

# Frankfort Independent Schools “Return of the Panthers”



# Frankfort

# INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS



Small Schools  
**BIG AWARDS**



**#19<sup>TH</sup>**

BEST SCHOOL  
IN KENTUCKY



AWARDED **TOP TRENDING**  
SCHOOL IN THE COUNTRY



*The tradition continues...*

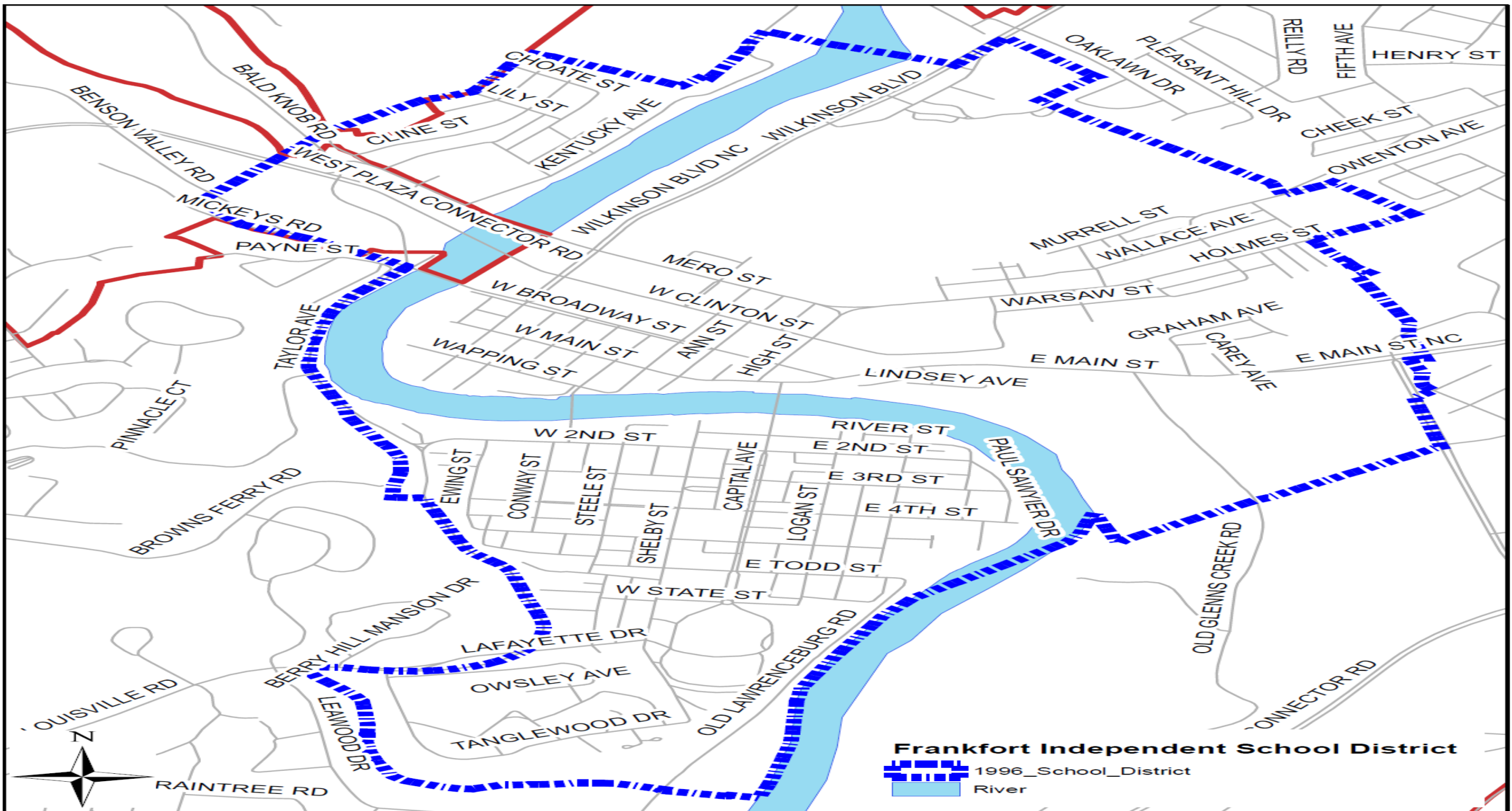



@FRANKFORT-INDEPENDENT-SCHOOLS





# Frankfort Independent School District





Sometimes **dreams**  
are **wiser** than waking.

