



FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board Meeting Buzz



Fayette County Board of Education August 23, 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

Board Chairman Tyler Murphy welcomed members of the public attending the meeting at the John D. Price Administration Building, located at 450 Park Place, as well as those watching the board meeting online. He then introduced Noah Jackson, an eighth-grader at SCAPA at Bluegrass, who delivered a special presentation of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech. Noah joined SCAPA's Speech Team last year and previously won the 2021 Kentucky High School Speech League's state championship for Oratorical Declamation for his incredible presentation of King's speech. Due to COVID-19 precautions, Noah's presentation was recorded for tonight's board meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT



Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent Demetrus Liggins began his report sharing several updates regarding the opening of the district for the 2021-22 school year.

In the area of transportation, Liggins was excited to share that we have 22 individuals currently in varying stages of training and licensing, have already interviewed 15 others to begin training later this month, and have several other applicants for positions as bus drivers or monitors. He also shared that the district is experiencing a shortage within the child nutrition department and that many district employees have stepped up to ensure food service continues in our cafeterias.

Liggins underscored the district's commitment to providing safe in-person learning, noting the health and safety procedures in-place make it feasible to have a school year that is as close to normal as possible. He referenced two resources that are available on the district website, the [In-Person Learning Matrix](#) and the [COVID-19 Dashboard](#), which provide current information on the state of COVID-19 within the district.



CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

Chief Operating Officer Myron Thompson shared the August [construction highlights](#). He noted that the Bates Creek High School construction project is moving forward and 59% of the work is complete. The new school is slated to open in July of 2022. [Weekly construction updates](#) are available on the district website.

Later in the agenda, the board took action related to the construction of a new middle school planned for Polo Club Boulevard. The project is in the design phase, the anticipated bid date is late October, and construction should begin in January. The new school will house 1,200 students when it opens in August 2023. You can follow the construction process from start to finish on a [dedicated page on the district website](#).

PUBLIC COMMENT

During the portion of the meeting for remarks by citizens, the following individuals shared comments with the Board related to the health and safety of students:

- Chuck Eddy
 - Alycia Dahmer
 - Richard O'Neill
 - Lily Miracle
 - Ada Burris
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BOARD ACTION



The board voted to approve:

- A draft of the [FCPS ARP ESSER Spending Plan and Assurances](#), which enables the district to support safely reopening and sustaining operations of schools while meeting the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of students resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - A contract with Aperture Education to help support social emotional learning and mental health services for students.
 - Three contracts with Solution Tree to provide professional development to staff at Beaumont, Bryan Station, and Crawford middle schools.
 - The provision of 10 COVID-19-related sick days during the 2021-22 contract year for fully vaccinated employees or those with documented medical or religious exemptions.
 - The acceptance of the [Unaudited Year-End Financial Report](#) for the 2020-21 fiscal year.
 - The acceptance of the [Monthly Financial Report for July](#).
 - The adoption of a property tax rate of 80.8 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. [Learn more](#).
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The official minutes from August 23, 2021 will be posted within the agenda of the September 13, 2021 school board planning work session.

SEE FOR YOURSELF

The school board's action meetings are televised live on the [FCPS YouTube channel](#) starting at 6 p.m. Meetings are archived through the [FCPS YouTube channel](#) and [Video on Demand service](#).

