

**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.

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Chairperson

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Superintendent