

Board Member Q&A

September 22, 2026

Board Member	Question	Response
Duncan 9/21/26	T - How will we know if identified risks are being effectively reduced?	<p>There are two primary ways the Board can get insight into whether identified risks are being appropriately managed.</p> <p>First, Internal Audit provides an independent assessment. Through our audits, we evaluate whether appropriate controls are in place and working as intended, report the results and recommendations, and follow up on corrective actions. We also perform consulting engagements to help identify or strengthen controls.</p> <p>Second, the Board receives information through management reporting, including performance measures, risk indicators, progress toward objectives, and emerging issues. Management is responsible for managing risk and maintaining the controls necessary to achieve District objectives.</p> <p>An area identified as higher risk does not necessarily mean it is poorly managed or that appropriate controls are not in place. Some risks remain significant because of their potential impact, complexity, or uncertainty.</p>
Duncan 9/21/26	U - How can EZ and CSI schools ever be called successful if their main goal is to eliminate achievement and opportunity gaps when none of our schools have eliminated achievement gaps? Wouldn't it be better to set gap reduction as a more achievable goal?	<p>For a Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school under the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), success is officially defined as meeting specific state exit criteria by lifting its performance above the threshold that triggered its identification (i.e., bottom 5% performance) while showing measurable academic progress. All CSI schools have an achievement gap goal in their Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP).</p>
Duncan 9/21/26	B - is Dr. Look still listed as a Sub for K-12?	<p>Dr. Look is no longer listed as a sub for K-12</p>

Duncan 9/21/26	C 2 - Does the Manager ECE oversee Implementation Coaches?	The implementation coaches are school-based employees who are hired and directly supervised by their building administration.
Duncan 9/21/26	I - Why was there a change order of \$1.15 mill for Seneca?	This is the first part of filling and piling the caves underneath the site. All told when it is done it will be in excess of 4 million.
Duncan 9/21/26	M - Why are we approving a \$19,440 contract for the West End School of Lou?	JCPS manages the federal grants for Private Non-Profit (PNP) schools in Jefferson County.
Duncan 9/21/26	P 7 - How does SPAVA choose schools to support - fights reported? Other violent offenses reported?	Schools/FRYSC centers select vendors based on their students' and school community's needs. SPAVA does not independently select schools based on reported fights or other violent offenses. If additional schools are interested in utilizing SPAVA's services, the organization would be available to discuss opportunities to support them.
Duncan 9/21/26	P 16 - Why do we have so many data privacy agreements? How do all of these benefit our students?	<p>Data privacy agreements are required by FERPA for us to legally be able to share data with vendors.</p> <p>Data privacy agreements ensure that software providers are not using our students' data for anything other than providing the services we have purchased. Without a data privacy agreement, vendors could use that data for targeted advertising or re-sell student data to other entities. Students cannot opt out of instructional software, so we need to ensure their data is as protected as possible.</p> <p>The volume of data privacy agreements is determined by the number of digital resources (softwares) available to schools. Having more data privacy agreements in place allows schools more options for digital tools.</p>

<p>9/14/26 Everett</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Perfect, is ARSI the tool we won awards for years ago that I've heard about? 2. Also, are these questions and answered still being posted to the Google doc, or just in email now? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ARSI (Accountability, Research and Systems Improvement) is the Division led by Dr. Munoz. ITS (Investment Tracking System) is the tool that won the 2019 Pinnacle of Excellence Award of the Association of School Business Officials for innovation in school business management. ITS is now being modernized, expanded and upgraded to SIMS (Strategic Investment Management System). SIMS will allow us to better support the Board requirements (Fiscal Mgmt Policy 04.32 AP.111) for contracts \$100,000+ to have return on investment targets, strategic alignment, cycle review, quality review, service delivery review and vendor performance. 2. The Google Doc will remain our established system for tracking and managing Board Q&A responses.
<p>9/14/26 Look</p>	<p>When and where is the appropriate time to submit questions based on the agenda? For example,</p> <p>I'd love to see a discussion of the Turnaround Plans versus them only being a consent agenda item.</p>	<p>Please feel free to email any questions to the Superintendent and the Assistant Secretary to the Board. The responses will be posted in the shared Google Document so all Board members have access to the information.</p> <p>Turnaround Plans (TAPs) have been traditionally a Consent Item. If TAP Consent Items on the Board Agenda become a Discussion Item, the Enhanced Support Zone will take the lead to present to the board, in collaboration with ARSI's Systems Improvement and Planning unit.</p>
<p>9/17/26 Look</p>	<p>The turnaround question refers me to the CSIP folder, but no plans exist there beyond 2025-26. So, are we being asked to approve plans not yet written or not yet posted publicly?</p>	<p>Yes, October 1st is the due date for submitting Phase I of the CSIPs 2026-27. As a result, the CSIP folder will be updated in the first week of October 2026. This is the KDE calendar for the school year 2026-27:</p> <p>Oct. 1/2026 - Executive Summary</p> <p>Nov. 1/2026 - Needs Assessment & School Assurances</p> <p>Jan. 1/2027 - Goals, Objectives, and Strategies</p> <p>Dec. 1/2027 - PD Plan & Progress Monitoring</p>

