

August 11, 2023 - Board Brief

Gerrita Postlewait and Senior Leadership Team

COMMUNICATIONS

ParentSquare officially launched on August 1, 2023. Schools and Central Services have begun using ParentSquare for communication. Board members who are parents should already have a school account. All board members will be set up with an account in the near future.

FINANCE

Lexington One has been awarded Community Development Block Grant Funds for the Rosenwald Community Learning Center (RCLC). The district is committed to the education of our differently-abled students, helping our students to meet the mission to cultivate a caring community where ALL learners are extraordinary communicators, collaborators, creators and critical thinkers. We ensure that students of all abilities have the resources, instruction, and connections to the community needed to reach their full potential. [Click here](#) for an explanation of the projects included in the grant. The district is in the process of completing an Environmental Study and then begins the procurement process and project work.

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

It certainly was wonderful celebrating **93 students** from the Adult Education GED/Diploma programs last evening on their campus at North Lake Community Learning Center. Interesting facts from 2022-23:

- 378 students were served: 245 students in the GED and Diploma program and 133 students in the English Language Learning program
- 47 GED graduates
- 46 Diploma graduates
- 70 English language learning level gains from our ESL students

"Thanks so much for valuing the work that our staff and students do here at Adult Education. I know many other Directors in the state who do not receive the same support from District and Board leaders and it makes me very appreciative of what we have here in Lexington 1." Brian Barrineau, Adult Education Director

OPERATIONS & STUDENT SERVICES

TRANSPORTATION

Thank you to our entire transportation department for getting our students safely to and from school. We appreciate everyone's patience during the first days of school. We are continuing to refine routes and make improvements and are looking forward to a good next week.

Construction Update

[Executive Summary - South Lake Elementary](#)
[Executive Summary - Forts Pond Elementary Addition](#)

SUPERINTENDENT

Nation's FIRST Amazon "BootUp" Grant Awarded

Lex One elementary schools were selected as part of the first ongoing national sponsorship from Amazon/Boot Up PD to implement sustainable computer science education to all elementary schools. [Click here to read the complete news release](#) from Monday, Aug. 7.

First Week

Teachers, support staff, and school leadership teams prepared well for the first week of school. This has been the smoothest opening since the days prior to the adjustments for Covid. There are a handful of challenges we could not have foreseen, and staff is responding as quickly as possible. One ongoing challenge of particular concern is the sparsity of special education teachers.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

MacBook Purchases

The district saved over \$81,000 in taxes during tax free weekend. IT was able to use funds from the 8% Capital Bond to purchase teacher MacBooks during tax free weekend. IT purchased 1,100 MacBooks for \$1.8 million. This district was able to save over \$81,000 in sales tax with this purchase. The MacBooks are part of the device refresh for teachers. They are currently using MacBooks purchased as part of the 2018 bond referendum.



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Enrollment Count Day 1

The total enrollment count for Day 1 was 25,944 students in grades K-12. IT will conduct three additional enrollment counts using PowerSchool attendance on 3rd, 5th, and 10th day of school. Here's a summary of the enrollment by grade level. You can click this [link](#) for a summary of the counts by school. *[At this time it would be wise to adjust state revenue projections based on a lower number of students than were enrolled last year.]*

Grade Level	Student Enrollment
Kindergarten	1659
1st Grade	1805
2nd Grade	1981
3rd Grade	1840
4th Grade	1905
5th Grade	2070
6th Grade	2037
7th Grade	1961
8th Grade	2113
9th Grade	2451
10th Grade	2249
11th Grade	1822
12th Grade	2051
Total	25,944

FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED

Dana Homesley, 8/19/23: Under the SC Freedom of Information act, I am requesting all material provided to Investigative Reporter Chris Joseph, WIS in his 2023 FOIA request for the following: * We were informed that a female high school teacher in the district was fired due to inappropriate contact with students. . . . If there are any documents pertaining to the firing of this teacher, we would like a copy. *We are also informed that the FBI is involved investigating drug dealing and drug use within the district. I would also like a copy of any notices from the FBI as well.

