8 p.m.

Topic: Mental Health

Location: Bryan Station High School, 201 Eastin Road

### **March 20, 2018**

6 to 8 p.m.

Topic: Social Media

Location: Lafayette High School, 401 Reed Lane

### **March 22, 2018**

6 to 8 p.m.

Topic: Facilitated Discussion of Recommendations

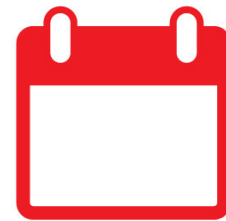
Location: Frederick Douglass High School, 2000 Winchester Road

### **March 29, 2018**

6 to 8 p.m.

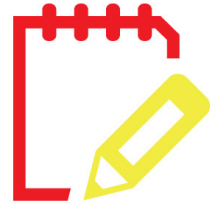
Topic: Facilitated Discussion of Recommendations

Location: Henry Clay High School, 2100 Fontaine Road



**HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?**

If you have questions, comments or suggestions for the council, you can email them to [advisorycouncil@fayette.kyschools.us](mailto:advisorycouncil@fayette.kyschools.us). During the meetings, public comments are being collected electronically through [slido.com](https://www.slido.com) or the [sli.do](https://www.slido.com) app. We are working with a professional facilitation team to review everything we receive via email and [sli.do](https://www.slido.com) and ensure that your thoughts and comments are captured as part of the work.



## SEE FOR YOURSELF

Meetings of the District Safety Advisory Council are recorded and will be televised on Spectrum cable channel 197 beginning the Monday after each meeting. To access them on demand, visit [www.fcps.net/advisorycouncil](http://www.fcps.net/advisorycouncil)



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