Black Elk – Oglala Sioux Medicine Man

# Frankfort Independent Schools

## "Return of the Panthers"

### Mission:

*Frankfort Independent Schools is a community based school district, committed to academic excellence, personal achievement, and professional integrity. We provide learning opportunities in a caring, safe and healthy environment, responsive to each student, in collaboration with families and the community.*



A photograph of a dense forest with large, gnarled trees and a path leading into the distance. The trees have thick, textured bark and the path is covered in fallen leaves and low-lying vegetation. The lighting is warm and golden, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

We can only see a SHORT distance ahead,  
but we can see

PLENTY

there that needs to be done.

*Alan Turing – British Computer Scientist*



# Frankfort Independent Schools

## "Return of the Panthers"

Vision:

**Transforming lives** *by instilling 21st century skills and inspiring lifelong learning in every student through an unparalleled experience and tradition of excellence.*

# Frankfort Independent Schools

## "Return of the Panthers"

### Core Purpose:

*Name and claim each and every child so that all students contribute to society and thrive in their future.*



# Frankfort Independent Schools

## "Return of the Panthers"

Core Values:

*Community, Learning, Relationships, Respect,  
Excellence, Equity*

# Frankfort Independent Schools “Return of the Panthers”

## Core Approach:

*3:1 approach for each and every child focused on Social/Emotional supports, Academic/Behavioral supports and Access to Opportunity/Pathway (with Mentoring) supports.*



# Frankfort Independent Schools

## "Return of the Panthers"

### Measuring Our Success – Milestones (Student Progress)

Milestone 1 – *Each and every child will be reading and writing at proficient and advanced levels by 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade.*

Milestone 2 – *Each and every child will be performing at proficient and advanced levels in Reading, Writing, and Math by 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.*

Milestone 3 – *Each and every child will graduate college and career ready on time.*

