

# **RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS**

## **(MINUTES)**

Regular Meeting

October 28, 2024

The Fayette County Board of Education met in Room 150 at the John D. Price Administration Building located at 450 Park Place Lexington, KY 40511 at 6 p.m. on October 28, 2024, with the following members present:

### **Attendance Taken at 6:01 p.m.**

#### **Present Board Members:**

Ms. Marilyn Clark

Ms. Amy Green

Mr. Jason Moore

Mr. Tyler Murphy

#### **Absent Board Members:**

Ms. Amanda Ferguson

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### **Administration Present**

Demetrus Liggins, Superintendent

Houston Barber, Deputy Superintendent

Bill Bradford, Assistant Superintendent of School Leadership

Tracy Bruno, Chief of Staff

Shelley Chatfield, Chief Legal Officer

Myron Thompson, Chief Operating Officer

### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

#### **A.1. Roll Call**

### **B. EXTEND WELCOME TO GUESTS**

### **C. MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mr. Jason Moore invited the audience to observe a moment of silence to acknowledge the tragic deaths of Gwenevere “Gwen” Latiff, who was a second grader at Liberty Elementary, John Hershinow, who was in his third year of teaching science at Frederick Douglass High School, and Roberta Seybold, who had been a member of Team FCPS for seven years as a food service assistant and afterschool worker at Lansdowne Elementary and Tates Creek High School. Our hearts remain with their families, friends, and all those touched by their passing.

### **D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Jason Moore led the pledge of allegiance.

### **E. READING OF MISSION STATEMENT**

Mr. Jason Moore read the mission statement.

### **F. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion Passed:** *A motion to approve the agenda with any changes voiced including the lifting of items from the consent section for discussion. passed with a motion by Ms. Amy Green and a second by Ms. Marilyn Clark.*

Ms. Marilyn Clark	Yes
Ms. Amanda Ferguson	Absent
Ms. Amy Green	Yes
Mr. Jason Moore	Yes
Mr. Tyler Murphy	Yes

### **G. STUDENT PERFORMANCE:**

#### **G.1. Seal of Arts Excellence Recap**

**Discussion:** FCPS Director of Fine Arts Katherine Lowther shared a video featuring members of the Class of 2024 who received the Seal of Arts Excellence, which the Fayette County Board of Education adopted in the fall of 2023.

### **H. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

#### **H.1. Progress Reports**

##### **H.1.a. Superintendent's Report**

##### **H.1.a.1. Kids' Champion Award**

**Discussion:** Chief of Staff Tracy Bruno introduced the first recipient of the Kids' Champion Award: Illysia Guerino, an instructional paraeducator at William Wells Brown Elementary School.

##### **H.1.a.2. Community Partner Update: KY Center for Grieving Families & Children**

**Discussion:** Miranda Scully, FCPS Director of Family & Community Engagement, and Leila Salisbury, Executive Director of the Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families, shared information about how the Kentucky Center for Grieving Children and Families works to support students in FCPS.

#### **H.1.a.3. MSAP Grant Presentation**

**Discussion:** Director of Grants Programming Dr. Martha Jones provided information about a historic opportunity to expand magnet school offerings in Fayette County Public Schools thanks to a \$15 million federal grant.

#### **H.2. PUBLIC COMMENT (persons who have signed up to speak):**

##### **H.2.a. There are two opportunities for the public to address the Board:**

**Discussion:** The following citizens addressed the board: Jessica Hiler, Amanda Sewell, Amy Quire, Dion Copeland, Elizabeth Manion, Dorian Hairston, Barbara Priest shared their thoughts about the board resolution Affirming State Dollars Should Be Used Exclusively to Fund the Common System of Public Schools.

#### **I. APPROVAL OF ROUTINE MATTERS:**

##### **I.1. Minutes from October 14, 2024 Planning Meeting**

**Motion Passed:** *A motion to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2024, Planning Meeting of the Fayette County Board of Education passed with a motion by Mr. Jason Moore and a second by Ms. Amy Green.*

Ms. Marilyn Clark	Yes
Ms. Amanda Ferguson	Absent
Ms. Amy Green	Yes
Mr. Jason Moore	Yes
Mr. Tyler Murphy	Yes

#### **J. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION**

**Motion Passed:** *A motion to accept the Resolution Affirming State Dollars Should Be Used Exclusively to Fund the Common System of Public Schools passed with a motion by Ms. Amy Green and a second by Ms. Marilyn Clark. The motion, which was adapted from the Kentucky Board of Education Resolution adopted October 7, 2024, read as follows:*

WHEREAS, the right for each and every child to a fully funded public school is enshrined in the Kentucky Constitution, affirmed in the landmark Rose decision;

WHEREAS, the Constitution assigns to the General Assembly the sole obligation of maintaining and funding the common system of public schools to ensure that all Kentucky children have access to equal educational opportunities;

WHEREAS, Kentucky's system of common public schools is rooted in local, democratic government, monitored by the elected members of the Kentucky General Assembly and managed by locally elected Boards of Education and School Based Decision Making Councils;

WHEREAS, schools operating outside the common system of public schools are not subject to the same accountability and transparency requirements as the common public schools and are not managed by locally elected officials accountable to the people in those communities;

WHEREAS, numerous studies and experiences in other states underscore that diverting tax dollars from public schools results in funding inequities, reduced access to funds, and inefficiencies;

WHEREAS, the Kentucky Board of Education recently adopted a resolution on October 7, 2024, declaring, "using state funds to support schools outside the common system of public schools diverts essential resources from public schools, weakening their capacity to effectively serve all students. This practice will also increase segregation based on socioeconomic status, race, and religion, thereby undermining the principles of equity and inclusivity that are fundamental to our public education system";

WHEREAS, the Fayette County Board of Education declared in its 2024 Legislative Priorities, "We are not afraid of competition as long as we are all playing by the same rules. As public schools are still struggling to make ends meet, diverting already limited funds to private schools is not an economically sound decision for the Commonwealth";

WHEREAS, the Fayette County Board of Education believes every voter should cast an informed vote rooted in facts and evidence, fully aware the consequences of electoral outcomes will have on public schools in our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fayette County Board of Education affirms its ongoing opposition to any legislation or policy with the net effect of diverting state dollars away from our public schools to fund schools outside the common system of public schools;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Fayette County Board of Education affirms its belief that expanding educational opportunities for each and every child in our Commonwealth requires fully and adequately funding our public schools and recognizing the vital role they play in their communities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Fayette County Board of Education will continue to engage with community partners, including government, civic, and economic leaders to strengthen the partnerships that make our work on behalf of our students possible.

