



Franklin

COUNTY SCHOOLS

Superintendent Rhonda C. Schuhler, Ed.D

Superintendent's Report August 8, 2022

General Updates on Start of School

- Youngsville Elementary School successfully returned for students on Wednesday July 20th.
- Franklin County Early College High School began Fall classes on Friday August 5th.
- New Teacher Institute will be held at Franklinton High School during the week of August 15th.
- Convocation will take place via virtual video on the afternoon of August 23rd. The video message will include a focus on this year's theme- "The Power of One," and will provide important logistical information for Sizzlin' Summer.
- Sizzlin' Summer, the annual district wide professional development day, will take place on Wednesday August 24th at Franklinton High School. Staff will participate in job-alikes and select professional development sessions at locations across the school campus.
- Open Houses:
 - High School: August 23rd 5:00-7:00 pm
 - Elementary School: August 25th 4:00-6:00 pm
 - Middle School: August 25th 5:00-7:00 pm
- Traditional Schools in Franklin County begin for students on Monday August 29th.

LETRS Cohort 1

Blueprint Goal 2: Achieving Student Success in Academic Areas

Our first group of 42 teachers and staff began their LETRS journey during the first week of July. While most of the cohort is composed of teachers from Youngsville Elementary, we had several other teachers and staff (EC resource, instructional coaches, and EL) voluntarily join this first cohort. Teachers and staff participated in a 6-hour virtual professional development session on July 15 where they were introduced to the tenets of the Science of Reading. The cohort will now work independently on the content using a district-created pacing guide to ensure that they stay on track with the content.

Student Resource Officer Memorandum of Understanding

Blueprint Goal 3: Creating a Safe, Orderly and Caring Environment for Students

Our facility reviews with Law Enforcement took place on August 1-3, 2022. At our earlier meeting it was decided that each agency would meet with our team at each school and do a walkthrough safety assessment, with ongoing follow ups and increased coverage of our facilities. We will do a follow up session in October.

Our law enforcement partners have conducted Rapid Response training on our campuses. This is an excellent example of our ongoing relationship, in which law enforcement professionals train in the facilities that they are charged to protect. Training is done when students (and usually staff) are not in the building. The Franklin County Sheriff's office SWAT team has recently done more advanced training specific to school response. We are very fortunate to have such an open and cooperative relationship with our law enforcement community.



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Our schools are refreshing their individual local crisis plans (contacts, numbers etc). The schools are also completing their drafts of the School Risk Management Plan (SRMP) for the state. These will be uploaded along with school schematics for emergency responders.

Needs-Based Grant Application Window Opens for 2022-23

Blueprint Goal 3: Creating a Safe, Orderly and Caring Environment for Students

The 2022-23 Needs-Based Public School Building Capital Fund grant application timeline is from August 1, 2022-September 1, 2022. Franklin County Schools is again eligible for this grant at 5% local match requirement. It is our intent to resubmit/continue our application for \$30,000,000 to build a replacement school building for Franklinton Elementary School. Our request and details of the grant application have not changed, so we will resubmit without needing any additional approval from the Franklin County Schools Board of Education and our County Commissioners.

Recruitment

Blueprint Goal 4: Recruiting, Supporting, and Retaining High Quality Staff

FCS is utilizing university career center online job boards to advertise current vacancies. We are using social media, including paid advertisements targeting our surrounding area to promote our financial incentives for teachers in Franklin County. These financial incentives equate to a 16% or greater supplement (factoring in retention bonus, longevity, and 8% supplement), in addition to life insurance and dental insurance. We have conducted several in-house job fairs this summer to recruit for various positions, and we have found these efforts to be a very effective tool for us.

Updated Classified Salary Schedules Based on New State Budget

Blueprint Goal 4: Recruiting, Supporting, and Retaining High Quality Staff

The recently passed state budget places classified employees at either a \$15.00 minimum or 4% raise, whichever is greatest. We are in the process of updating our salary schedules to reflect these changes while also adjusting our steps to keep the tables moving forward based upon years of experience. We will be bringing these updated tables for approval at the September Board of Education meeting. In the meantime, we will be making a temporary adjustment to ensure that the minimum of \$15.00 or 4% raise is reflected during the month of August. Any retroactive adjustments made once the Board approves updated schedules will be reflected in September payroll.