<p>9/17/26 Look</p>	<p>Follow-up question for provided answers</p> <p>For example, in 1a below, I'm not asking what the district shares. But, as an example, booster clubs have students engage in fundraising that - in some cases - require the use of an app that would then exist on a student's personal device. That creates a significant vulnerability for the student - from a personal data security and FERPA standpoint. Maybe this is covered in RedBook already or in booster training, but if not, goodness that could put a lot of people inadvertently at risk if those apps do not undergo review/approval to the same standards applied within the district - and we can't expect booster clubs to have the same level of technical expertise to do this on their own. I guess I'm hoping/asking the extent to which district safeguards extend to apps and data and such run thru booster clubs - especially where student participation is expected.</p>	<p>Schools are aware of the District requirement that all digital resources the school utilizes must go through Digital Resource Review (DRR), regardless of funding source. So if the PTA pays for software, but the school is using it, it still has to go through DRR. But if the PTA elects to have a walk-a-thon, and they send a flyer home asking parents to use the walk-a-thon app to register their student and create a fundraising page, that is not something we can control under current Redbook requirements. The issue you raise is very valid and something that we will flag for discussions with KDE as to how the Redbook can be amended to address data privacy for actions occurring under the sole authority of the booster club.</p>
<p>Look</p>	<p>a. See below. I know this is a standard question from the public. Do we have a pre-fab response we like to use or specific policy to site (facilities usage and such)?</p> <p>b. I would suspect this email could have been sent to more than just me. Is there an easy way to determine that or should I ask the other board members? I would think a single, consistent response would be the best option.</p>	<p>a. The use of a school facility by not-for-profit groups is governed by the facility usage policy and procedure. Our policy includes insurance requirements by the renting entity and payment of a usage fee. In this case, the usage has been approved by the principal for a defined short term that may be extended from time to time upon continued application by the church. Due to the use by a religious organization, the principal is aware that other religious groups may request usage of these same facilities and our review for approval would need to be consistently applied.</p> <p>b. Communications received this email as well and consulted with legal to come up with virtually the same response as above (That the district does not approve or endorse the viewpoints of outside organizations that use school property and note that facility-use decisions are made in accordance with applicable policies)</p>

	<p><i>Subject: RELIGIOUS WORSHIP INSIDE SCHOOL BUILDINGS</i></p> <p><i>Dear Board Member:</i> <i>I was startled and alarmed to receive a postcard in the mail Monday, September 14, announcing that a church (Northeast Christian Church) was given permission to hold religious services inside a school building (Barrett Middle School) every Sunday at 11 a.m.</i> <i>Who in the world thought this was a good idea? This school is a government building paid for by ALL taxpayers in Louisville. Therefore, allowing religious worship services inside this building flies in the face of the Separation of Church and State!</i> <i>· We taxpayers are owed an explanation of how this came to be from start to finish. Who made this decision? When? ...</i></p>	<p>When questioned by the media or through open records requests, we typically consult with legal, compliance and any impacted divisions (i.e. student support, academics, opportunity/access, etc.)</p>
Look	<p>From a timing standpoint, when do answers come out? Or differently asked, does Chair Shull have a preferred day or deadline to alert him of things I'd like us to consider discussing from the consent calendar?</p>	<p>Dr. Yearwood asks Cabinet to provide answers to the Board Google Doc questions within 24 hours. Once Dr. Reynolds, Dr. DeFerrari and/or Kevin review those answers, they will be published to the Google Document for all Board members to view. Board Policy 01. 45 states in pertinent part regarding the consent agenda:</p> <p>CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS</p> <p>Routine matters and recommendations of the Superintendent that the Board has had an opportunity to review and about which no opposition is expected will be voted on as a single item in a Consent Calendar. Any Board member may request an agenda item to be removed from the Consent Calendar for consideration as a separate item. To assist in the conduct of orderly and effective Board meetings, the Board member should make every effort to submit the request prior to the meeting via e-mail to the Board</p>

