



2023-2024 Phase One: Executive Summary for  
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2023-2024 Phase One: Executive Summary for Districts

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## 2023-2024 Phase One: Executive Summary for Districts

### Description of the District

Describe the district's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the district serves?

The city of Hickman was established in 1834 and is the county seat of Fulton County. The Dorena-Hickman Ferry is the last remaining ferry on the Mississippi and one of the last in the United States. The primary industry in our county is agriculture, with production focusing mainly on grain crops such as corn, soybeans, and wheat. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics, Fulton County has an 8.2% average unemployment rate reflected from data compiled for the last twenty years. Fulton County is located in Hickman, Kentucky. The district serves a culturally diverse population. The entire district recognizes that educational equity is of the utmost importance and works to build a positive culture throughout the district. The district has four buildings. One houses Head Start Day Care and the Central Office. One building currently houses 4 preschool classrooms, a K-5 elementary school and a 6-8 middle school. Another building houses a 9-12 high school with an attached Agriculture Center and the fourth building is used by the state for an area technical center named the Four Rivers Career Academy in which all of our high school students take classes.

Fulton County qualifies for one hundred percent of our students to receive free due to the overall economic condition of the county, which creates a challenge for us. In addition, we are located in far Western Kentucky and many of our students are transient; moving back and forth across the Kentucky/ Tennessee border. With a family resource center, dental program, physician program, three school counselors, and a full-time nurse, the district works hard to provide additional services to our students and community to help complete their learning process. Our caring faculty and staff at strive to provide ALL students with a meaningful and enjoyable learning experience. The district strives to maintain 100% highly qualified teachers with several who are certified by the National Board for Professional Standards. Our administrators have a combined total of over 90 years of experience and are all seasoned leaders adding to the positive culture of our buildings. They have been recognized as outstanding administrators by the local college as have our district administrators.

Fulton County maintains close relationships with our regional college and area community and technical college. Fulton County High School is a small school with an enrollment of approximately 172 and the district has approximately 620 students, but we strive to offer a variety of extra curricula activities for our students. The percentage of students on Free or Reduced Lunch is 74%, 17% of our students are classified as having a disability, and 3% of our students who are classified as homeless. We are proud to have the CEP where students eat breakfast and lunch at

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no charge. The demographics of our students are: 30% Black/African American, 58% White/ Caucasian 8% Two or More Races, and 3% Hispanic.

At Fulton County, 100% of classes are taught by teachers who participated in content-focused professional development and highly qualified teachers. Currently, only 6.5% of our residents have bachelor's degree or higher. Stressing the importance of education throughout our community continues to be a challenge, but our district has several initiatives to help increase student achievement. Math and Reading labs have been created for students needing intervention in mathematics and reading at the elementary level and middle school level. Also, the BRIGANCE Kindergarten Screener is used to identify students who are not school ready. The district has a universal screener and intervention program called iReady that allows us to help individual students improve their math and reading scores and allows for progress monitoring and at home use. Our school district leaders are involved in KASA and P3 and two are members of the KWEL women in KASA leadership group. Fulton County Elementary is implementing the "Leader in Me" process. Fulton County school district is the home for The Four Rivers Career Academy.

### District Stakeholders

Identify and describe the district's stakeholder groups. How does the district ensure stakeholder involvement and engagement in the improvement planning process?

Fulton County's Board of Education is comprised of five elected members and the school superintendent. Our school board members are Perry Turner, Kim Hagler, Barry Patrick, Brian Emmons, Rob Garrigan, and Superintendent Patrice Chambers. The Board of Education uses a systems approach to encourage collaboration and engagement with families, community, business and educational partners throughout the district through regular meetings, standing committees, planned surveys, and open communication. District administrators meet monthly to review data and to monitor CDIP initiatives within Executive Leadership Team meetings (ELT). This team is comprised of the Assistant Superintendent, Instructional Supervisors, Principals, and the DOSE. District administrators and department supervisors meet monthly for strategic planning in Pilot Power Team meetings (PPT) to review data and to strategically plan across the district. In addition, the District Instructional Leadership Team (DILT) meets regularly with building principals and teacher leaders from different grade levels and content areas to review KAS, evidence-based instructional strategies, assessment practices, longitudinal data, and school improvement initiatives to ensure vertical and horizontal alignment across the district. These groups work together to complete a needs assessment and to write, revise and monitor the Comprehensive District Improvement Plan. Each school's CSIP created in partnership with faculty, staff, student, and parent feedback is used to help guide the district improvement planning process.

### District's Purpose

Provide the district's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs, including the year in which they were last reviewed or revised. Describe how the district embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students and

how stakeholders are involved in its development.

Fulton County began the process of revising our mission, vision and core beliefs during the 22-23 school year. This process spanned the school year with input gathered from faculty, students, parents and community members.

Mission - COMPASSION + HIGH STANDARDS = GROWTH FOR ALL!

Vision - RELENTLESSLY PURSUING EXCELLENCE

Core Beliefs

1. Fulton County students should have a caring educator/staff.
2. Fulton County students should believe in themselves.
3. Fulton County students should feel safe and be challenged.
4. Fulton County students should be treated equally.
5. Fulton County students should believe they have a future and opportunities.

#### Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement

Describe the district's notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the district is striving to achieve in the next three years.

The district has implemented district wide intervention programs at each school. The elementary has WIN (What I Need) time, the middle school has FOCUS time and the high school has Anchor Strong time. Each time is set aside daily to work on reading and math interventions, mentoring, and social and emotional learning as well as career counseling time. This has been valuable to our students especially during the last three years with students being in and out of school due to COVID 19. The district has implemented a new math curriculum, Envisions, K-8, a new ELA curriculum, My View, K-5, a new science curriculum, Amplify Science, K-8, and a new ELA program in middle school, My Perspectives. In addition, a new social studies curriculum has been adopted for grade 4-8 for the 2023-2024 school year. The district has developed a writing plan, and we are presently implementing with writing scrimmages showing growth in students' writing skills. Last year, both the middle and high school students in grades 8th and 11th scored over 70% proficient in ODW. There is a team effort to work with our teachers, especially our new fifth grade teachers, to have a strong K-12 writing program. The district has implemented a reading interventionists program with a literacy specialist serving as a consultant for 10 staff members teaching them how to work with struggling readers from grades K-12. Using the Orton Gillingham method, our lowest 10% of

students as measured on iReady, a universal screener, KSA, and teacher recommendation, will receive interventions to improve their reading skills.

There are many celebrations across the district. Fulton High School's Energy Conservation Club received a \$200,000.00 grant award from TVA for energy saving improvements to the campus, Fulton County Elementary received a STEM Lab from Cal Ripken and TVA complete with a 3D printer. Fulton County Middle School won the district Governor's Cup for the 2022-2023 school year.

#### Additional Information

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community that were not prompted in the previous sections.

Fulton County Schools has worked to improve the instructional procedures and processes at each of the three schools and in the preschool program over the last three years and will continue to implement new programs, processes, and procedures to ensure that we achieve excellence for all.

# Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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