



# Franklin

## COUNTY SCHOOLS

Superintendent Rhonda C. Schuhler, Ed.D

### Superintendent's Report October 10, 2022

#### **Building Community Partnerships in Support of Career and College Readiness**

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

##### **Eaton Corporation Partnership with Louisburg High School**

Louisburg High School has partnered with Eaton Corporation in Youngsville, NC and held a professional development session for their teachers to develop Hummingbird Robotics Project Based Activities for the classroom on September 29, 2022. The LHS instructional staff and the Executive Director of Secondary Ed. and CTE participated in a company tour. This allowed the FCS team to determine how to best align classroom instructional activities as well as work based learning such as potential internship and pre-apprenticeship opportunities with Eaton Corporation careers. The team met a former FCS student who was observed working at Eaton and has now been invited to be a guest speaker at LHS. Plans are underway that will establish future staff and student opportunities such as those mentioned above.

##### **Workforce Development and Partnerships within Franklin County**

In September, Novozymes hosted two meetings with representatives from business and industry, education, and local government. These groups came together to discuss the opportunities available in the biotechnology field within Franklin County. The group brainstormed ways to strengthen the partnerships so that the county will have a competitive workforce ready to assume available jobs within this industry. The group realized that robust K-12 programs, working in collaboration with Vance-Granville Community College, can provide local businesses with a well-trained workforce. Exposing high school students to biotechnology by providing opportunities for field trips, apprenticeships, and internships will likely heighten interest in the field and create conditions for success beyond graduation.

##### **Upcoming School Visits for Board of Education**

*Blueprint Goal 2: Achieving Student Success in Academic Areas*

At the November meeting, I will be providing the BOE with a tentative schedule for school visits for consideration and approval. These visits will begin during Spring 2023 and will continue through Spring 2024. Each visit will begin with an overview of school programs by the Principal, and will be followed by classroom visits. More detailed information will be offered during the November BOE meeting.

##### **ESSER Funding Audit**

*Blueprint Goal 2: Achieving Student Success in Academic Areas*

During the week of November 14th, the Office of Federal Programs will be completing a monitoring/audit visit to review FCS Covid Relief funds received over the past two years. These funds have been used to support varied areas of need. Notable areas of support over the past two years include PPE, remote



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learning efforts, HVAC needs, instructional technology resources, learning loss strategies, child nutrition, mental health services and summer learning activities.

The Office of Federal Programs has shared that a response to the visit with specific feedback should be expected in the weeks following the monitoring visit. This visit does not conclude the use of Covid Relief funding. Funds will be available for use until September 30, 2024. Future monitoring visits are anticipated, but have not been announced to date.

### **Continued Progress on Key Projects, and a Traffic Update**

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

As of October 3, 2022, we have completed 17/19 Capital Outlay Improvement Projects. We are awaiting the next track out for roof repairs at YES and materials for new shingles at LHS.

We received word that we did not receive the NBPSCF grant for a replacement Franklinton Elementary School. We will continue to work on this and be prepared for the next grant cycle. We are awaiting the outcome of the SRO Grant, Safety Equipment, and Students in Crisis grant applications.

We anticipate that our Long Range Plan will be ready in a few weeks. This document will aid us in our facilities decisions for years to come. Davis-Kane and Kilian will present their findings in November.

In conjunction with law enforcement, DOT and Bunn High School staff, a new on-campus traffic pattern was implemented on October 6, 2022. We will continue to monitor and adjust to assist with traffic concerns.

### **“Stay” Interviews as a Key to Retention**

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

The Human Resources Department has begun conducting stay interviews. These interviews will be conducted on-site at all our school and department locations. A diverse group of staff (i.e., certified/non-certified, various years of experience) identified as key personnel by their supervisor are interviewed. The interviews consist of questions to help us better understand what we as a district are doing well to retain employees, what we can improve, and what motivates our employees. The information gathered will assist in recruitment, retention efforts, and our decision-making process. So far, "stay" interviews have been conducted at Louisburg High School and Louisburg Elementary. Additional "stay" interviews will be conducted at various sites each month.

### **The Good News Podcast**

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

The Good News Franklin County Schools [podcast](#) has published six episodes thus far and was created to share the fantastic work taking place within our district. We will continuously highlight all things



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inspirational, uplifting, and all-together, good. So far, we've learned how Louisburg High School built a culture of success, the importance of building solid roots in the Bunn community, the impact "The Power of One" person can have on students' trajectory, and much more. You can listen to the Good News Franklin County Schools podcast on your favorite podcasting app.