		<p>Chairperson, copying the Superintendent.</p> <p>Depending on the reason for the request and whether Board action is time-sensitive, the Board Chairperson may:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove the item from the agenda entirely, and add it to the agenda of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting as an Action Item; or 2. Remove the item from the Consent Calendar so the Board may consider it as a separate item during the current Board meeting.
9/16/26 Look	<p>3. To what extent does the social media policy take into account the needs of parents and caregivers? It seems JCPS has its official channels of communication - and this policy now demands of parents/caregivers to keep up with potentially exponentially more for each of their children, each school, and each class and activity in which they may engage. My concern (and thus the question) is that we may cross the tipping point whereby we make it impossible for our parents/caregivers to be able to “keep up” and stay engaged - the opposite of our intent.</p>	<p>This policy is establishing parameters for the types of social media that are currently in use by District employees. It does not contemplate additional lines of communication for parents and caregivers to monitor. Rather, it is providing clarity around the appropriate use of social media by employees that is already occurring. This provides clarity of expectations to employees, and provides HR with a mechanism whereby discipline can be used in response to inappropriate conduct (i.e. political postings using JCPS technology or during the school day)</p> <p>There is no requirement or expectation for parents/caregivers to monitor personal social media accounts of district employees. District affiliated accounts (perhaps the coach of the softball team posting about directions to the next away game for fans) would only be of interest to a discrete set of parents/caregivers, so adds no additional general burden for monitoring. Institutional social media accounts are avenues for people who are interested to get additional information, and do not supplant official channels of communication.</p>
9/11 Everett	<p>Where are we with the ROI tool and starting to use that again?</p>	<p>JCPS is currently transitioning from the Investment Tracking System (ITS) to the new Strategic Investment Management System (SIMS). The district is conducting test runs in SIMS to ensure the system is functioning as intended prior to full implementation. Once those test runs are complete, the new system will be launched. In the interim, investment information continues to be entered and maintained in ITS. SIMS will provide greater flexibility and more comprehensive reporting, including improved visibility into expenditures and resource allocation across the district. It will also</p>

		strengthen the district's ability to align funding requests with identified needs and strategic priorities and to identify potential areas of disproportionality in resource allocation.
9/11 Everett	When is the date we should have the Plante Moran final agreement and action plan in place?	<p>The corrective action plan for each finding, along with the responsible owner and target completion date, is here: CAP Summary. I put it in this format so the plan is easier to follow than the original report layout.</p> <p>The June 5, 2026 report established these target dates. They range from July 2026 for the earliest items to May 2027 for the last (ARMAC's Board reporting cadence). A few items, like monthly budget-to-actual reporting and annual training, don't have an end date because they're ongoing rather than one-time. One item, the multi-year strategic financial plan, is tied to the Board's adoption of a district-wide strategic plan and doesn't have a set date yet.</p> <p>Some dates may shift as work progresses. Several items are sequenced behind hiring the Chief Business Officer and Executive Officer of Finance, and behind the strategic plan's development.</p> <p>Implementing and tracking these actions is management's responsibility, led by the Superintendent's Office's designee. Internal Audit will independently verify progress annually.</p>
9/16/26 Look	<p>1. In regards to data privacy and FERPA compliance, what certifications must the 3rd party vendor hold? I've seen a mention of ISO27001 - is that required? What about SOC II Type 2? FedRamp?</p> <p>a. In a related matter, what about FERPA protection for booster club advocacy of 3rd party providers (fundraising apps, for example) and the protections they provide (as well as their data sharing with others)?</p>	<p>1. DPA Exhibit E contains a chart of all the security framework certifications we accept, including ISO27001 and SOC II. The vendor marks which certification they maintain, and IT receives the certificate showing their compliance.</p> <p>a. We do not specify a specific security framework certification, but the certifications are useful when we need to evaluate a vendor's security posture. When submitting their information into our system for security evaluation vendors may upload their security certifications, audit reports, policies, and any other evidence relevant to provide proof of their security practices. While the certifications cover most of our questions, our DRR team may reach out for additional information to ensure the security assessment is completed.</p>

