

FORT SMITH

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Doug Brubaker, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Week of June 11, 2020

UPCOMING DATES

Event	Date	Location	Time
Board of Education Meeting	06.22	Building B Auditorium/Virtual	5:30 PM
Northside High School Graduation	07.06	Northside High School	8:00 PM
Southside High School Graduation	07.07	Southside High School	8:00 PM
Board of Education Work Session	07.13	Building B Auditorium/Virtual	5:30 PM
Board of Education Meeting	07.27	Building B Auditorium/Virtual	5:30 PM



VISION 2023 CIPAC TOURS CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS AT HIGH SCHOOLS

The Vision 2023 Capital Improvements Program Advisory Committee (CIPAC) joined Dr. Brubaker and Dr. Morawski for tours of Northside and Southside on June 9. Members of the tour were able to hear from contractors on how progress at these sites is going and see renderings of the finished product. A virtual tour of the construction has been posted on the [FSPS YouTube page](#).



VISION 2023 WELLNESS COMMITTEE TALKS MENTAL HEALTH

On Monday, 35 members of the Vision 2023 Wellness Committee met with Dr. Michael Farrell, FSPS Student Services Supervisor, to discuss student mental health and well-being. The committee is comprised of charter members of the Wellness team, private practice mental health providers and FSPS Counseling Services.

FSPS TO LAUNCH VIRTUAL/BLENDED TEACHING & LEARNING ACADEMY FOR TEACHERS

Dr. Samantha Hall, Assistant Director of District Innovation and her team are preparing to launch the FSPS Virtual/Blended Teaching & Learning Academy for FSPS teachers. Below is an article that will appear in this week's "FSPS Weekly" employee bulletin.

"We are excited to announce the launch of the FSPS Virtual/Blended Teaching & Learning Academy (VBTL)! The purpose of the Academy is to further equip teachers with the knowledge and skills needed to meet the needs of students in a quickly-evolving education landscape. In March, we were all thrust into waters that few, if any, of us were prepared to enter. We, as educators, stepped up and completely overhauled our education delivery system for emergency remote teaching and learning. We learned that we need to be prepared regardless of events that affect time, space and place to ensure learning is not disrupted. Because the need for these blended learning environments appear to be a necessity for the approaching fall semester, our efforts continue.

The Level 1 Academy is centered around the basic concepts & skills to gain the confidence to successfully teach and facilitate student learning regardless of the physical look of school this year. You may choose to participate from three delivery models that will include a performance assessment to demonstrate mastery. Level 1 VBTL will be available live (via Zoom). You can also choose a Self-Paced model, or go straight to the assessment with the "CLEP" model. We are developing Level 2 and 3 Academies with a planned release in July." A schedule overview for the academy can be found [here](#).

Not Secure | dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/special-projects/statewide-playbook/plc

mission, vision, collective commitments

Has your school **collectively** created a mission, vision, and collective commitments? Are these directly tied to student learning? Are they shown in your daily actions? The best mission statements are short and to the point so they become ingrained in the minds of our school community. *If your team has already created collective commitments, it will be wise to revisit them in upcoming professional development to ensure distance learning commitments have been included.*

- > [The Mission Statement: The Purpose of Your Purpose](#) (Global PD)
- > [Are We Focused on Learning?](#) (Solution Tree Blog)
- > [Every Aspect of Your School Sends a Message About Your Mission](#) (Global PD)
- > [Mission, Vision, Collective Commitments Sample](#) (Google Doc)

Collaborative Team Time

Is there collaborative team time, of at least one hour a week, built into the master schedule? Is this time protected from interruptions? Are the meetings focused on the 3 big ideas and the 4 critical questions from the chart above? The teams with the best improvement bring student work to the table each week to use in discussion. *How will your team continue this process through distance learning?*



FSPS PARTICIPATES IN ARKANSAS ACADEMIC PLAYBOOK

FSPS was well represented in the development of the Arkansas Academic Playbook initiated by the [Arkansas Department of Education](#), subtitled 'Addressing Unfinished Learning'. Today, Principals Lori Griffin and Robyn Dawson presented to more than 600 educators throughout the state on a Zoom meeting, and FSPS Counselors Karen Williamson and Joan Kincannon were cited for their work on the Social/Emotional Learning component of this important resources for Arkansas students and teachers.

ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS 2020 SUMMER DEAD PERIOD

FSPS Athletics and Student Activities will observe 2020 Summer Dead Period June 29-July 3. For questions about the Summer Dead Period, please contact Athletics and Student Activities at 479-785-1227.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

The Technology Department is in the process of enabling remote learners, remote teachers, and remote staff members in all aspects. As part of this change, we are making a shift away from desktop computers for staff members. Beginning immediately, any purchase of a new computer for faculty and staff should be in the form of a laptop computer and not a desktop. There will be exceptions to this rule, but generally speaking, we want to make sure that our faculty and staff members are able to grab their computer and work remotely should the need arise in the future. If you need assistance in obtaining quotes or information, please e-mail the help desk at helpdesk@fortsmithschools.org.



