

FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Fort Thomas City Building – 130 N. Fort Thomas Avenue

Fort Thomas, Kentucky 41075

December 8, 2025

6:30pm

Attendance Taken at 6:24 PM:

Present Board Members:

Mr. Jeff Beach

Mr. Clem Fennell IV

Mrs. Sarah Foster

Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein

Mr. David Russell

I. OPENING OF MEETING

Board Chair Julie Kuhnhein opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Recognitions

1. Board Bravos and Updates

The Board shared the following:

- Unified Bowling Team won 1st place in their 1st match
- HHS Cheer secured a bid for Nationals in January; will compete in State this weekend
- HHS Dance will compete in State this weekend
- Dance team will also be competing in State
- HHS Marching Band won Mid-States Band Association Championship for the 2nd year in a row
- Hoops for Hunger was a big success
- Tower Park Athletic Complex Grand Opening was November 19
- Holiday Walk was well attended
- HHS Culinary won 2nd place at the State Junior Chef Program
- Bob Sphire was named the 4A District Coach of the Year
- Students named to the various All State programs will be recognized at the January BOE meeting
- Exams will be December 17-19
- Lots of holiday performances taking place this month

2. Tradition of Excellence - Kelsey Etherton

The Board recognized Kelsey Etherton for her achievement as the 2025 USCA Large Public School Coach of the Year.

3. Tradition of Excellence - Ashley Wrobleski

The Board recognized Ashley Wrobleski for her achievement as the 2025 State Dance Coach of the Year.

4. Holiday Card Artist - Nila Dixon

The Board recognized and thanked Johnson Elementary student Nila Dixon whose original artwork was selected for the district's 2025 holiday card. Parker discussed her work and was presented with a check for \$50 and a "Rich in Tradition" t-shirt.

5. HHS Band Marching Band - Mid-States Band Association Champions

Students from the HHS Marching Band were recognized for their Championship at this year's MSBA Competition. The Board thanked the students and presented each with a Certificate of Achievement and a Champions t-shirt.

C. Student Showcase - MES: International Club

Members of Moyer's International Program shared their club goals and experiences, giving examples of how the rules apply in the club and in their personal lives. The Board thanked the students and presented each with a "Rich in Tradition" t-shirt. Students presenting included:

Josue Sanchez

Yahvi Jagathesh Ram

Saivi Jagathesh Ram

Everett Stephens-Showman

Connor Murphy

D. Community Forum

There were no community members requesting to speak.

II. ACTION ITEMS

A. Highlands Athletic Complex at Tower Park Renovation

1. Project Update

Chad Niedert shared that the track and facility are being used. There is some training on various systems still taking place and additional equipment continues to arrive to support the many groups who will utilize the space.

2. Morel Construction Co. Pay Application #17

Order #2701 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay Application #17 to Morel Construction Co. in the amount of \$286,402.80 for the Highlands Athletic Complex at Tower Park Project passed with a motion by Mrs. Sarah Foster and a second by Mr. Clem Fennell IV.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mr. David Russell	Yes

3. Motz Pay Application #3

Order #2702 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay Application #3 to The Motz Group LLC in the amount of \$30,117.38 for the Highlands Athletic Center at Tower Park project passed with a motion by Mr. Jeff Beach and a second by Mr. David Russell.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mr. David Russell	Yes

B. Policy 08.221 Revision - Second Reading

Order #2703 - Motion Passed: Approval based on a Second Reading of the revision of Policy 08.221 passed with a motion by Mr. Clem Fennell IV and a second by Mrs. Sarah Foster.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mr. David Russell	Yes

C. Winkler Field Lease

Order #2704 - Motion Passed: Approval for Superintendent Robinson to negotiate a long term lease agreement with the City of Fort Thomas to include the full cost of new lighting and installation at Winkler Field passed with a motion by Mr. David Russell and a second by Mr. Jeff Beach.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mr. David Russell	Yes

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Board Committee Updates

Board members shared that Calendar and Hall of Fame Committees will meet on 12/9/25, and the Budget Committee will meet next week.

B. 2025 KY State Accountability Report

Keith Faust shared the most recent KSA results, noting all elementary schools and the high school received a blue rating. He also commented that we have the top 3 elementary schools and the top high school in the region. These accomplishments are the result of hard work in every building.

C. Resiliency Poll

Jamee Flaherty shared the Resiliency Poll results with the Board. She noted our results are very similar to last year and explained how and when parents are contacted based on these results.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Order #2705 - Motion Passed: With all Board members having had the opportunity to review and pursue any questions about all of the items contained therein, approval of the consent agenda passed with a motion by Mr. Jeff Beach and a second by Mrs. Sarah Foster.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Yes
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes
Mr. David Russell	Yes

A. Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 10, 2025 and Working Meeting of December 1, 2025

B. Financial Report for Month of November 2025

C. Food Service Report for November 2025

D. Attendance Report for 3rd Month of 2025-2026

E. Authorization for Payment of Claims

F. Notification and Approval of Student Trips

1. HHS Cheer - Winchester, KY - December 12-13, 2025
2. HHS Dance - Winchester, KY - December 12-13, 2025
3. HHS Cheer - Orlando, FL - January 29 to February 2, 2026
4. WES 4th Grade - Columbus, OH - April 16, 2026

G. Personnel Action Taken Since November 10, 2025

Employment of the following Classified Employee

Teresa Beggs - Instructional Assistant - HHS

Employment of the following Paraprofessional Employee

Jacob Grandstaff - Boys Assistant Wrestling Coach - HHS

Employment of the following Certified Substitutes

Rachel Burnett

Brooke David

Katie Stephens

Doug Wainscott

Retirement of the following Classified Employee

Tim Keeler - Bus Driver - Districtwide

Resignation of the following Paraprofessional Employee

Dave Pratt - 7th Grade Volleyball Coach - HMS

H. Grant Extended Leave

1. Colin Shadwell - Medical - November 11, 2025 to February 2, 2026
2. Jillian Booth - Medical - December 18, 2025 to January 29, 2026

I. Approval of Additional Common Carriers

Additional Common Carriers:

Better Business Connection, Inc. DBA: Connect BBC
RLCL Acquisition, LLC

V. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to discuss.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Julie Kuhnhein adjourned the meeting at 7:55pm.

Chairperson

Superintendent