Ms. Marilyn Clark	Yes
Ms. Amanda Ferguson	Absent
Ms. Amy Green	Yes
Mr. Jason Moore	Yes
Mr. Tyler Murphy	Yes

**K. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS:**

**Motion Passed:** *A motion to approve the items on the consent calendar including any items added by addendum passed with a motion by Mr. Jason Moore and a second by Ms. Amy Green.*

Ms. Marilyn Clark	Yes
Ms. Amanda Ferguson	Absent
Ms. Amy Green	Yes
Mr. Jason Moore	Yes
Mr. Tyler Murphy	Yes

**K.1. Award of Bids/Proposals**

**K.2. Post Approval Report**

**K.3. Professional Leave**

**K.4. Request for Extended Field Trips**

**K.5. School-wide Fundraising Projects**

**K.6. New Magnet Grant Director Position**

**K.7. Pathful Connect Contract**

**K.8. Taylor Tours Contract**

**K.9. Education Elements-Addendum**

**K.10. CFR Audio Enhancement (Schools) October 2024**

**K.11. Approval of a Revision to the BG-1 Project Application (Close Out) for the Construction of the New Tates Creek High School BG# 20-082**

**K.12. Approval of a Proposed Change Order (No. Seven) to the Contract for the Construction of the New Mary E. Britton Middle School on Polo Club Boulevard BG# 21-176**

**K.13. Approval of Design Development Documents for the Construction of the New Elementary School on Greendale Road BG# 24-195**

**K.14. Approval of Design Development Documents for the Construction of the New Henry Clay High School BG# 24-279**

**K.15. Approval of Revised BG-1 Project Application for the Construction of the New Henry Clay High School BG# 24-279**

**L. APPROVAL OF ACTION ITEMS:**

**L.1. Monthly Financial Report**

**Motion Passed:** *A motion to accept the Monthly Treasurer's Report of Revenue/Expense reports as presented to the Board passed with a motion by Ms. Marilyn Clark and a second by Ms. Amy Green.*

Ms. Marilyn Clark	Yes
Ms. Amanda Ferguson	Absent
Ms. Amy Green	Yes
Mr. Jason Moore	Yes
Mr. Tyler Murphy	Yes

**M. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

**M.1. Construction Progress Report**

**M.2. Position List Document**

**M.3. Running Board Approved Contracts**

**M.4. Personnel Changes**

**M.5. School Activity Funds Report**

**N. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

**N.1. Public Comment (persons who have signed up to speak):**

**Discussion:** The following citizens addressed the board: Heather Cherry shared thoughts on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

**O. MOTION MAKING AGENDA PART OF THE OFFICIAL BOARD MINUTES:**

**Motion Passed:** *A motion to make the agenda dated October 28, 2024, on which action has been taken at this meeting, a part of the minutes as if copied in the minutes verbatim passed with a motion by Ms. Amy Green and a second by Mr. Jason Moore.*

Ms. Marilyn Clark	Yes
Ms. Amanda Ferguson	Absent
Ms. Amy Green	Yes
Mr. Jason Moore	Yes

Mr. Tyler Murphy Yes

**P. CLOSED SESSION:**

**Motion Passed:** Pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(k) meetings required to be conducted in privacy by law, KRS 156.557 (6)(c) preliminary discussions related to the evaluation of the superintendent, and KRS 61.810(1)(c) for the discussion of proposed or pending litigation, a motion to enter closed session passed with a motion by Mr. Jason Moore and a second by Ms. Amy Green.

Ms. Marilyn Clark	Yes
Ms. Amanda Ferguson	Absent
Ms. Amy Green	Yes
Mr. Jason Moore	Yes
Mr. Tyler Murphy	Yes

**P.1. Reconvene in Open Session**

**Motion Passed:** A motion to reconvene in open session at 8:28 p.m. passed with a motion by Ms. Marilyn Clark and a second by Ms. Amy Green.

Ms. Marilyn Clark	Yes
Ms. Amanda Ferguson	Absent
Ms. Amy Green	Yes
Mr. Jason Moore	Yes
Mr. Tyler Murphy	Yes

**Subsidiary Motion Passed:** A motion to authorize the chief legal officer to negotiate settlements as discussed in closed session passed with a motion by Mr. Jason Moore and a second by Ms. Marilyn Clark.

Ms. Marilyn Clark	Yes
Ms. Amanda Ferguson	Absent
Ms. Amy Green	Yes
Mr. Jason Moore	Yes
Mr. Tyler Murphy	Yes

**Q. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion Passed:** A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. passed with a motion by Ms. Marilyn Clark and a second by Ms. Amy Green.

Ms. Marilyn Clark	Yes
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Ms. Amanda Ferguson	Absent
Ms. Amy Green	Yes
Mr. Jason Moore	Yes
Mr. Tyler Murphy	Yes

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Tyler Murphy, Board Chair

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Demetrus Liggins, Superintendent and  
Secretary to the Board