



**SPORTS**

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BORDER BATTLE  
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## Superintendent gives updates on sexual misconduct initiatives

BY TAYLOR DAVIS  
EDITOR

During a recent meeting of the Shelby County Public Schools Board of Education, several initiatives, new policies, and ideas were brought up.

After the meeting, Superintendent Josh Matthews provided further details on the progress of these initiatives and the situation that led to them.

Over the course of several months, former Martha Layne Collins boys' basketball coach Chris Gaither was the subject of investigations involving allegations of sexual misconduct and inappropriate communication with students that led to two sus-

pensions and his eventual termination.

The allegation came from a former Collins student who graduated in 2016 and had recently come forward with her statement online and at board meetings.

Now, the district, after much pushback from victims, the public and parents, has announced a three-phased approach to combat sexual misconduct behaviors and put student safety first going forward.

By law, the district is required to have an anonymous tip line, however Matthews admits they have not publicized the form as much as they needed to. Now, they will be launching a media campaign to educate the public about the tip line's

functions and how students can use it.

The online anonymous tip line, called the STOP Tip Line, is created by Kentucky Homeland Security and is monitored 24 hours a day, allowing two-way communication and document uploading.

"We are going to increase visibility of the QR codes, we are going to increase our awareness through a really public campaign to say this is what we have, please use it when you come across a reportable offense," said Matthews.

He explained that reportable offenses may include bullying, threats, sexual misconduct, and more. The district has also increased the number of people who receive reports when

they come through the tip line to enable quick responses and better accountability.

The district will also be implementing a second tipline and has reportedly already been in contact with four companies. This line will primarily be for staff members to report staff-to-staff and staff-to-student behaviors. The line essentially serves as a share point for documentation for a third-party investigator, should an investigation be opened, allowing for all documentation to be in a secure location and easily accessible.

Next, the board approved a first reading of an updated board policy, including the following:



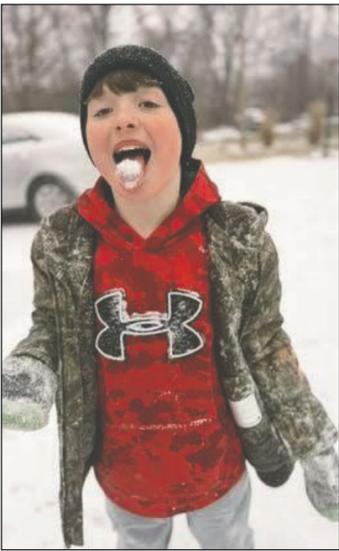
Shelby County Public Schools Superintendent Josh Matthews

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## Cold weather can't stop the fun!



Submitted by Katie Trzcinski



Submitted by Brandi Wilson

Rian promises it's not yellow snow!



Submitted by Gigi Schultze Wheeler

Golden retriever enjoying the snow with his plush toy.



Submitted by Gigi Schultze Wheeler

Trying to turn a Siberian husky into a sled dog.

## Planning Commission removes micro-breweries from zoning regulation

BY TAYLOR DAVIS  
EDITOR

A micro-brewery or micro-distillery is a facility that produces small amounts of product and serves the majority of it off-site.

Recently, both the Shelbyville City Council and Triple S Planning Commission sought to end the creation of these facilities in the warehouse district of the city.

On January 8, a legal notice was published announcing the City Council's amendment to the Shelbyville Zoning Regulations, initiated to remove micro-brewery and micro-distillery as permitted uses in the Warehouse District. The change was lumped in with language changes to regulations governing food trucks and food truck parks.

The change in regulation likely stems from controversy over Door Knocker Whiskey LLC, which recently applied for a distiller, rectifier, retail drink, bottling, bottling house storage, sampling, special Sunday retail drink, and direct shoppers license. It was also discovered that the business would be located at the very location that has concerned citizens, 201 Willis Street.

Triple S Executive Director Ryan Libke stated that Door Knocker Whiskey will not be affected by the newly updated zoning regulations and will still be

permitted to operate at the location, as the process had already begun.

Several members of the public who live near the warehouse spoke against micro-breweries and micro-distilleries in the warehouse district and in favor of the amended zoning regulations.

John Shannon, owner of Shannon Funeral Service, located in the same neighborhood as the Door Knocker Whiskey building, expressed concern about such businesses.

"That kind of operation does not belong in a residential neighborhood," said Shannon. "The areas around Magnolia Avenue and Main Street are surrounded by homes and small businesses that serve this community quietly and respectfully. Increased traffic, late-night activity, amplified music, fire hazards, and the potential health impacts from industrial alcohol production are not compatible with this neighborhood."

The commission approved a motion to strike micro-breweries and micro-distilleries from the permitted uses in the warehouse district in the Shelbyville Zoning Regulations, and to add language pertaining to food trucks and food truck parks.

Clifford Ashburn presented a new subdivision

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## Shelby County prepares for winter storm

SUBMITTED BY JON PARK  
DEPUTY JUDGE-EXECUTIVE

Shelby County Judge-Executive Dan Ison and his team monitored winter weather conditions Friday afternoon.

To ensure Shelby County was prepared as conditions developed, Ison signed a Local State of Emergency effective Saturday, January 24.

Shelby County Emergency Management Director Chris Spaulding led a briefing with area first responders, the Shelby County Road Department, and school and hospital representatives.

The group received a detailed weather update from the National Weather Service and coordinated response plans ahead of the winter weather event that arrived on Saturday.



Submitted by Jon Park

Shelby County Emergency Management Director Chris Spaulding briefs first responders, the road department, and school and hospital officials on weather updates and response plans.



Submitted by Jon Park

Members of Shelby County leadership watch the weather closely.

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