

Members of the Fayette County Board of Education voted unanimously Monday to approve the following resolution authorizing litigation against social media companies:

- Whereas, the use of social media is prevalent among youth;
- Whereas, social media companies have designed their platforms to maximize the time youth spend using them;
- Whereas, many children are burdened by mental health challenges, and many young people face unprecedented learning and life struggles that can be amplified by the negative impacts of increased screen time, unfiltered content, and potentially addictive properties of social media;
- Whereas, research has shown that excessive use of social media can be harmful to the mental, behavioral, and emotional health of youth;
- Whereas, Public Schools in Kentucky have been significantly impacted by the resulting crisis from overexposure to social media because school districts are one of the main providers or facilitators of mental health supports and services for school-aged children in the community;
- Whereas, our School District and our employees spend a significant amount of time and resources addressing students' mental health challenges;
- Whereas, this School District believes it is entitled to compensation for its efforts and resources expended to address and treat the mental health challenges caused by social media;
- Whereas, this School District desires to help reduce the negative impact of social media on the mental health of students;
- NOW, therefore, be it resolved by the Fayette County Board of Education that it authorizes attorney Ronald Johnson, and his law firm, Hendy Johnson Vaughn & Emery of Louisville, Kentucky, to file a civil action against appropriate parties to compensate Fayette County Public Schools for damages suffered by Fayette County Public Schools and to seek any other appropriate relief, including injunctive relief. The Fayette County Board of Education further authorizes the superintendent/designee to negotiate and execute all necessary contracts and other related documents on behalf of Fayette County Public Schools in the pursuit of any civil action.