

**From:** [Brian and Courtney Higdon](#)  
**To:** [KDE KBE](#); [Young, Lu - KBE Member](#); [Robinson, Sharon - KBE Member](#); [Mesfin, Solyana - KBE Member, Ex Officio](#)  
**Subject:** Do Not Approve the Nelson County District Facilities Plan  
**Date:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 8:29:20 AM

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Dear Members of the Kentucky Board of Education,

Very soon you will have the opportunity to vote on the Nelson County District Facility Plan. I want you to know that the people of Nelson County do not want this plan and our Superintendent and our BOE are not listening.

The Nelson County School District is misleading the parents and the public in our community by describing the Merger Plan as a plan that would “house the area’s middle school students on the campuses of Thomas Nelson and Nelson County high schools.” The truth is that our middle schoolers will be put into the existing high school buildings with little to no additional square footage provided. They won’t just be on the same campus; they will be in the same building.

There will be no middle school wings built as was presented when the Superintendent put this plan forward in a rushed Local Planning Committee process where the deck was clearly stacked in favor of his plan and against the wishes of the community.

Sure, there might be a dedicated 6<sup>th</sup> grade math class provided, but what about when that 11-yr old has to walk through the school to get to the band room for their music class or some other enrichment class. They will have to walk the same hallways as 17 and 18-yr old students. Our most vulnerable adolescents will be pushed into an environment they aren’t emotionally and socially mature enough to handle. The middle school years are already hard enough.

The people of Nelson County do not want our middle schools closed! We do not want our middle school students comingling with high school students! We do not want this plan!

I urge you not to approve this plan as part of your usual consent agenda, but to send it back to the Nelson County Board of Education with a recommendation to develop a facilities plan that does not put middle schoolers and high schoolers in the same building.

Thank you sincerely for your consideration!

Regards,  
Courtney Higdon  
Mother of 4 Students in the Nelson County School District