

**From:** Collard, Lee (Tech Director) <lee.collard@anchorage.kyschools.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2024 11:56 AM  
**To:** Six, Sharla (Superintendent) <Sharla.Six@anchorage.kyschools.us>  
**Subject:** For December Board Packet

Superintendent Six,

Our current website is hosted by Blackboard, a company long known for its presence in the education market. Recently, they spun off their website development arm to Finalsite, which will now serve as the new hosting service for [www.anchorage-school.org](http://www.anchorage-school.org).

With Blackboard's acquisition by Finalsite, we are required to transition our site to their platform. This is no small task, and unfortunately, it isn't optional. The migration is necessary because Finalsite does not support Blackboard's existing design templates.

While this means the appearance of our website will inevitably change, I am working to preserve as much of the current style, navigation, and structure as possible within the design elements provided by Finalsite. This approach will help streamline the transfer and ensure continuity for our users. The final product will be very similar to our current site. Once the migration is complete, we can evaluate the new site and address any suggestions for improvement to further enhance ease of use.

I am actively collaborating with Finalsite's team to facilitate this transition. Their platform offers many valuable features and enhancements, but the process is complex and requires significant time and effort. I anticipate that the new site may be ready to launch as early as Winter Break. Will there be unexpected "broken glass?" Of course. It's an inevitable part of the process. However, Finalsite has been highly collaborative and is providing substantial support in transferring content and ensuring a smooth transition.

This migration also presents an opportunity to explore future improvements to the site. For now, my primary focus remains on ensuring a seamless transition and maintaining the functionality and usability our community expects.

If you have any questions or need additional details for the December Board of Education packet, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Best regards,

Lee Collard  
Technology Coordinator  
Anchorage Independent Schools