

**BULLITT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
1040 HIGHWAY 44 EAST
SHEPHERDSVILLE, KY 40165**

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BULLITT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

**February 22, 2021
5:00 PM**

MINUTES OF RECORD

The Bullitt County Board of Education met at the Frank R. Hatfield Administrative Center, 1040 Highway 44 East, Shepherdsville, Kentucky, 40165, at 5:00 PM on February 22, 2021, with the following members present:

Attendance Taken at 4:57 PM

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) Ms. Linda Belcher | (2) Mrs. Nita Neal | (3) Mrs. Debby Atherton |
| (4) Mrs. Lisa Hodges | (5) Mr. Darrell Coleman | |

CALL TO ORDER

The February 22, 2021 regular meeting of the Bullitt County Board of Education was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Board Chairperson Debby Atherton.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

2021-025- Motion made by Nita Neal, seconded by Linda Belcher, to adopt the agenda with the following changes:

- Add to Consent Items - Travel - #11582, NBHS JROTC
- Add to Consent Items - Contracts - Paroquet Springs, NBHS Prom
- Add to Consent Items - Donations - MES & BES
- Revise New Business Item - 2021-2022 Staffing Plan, High Schools
- Add to New Business - Remote Learning (March 4th and 5th)

All members voted YES.

PRESENTATIONS

- Board Vice-Chair Darrell Coleman led the audience in The Pledge of Allegiance and reviewed the Board Team Commitments.
- Communications Director John Roberts reminded anyone wishing to address the Board to please register.
- The Board heard from Bullitt East High School student Emma Wright and Journalism instructor Larry Steinmetz via Zoom about the Kentucky New Voices Coalition. The following Resolution was presented for the Board to show its support:

RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF HB 187: RELATING TO STUDENT JOURNALIST FREEDOM

WHEREAS, Journalism is a pillar of democracy, and a free press is protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Bullitt County Board of Education believes that student journalists are important participants in the media ecosystem and are increasingly the only source of local and education news in their communities; their work creates an historical record of their generation's experiences, and provides an important service to the community; and

WHEREAS, The integrity and independence of journalists is a key tenet of their work and is guided by Codes of Ethics as determined by professional journalism and journalism education societies such as the Society of Professional Journalists; and

WHEREAS, the Kentucky Board of Education believes that censorship of student journalists contravenes the tenets of the First Amendment and the basis of a free and informed society and it undermines the role of education in producing engaged, civic-minded, critical thinkers; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court held in *Tinker vs. Des Moines* (1970) that students do not "shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gates" with only narrow and limited exceptions; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Hazelwood School District vs. Kuhlmeier* (1988) permits subjective and overbroad censorship of student journalists by school administrators and has been discredited by every journalist education association in America; and

WHEREAS, despite its essential role in the school community, student journalists' speech is held to a higher standard than other students on campus and is often censored for arbitrary and subjective reasons; and

WHEREAS; we believe student media advisers should not face retaliation, reassignment or termination for refusing to censor responsible and truthful student media; and

WHEREAS, Representative Attica Scott has introduced HB 187, a bill relating to student journalist freedom, to restore and protect the rights of student journalists and advisers; and

WHEREAS, The Act would prohibit the censorship of student journalists except in certain narrow circumstances in line with the standard established by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Tinker v. Des Moines*; and would protect from retaliation advisers who refuse to illegally infringe upon student journalists' press freedom;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the Bullitt County School Board does hereby support HB 187 and the freedom of Kentucky's student media and ask the Kentucky General Assembly to support the Act and pass it, restoring and protecting the rights of student journalists and their advisers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon passage, copies of this resolution be sent to the Commissioner of Education and the elected House and Senate members of the Kentucky General Assembly.

2021-026- Motion made by Darrell Coleman, seconded by Lisa Hodges, to approve the Resolution as presented. All members voted YES.

- Mrs. Cate Noble Ward of Studio Kremer Architects gave a construction update on the New East End Elementary School (OMES).

