

**ESTILL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS
(MINUTES)**

**Regular Board Meeting
September 17, 2020 6:00 PM
Estill County Board of Education
Boardroom
253 Main Street
Irvine, KY 40336**

Attendance Taken at: 6:18 PM

Present Board Members:

Mr. Bryan Covey
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy
Mrs. Donna Isfort
Mrs. Jenny Niece
Ms. Shiela Samples

Visitors Present In-Person:

Summer Evans, Felicia Campbell, Tonya Isaacs, Jeremy Simpson.

Visitors Present Remotely:

Johnathan Shaw, Brooke Mays, Stephen Willis, Jeremy Faulkner, Peter Fisher, Amanda Bryant, Andrea Williams, Angie Howell, Austin Moore, Charlotte Arvin, Charlotte O'Bryan, Jessica Mullins, Josh Yost, Lisa Reece, Mandy Watson, Mark Rawlings, Toni-Garrett Hall, Tricia Patterson, and Mickey Tucker.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Hardy called the meeting to order at 6:19 P.M.

A. Welcome/Pledge

Due to COVID-19, the meeting was held remotely. There was a limited number of in-person attendees. Chairperson Hardy welcomed the viewers watching the meeting via the internet and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Reminder to Sign In

C. Revisions

There were no revisions to the agenda.

II. GEAR-UP Presentation/Update

Tricia Patterson, GEAR UP Interventionist, remotely gave a presentation and reported on GEAR UP program activities. The GEAR UP program has two (2) interventionists, Ms. Patterson and Blake Crowe. The program also has two (2) College Career Navigators, Hannah Eaton and Suzanne Waite. These employees are assigned to the Middle School and High School to follow at-risk students throughout their school tenure.

III. Tax Rates for 2020-2021

A. Establish 2020-2021 property tax rates

Order #14430 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Saylor reviewed the discussion that took place at the Tax Hearing prior to board meeting. Superintendent recommended freezing the current tax rate at 51.1¢ for real and personal property for 2020-2021 school year. Freezing the current rate at 51.1¢ passed with a motion by Mr. Bryan Covey and a second by Mrs. Jenny Niece.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

B. Establish 2020-2021 motor vehicle and watercraft rates

Order #14431 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Saylor recommended leaving the current rate of 54.8¢ for motor vehicle and watercraft rates. Holding the current motor vehicle and watercraft tax rate at 54.8¢ passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Mr. Bryan Covey.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

IV. Facilities

A. Construction Update

1. Area Technology Center

a. Update

Jeremy Faulkner with Codell Construction gave the Board an update on the Area Technology Center remotely. Mr. Faulkner said there had been work done on the pedway and that the roof should be on the upper section in November.

b. Pay Application #013

Order #14432 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Saylor recommended Pay Application #13 in the total amount of \$752,592.55, with associated purchase orders be paid. Approval passed with a motion by Mr. Bryan Covey and a second by Mrs. Jenny Niece.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

c. Approve EDA Grant Requirements

Order #14433 - Motion Passed: The Superintendent explained that the grant funding of the Area Technology Center was recouped by filing for payments. One requirement to receive the grant funding is a Covenant of Purpose. The Covenant of Purpose is a twenty (20) year agreement that the facility will be used as the grant intended; an Area Technology Center. Approval of the Covenant passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Mr. Bryan Covey.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

2. Bus Garage

a. Update

Peter Fisher, with Ross Tarrant Architects, gave a remote update on the new Bus Garage. Mr. Fisher reported that fuel tanks had been installed and the project is on schedule. Scheduling a time to allow board members to tour the project was discussed.

b. Pay Application #8 with Associated Direct Purchase Orders

Order #14434 - Motion Passed: Approval of pay application #8 with associated direct purchase invoicing in the amount of \$154,046.84 passed with a motion by Mr. Bryan Covey and a second by Mrs. Jenny Niece.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

c. Approve Special Inspection Invoice

Order #14435 - Motion Passed: Superintendent Saylor recommended payment of a separate billing in the amount of \$9,234.40 for special inspections of the construction site. Payment approval passed with a motion by Mrs. Jenny Niece and a second by Ms. Shiela Samples.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

3. Central Office/Middle School Bleacher Replacement Project

Peter Fisher reported that the Kentucky Department of Education was reviewing the contracts for the Bleacher Replacement Project. Once KDE grants approval of the contracts, bleachers will be ordered.

4. E.C.H.S. Renovation - Phase 7

a. Approve financial advisor contract

Order #14436 - Motion Passed: Mark Rawlings of Baird & Company (formerly Hilliard & Lyons) remotely addressed the Board. Mr. Rawlings explained the Financial Advisor Contract with Baird and reviewed the Disclosures document. Approval of the financial advisor contract with Baird & Company passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Mr. Bryan Covey.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

b. Approve funding resolution

Order #14437 - Motion Passed: It was recommended by the Superintendent and Mr. Rawlings that the Board adopt the following resolution: A resolution of the Board of Education of the Estill County, Kentucky School District authorizing the use of up to \$150,000 per year of general fund revenues toward the payment of debt service on school building revenue bonds, series of 2020 for renovation to Estill County High School. The resolution passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Mr. Bryan Covey.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

c. Current bonding potential

Mr. Rawlings then reviewed the district's projected bonding analysis through 2040. He reported that the .05 nickel tax equalization ends in 2038.

