

Growing Forward Together

Franklin

THE HARDY HARVEST

SUPERINTENDENT'S 100-DAY REPORT

Executive Summary

Introduction

The Hardy Harvest reflects Superintendent Dr. Nakia Hardy's first 100 days of leadership, listening, learning, and engagement throughout Franklin County Schools. Rooted in the themes of Preserve, Prune, and Plant, this report highlights the strengths of the district, acknowledges areas requiring continued growth and refinement, and outlines a future-focused vision centered on student success, community partnership, innovation, and opportunity.

Over the course of her first 100 days, Dr. Hardy visited schools across the district, met with students, staff, families, elected officials, faith-based leaders, and community partners, and engaged stakeholders through both formal and informal listening opportunities. Through school visits, community conversations, advisory meetings, Parent Summits, Coffee with the Superintendent sessions, and the Blueprint 2030 Pulse Survey, one consistent message emerged: the Franklin County community deeply cares about its schools and students.

Highlights

The report celebrates many of the district's strengths and accomplishments that must be preserved, including strong school communities, caring educators, student leadership opportunities, family engagement, school pride, Career & Technical Education programs, academic achievement, athletics, and school safety. Franklin County Schools currently serves more than 7,900 students across 16 schools and remains committed to preparing students for life-long success through academic excellence, career readiness, and strong community partnerships.

Among the district's notable accomplishments, Franklin County Schools ranks number one in the North Central Region for Math I proficiency — an important indicator of college, career, and workforce readiness. Additionally, students earned 3,416 Career & Technical Education credentials last school year, providing students with valuable workforce-ready skills and industry-recognized certifications.

The Hardy Harvest also recognizes that healthy growth requires honest reflection. Stakeholder feedback identified several priority areas for continued focus and improvement, including teacher recruitment and retention, facilities and maintenance, transportation challenges, student behavior concerns, mental health supports, communication consistency, and academic support for students. Dr. Hardy emphasized that acknowledging these challenges is not about criticism, but rather refinement and continuous improvement in support of students and staff.

> "Purpose reminds us why we serve, why we teach, why we support students, and why we continue growing together as a district and community."

Rooted in Purpose

As Franklin County Schools looks toward the future, the report outlines several opportunities for growth and innovation through the "Plant" framework. Key focus areas include strengthening two-way communication, expanding stakeholder advisory groups, investing in professional learning, supporting educator pipelines, enhancing innovative programming, expanding Career & Technical Education and immersion opportunities, and intentionally telling the story of Franklin County Schools.

The event also introduced the district's 2026–2027 theme: Rooted in Purpose. This theme reinforces the district's commitment to ensuring that every decision and initiative remains connected to student success, community partnership, excellence, innovation, and opportunity.

At the heart of The Hardy Harvest is the belief that the success of Franklin County Schools depends on the collective efforts of students, educators, families, businesses, faith leaders, community organizations, and stakeholders working together in partnership. As Franklin County Schools continues implementing Blueprint 2030, the district remains committed to transparency, continuous improvement, and Growing Forward Together in service of every student.