

EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the 2024 Interim

September 10, 2024

Call to Order and Roll Call

The fifth meeting of the Efficient and Effective School District Governance Task Force was held on September 10, 2024, at 5:33 p.m. in Male High School Auditorium. Senator Michael J. Nemes, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator Michael J. Nemes Co-Chair; Senators Gerald A. Neal and Lindsey Tichenor; Representatives James Tipton, Tina Bojanowski, and Ken Fleming; Allison Ball (by proxy, Savannah Baker), Britany Abdelahad, Rebecca Nicolas, and Jody Wurtenberger.

Guests: Representative Lisa Willner, 35th District; Representative Josie Raymond, 41st District; Erin Hinson, parent; Aven Cook, educator; Will Warner, citizen; Nadine Bonet, educator; Christie McCravy, Executive Director, Louisville Metro Affordable Housing Trust Fund; Trevin Bass, citizen; Jamiya Watson, student; Wil'Zaria Jackson, student; Vincel Anthony, co-founder, 7PM Group; Carl Brazley, co-founder, 7PM Group; Madison Nelson, recent graduate; Lisa McGuire, special education educator; Felicia Winburn, student; Melissa Nelson, MSSW, Manager of Education, Metro United Way; Judy Lippmann, citizen; Sarah Durand, parent and CASA volunteer; Erin Klarer, parent; Shelly Thomas, citizen; and Kiara Gray, Education Policy & Advocacy Strategist, Louisville Urban League.

LRC Staff: Joshua Collins, Emily Wiley, Maurya Allen, and Landen Holder.

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Nemes welcomed members, special guests, and thanked Jefferson County Public Schools staff for their assistance in the meeting arrangements. He provided an overview of the procedures for public comment.

Approval of Minutes - August 27, 2024

Representative Fleming made a motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Ms. Nicolas. The motion passed by voice vote.

Public Comment

The task force heard testimony from the following individuals: Erin Hinson, parent; Aven Cook, educator; Will Warner, citizen; Nadine Bonet, educator; Christie McCravy, Executive Director, Louisville Metro Affordable Housing Trust Fund; Trevin Bass, citizen; Jamiya Watson, student; Wil'Zaria Jackson, student; Vincel Anthony, co-founder, 7PM Group; Carl Brazley, co-founder, 7PM Group; Madison Nelson, recent graduate; Lisa McGuire, special education educator; Felicia Winburn, student; Melissa Nelson, MSSW, Manager of Education, Metro United Way; Judy Lippmann, citizen; Sarah Durand, parent and CASA volunteer; Erin Klarer, parent; Shelly Thomas, citizen; and Kiara Gray, Education Policy & Advocacy Strategist, Louisville Urban League.

The testimony covered a range of topics including expanding the number of school board members, supporting educators, increasing funding, building new school facilities, addressing mental and behavioral issues, and reducing structural racism in the city. Testimony addressed dividing the district, arguing it would increase administrative costs, reduce academic offerings, and negatively impact needed supports for mental, behavioral, and physical health for students and staff.

Announcements

Chair Nemes announced the next meeting of the committee will be at the Annex on Monday, September 16, 2024.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.