



Regular Meeting of the Equity Council Committee

Minutes

3/03/2026

450 Park Place

Lexington, Kentucky 40511

Meeting Location: John D. Price Administration Building Room 150

6:30 PM

"The Mission of the Equity Council is to monitor and analyze equity issues, advise the Fayette County Board of Education and advocate for achievement for ALL students."

EQUITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Appointed Thru December 2026	Elected Thru December 2027
Dr. Allison Ellis (Chair Tyler Murphy) Dr. Rania Belmadani (Amy Green) Trace Williams (Penny Christian) Scott Horn (Monica Mundy) Norma Justice (Amanda Ferguson)	Camisha Boyd-Powell (Chair) Shiretha Chantal Jeanette Hart Ryessia Russell Emmanuel Smith Vacant

I. Routine Matters:

- a. Roll Call: [Lizzie Coffey](#)
- b. Reading of Mission Statement: [Scott Horn](#)
- c. Acknowledgment of **Guiding Principles**: All acknowledged
- d. Welcome of guests: [Chris Salyers](#) and [James McMillin](#) and [Dr. Chi](#)
- e. Public Participation/Comment(s): None

II. Action Items

- a. Approval of Agenda
 - Motion: [Shiretha Chantal](#)
 - Second: [Scott Horn](#)
 - All approved
 - Discussion: Date changed from 3/02 to 3/03
 - Motion Carries
- b. Approval of Minutes
 - Motion: [Trace Williams](#)
 - Second: [Shiretha Chantal](#)
 - [Lizzie Coffey](#) will fix Spelling [Calizza Farrell's](#) name
 - All approve
 - Motion Carries
- c. ECC Vacancy vote
 - Motion: motion to elect [Calizza Farrell](#) as a member of the ECC
 - Second: [Emmanuel Smith](#)
 - Roll Call Vote:



- Trace Williams-aye
- Scott Horn-aye
- Camisha Boyd-Powell-aye
- Shiretha Chantal-aye
- Ryessia Russell-aye
- Emmanuel Smith-aye
- All "ayes"
- Motion Carries

III. Discussion Items

a. Presentation from Dr. James McMillin and Chris Saylers

- [Linked here](#)

● Questions:

- **Shiretha:** Can you explain the drop in graduation rates at Henry Clay High School?
 - a. The principal is in his second year and is doing an excellent job.
 - b. The data is trending upward and is better than it was last year.
 - c. Some of the reported "drop" is due to coding errors.
 - d. The principal has revamped his **MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports)** systems.
 - e. Our **MSD (Moderate to Severe Disabilities)** populations have increased, as have the associated expenses.
 - f. Regarding graduation rates for children with IEPs: those receiving an alternative diploma are federally coded as dropouts.
- **Ryessia Russell:** Are there other factors we should be considering when we look at the graduation rate trends?
 - a. Henry Clay High School staff are discussing transitioning to an **Academy Model**.
 - b. Providing **EL (English Learner)** supports is a challenge that schools are currently struggling with nationally.
- **Dr. Liggins:** There are different levels of severity within IEPs, and the number of students fluctuates from year to year. We educate some of our special needs students until the age of 22.
- **Scott Horn :** How do we get people into programs that will help them, and how do we bridge the gap for people who are eligible but not signing up?
 - a. We have to determine what the specific barriers to entry are.
 - b. **Transportation and language** are the two main barriers identified.
 - c. We should utilize "**Positive Deviance**": there are pockets of communities that rise above challenges and perform very well; we should be studying those specific groups
- **Camisha Boyd Powell:** Regarding summer bridge programs, what are you doing in your programs to help with the failure rates in Algebra?
 - a. We rely heavily on teachers to recommend students for these programs.



- b. Math is a subject that we always embed within those bridge programs.
 - c. There are more students passing Algebra 1 in middle school than ever before.
- **Trace Williams:** A 23% failure rate is a systemic issue. What is the specific data surrounding this?
 - a. Yes, we have looked into that data.
 - b. Teacher professional learning is very important in addressing this.
 - c. We are currently analyzing the specific standards in which students are not performing well.
- **Dr. Liggins:** It could also be that because students are excelling in middle school, they are not taking Algebra 1 during their freshman year.
- **Ryessia Russell:** Do you categorize failure based on attendance or other factors?
 - a. Failure is not categorized based on behavior.
 - b. It is based on **formative and summative assessments**.
 - c. Some educators break the data down by individual skills.
 - d. Student support teams also review this data at the school level to identify overlaps.
- **Trace Williams:** Regarding Hispanic graduation rates, what is being done?
 - a. This is a fast-growing population, and we do not receive a significant amount of federal funding for them.
 - b. A frequent discussion we have is, "How are we ensuring we have the proper supports in place?"
- **Dr. Liggins:** We are playing catch-up because of how quickly the population is growing. The more information about resources we can share with the community, the better.

IV. Reports

- a. Superintendent's Report (Dr. Liggins)
 - The Lafayette girls' wrestling team won the state championship.
 - Dunbar High School participated in and performed well during the National History Day competitions.
 - We are currently working to make the **Elevate** program more engaging for students.
- b. Board Member Report (Mrs. Green)
 - We are currently planning for the 9th of the month.
 - There is an action meeting scheduled for the 23rd.
 - We will review the **Impact KY** survey results during that action meeting.
 - A recommendation for a new name for Greendale was presented.
 - The board approved the roof and track repairs at Dunbar High School.
 - We encourage the community to come out and support our students at various art shows, concerts, and other events.
 - There is a call for volunteers; interested individuals can visit **FCPS.net/volunteer** to sign up.



- c. Equity Council Chair (*Mrs. Powell*)
 - Seconded volunteering and getting involved
- d. OSBS Report (*Dr. Matthews*)
 - "Awareness is Careness" Campaign
 - Right Size Bright Future
 - Wrapped up Phase 1
 - Phase 2 centers around the new elementary on Greendale road rezoning
 - Retreat doodle will be sent out poll for april and may
- e. Subcommittee Reports/Presentations
 - Scott Horn: ScoreCard committee
 - Several meetings this year so far
 - 7/10 sections reviewed and 3 more will be reviewed in the next meeting

V. Other Communication

- a. Announcements:
 - Shiretha Chantal -
 - KY historic society has free field trips
 - LRC is open and welcome field trip to meet representatives
 - A reminder to have students fill out their fafsa money now

VI. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn: Trace Williams
- b. Second: Scott Horn
- c. All approved Shiretha Chantal
- d. Motion Carries
- e. Meeting adjourned at: 7:44 pm