FSPS TEACHERS PARTICIPATE IN R.I.S.E. ARKANSAS

Many FSPS Teachers participated in R.I.S.E. Arkansas (Reading Initiative for Student Excellence) on Wednesday, June 10 as part of their professional development. The R.I.S.E. initiative encourages a culture of reading by coordinating a statewide reading campaign with community partners, parents and teachers to establish the importance of reading in homes, schools, and communities.

STAFFING UPDATE

Job Title	# of Openings	Location	Job Posting Ends
SPED Teacher for Hearing Impaired	1	Tilles	when filled
SPED Teacher	1	Sunnymede	06/18/20
Drill Team Coach	1	Chaffin	when filled
Cheer Coach	1	Darby	when filled
Asst Soccer Coach (Girls & Boys)	1	Southside	when filled
Interpreter for the Deaf	1	Special Ed	when filled
SPED Para	1	Euper Lane	06/18/20
Media Clerk	1	Belle Point	06/18/20
Secretary	1	Payroll	06/18/20
Total Open Positions	5		



The United Way of Fort Smith, in partnership with Pernod Ricard, will be giving away 6000, 8 ounce bottles of hand sanitizer to the public today at Kay Rodgers Park from 9am to 1pm. Fort Smith Public Schools volunteers are assisting with the distribution. Pictured from left to right: Dr. Sarah Biggs, Intern Fayonna Warr, Dr. Gary Udouj, Intern Cade Floyd and Jeannie Carroll.

On the April 13 scheduled Professional Development day in recognition of the tremendous amount of work the emergency remote teaching situation thrust upon teachers & staff, no activities were scheduled. Instead we conducted a brief survey to get ideas on what was working well and what areas we might need to focus on for future training and PD. We compiled the results of over 1000 responses and common themes, highlighted in the wordclouds, emerged. This feedback was extremely valuable and we are working to incorporate the tools and concepts that worked as we seek to meet the identified areas of need through our 2020-21 PD opportunities.



WHAT WORKED WELL



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ OTHER NEEDS

SECURITY UPDATE

Fort Smith Public School Police

The FSPS PD has policy and training regarding Biased Based Policing. The policy reaffirms this law enforcement agency's commitment to unbiased law enforcement practices by not violating the constitutional rights of persons, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion or sexual preference.

All Fort Smith Public School Police Officers are required by law to take a class provided by ALETA called Racial Profiling. Each officer must complete this annually. Racial training that is mandated in Arkansas Statute 12-12-1404. Our officers also take additional training on Community Policing. This is done through our e-learning capability provided by Police One. This course is also certified by Arkansas Law Enforcement Training and Standards.

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies, which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime. In fact, all of our officers came from a background of Community Policing.

Community policing focuses on crime and social disorder through the delivery of police services that include aspects of traditional law enforcement, as well as prevention, problem solving, community engagement, and partnerships. The community policing model balances reactive responses of crime and disorder. Community policing requires police and citizens to join together as partners in the course of both identifying and effectively addressing these issues.

School Property Update

FSPS Officers have responded to several complaints about cars parking and abandoned vehicles on school property. They have also responded to several homeless persons defacing school property and sleeping overnight on school grounds. We are currently placing "No Trespassing by Unauthorized Persons During or after School Hours" signs at all secondary schools.

FACILITIES UPDATE

ELECTRICIANS

Providing and installing pull ropes for technology at all school locations
Implementing annually fire system inspections required by state
Installed new circuits for contractor to put in new fiber boxes

CARPENTERS

Built and installed sneeze guards at Service Center
Measured and calculated square footages of classrooms at all school locations

HVAC

Repaired air units at Kimmons
Repaired library unit at Barling
Replaced air unit at Darby and Tilles
Repaired air unit at Building G
Completed preventive maintenance at Barling, Carnall and Fairview

UTILITY CREW

Mowed and weed eat at school locations
Moved furniture at schools with construction projects

PAINTERS

Continue to paint interior of Belle Point, Orr, and Cavanaugh
Continue to paint exterior handrails at Sunnymede

PLUMBERS

Conducted annual state-mandated gas test at all schools
Set up irrigation systems at Chaffin and Darby

VISION 2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS UPDATE

NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

West Parking Lot

Asphalt and landscaping is scheduled to begin on June 15. Curbing for the parking lot is complete.

Gym

Foundation and plumbing work is ongoing. Footing has been poured and set.

Freshman Center

Foundation dirt work is complete and drilling piers has begun.

Cafeteria

Demolition of the cafeteria continues, fiber optics are being repaired and rough plumbing has begun.

SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

East Storm Shelter

The roof is complete and the slab for the floor has been poured. Overhead ductwork has begun and interior masonry, electrical work, and plumbing rough-in are ongoing.

