

From: [Chasity Carr](#)
To: [KDE KBE](#)
Subject: Vote NO to the Nelson County community campus proposal
Date: Sunday, February 6, 2022 10:16:13 PM

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Kentucky Board of Education,

Please vote NO to the Nelson County School Districts proposal of the community campus model where students will be merged 6-12th grades. The following is an email that I sent to the Nelson County Board of Education. I feel that it's important to tell you that our voices (me personally as a parent, alumni and teacher, but many many others in our community, as well) have been ignored by the Nelson County School Board and Superintendent, Wes Bradley, from the beginning. Every gray area stretched to fit his vision, every citizens/parents voices drowned out, and even student's opinions belittled. I am sharing to be consistent and, in the least, inform you of the happenings of Nelson County:

(In regard to their decision to pass the community campus model in December 2021...in which they were given only 24 hours notice to vote on this monumental change in our local education system:)

> "As an alumni of Foster Heights, OKHMS, and NCHS, I am extremely saddened and sickened by this decision. I am incredibly thankful to the three opposers who represented their communities honestly and with courage. This plan will devalue the Bloomfield, Boston and New Haven communities which seems counterintuitive to the "community centered" goals of the district. Further, this project will cost millions of dollars which could be better spent toward the quality and quantity of programs and curriculum offered within the already-standing school buildings (instead of beautifying and branding campuses AGAIN).

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> I also want to speak as an educator holding a Bachelor's and Master's degree, this decision is not in the best interest of our children. Children thrive in smaller populated settings- studies upon studies show this. Placing multiple middle school populations in buildings with high school students will not enable this to happen- in fact, I also foresee a lot of job loss of educators during this transition- therefore, lower teacher-to-student ratios. I would also like to add that our district is falling deeply behind state expectations- with 41% of Nelson County students receiving a novice score in reading on last years state testing (consider that- 41% cannot adequately read and comprehend literature! How devastating!). So I ask- how will relocating them improve this issue? It will not. Instead, the students need more traditional, time-tested, and designated reading instruction with research-proven, quality curriculum NOT more passion projects, "opportunities", and collabs. If Wes Bradley's true vision is for our kids to be community and career ready- how can they hold jobs without the ability to read like peers?! It seems almost as if he wants our community to solely be ready to work entry level jobs instead of being college ready. I am not the first parent or local community member to think or say this- we are very truly concerted.

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> Further, the social implications of being as young as 11 years old with 18 year old students should speak for itself- being in this environment will not be appropriate or beneficial for either age. There will be increased chances of bullying, peer pressure, sexual intercourse, teenage pregnancies, and underage drinking with this plan. Regardless of adding or designating a middle school area, there will be intermingling in shared spaces- it's inevitable!

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> In closing, my spouse and I elected to homeschool our children, instead of sending my two children to Nelson County Schools for this school year, even though we are districted for Foster Heights Elementary. We will continue to choose this in the years to come unless serious change takes place, and indefinitely if this merge is not voted down. In closing, I want to express my genuine sadness about this. My whole family has attended Nelson County Schools- dating back to my grandparents graduating from OKH and one grandfather being a student of the first graduating class of NCHS in 1969. Therefore, this decision was not made lightly. As a mom, educator, alumni, and community member, I ask again, please vote NO to the community campus model.

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> Thank you for your time,
>
> Chasity Carr

Thank you for your time and considerations,
Chasity Carr