d. Consideration/Approval of Schematic Design

Order #14438 - Motion Passed: Peter Fisher explained schematic designs for the High School Renovation Project, Phase 7. He reviewed the four areas: interior, exterior, stadium and baseball/softball fields. Due to some recommended changes, approval of the schematic designs was tabled until September 24th meeting with a motion by Mrs. Jenny Niece and a second by Mr. Bryan Covey.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

V. Approve FY21 Working Budget

Order #14439 - Motion Passed: Angie Howell, Finance Director, remotely reviewed the FY21 Working Budget. Superintendent Saylor and Mrs. Howell presented a synopsis of the working budget. Approval of the FY21 Working Budget passed with a motion by Mrs. Jenny Niece and a second by Ms. Shiela Samples.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

VI. Consent (Action) Items

Order #14440 - Motion Passed: Approval of the following consent items passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Mrs. Jenny Niece.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

- A. Approve Minutes of August 20, 2020 regular meeting.
- B. Approve Treasurer's Report and payment of bills totaling \$1,326,844.45.
- C. Warrant 08/19/2020 notification was presented a second time. The warrant was included in the 08/20/2020 warrant total. Ensuring members were presented a copy.
- D. Approve revised FY21 District Staffing Policy. Revisions included combining the positions of Special Education Director and Federal Programs Coordinator; adding a Payroll Director; a full-time district custodian; and a Certified Medical Assistant at South Irvine. The C.M.A. and custodian position will be funded through the CARES Act. Depending on the successful candidate, either the Payroll Clerk or the Payroll Director position will be abolished.
- E. Approve 2020-2021 salary schedule revision/job description
 - 1. Extended Day Guidelines were presented for positions requiring more days than the base calendar.
 - 2. Extra Service salary schedule included the addition of Public Address Announcer.
 - 3. Payroll Director at Rank IV with 240 days.
 - 4. Approve Payroll Director job description.
- F. E.C. Full Utilization Head Start Agreement/September 1 Certification for 2020-2021 school year.

VII. Public Comments

Technology Director, Jeremy Simpson, shared public comments that were made via the website. Questions/comments included:

- Q. When will students go back to school in-person?
- A. Will be addressed in Superintendent's report.
- Q. Are students required to wear a mask?
- A. Yes. Wearing a mask is not negotiable.
- Q. How long will the "Recallable Nickel" tax be applied?
- A. At least twenty (20) years after the conclusion of supported projects.
- Q. Vegetation behind the High School is unsightly.
- A. Vegetation will be removed during the renovation project.
- Q. Several parents stated their students are struggling with remote learning.
- A. Call your student's school.
- Q. What should the Band program do regarding storage of equipment?
- A. A new roof is being installed on the storage building (food storage warehouse).
The band program will be able to use that facility once repairs are completed.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

- A. Notification of Personnel Actions
- B. KSBA Membership cards were presented to Board Members.
- C. KSBA Regional meeting was held remotely Monday, September 14, 2020.

D. The most recent back to school update was reviewed. Estill County is now in the “Red” zone, meaning it is believed that the positivity rate for the Coronavirus is at or above 25+ per 100K. Due to this, there will be no in person classes until October 19th. At that time students will go back on a hybrid A/B schedule. Ms. Mandy Watson with the Estill County Health Department remotely reported that the community must wear masks, wash their hands and social distance in order to stop the upward trend. There will be no athletics from 09/21-09/27. Status for athletic events will be reevaluated 09/24. Summer Evans, student representative to the Board addressed both the Board and the audience. Summer said students were struggling with the situation and were afraid they would not be able to return to school this year. She asked that students remember to follow the Health Department Guidelines.

Order #14441 - Motion Passed: A motion was made by Ms. Shiela Samples and seconded by Mrs. Jenny Niece to delay in-person classes until October 19, 2020.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

E. KHSAA athletic guidance was reviewed for public information. Several questions have been asked about fan attendance. There is a 3 Phase plan for allowing fans to attend games. Phase 1, as determined by school administration, allows only family members of players to purchase four (4) tickets. If the district can show a decline in virus cases, fan attendance will be increased, but do not expect full capacity.

F. Student Athletic COVID-19 testing guidelines were tabled until the September 24, 2020 special meeting.

G. Live Streaming and NFHS proposal was discussed. The contract would have viewers use a paywall to view athletic events. Superintendent Saylor asked that board members review presented information and it would also be on the September 24th agenda.

H. Superintendent Saylor reviewed his FY21 Professional Growth Plan. Revisions will be available at the next meeting.

I. Superintendent Saylor also announced he would be having surgery October 28 and hoped to be out only 9-10 days.

IX. Board Member Forum

The Board expressed their appreciation to the staff's hard work during this difficult time.

X. Adjourn

Order #14442 - Motion Passed: Adjournment of the Board Meeting at 9:21 p.m. passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Mrs. Jenny Niece.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Bryan Covey	Yes
Mrs. Rhonda Hardy	Yes
Mrs. Donna Isfort	Yes
Mrs. Jenny Niece	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes

Jeff Saylor, Secretary

Rhonda Hardy, Chairperson