



Franklin

COUNTY SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Report - August 2026

As we prepare to welcome all Franklin County Schools students and staff for the 2026–2027 school year, there is already much to celebrate across our district. From students returning to classrooms and participating in summer enrichment opportunities to new leadership appointments and expanded enrollment outreach, our work continues to move Franklin County Schools forward.

Each of these efforts connects directly to Blueprint 2030: Their Blueprint, Our Future and our commitment to building a stronger community one lifelong learner at a time.

Early College Begins the 2026–2027 School Year

Blueprint 2030 Goal 1: *FCS students will graduate prepared for college, career, and life beyond the classroom.*

Franklin County Early College High School welcomed students back to campus this month, beginning another year of rigorous academic preparation and postsecondary opportunity.

Students returned following an extraordinary year for the school. The Class of 2026 achieved a remarkable milestone: **100% earned a high school diploma, 100% earned an associate degree, and 100% were accepted to a four-year college or university.**

These outcomes exemplify the promise of Blueprint 2030—ensuring that our graduates leave Franklin County Schools with meaningful credentials, opportunities, and a clear pathway to their future.

Youngsville Elementary Opens the Year with Enrollment Growth

Blueprint 2030 Goal 2: *FCS students will be provided with a safe, orderly, and caring environment conducive to learning.*

Youngsville Elementary School became the first Franklin County School to welcome students for the 2026–2027 school year as its year-round calendar got underway—and it began the year with encouraging enrollment growth.



Franklin

COUNTY SCHOOLS

Youngsville Elementary opened with 33 more students than the previous school year, an encouraging indicator as Franklin County Schools continues working to attract families, strengthen the student experience, and grow enrollment across the district.

The growth comes alongside a strong record of academic performance at Youngsville. Since 2017, the school has consistently outperformed the North Carolina average in Grades 3–5 Reading and Mathematics and Grade 5 Science proficiency.

As Franklin County continues to grow, Youngsville Elementary demonstrates the importance of providing families with high-quality schools where students are challenged academically, supported by caring educators, and connected to their school community.

\$13 Million in Scholarships Earned by FCS Graduates

Blueprint 2030 Goal 1: *FCS students will graduate prepared for college, career, and life beyond the classroom.*

The accomplishments of the Class of 2026 continue to give Franklin County Schools much to celebrate.

Across our four high schools, **663 graduates earned more than \$13 million in scholarships**. These scholarships represent more than financial awards—they represent opportunities for our students to continue their education and pursue the futures they have worked to achieve.

Summer CTE Career Camps Connect Learning to the Future

Blueprint 2030 Goal 1: *FCS students will graduate prepared for college, career, and life beyond the classroom.*

Rising sixth- through eighth-grade students from across Franklin County Schools participated in Summer Career and Technical Education Career Camps, exploring pathways including agriculture, marketing, carpentry, foods and nutrition, health sciences, apparel and textiles, and more.

Through hands-on experiences led by FCS Career and Technical Education teachers, students built projects, developed marketing concepts, prepared food, explored agriculture, practiced sewing and learned about careers connected to their interests.



Franklin

COUNTY SCHOOLS

Providing students with these experiences before they enter high school helps them begin making connections between classroom learning, personal interests, career pathways, and future opportunities.

Quantum Moves Expands Creative Learning Opportunities

Blueprint 2030 Goal 3: *FCS students will be provided with a safe, orderly, and caring environment conducive to learning.*

Rising sixth- through eighth-grade students also participated in the Quantum Moves Camp at Louisburg Magnet High School, exploring movement, storytelling and self-expression through dance.

Supported by a grant from the North Carolina Arts Council and featuring artists from Black Box Dance Theatre, the program provided students with opportunities to strengthen creativity, confidence, teamwork, communication and self-expression.

Experiences such as Quantum Moves demonstrate our commitment to educating the whole child and creating environments where students can discover their talents, develop meaningful relationships and feel connected to their schools.

Ready, Set, Register Brings FCS Into the Community

Blueprint 2030 Goal 3: *FCS students will be provided with a safe, orderly, and caring environment conducive to learning.*

As part of our continued focus on strengthening relationships with families, Franklin County Schools launched **Ready, Set, Register** community enrollment events.

Rather than waiting for families to come to us, members of the FCS team went into the community to meet prospective and current families where they are. Families could ask questions, learn about school options, receive enrollment assistance and connect directly with district staff.

The events generated numerous inquiries from families interested in Franklin County Schools and represent an important step in creating a more welcoming, accessible and family-centered enrollment experience.



Investing in Leadership and Our People

Blueprint 2030 Goal 4: *FCS will actively recruit, support, and retain high-quality professionals.*

Franklin County Schools continues to strengthen its leadership pipeline and invest in the professional growth of employees.

Dr. Jennifer Innis has transitioned from Assistant Principal at Bunn Middle School to serve as Director of Employee Relations and Professional Development, while Lorena Dauphinee has transitioned from the classroom at Franklinton Middle School to serve as an Assistant Principal at Bunn Middle School.

These appointments demonstrate our commitment to developing talent from within Franklin County Schools, creating leadership pathways for employees, and ensuring our schools and departments are supported by effective leaders.

Looking Ahead

August represents both a beginning and a continuation.

Some of our students are already learning. Others will soon return. Our educators and staff are preparing classrooms, campuses, programs, and services for another successful year. Across each of these efforts, Blueprint 2030 provides our direction and keeps our focus on what matters most—our students.

In the coming days, we look forward to welcoming families to Open Houses, bringing our employees together for districtwide Convocation on August 19, and welcoming our traditional-calendar students for the beginning of another school year.

As we enter 2026–2027, we do so with a shared commitment to academic excellence, strong relationships, exceptional service, and ensuring that every student in Franklin County Schools has the opportunity to succeed.

We are Rooted in Purpose and Growing Forward Together.