# Frankfort Independent Schools

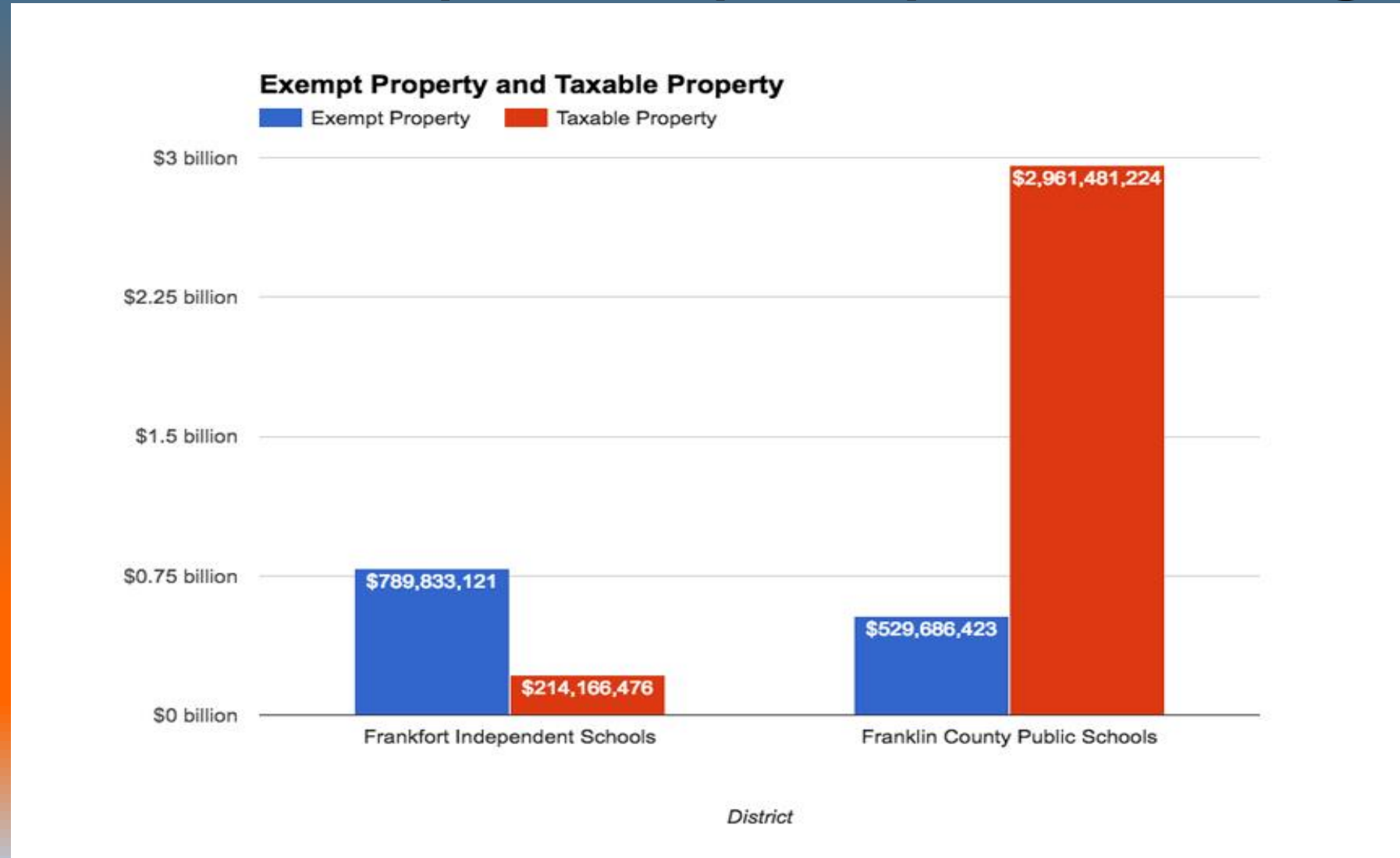
## "Return of the Panthers"

### District and School Support and Improvement Framework:

1. Student Outcome Data
2. Perceptual Data
3. Implementation Data
4. Leadership Data



# Frankfort Independent Schools Tax Exempt Property Challenge



# Frankfort Independent Schools Tax Exempt Property Challenge

1. 75% of FIS Property is tax exempt
2. 96.5 is our tax rate (high)
3. We operate on a 10.5 million dollar budget
4. FIS loses 6 million dollars a year on potential revenue which equates to 3 million dollars after giving back local effort in SEEK
5. Buildings and learning spaces have suffered as a result (constantly in survival mode).



# Tax Exempt Property Challenge – Progress

1. Passed Recallable Equalized Nickel (September 2016) (Equalized at 25% based on 2018 legislation)
2. Recallable Equalized Nickel moved bonding capacity from 1.2 million dollars to over 4.6 million dollars and will eventually be more than 7.5 million dollars.
3. Working closely with Executive and Legislative partners to determine budget language and in lieu support.
4. Downtown Frankfort redevelopment including Parcel B (supports from City of Frankfort and Col. Landrum) critical to FIS taxable property opportunities.

# Tax Exempt Property Challenge

## – Next Steps

1. Recallable Equalized Nickel needs to be equalized at 100% (2020).
2. Budget language needs to be included in next budget for the Commonwealth (focused on in-lieu support that is permanent and significant). Example language: ***Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, the Finance and Administration Cabinet shall pay District #177 an amount equal to 25% of the basic SEEK appropriation paid to the district each fiscal year from funds which would have otherwise lapsed to compensate for tax exempt state property.***
3. Urgent Needs Money Request (Legislative support)
4. Ramp up involvement to ensure Downtown Frankfort redevelopment including Parcel B focuses on taxable property opportunities.



