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BEFORE THE KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PETITION FOR REMOVAL BY ADDRESS OF TYLER MURPHY

January 30, 2026

Clerk, Kentucky House of Representatives
700 Capitol Avenue
Capitol, Room 304
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Madam Clerk:

Pursuant to Section 66 of its Constitution and KRS 63.060, I petition for the removal by address of Tyler Murphy, Chairman and Member of the Fayette County Board of Education (FCBE).

Removal from office is warranted because Mr. Murphy breached the public trust and engaged in a variety of inappropriate acts, any one of which constitutes a misdemeanor in office under Section 68 of the Kentucky Constitution.

SUMMARY OF OFFENSES

- Between January 2023 and May 2025, Superintendent Demetrus Liggins charged more than \$150,000 in expenses to his Fayette County Public Schools (FCPS) charge card. Many of Mr. Liggins' expenditures were excessive and/or personal in nature and therefore inappropriate and non-allowable. Mr. Murphy failed to perform his duty to provide adequate oversight.
- For a period of several months in early 2025, Mr. Murphy knew about a \$16,000,000 budget deficit and failed to inform some his fellow members of the Fayette County Board of Education.
- In May 2025, Mr. Murphy voted to certify a multi-million dollar increase in the occupational and licensing taxes that are imposed on Fayette County residents' incomes without complying with the statutory notice requirements in KRS 160.
- Mr. Murphy caused or allowed FCPS to enter into a lobbying contract for the purpose of supporting a multi-million dollar increase in the occupational and licensing taxes already imposed on Fayette County residents' incomes without first informing some of his fellow members of the FCBE.
- Mr. Murphy voted and encouraged other members of the Board to vote to hire a Texas-based audit firm to review FCPS's financial records even though the Auditor of Public Accounts already announced that her office would be conducting a similar review.

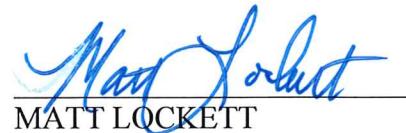
- Mr. Murphy proposed a policy that would prohibit a FCBE member who voted against an adopted measure from speaking with reporters about that measure.
- Mr. Murphy allowed or approved of a massive increase in expenditures of FCPS funds on administrative (i.e., non-teaching) activities in recent years.

TYLER MURPHY'S ACTIONS ARE IMPEACHABLE OFFENSES

- Tyler Murphy failed to satisfy his duty to provide adequate oversight of FCPS finances, in violation of KRS 160.290 (“Each board shall have control and management of all school funds[.]”).
- Tyler Murphy failed to inform his fellow members of the Fayette County Board of Education and members of the public about FCPS’s perilous financial situation, in violation of his fiduciary duties.
- Tyler Murphy failed to provide adequate oversight of Mr. Liggins and other employees’ use of FCPS funds, in violation of his fiduciary duties, *Funk v. Milliken*, 317 S.W.2d 499, 507 (Ky. 1958) (“In determining whether an expense is in an allowable category,” a local governing authority’s decision “will be governed by the consideration of whether the expense is official rather than personal in nature.”), and KRS 160.290.
- Tyler Murphy failed to comply with the public notice requirements that must be followed before a school district may certify an increase in occupational and licensing taxes, in violation of KRS 160.603.

Any one of these actions alone qualifies as misdemeanor in office under the Kentucky Constitution. When taken together, the result is clear: Tyler Murphy must be removed from office. I respectfully request the House of Representatives begin proceedings to do so.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned hereby petitions the House of Representative to remove by address Tyler Murphy from the office of Chairman and Member of the Fayette County Board of Education, and disqualify him to hold any office of honor, trust or profit under this Commonwealth.



MATT LOCKETT