Admin Addition

Masonry will begin at the stair tower on Friday. Window frames and glass are beginning to be installed, along with one side of drywall and insulation. In-wall inspections, overhead, and sprinkler installations are ongoing.

Existing Gym, Cafeteria and Kitchen

Demolition of floors is ongoing and wall framing will start next week. The ductwork has started and the roof top units have been delivered.

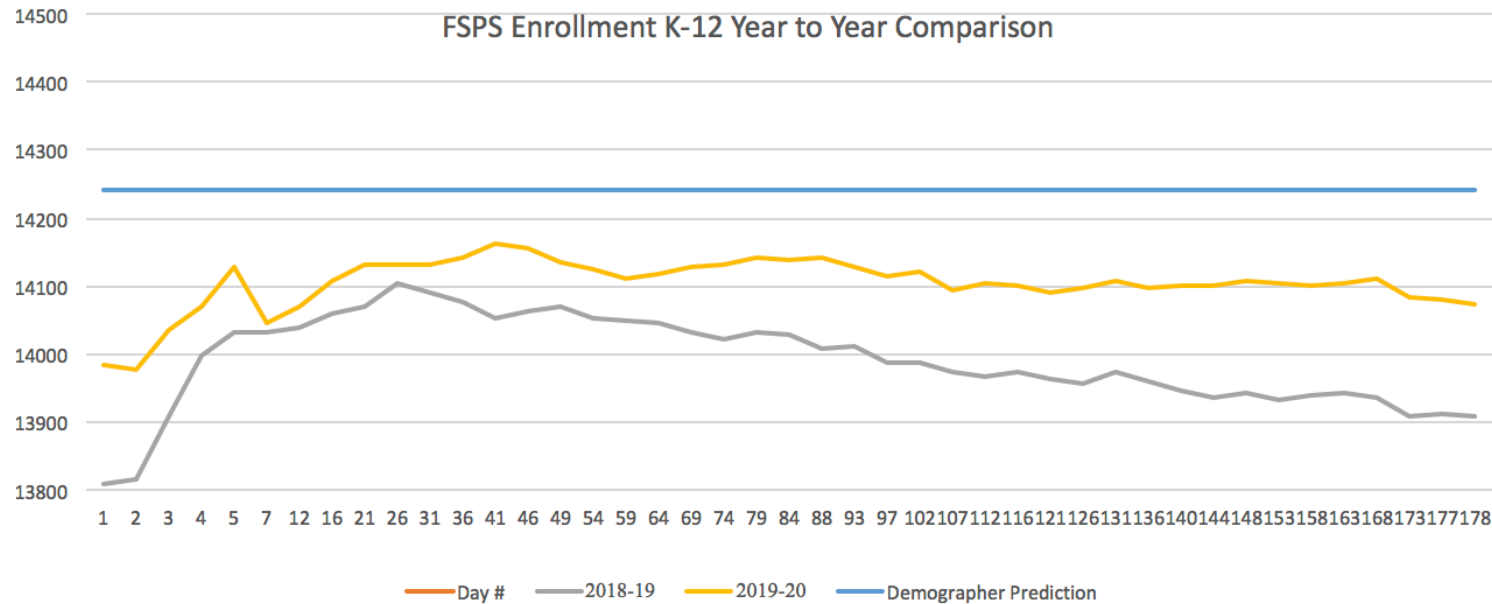
Freshman Addition

Steel will begin to be installed in the next few weeks.

RAMSEY JUNIOR HIGH

Demolition is ongoing inside at what used to be the administration area and new walls are being framed. The rebar for concrete is being placed and the slab is being poured at the new administration area on Friday.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE



TOP WEEKLY POST

Post Preview

Actions

Fort Smith Public Schools
June 1 at 7:42 AM · 🌐

2020 Summer Meals Program Begins Today

Good nutrition throughout the year is important for growing and learning! Fort Smith Public Schools' 2020 Summer Meals Program will begin today, Monday, June 1, 2020, through Friday, July 31, 2020, at the traditional eleven elementary schools listed below on weekdays (Monday through Friday) from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM (except July 3). Summer meals will also be provided at Sutton Elementary School on weekdays during the same timeframe; howev... [See More](#)

SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM
11:00 AM TO 1:00 PM | MONDAY - FRIDAY
BEGINNING JUNE 1, 2020 THROUGH JULY 31, 2020
GRAB-AND-GO BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

LOCATIONS

Ballman Elementary: 2601 South Q Street
Sutton Elementary: 1400 South T Street

Performance for Your Post
Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts.

8193
People Reached

186
Reactions, Comments & Shares

86	0	8
👍 Like	😲 Wow	❤️ Love
0	0	0
😂 Haha	😞 Sad	😡 Angry
0	92	
Comments	Shares	

827
Post Clicks

This week's top post was about summer meals beginning and their locations. The post reached over 8,000 people and was clicked over 800 times.