



JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

District Facilities Local Planning Committee

C.B. Young Service Center
 3001 Crittenden Dr., Louisville, KY 40209
 February 16, 2026

LPC Members Present

William Allen	X	Rebecca Fleischaker	X	George Nichols		Amy Strite	X
Susan Biasioli	X	Rob Fulk	X	Jeff O'Brien	X	Andrew Terry	X
Marland Cole	X	Monica Hunter	X	Anthony Piagentini		Chuck Truesdell*	X
Kellye Cunningham	X	Gail Logan Strange	X	Teneasha Schwieman	X	Tyra Walker	X
Zak Dugla	X	Angela Masden	X	Lindsey Stewart	X	*non-voting member	

Minutes

Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions
<p>Dr. Rob Fulk, Chief Operations Officer, called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm, followed by welcoming remarks and expressed appreciation for attendee's participation. A roll call was initiated, members were asked to state their name and the constituent group they represent. The roll call began with those present in the room and then moved to participants joining online to ensure all attendees were properly recorded.</p> <p>Fulk provided a brief orientation on the role of the LPC, noting that it is one of JCPS's largest committees and includes representation from parents, teachers, central office staff, and community members. The LPC recommends facility priorities for the next four-year District Facilities Plan (DFP), which the Board of Education may adopt. He clarified that the committee focuses on restricted capital funding, used for major renovations and new school construction.</p>
KDE Orientation
<p>Teresa Hester, Kentucky Department of Education Project Manager, delivered the mandated LPC orientation, covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The regulatory basis for the DFP (702 KAR 4:180) • The planning manual and its required components • LPC responsibilities, meeting requirements, and public forum expectations • Priority categories (1–5) for facility needs • Requirements for major renovations, capacity calculations, and model program standards • Restricted funding streams and DFP modification processes <p>She also noted that JCPS's current DFP is available on KDE's website and that completed BG approved projects must be removed from the new plan.</p>

Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair

Dr. Rob Fulk explained that he was the outgoing Committee Chair from the last Local Planning Committee, but that a new chair would need to be elected and opened the floor to nominations.

Chuck Truesdell, Superintendent Designee/Executive Administrator Government & Community Relations, made the motion to nominate Dr. Rob Fulk as Chair. The motion was seconded by Tyra Walker, Teacher. Seventeen members were in favor; Zero members opposed. The motion passed.

Dr. Rob Fulk made a motion to nominate Susan Biasioli, Executive Director Facility Planning, Design, & Construction as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by Chuck Truesdell. Seventeen members were in favor; Zero members opposed. The motion passed.

Presentation of Materials

JCPS Demographics:

Brent West, Executive Director Geographic Information Systems, along with Dr. Rob Fulk present information on JCPS Demographics and Enrollment

Historical Enrollment Trends

- JCPS enrollment peaked above 140,000 students during the baby boom.
- Enrollment declined after the city/county merger and stabilized around 100,000 for several decades.
- Private school enrollment has remained relatively flat since the 1970s.

Current Enrollment Decline

- Enrollment has trended downward since 2016–17, accelerated by declining birth rates and changes in immigration patterns.
- Updated 2024 data from the Kentucky State Data Center confirms a projected decline in school age population over the next 5–10 years.

Geographic Shifts

- Student populations are moving outward toward the central south and eastern parts of the county.
- Many JCPS buildings were constructed in the 1940s–1960s in the urban core, creating a mismatch between facility locations and current student distribution.

Multilingual Learner Trends

- ML enrollment grew from 12,000 to 20,000 between 2020–2023, then plateaued and slightly declined due to federal immigration policy changes.

Chuck Truesdell raised the question if we had any data on new housing, whether it being single unit or multi-unit residential and if we knew where new housing is going to be developed. West responded that they had done a study on that but did not have the numbers in front of him, but from memory wanted to say the effect was not as drastic as one would think. Out of 100 new developments, JCPS was netting about five kids, he recalled. Fulk noted that the district monitors permits being pulled around the city.

Gail Logan Strange, Board Member District 1, asked the question if the trends noted were connected to the affordable housing issue. Fulk hated to speculate but wanted to say yes based on being a lifelong Louisvillian. Logan Strange asked for a copy of the zip code maps.

West discussed optimal building capacity stating that JCPS uses an “optimal capacity” formula developed with the Council of Great City Schools to better reflect instructional needs.



JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Key elements:

- Capacity range target: 85%–115%
 - Schools within this range require no intervention. Schools below 85% may need district support to increase enrollment, while those above 115% may require strategies to reduce overcrowding. The model is designed to reflect each school's instructional program, space needs, and student population rather than applying a uniform capacity number across all buildings.
- Adjustments for Title I, ECE, multilingual programs, and specialized academies
- Fire marshal capacity is not used for instructional planning
 - He contrasted optimal capacity with fire marshal capacity, noting that fire marshal calculations include non-instructional spaces such as gyms and cafeterias, which can significantly overstate a school's functional capacity. As an example, Moore High School once enrolled 2,300 students—well above its optimal capacity of 134%, while the fire marshal capacity suggested the building could hold 2,800 students, a number not feasible for instructional purposes.

Kellye Cunningham, Teacher, raised the question of what the term flexible space meant and if it was determined by the school. Fulk expressed that they work with the schools based off of what their programmatic needs are and take into consideration what a school says they use the space for.

