



Fletcher Community Newsletter

August 2026

Hello, Fletcher Community!

We're headed into another school year with our eyes on the future. More than ever, we'd love to stay in communication with you as we navigate what that future will look like for our community under the guidance of Act 170.

School Board Retreat & Act 170 Developments

This year's retreat brought members of the three district boards in the Franklin West Supervisory Union together again. Our purpose was to think collectively and critically about the possible changes before us under Act 170 (which developed the initiatives initially set out in Act 73). This includes the development of the CESA (Cooperative Educational Service Area) that has begun as of July, and the required discussions of potential mergers we will hold over the next year. Act 170 requires each district in the Franklin West Supervisory Union (Fletcher, Fairfax and Georgia) to participate in regular discussions with the Maple Run Unified School District (which includes Fairfield, St. Albans Town and St. Albans City) about a merger between these districts. As we move through this process, we will also discuss other possibilities including a merger between the three districts already in the Franklin West Supervisory Union.

With that consequential duty in mind, the Fletcher School Board developed two goals for this year:

1. The Board will engage in regular communication with our Fletcher community, to both share updates on our merger discussions and progress, and to get input from community members.
2. Board members will continue professional development and learning that will prepare us for these merger discussions and action.

Development toward these goals will help us to represent you and our students – our Fletcher community – as best we can throughout this process.

Please keep communication open and share your thoughts, concerns, and opportunities you see. If there are specific events you'd like to see Board participation at, please let us know.

Staffing Updates

We are delighted that Fletcher Elementary School is fully staffed this year with some new and some returning staff. There are some classroom reconfigurations, including some multi-grade classes. We welcome one new classroom teacher, Fletcher resident Kelly Buck, for one of our 1st-2nd grade classrooms. Two familiar faces are returning to teach in our Unified Arts: Matt Casazza for the music program, and Cassandra Gengras for art! Jen Sheldon-Purinton has shifted to the Administrative Assistant position, so you can expect to see her face when you enter the school. Finally, we warmly welcome two staff members new to FES, Cindy Garretson for the paraprofessional team, and Gina Kells as an interventionist. We look forward to another strong school year with this wonderful community!

Building and Grounds

When you come to FES, you may feel more well-grounded than ever before, thanks to efforts to improve our grounds and floors. Our repaved parking lot and walkways make pickups and drop-offs safer for all, and our gym floor has been refinished.

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates – all at Fletcher Elementary School and on Zoom (links found [here](#)):

- Tuesday, September 15, 2026 – 6pm – Regular meeting @ FES
- Tuesday, October 13, 2026 – 6pm – Carousel meeting @ FES
- Tuesday, November 17, 2026 – 6pm – Regular meeting @ FES
- Tuesday, December 15, 2026 – 6pm – Regular meeting @ FES

Feel free to reach out to the board if there is any different information you would like to see shared in the newsletter, or for any reason: email at flboard@fwsu.org or [attend a meeting](#).

Sincerely,

The Fletcher Board of School Directors