		<p>We do not share FERPA protected data with booster clubs. Parents may provide their information directly to booster clubs or input it directly into the booster club fundraising apps, if they so choose. Because the information comes directly from the parents and not from JCPS, there are no FERPA implications.</p>
9/16/26 Look	<p>2. In the early days of SROs, the pool of candidates from law enforcement agencies (i.e. LMPD) was shaped more by seniority within their agencies than than officer interest in and alignment culturally to becoming an SRO. Is that still the case? I ask because the disposition of an SRO is different than officers in other arenas regardless of seniority.</p>	<p>In the early stages of other agencies providing School Resource Officers (SROs), positions were typically posted department-wide. Interested candidates submitted a letter of interest and participated in an interview process. Seniority may have contributed to an applicant's overall score, but it was not the determining factor in selection.</p> <p>Our reorganized JCPS Police Department now selects SROs through a committee-based hiring process focused on identifying highly qualified candidates. The department includes officers who have retired from other agencies, lateral hires, and officers beginning their law-enforcement careers. Candidates are recruited and selected based on merit, qualifications, and suitability for serving in a school environment. Seniority is not a factor in the selection process, and we no longer rely on outside agencies to provide SROs</p>
9/16/26 Look	<p>4. Where are the turnaround plans? I see only lists of team members.</p>	<p>In Accountability, Research, and Systems Improvement (ARSI), we have the Public CSIP Folder that has every school's Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) and Turnaround Plans (TAP).</p>
9/16/26 Look	<p>5. Why are we waiving the 1st reading of the superintendent evaluation policy? Obviously I may have (and likely) missed earlier work in this area and maybe this is only a change in reporting template? I ask only because it is one of the primary duties of the board.</p>	<p>As a new Kentucky superintendent, Dr. Yearwood participated in the 2025 KASA new superintendent training cohort. The 2025 cohort served as the pilot group of districts for the new KASA superintendent evaluation instrument. This instrument streamlines the circa 2009 seven (7) standards down to five (5) standards (elements from the two (2) deleted standards are embedded within the remaining standards). Because Dr. Yearwood's contract began before we were informed of the KASA cohort pilot project, KASA agreed that Dr. Yearwood should be evaluated his first year on the seven (7) standards that were already in policy. We are now updating the policy to reflect the KASA evaluation model that is the product of the cohort. Dr. Yearwood has agreed</p>

		with this change and acknowledges the change is occurring 2 months into his second contract year. KDE will be required to approve the new evaluation instrument.
9/14/26 Everett	Where are we with the Chief Business Officer and Executive Director of Finance? Now that it has been so long, why aren't we using state and coop approved staffing firms to help fill these roles?	We have candidates for the Executive Officer of Finance who we will be interviewing.
9/15/26 Everett	Have we approved the school calendar beyond this year? If so where can I find it, if not when will that be on the agenda?	The School Calendar Committee is set to meet on September 24. Our plan will be to complete the calendars for both the 2027-28 and 2028-29 school years.
9/14/26 Look	I see there is a policy committee meeting today. Is there a reason why that committee is not listed on the board section of the website where committees are listed [https://www.jcpsky.net/page/board-of-education]? A suggestion - it would be great if a link to the meeting agenda was included in the district calendar event posting. Just a thought . . .	Both ARMAC and the Policy Committee can be added to this webpage. We will also look into linking the agendas. Updating the Board Committee webpage and keeping it updated is part of the recently completed corrective action plan. It will be the responsibility of the Executive Director of Policy and Systems to create and maintain the updated list. Target completion date is October 2, 2026.
9/14/26 Look	Related, isn't there a Risk Assessment committee as well? If so, it's not listed either - or does it operate only as a committee of the superintendent? Any other ones missing? Standing or Ad Hoc?	The Audit and Risk Management Advisory Committee's (ARMAC) charter includes "...oversight of risks impacting the financial and strategic objectives of JCPS..." Internal Audit also performs an annual risk assessment. This risk assessment is performed annually and combines input from district leadership/administration as well as Board members. It informs the audit plan and helps keep leadership aware of significant district risks. The FY27 Audit Plan and Risk Assessment will go before the Board for acceptance at the September 22 meeting and will be available here: The FY27 Audit Plan and Risk Assessment

9/14/26 Look	I'm excited to see the schools that earned Magnet School designation. Does this mean that Grace James has been re-categorized from an A5 school to an A1? What about Du Bois (A5 to A1)?	Both of these schools remain categorized as A5 Programs. However, other than not having SBDMs as A1 schools do, both programs function as "schools" in stand-alone buildings under the supervision of a principal. State assessment scores are also reported differently for A1 vs. A5.
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