# Frankfort Independent Schools

## World Class Education

### **Objective 1 – World Class Education**

**Goal 1: Maximize academic achievement in a personalized 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning environment so that each and every child graduates college and career ready.**

**Goal 2: Promote a system-wide culture that is culturally competent and responsive to each student.**

#### **Focus Areas**

- 1. Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships**
- 2. Closing the opportunity gap (achievement and excellence gaps)**
- 3. College and Career Readiness**
- 4. Personalized Learning**
- 5. Cultural Competency**

# Frankfort Independent Schools World Class Education - Progress

1. FHS Ranked #19 in the State of Kentucky (2018)
2. FHS Received the Gene Bottoms Pacesetter School Award from SREB (July 2018)
3. Japanese Language Courses
4. Chinese (K-12) Language Courses (4 Teachers)
5. Personalized Learning – Summit Learning (FHS); Mastery Connect (SSS)
6. May Term
7. Early College – 14 college courses offered on FHS Campus
8. Career and Technical Education Pathway Growth
9. Internships (Seniors)
10. Extensions (SSS)

# Frankfort Independent Schools World Class Education – Next Steps

1. STEM+ Lab (Mr. Rosen willing to donate up to \$100,000 with a 1:1 match for STEM+ Lab)
2. Profile of an FIS Graduate (Metrics and Milestones at each level of mastery and completion)
3. GEAR-UP Grant (recently selected to participate in 7 Year Grant focused on college and career readiness)
4. Upgraded learning spaces and full renovations of Second Street School and Frankfort High School
5. Nursing Pathway and Lab at FHS
6. Increase Career and Technical Education offerings (including electrician pathway, construction trades, etc.)
7. Ramp up robotics, academic teams, chorus, arts, and offerings for each and every child.
8. Globally competitive experiences
9. Class trip experiences

# Frankfort Independent Schools Connected Community School

## **Objective 2 – Connected Community School**

**Goal: Cultivate and grow partnerships with community organizations, city and state officials, businesses, families, local universities, and churches to provide a sustainable system of support focused on a 3:1 approach for each and every child.**

### **Focus Areas**

- 1. Partnership support and development**
- 2. Effective communication and outreach**
- 3. Family and community stakeholder engagement**
- 4. Customer Service**
- 5. Social and emotional health**



# Frankfort Independent Schools Connected Community School- Progress

1. Increased Enrollment Significantly (720 in 2015 to 900 in 2018)
2. KSU/FIS Partnership focused on Teaching and Learning, Early College, STEM + Pathways, Kenan Grant (\$400,000), Mentoring, and Equity
3. Kentucky Counseling Center – Counseling and social/emotional supports for all students and families in FIS (KCC centers located in each school)
4. Partnership with the City of Frankfort (\$200,000) focused on enhancing learning opportunities for each and every child (internet access, improved technology infrastructure in the schools, and branding/marketing support)
5. Collaboration with the City of Frankfort on the TIGER GRANT
6. Partnership with Johns Hopkins University and Dr. Jonathan Plucker focused Talent Development Plan and Excellence Gaps
7. Partnership with Kings Center to support after school programming for students

# Frankfort Independent Schools Connected Community School– Next Steps

1. Elevate partnerships with Kings Center, Cooperative Extension Centers, YMCA, Paul Sawyer Public Library, and other local partners to support robust after school programming for increased learning opportunities (apply for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Grant)
2. Create a community maker space lab focused on STEM + opportunities for students, community members, workforce development, and adult training and learning.
3. Ramp up branding/marketing/communication to support livable, workable community surrounding FIS.
4. Communicate Profile of an FIS Graduate to all community shareholders and stakeholders
5. Involve alumni and community in supporting overhaul of athletic and academic facilities.