Logan Strange asked about schools saying they have the capacity, but student assignment is not assigning the students. Fulk expressed that while we are not student assignment, we try to work with them to identify two things. One being is there a lack of student in a building based off of factors the district has created versus not. He cited Zachary Taylor Elementary as an example, stating their enrollment has steadily declined by 10-20 students per year since the mid-1990s, emphasizing this decline was not caused by a district action. In contrast, he cited Foster Traditional Academy, where enrollment changes were influenced by district policy. After the school transitioned from a comprehensive to a traditional program, enrollment increased slightly. However, following the district's decision during the transportation crisis to discontinue busing for magnet elementary schools, Foster's enrollment declined. In such cases, he noted, district policy may need to be reviewed, adjusted, or reconsidered.

Facility Profile Index (FPI):

Dr. Rob Fulk explained that the district spent the past year developing a more effective way to evaluate facility needs and guide resource allocation. The goal was to better inform the Board of Education, community members, architects, builders, and operations staff about the most strategic use of district resources. While Operations does not make final decisions, it is responsible for providing recommendations and identifying areas for improvement.

JCPS developed the FPI to evaluate buildings using:

- Facility Condition Index (FCI)
- Operating cost per student
- Enrollment trends

The FPI produces an annual focus list to guide recommendations to the Board.

Fulk noted that some schools naturally have higher operating costs due to the populations they serve. For example, special schools such as Binet or Churchill Park require extensive supports, related therapies, specialized transportation, and intensive services, which can exceed \$60,000 per student. Programs like

TAPP also serve small, high-needs populations and appropriately operate at higher cost levels. These cases are expected and supported by the district and Board.

The FPI helps distinguish between schools with higher costs due to mission-driven needs and those where costs may indicate inefficiencies or opportunities for improvement.

Monica Hunter Kirby, Principal, commented that the information presented might ease the community if they were aware of the why behind some of the decisions to move or close schools. Fulk expressed that they have tried to get the FPI out there and it is located on the district website.

Marland Cole, Community Leader, asked about the meaning of symbols on the list included in the materials, specifically, the indicators for operating cost, enrollment, and facility condition.

- A dollar symbol indicates high operating costs.
- A dot in the enrollment column indicates low enrollment.
- A flag in the condition index indicates that KDE has identified the building as eligible for renovation or replacement.

Draft District Facility Plan:

Susan Biasioli noted that a draft District Facility Plan (DFP) was linked in the meeting agenda for members to review. She emphasized that the committee would examine the document in detail at the next meeting and that no vote would be taken at this session.

Biasioli highlighted that several projects included in the previous DFP, such as the Atherton renovation, the DuBois new building, and the Kerrick and Okolona new buildings, have now been completed and therefore do not appear in the new draft.

Proposed New Construction Projects

Biasioli provided an overview of major new builds proposed in the draft plan:

- New Elementary School – South Central Louisville: Proposed based on demographic and GIS data showing student population shifts. Land acquisition is still pending.
- Cochrane Elementary School: Fulk expressed that the district intends to rebuild Cochrane on its current site. With the recent closure of Zachary Taylor Elementary, that building will serve as swing space during construction.
- Goldsmith Elementary School: Fulk expressed that with the district receiving a new central office facility, the plan is to demolish the Van Hoose Center and rebuild Goldsmith Elementary on that site. Rebuilding on the Seneca High School property is not feasible due to floodplain changes following the construction of the new Seneca building.
- Olmsted Academy South, Westport Middle, and Wilt Elementary are the remaining new builds
 - JCPS is negotiating with Louisville Metro Housing for land to rebuild Olmsted Academy South.
 - Westport Middle and Wilt Elementary both have sufficient acreage to be rebuilt on their existing sites without requiring relocation.

Fulk noted that JCPS has historically lacked swing spaces, and the district is now positioned to have multiple options. A swing space is a building that is empty and can house students while their current building is demolished and rebuilt since space does not allow a new building to be built on the site with the current building still standing.

Renovations and Additional Projects

The remainder of the draft DFP includes a comprehensive list of renovations and capital improvements. While not all projects can be completed within the four-year cycle, inclusion in the plan establishes eligibility for future funding and action.



JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Biasiolli concluded by noting that although the DFP covers a four-year cycle, JCPS internally plans on a 10-year horizon. Projects may shift based on building conditions or emerging needs, but long-range planning remains a core part of the district’s facilities strategy.

Future Meeting Dates

Dr. Rob Fulk mentioned that the next Local Planning Committee meeting would be held on Wednesday, March 18th, 2026 at 5:00pm.

Next Steps:

Rebecca Fleischaker, Community Leader, asked if the chair could lay out the actions and next steps between now and the next meeting. Fulk reiterated that the committee will review the draft DFP in depth at the next meeting. Members will have the next month to study the document, prepare questions, and return with a deeper understanding of the proposed work. All information presented at this meeting would be sent out and to please send in any questions that might arise.

Adjournment

At 6:26 pm, Dr. Rob Fulk, entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was raised by Gail Logan Strange and seconded by Susan Biasiolli. Seventeen members were in favor; Zero members were opposed. The motion passed.

Visitors in attendance:

Alex Dederer – WHAS11	Adi Schanie – WDRB	
Levi Hammer – WHAS11	Norman Seawright – WLKY	
Teresa Hester – KDE	Eileen Van Hoose – JCPS	
Tracy Jones – Civil Design, Inc.	Brent West – JCPS	
Ryan Kidd – JCPS		
John Niehoff – JCPS		
Lance Price – WLKY		