

BREATHITT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

APRIL 24, 2018

ACTION PLAN UPDATE

1. Status Update

The Breathitt County School District's budget contingency is \$940,000.56 or 6.5%. The district is currently reviewing the tentative budget for the 2018-2019 school year. Some concerns exist, including trend data showing a 34% loss of student enrollment. The district continues to do more with less and is actively working to improve the budget contingency.

With more than ten (10) months of the school year completed, the district continues to move along in a very positive direction. The district has missed twenty (20) days of school due to inclement weather and flooding.

One of the district's core values is "promoting positive school/community culture," and the district has been working hard to engage and communicate with the community. Examples of recent school/community engagement activities include, but are not limited to, open houses, extracurricular activities, community events, and parent meetings, particularly surrounding the 7-12 reconfiguration, as well as academic boosters and ACT preparation sessions. In addition to direct contact through events and activities, school/community communication occurs through the use of local media, including radio and television broadcasts as well as newspaper publications, and social media (e.g. Facebook).

Another one of the district's core values is "putting students FIRST in ALL decision making." Breathitt County Board of Education continues to make student-focused decisions. In furtherance of this core value, the Breathitt County Board has considered, among other items, the following: the nickel tax election, non-resident student contracts with neighboring districts, staffing allocations, and 7-12 reconfiguration planning.

There has been a tremendous amount of activity in the district toward advancing student achievement. Ongoing conversations about, for example, benchmark scores, reading and math intervention, ACT scores, dual credit courses, Advanced Placement courses, career pathways, and other topics related to academic achievement are happening throughout the community with parents and students. Further, with the collaborative efforts of staff, principals, Central Office Leadership Team (COLT), and education recovery team members, the district is improving systems and processes. Principals and teachers are using real-time data (e.g. Progress Monitoring Data, RTI, PBIS, PLC Protocol, Action Plans, and Site Visits) to impact teaching and learning in a timely manner.

Central office and schools have aligned the District/School Improvement Plans via eProve (goals, objectives and strategies).

On April 11, 2018, state manager Mike Murphy, interim superintendent Phillip Watts, board

chair Ruschelle Hamilton, and board vice-chair Albert Little attended the Kentucky Board of Education meeting and provided a status update. In addition, the following meetings recently occurred: a safe schools meeting involving principals; PBIS training for various staff; dual credit meeting between HCTCS, ATC, and BHS; pilot district discussions with Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) on a building evaluations instrument (i.e. KFICS – FACPAC); KETS Region Eight (8) Technology Meeting; school resource officer meeting; Truth and Consequences; Family Literacy Night; architect meetings; school site visits; and, local economic development meeting. District representatives, including interim superintendent Watts and vice chair Little, also attended the district facility plan review meeting with KDE.

The COLT and Principals' meetings have been very productive and have involved the review of "Encouraging the Heart" as well as the following leadership characteristics: honesty, competency, inspiring and forward looking. Meeting topics have also included discussions of the importance of improving processes, mission and vision, audit, day-to-day operations, communication, and 7-12 reconfiguration planning. The teams are also discussing safety and security measures.

2. Action Strategies Completion

The Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA) continues to provide training to the local board of education. Board members will have the opportunity to attend upcoming KSBA meetings to complete required trainings (e.g. ethics, finance, superintendent evaluation, and charter schools).

Kentucky Association of School Administrators continues to provide new superintendent training. Communication reports have been completed. Capstone date has been set for May 31, 2018.

Principal/COLT/Maintenance/Technology meetings show progress via 30-60-90 day updates, priorities, and student-focused discussions about improvement items.

The committee on 7-12 reconfiguration is meeting regularly and action items are being completed. The committee has completed its presentation and documentation. Board approval has been received and the team is currently in the process of completing action plan tasks (e.g. communication).

The local board and KDE approved BG1(S) for Breathitt ATC Project Phase I as well as for security vestibules and Breathitt High School (BHS) bleacher replacement.

Regarding the security vestibules, the project is currently in the planning stages as architects work to identify the need and cost of implementation. In addition to work on security vestibules, safety and security building checks have occurred, and meetings are scheduled to review findings. Maintenance is working on areas of immediate concerns, and the district has hired a school resource officer.

In accordance with the district building grounds needs assessment from October 2016, maintenance staff has been provided with a vehicle and necessary tools, and a key machine was purchased to update locks in the district. Further, the replacement of bleachers at BHS has been approved. In addition, maintenance staff has fixed showers in the boys and girls locker rooms at BHS and has replaced stair treads at BHS. Sebastian Middle School pool demolition will soon start.

E-rate applications for telecommunication and internal connections have been filed. Further, work on the following grants is happening: Striving Readers, GEAR UP, and Title IV.

Google Sheets is used to update 30-60-90 day action plans for instruction, governance and operations for COLT as well as for maintenance, technology, athletics, and the 7-12 reconfiguration.

3. Action Strategies Deficiencies

The tentative property tax collection for the current year is at 81%.

An emergency BG1 for Highland-Turner Elementary involving air conditioning chiller/pumps/controls cost \$130,000.

Maintenance staff is obtaining information and quotes for equipment that needs to be updated or replaced.

The district needs technology upgrades to keep pace with student and teacher requirements. These include E-rate funding for Wi-Fi and network upgrades.

Regarding A5/A6 schools, the residential treatment center is closing. Changes are expected in the Cadet Leadership Program, and enrollment district-wide is a factor. The district continues to face budget cuts and declining enrollment. The Growth Factor Report shows a decline of 56 students.

4. Action Strategies - Additions

Comprehensive Improvement Planning for the schools and the district has been completed. Principals, Central Office, and KDE education recovery team collaborated on this project. Teamwork centered on goals, gaps, and novice reduction.

The district is actively working on its Response to Intervention plan and is following up with schools to ensure results are being achieved (i.e. rate of improvement). School data will improve and include additional data points.

Work continues for the 2018-2019 7-12 reconfiguration of Breathitt County High School. Work on the following grants is happening: Striving Readers, GEAR UP, and Title IV.

Google Sheets is used to update 30-60-90 day action plans for instruction, governance and operations for COLT as well as for maintenance, technology, athletics, and the 7-12 reconfiguration.

Safety and security building checks have occurred and meetings are being held to review and address findings. Maintenance teams in the district are already working on areas of concerns.

The district has hired a new ROTC instructor and a School Resource Officer (in collaboration with Jackson Police Department).

The Breathitt Board of Education approved the hiring of Phillip Watts, current interim superintendent, as superintendent.

Staffing allocations and personnel notifications for 2018-2019 are being prepared.