# Frankfort Independent Schools Enhanced Human Capital

## **Objective 3 – Enhanced Human Capital Performance**

**Goal: Recruit, develop, grow, retain, and reward a world-class workforce that reflects our population.**

### **Focus Areas**

- 1. Partnerships with universities in the region for proactive recruitment**
- 2. Individualized professional growth and development**
- 3. Leadership capacity building and development**
- 4. Reward and incentive opportunities for workforce**

# Frankfort Independent Schools Enhanced Human Capital-Progress

1. KSU Partnership focused on grant supporting teaching and learning pathway.
2. Onboarding Committee in the process of developing "*The Frankfort Way*" for Frankfort Independent Schools teachers, staff, and employees.
3. Rich Rosen donation of \$100,000 focused on five (5) \$2000 scholarships per year for 10 years for teacher quality improvement in professional growth and learning.
4. Professional Development support for our staff through early release days as well as personalized professional growth plans and support (PLCs, CTEPS, etc.)



# Frankfort Independent Schools Enhanced Human Capital- Next Steps

1. Partner with the City of Frankfort and developers on enticing teachers and staff to move to Frankfort to live and work in the community
2. Grow opportunities of learning and training for our staff with local companies and businesses through externships and training development
3. Further develop the "*Frankfort Way*" for all employees
4. Grow our own – leadership, teacher leaders, and staff leaders in all areas

# Frankfort Independent Schools 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology and Facilities

## **Objective 4 – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology and Facilities**

**Goal: Inspire and support personalized learning, innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship through 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology and facilities.**

### **Focus Areas**

- 1. Innovative schools and Innovation**
- 2. Entrepreneurship and Creativity**
- 3. Strategic school redesign**
- 4. 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning and Personalized Learning**

# Frankfort Independent Schools 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology and Facilities - Progress

1. 3 Million Dollar (QZAB) Renovation – Safety, ADA, Learning Spaces
2. Upgraded wireless technology infrastructure
3. 1:1 Devices at all schools
4. Internet access for all

# Frankfort Independent Schools 21<sup>st</sup> Century Technology and Facilities – Next Steps

1. Major upgrades and renovations to Second Street School and Frankfort High School to support 21<sup>st</sup> Learning Opportunities (pathways and passions)
2. Overhaul of technology hardwire infrastructure at all school sites (\$200,000)
3. Major renovations to all athletic facilities with laser focus on Sower Field Complex and FD Wilkinson Gym



# Frankfort Independent Schools

1. Provides a high quality education
2. Integrated into the fabric of the community and encourages community involvement
3. Small enough to ensure safe and successful learning environments for all students
4. Rich in tradition yet agile enough for innovation

Frankfort Independent Schools

What is the plan?

# Frankfort Independent Schools

1. Improve the City of Frankfort by creating robust learning experiences.
2. Provide opportunities for our students that fit their passion areas.
3. Offer innovative learning spaces and buildings that promote teaching and learning at a high level.
4. Reimagine our athletic facilities to invite the entire community to use and participate in healthy living experiences.

If you can't fly, then **RUN**.  
If you can't run, then **WALK**.  
If you can't walk, then **CRAWL**.

But whatever you do,

**YOU HAVE TO KEEP MOVING.**



Martin Luther King, Jr. – Civil Rights Activist and Pastor



Frankfort Independent Schools

How Can You Help?

# Frankfort Independent Schools

## **Programs and Student Experiences**

1. STEM + LAB (\$100,000 match from Rich Rosen)
2. Student opportunities (class experience trips)
3. Internships and Externships
4. Scholarships (Teacher and Student)
5. Technology Infrastructure
6. Partnerships focused on robust after school programming

# Frankfort Independent Schools

## **Learning Spaces and Athletic Facilities**

1. Overhaul and renovation of FD Wilkinson Gymnasium (3.5 Million Dollars)
2. Urgent Need letters of support to state legislators focused on Frankfort High School and Second Street School major renovations (including tax exempt property relief)
3. Creation of athletic complex at Sower Field with turf fields for soccer, football, softball, baseball, and training facility (2.75 Million Dollars)

# Frankfort Independent Schools

Thank you for your time and efforts  
and energy to impact Frankfort  
Independent Schools in such a positive  
way! I appreciate you!

# Contact Information

Houston Barber, PhD

Superintendent

Frankfort Independent Schools

(502) 314-8960

[houston.barber@frankfort.kyschools.us](mailto:houston.barber@frankfort.kyschools.us)