



Regular Meeting of the Equity Council Committee

Minutes

5/05/2026

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 Calizza Farrell

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: none
- e. Public Participation/Comment(s):
 - Justin Royal
 - Naming of schools:
 - Henry Clay
 - a. Spoke against abolition of slaves
 - b. Owned 140 slaves
 - c. Many comments rooted in hatred and racism
 - d. Ask that they consider ECC recommend the renaming of HCHS

II. Action Items

- a. Approval of Agenda
 - Motion to amend the agenda to add action item C: "Formal Recognition"
 - Second: Rania Belmadani
 - Motion approved
 - Action Item C: "Formal Recognition" added to the Agenda
- b. Approval of Minutes
 - Motion to approve April planning minutes: Trace Williams
 - With amendment: Correct Rania Belmadani's name under 2 b
 - Has been amended
 - Second: Scott Horn



- All approved
- Motion passes
- c. Formal Recognition-
 - Trace Williams moves to formally Recognize Elizabeth Coffey for her work with the ECC
 - Second: Shiretha chantal
 - All Approved
 - Motion Passes

III. Discussion Items

- a. Local Accountability Model Update - Dr. Bill Bradford
 - **Question:** How is the scorecard included in this work?
 - **Answer:** It has not been included yet, but it would complement the scorecard. This work captures more of the student experience and more granular details (e.g., the number of field trips per year).
 - **Question/Concern:** How can we work together to fold the quantitative and qualitative data into each other to avoid a duplication of efforts?
 - The learning sessions are a great thing to incorporate
 - Happy to collaborate with this in any way we can
 - **Question:** Have you tapped into Roots to Readiness?
 - **Answer:** Not explicitly, but standalone community sessions were set up for people to give input, and there will be a lot of opportunities to do so in the future.
 - **Question:** Access is super important; is there an online option for the input sessions?
 - **Answer:** It would be challenging to replicate online, but there is openness to figuring out a way to do an online version.
 - **Question:** What outreach and accessibility measures have already been taken? How can we be strategic about making sure everyone has access
 - **Answer:** Family-based input sessions were held with translators present. Messaging was sent out via ParentSquare, social media, and the website.
 - The goal is to take the work into as many communities as possible in the 2026–2027 school year to improve access.
 - **Question:** What does fail successfully mean?
 - **Answer:** Parents wanted to know that its ok to take risks and fail at first, and try again
 - **Question:** How was the attendance at these sessions?
 - Has varied: 10-50
 - Calizza gave input as a contributor and participant in the collaboration:
 - What we have on the table is a really big opportunity for FCPS:
 - A lot of hard work and feedback and great facilitations at these sessions
 - Concerned people who work can't always attend
 - Opportunity to make sure we are being proactive in addressing equity concerns around standardized testing
 - Access is very important, and many students rely on schools for a sense belonging



b. Request For Information - Trace Williams

- Financial wellbeing of the district is an equity issue and has real world implications for equity
- Would like the ECC'S input on this initiative:
- Potts building on 701 Main Street is owned by FCPS and it is underutilized
- The district should look into selling it for more affordable housing
- Potts building is already zoned for housing
- Cost: about \$180k/year just in utilities
- Suggests an RFI to get bids and see what the options are
- Institutes a gesture of good faith
- Questions:
 - Did the budget look at this building?
 - Dr. Matthews suggested scheduling a meeting with Dr. Myron Thompson
 - Trace Has Called Mr. Thompson and was told there is a committee looking into it
 - We need more information on which committee he was referring to
- Dr. Matthews will set up a meeting with Trace, Camisha, Tyler and Dr. Liggins to discuss further

IV. Reports

a. Superintendent's Report (*Dr. Liggins*)

- Have worked diligently to prepare a balanced budget to present to the board this month
- To do so required cutting positions and reducing work calendars
- Specific positions and other cost saving measures will be made public soon
- **Question:** Was there a particular or equitable process when deciding which positions were cut?
 - **Answer:** Dr. Bradford: I'll make a record of inquiry and make sure that you get follow-up.

b. Board Member Report (*Mrs. Green*)

- Via Soraya Matthews:
 - 2 board meetings this month
 - a. Planning on May 10th and Action on May 21st
 - The board will be asked to approve the amended instructional calendar and Proposed instructional calendar
 - Community input is always vital, always reach out to the board with questions
 - Season of celebration, look out for many events

c. Equity Council Chair (*Mrs. Powell*)

- There was a naming committee for the mascot at the new Helen Caise Wade School , let the kids decide: and they chose The Wolverines
- P.G. Peeples passed away last week
 - Founded the ECC and the Equity Score Card
 - First winner of and reason for the PG Peeples Equity Award
 - Big Loss for our community



- Memorial will be held on May 18 at Bracktown Baptist Church

d. OSBS Report (*Dr. Matthews*)

- Continuing the rezoning work
 - May 14 make up date for Right Size Bright Future meeting
 - Future opportunity for community input TBA
 - Our Office partnered with middle school student voice team: Students Speaking Up, they are focusing on making their school a safer place where all students feel they belong
 - Stronger Connections Grant to host kindergarten connection sessions at 22 elementary schools this summer
 - This Friday is the Global Awards: The Department of Belonging and Student Success will be honoring Lizzie Coffey as employee of the year

e. Subcommittee Reports/Presentations

- Scorecard discussion will be added to the may planning agenda

V. Other Communication

a. Announcements:

- Ryessia: Living Arts and Science center is hosting artwork from FCPS students, the last day to see it is May 15th
- It is Teacher appreciation week and Nurse Appreciation Week

VI. Adjournment

- a. Motion to Extend the meeting to 8:00pm: Shiretha Chantal
- b. Second: Ryessia Russell
- c. All approved
- d. Motion passes
- e. Motion to extend to 8:15pm: Ryessia Russell
- f. Second: Scott Horn
- g. All approved
- h. Motion passes
- i. Motion to adjourn the meeting: Shiretha Chantal
- j. Second: Scott Horn
- k. All approved
- l. Motion passes
- m. Adjourned at 8:10 PM