



Franklin

COUNTY SCHOOLS

Superintendent Rhonda C. Schuhler, Ed.D

Superintendent's Report March 10, 2025

General Updates:

State of the District

We had a great “State of the District” event on Thursday, February 13th, at 6:00 pm in the Franklinton High School auditorium. This event highlighted district progress with strategic plan goals while also showcasing our students and staff and the great work taking place in our schools as we prepared students for life beyond the classroom. There were performances by student groups, and our culinary arts program provided refreshments. Student ambassadors from each of our high schools were present to interact with guests and share their personal experiences as students in the district. We also gathered feedback from attendees through an exit survey.

Strategic Plan Process Update to Board

Our Strategic Planning Process began in July 2024 when the Board of Education received an overview of the proposed process, along with an opportunity to respond to two key questions:

- Is there anything missing from this process that we need to consider?
- Is there anything we should think about differently before moving forward?

The feedback from the Board of Education was positive, and our staff went to work on our plan. Over the course of the fall, we have administered stakeholder surveys and received almost 1200 responses, and conducted Town Halls in each zone that were attended by board members, staff, parents, students and community members. These events garnered valuable feedback that has been incorporated into our data that the committee is using to examine our current goals and objectives, making adjustments and creating additional goals if needed. We are not starting from scratch in this process, as the 4 key areas of focus with our current goals include career and college readiness; academic achievement; safe, orderly and caring schools; and recruiting and retaining high quality staff. We are in the process of revisiting our existing goals to rework those as needed, along with development of objectives that align with the feedback and data that we have to support those decisions.

Our Strategic Planning Committee, made up of 40 members of our school community including teachers, principals, parents, students, district leaders, community leaders, business leaders, community college partners, and board members, met last week to dig further into the data gathered from our Town Halls and our surveys. We are reworking our vision and mission statements to reflect the priorities shared by our stakeholders. This is a phenomenal group and I am excited about the work that is taking place with this committee. Our next meeting is this week and we will likely have 2-3 more sessions to finalize our work. From there, we will receive feedback from our principals. Our goal is to bring this to our Board of Education for consideration in May, with implementation in Fall 2025.



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Budget Development Process

Last week, Ms. Jordan, Mr. Perry, Ms. Coley, Mr. Zalewski and myself met with County leadership- Chairman David Bunn, Ryan Preble, and Jamie Holtzman- to discuss our budget timeline and to review the presentation shared with our Board at the February meeting. This was a positive meeting and the timeline was well-received. We will be meeting again with this small group to discuss the preliminary facilities recommendation shared with the Board of Education this evening. I spoke with Ryan Preble today to give him some preliminary information in advance of the meeting, and said that I would follow up with him tomorrow.

We also discussed the joint Board of Education/Board of Commissioners facilities committee convening. In preparation for that meeting, our Board will need to conduct a facilities work session so that we may prioritize the long-range projects based on urgency. This will better prepare us for how/when projects will need to be addressed as part of the work to develop a BOE/BOC facilities committee joint plan with action steps.