



LAKELAND
SCHOOL SYSTEM

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LAKELAND SCHOOL SYSTEM CLOSES ON PURCHASE OF 94 ACRES FOR LAKELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL AND FUTURE HIGH SCHOOL

New Lakeland School Expected to Open in August, 2018

Lakeland, TN, October 26, 2015— On Friday, October 23rd, representatives from Lakeland School System and Jones-Gilliland Group, LLC signed final closing documents to complete the purchase and sale of 94 acres of land for one million dollars. The expansive, wooded site will hold a new Lakeland middle school by August of 2018 and will eventually provide a home for a comprehensive middle/high school facility.

“While our short term and immediate needs are for a middle school, we are making a long-term investment in a beautiful site that will eventually accommodate our middle and high school students,” said superintendent Dr. Ted Horrell.

The site, which is north of Highway 70; east of Canada Road; and south of Old Brownsville Road, has been in the family of Rudolph Jones for more than 140 years. Throughout the contract negotiation, representatives from both parties have stressed the shared vision for the development of the property that led Mr. Jones and his family to sell the land to the new school system.

“Mr. Jones is a thoughtful custodian of his family’s property, and we are honored and excited that he was willing to part with such a wonderful and historic piece of property. Mr. and Mrs. Jones and their family hold education in the highest esteem, and we intend to build a school that will make everyone in Lakeland proud.”

Superintendent Horrell is currently working with architects and engineers from A2H and Renaissance Group, which are both Lakeland-based firms, to finalize schematic design for the new middle school.

Horrell expects the design team to make a presentation to the school board with details of the proposed building in the coming weeks.

LSS board chair Kevin Floyd said, “This campus is a commitment to the children of Lakeland and an investment in the future. We are extremely excited about the opportunity this brings our children and City. It’s an exciting time to be in Lakeland.”

Lakeland School System currently oversees one K-5 school, Lakeland Elementary. The city’s middle and high school students attend schools in Arlington Community Schools and Bartlett City Schools through inter-local agreements with those systems.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Dr. Ted Horrell at 901.867.5412 or email at thorrell@lakelandk12.org.