



Franklin

COUNTY SCHOOLS

Superintendent Rhonda C. Schuhler, Ed.D

Superintendent's Report November 21, 2022

On Thursday November 17, 2022, the Strategic Planning Committee convened to review progress towards Strategic Plan Goals.

Blueprint Goal 1: Preparing FCS Students for College, Career and Life Beyond the Classroom **ACT/WorkKeys Preparedness**

We are using ESSER funds to provide all high schools up to \$10,000 to use towards ACT tutoring provided by Sylvan Learning. Schools have an option to provide the ACT Package which is a 4 hour seminar or the Advanced Reading Skills Workshop which is a 12 hour workshop.

ApprenticeshipNC Partnership

We met with ApprenticeshipNC and a local business to discuss starting a registered apprenticeship program. Registered Apprenticeship is a training program that consists of a system of work-based learning designed to meet the training needs of the employer by providing the employee with structured on-the-job learning, related instruction, and a progressive wage scale. Final decisions have not been made by the local business yet but we are hopeful that this company will partner with us in this endeavor.

Blueprint Goal 2: Achieving Student Success in Academic Areas **Strengthening the Birth-Kindergarten Pipeline**

In an effort to continually strengthen outreach and support to families of children Birth to 5, we are creating additional opportunities to connect and build relationships in 2022-2023. Beginning this winter we are planning "Early Action Childhood Connection" and "Pre-Kindergarten Round-Up" events. These events will be held in locations throughout the district and offered on a variety of dates to maximize accessibility. These opportunities are designed to increase our connections with and support for families toward Kindergarten Readiness and Pre-K placement.

Blueprint Goal 3: Creating a Safe, Orderly and Caring Environment for Students **DPAC Provides Meaningful Feedback on Family Engagement**

An area of focus for this year is to increase opportunities for family and parent engagement. In discussion with DPAC this week, I heard directly from parents who are looking at how to strengthen parental involvement through their parent-teacher organizations. We discussed the idea of a workshop or summit to bring core groups of parents from each school together to share strategies, garner feedback, network and plan. We are planning for this during the spring.



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School Safety Grant Funding Awarded to FCS

We received word this past month that we have received three new safety grants: One focusing on funding Student Resource Officers, another for Safety Equipment (access controls) and a third for Students in Crisis. The initial award is \$1,120,626. The SRO grant is renewable for a second year which increases the total award to \$1,648,626.

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

Recruitment and Retention Efforts Continue

This past week the Human Resources team was out recruiting at Western Carolina University. In support of our retention efforts, we have continued with “Stay” interviews at Laurel Mill Elementary and Edward Best Elementary. These “Stay” interviews allow us to gather feedback from staff on what makes them stay in Franklin County Schools so that we can build on those positives and also accept feedback on areas for improvement to strengthen what we offer that would make employees want to remain with our district.

“Making the Grade” Banners

It is important to recognize and celebrate our successes as a district and the hard work that takes place to move our students forward in a positive direction. Schools that “exceeded” growth- or saw more than a year’s worth of progress for a year’s worth of instruction- based on the latest NC school report card are being presented with banner(s) to honor the progress regarding student achievement.