

September 29, 2023 - Board Brief

Gerrita Postlewait and Senior Leadership Team

FINANCE

More Schools Quality for Breakfast/Lunch

WASHINGTON D.C., DC – “Millions of additional students in schools serving low-income communities will be eligible to receive breakfast and lunch at no cost under a rule change announced Tuesday by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. At schools where 25% of families participate in income-based public benefits, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the federal government now will cover the cost of free meals for all enrolled students. Previously, the qualifying threshold was 40%.” In the past, this has not meant that local school districts would actually receive reimbursement for ALL of the children in the school. We will analyze the financial impact on Lex One as soon as we have first quarter data.

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Hanover Research

Dr. Shane Phillips will be purchasing a subscription with Hanover Research to further develop the district's program evaluation plan. The district has worked with Hanover for several years. This company provides research services and evaluation support to include data analysis, benchmarking studies, and survey and focus group development and deployment. (There is some formative assessment reimbursement funding that can be utilized for this purpose.)

MTC Exec Summary

Renovation work is underway in the NLCLC wing that Midlands Technical College will occupy. MTC secured the services of Black Walnut Construction for the renovation. The roof repairs are 95% complete. Other than a few punch list items, the ADA bathrooms are complete and can be used. Beginning in January, MTC will offer the following programs at the NLCLC campus: Computer Technician, Certified Nursing Assistant and Heavy Equipment Operator. In addition, they will offer several collegiate core academic classes. Lexington One is working on interior and site signage. We are also working on a monumental sign design, which can incorporate multiple logos. We are thrilled to have these opportunities available to the Lexington One community at North Lake Community LC.

Washington Center Visit

The visit to Washington Center in Greenville County School District was a huge success. The program and Greenville district staff were incredibly generous with their time and lessons learned as their program evolved over the years. We look forward to discussing our takeaways from the visit as we consider future plans for meeting the needs of our growing special education population.

OPERATIONS & STUDENT SERVICES

Here is an [aerial shot](#) of the progress at SLES.



ThompsonTurner

Lexington E519

Image # 04
Date: 09/23/2023
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SUPERINTENDENT

Lexington One Proceeds from Juul Settlement

Attorney Dave Duff notified the district this week of an update from Wagstaff & Cartmell regarding Lexington One's estimated net recovery from the Juul/Altria settlements. The total net amount estimated is \$787,841. 65% of the Juul portion will be received by year end; the rest of the Juul settlement over the next 3 years. All of the net Altria settlement will be received in the first half of next calendar year. The district recommends investing the settlement funds in vape detectors for middle and high school restrooms and other measures impacting safety and health. We hope to have details ready for the Board's review in late October.

Possible ESSER Deadline Extension

We are checking on the implications of this announcement, issued Sept. 18, 2023, from the US Department of Education: “With one year remaining in the ARP fund period, it is important that States and local educational agencies continue to use emergency



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relief funds for effective, evidence-based strategies. We also know that some grantees may require flexibility liquidating remaining ESSER and EANS funds under the ARP Act that have been properly obligated by the September 30, 2024, deadline. To support you and your subgrantees in your planning, we are writing today to announce that the general liquidation extension that has been available under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) and Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Acts will be available for ARP.”

ESSER Funding Cliff Warnings

The Brookings Institute, prior to notification of a possible ESSER deadline extension: “We have an early warning on our next major disruption in schools: a perfect storm of financial chaos brought on by the abrupt ending of federal pandemic relief funds, falling district enrollments, and slowing state revenues. High-poverty communities will see sharper impacts to their school budgets in part because of how ESSER funding was structured.” School leaders must consider changes to revenue structures with care, so as not to lose learning support that students still need.

BOARD WORK/ACTION	
O C T O B E R	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State, national assessment results • Set annual policy review calendar • Superintendent’s evaluation/contract (10/3/23) • SCSBA regional meeting, workshops • Board self-evaluation and goal setting (10/3/23) • Attend school events and other community opportunities • South Lake Elementary Topping Out Ceremony (10/4/23)

FOIA REQUESTS RECEIVED (None)