COMMUNICATIONS

Audience Comments

(None)

Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent Jesse Bacon talked about last week's lack of in-class learning due to the hazardous snow and ice conditions that warranted a snow day and week of remote learning. Dr. Bacon thanked Facilities Director Ed Oyler and the maintenance staff for their work in clearing school parking lots and sidewalks and also School Nutrition Services Director Todd Crumbacker and the food service crew for preparing student meals.
- Dr. Bacon reminded everyone that the second dose of the employee COVID-19 Vaccine is scheduled for March 3-4 at Bullitt Central High School. All employees who received the first dose have been notified of the day and time of the second dose. Dr. Bacon thanked Human Resources Director Thea Hurt and the HR staff for their work in keeping subs and volunteers in classrooms during the first round of vaccinations. He expressed hope that as the positivity rate continues to trend downward, a return to in-school learning for all students will be explored for the fourth nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year.
- Dr. Bacon also discussed Extended Learning Loss Programs for the summer and the 2021-2022 school year.

Other Items from the Board

- Board member Linda Belcher mentioned the Learn & Earn training opportunities from KSBA each month that the newer members may take advantage of for training credits. Debby Atherton responded that they are virtual and can be viewed at home or at the central office if anyone would like to come in and do that.

CONSENT ITEMS

2021-027- Motion made by Linda Belcher, seconded by Nita Neal, to approve Consent Items as presented, noting that all items have been studied with individual recommendations and rationale being provided prior to the meeting in the full Board packet on February 15, 2021, which is available online. All members voted YES.

Financial Reports

1. Balance Sheets for All Funds
2. Monthly Summary Report for Period 7
3. AP Check Reconciliation Register
4. Detailed Paid Invoice Report

Bids

1. Request for Proposals - Banking Services

Finance Director Lisa Lewis requested approval to submit a Request for Proposal for Banking Services. Currently, Stock Yards Bank provides the District's banking services. While we have solid relations with Stock Yards Bank, it would be in the best interest of the Board to submit an RFP for Banking Services at this time. Upon receipt of the Request for Proposals and selection for banking services, it was requested the Board authorize the Superintendent to select, execute, and sign the appropriate paperwork after legal counsel's review.

Travel

* All travel by commercial carrier is due to schedule/cost.

| <u>School</u> | <u>Group</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>\$</u> | <u>Travel by:</u> | <u>TRIP#</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------|
| BCHS | Track | 3/5-7/21 | East Central H.S. | St. Leon, IN | -0- | Parents | 11487 |
| | | 4/1-5/21 | Beach Run Inv. | Myrtle Beach, SC | -0- | Parents | 11519 |
| | Baseball | 4/4-10/21 | Cal Ripken Camp | Myrtle Beach, SC | -0- | Parents | 11550 |
| BEHS | Volleyball | 9/10-12/21 | Rocky Top Classic | Gatlinburg, TN | -0- | BOE Vans / Parents | 11502 |
| | Baseball | 4/3-8/21 | Spring Training Camp | Vero Beach, FL | -0- | Southwest Airlines | 11496 |
| NBHS | JROTC | 2/24/21 | Central Hardin Drill Meet | Cecilia, KY | -0- | Miller | 11503 |
| | | 3/20/21 | Fort Knox Raider Meet | Fort Knox, KY | -0- | | 11582 |
| | Baseball & Softball | 4/5-9/21 | Games | Myrtle Beach, SC | -0- | Parents/BOE Van | 11548 |

Minutes

- January 25, 2021 - Regular Meeting - Monthly Meeting
- February 1, 2021 - Special Meeting - Training Session
- February 8, 2021 - Regular Meeting - Work Session

Construction Items

1. Certificate of Final Completion & Acceptance - GESC BG# 18-313

The Certificate of Final Completion and Acceptance is for the work completed by Harshaw Trane for the Bullitt County Public Schools GESC BG# 18-313 as described below:

- Old Mill Elementary - HVAC Renovation, controls, LED lighting, water conservation, sprinkler systems, ceilings
- LED Lighting - Bernheim MS, Board Office, Brooks ES, Bullitt Alternative, Bullitt Central HS, Bullitt East HS, Cedar Grove ES, Crossroads ES, Eastside MS, Freedom ES, Hebron MS, Lebanon Junction ES, Maryville ES, Mt. Washington ES, Mt. Washington MS, Nichols ES, North Bullitt HS, Pleasant Grove ES, Riverview Opp. Ctr., Roby ES, Shepherdsville ES, Bus Garage, Zoneton MS, & Maintenance Complex
- Boilers - Pleasant Grove Elementary
- Controls - Bullitt East HS (2007 addition), Eastside MS & North Bullitt HS (2007 addition)
- Water Conservation - Multiple facilities
- Kitchen Hot Water Booster Heaters - Multiple facilities

The date of final completion is February 1, 2021. After a review of all work completed in this contract, requested was the Board to authorize Dr. Jesse Bacon to sign the completion documents.

2. Test and Balance Contractor for New OMES

Presented were two proposals for Test and Balance Services for the New Old Mill Elementary School. This scope of work includes testing and balancing the HVAC, geothermal and domestic

water systems. This work is critical for the proper performance of these systems and will be paid out of construction contingency funds.

The following companies submitted quotes:

Thermal Balance: \$28,280

Ebco: \$28,400

JR Epps from CMTA recommended the use of Thermal Balance. Currently, there is \$1,375,855.14 in contingency and after this request the balance will be \$1,347,575.14. Approval of the recommendation for Thermal Balance was requested.

Human Resources

1. Leaves of Absence Requests

Dennis Cook - Sweeper - Shepherdsville Elementary - Mr. Cook requested leave without pay for the dates of February 11 - March 5, 2021. He does not qualify for FMLA.

Ashley Grady - Teacher - Old Mill Elementary - Ms. Grady requested leave without pay for the dates of March 3 - May 4, 2021. She is using 12 weeks of FMLA.

Diane Drury Lawson - Instructional Assistant - Maryville Elementary - Ms. Lawson requested leave without pay for the dates of February 15-24, 2021. She does not qualify for FMLA and has used all her available accrual leave time.

Donita McPherson - Tutor - Crossroads Elementary - Ms. McPherson requested leave without pay for the dates of January 28 - April 28, 2021. She does not qualify for FMLA.

Kaylae Price - Teacher - Cedar Grove Elementary - Ms. Price requested leave without pay for the remainder of the 2020/2021 school year beginning February 25, 2021. She does not qualify for FMLA.

Ashley Roberts - Teacher - Bullitt East High School - Ms. Roberts requested her leave without pay be extended from ending February 12th until February 26th, 2021. She will be using 8 weeks of FMLA instead of 6 weeks.

Denica Sanders - Food Service Manager - Bullitt Lick Middle School - Ms. Sanders requested her leave without pay be extended through May 5, 2021. She has used all her FMLA and accrual leave time.

Alecia Tones - Teacher - Nichols Elementary - Ms. Tones requested leave without pay for the dates of February 11 - March 10, 2021. She is using 12 weeks of FMLA.

Michael Welsh - Bus Driver - Transportation - Mr. Welsh requested leave without pay for the dates of January 4-15, 2021. He is using 5 weeks of FMLA.

2. Entry of the Employment Records in the Minutes of Record

Employment records for both the certified and classified personnel for the period of **January 2021 through February 2021** were submitted for the Board's information and inclusion in the minutes of this meeting.

Contracts

1. Adaptive Schools Training MOA

This Memorandum of Agreement is with Adaptive Schools Foundation Seminar and Dr. Maggie McGatha. Dr. McGatha is a retired University of Louisville professor who approached BCPS to be a "host" training site for Adaptive Schools due to common practices that occur within our district congruent with this work along with the high numbers of staff we send to the training. Based on the information, two high school instructional coaches were sent to become trainers. To complete their training, the district is required to offer two rounds of Adaptive School Training within a minimum of 12 participants. The first round was completed on April 17, 2020, but were not able to complete the second training for Cohort 1 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to this, an updated MOA was drafted to reflect new dates and funding sources. This training will be advertised throughout the region and state for additional participation, at a cost, along with providing training for staff within BCPS at no charge. The total cost of the training will be

\$8,000 plus round-trip mileage and texts associated with the training. Funding will come from the Title II and the Student Learning budget.

2. Paroquet Springs Conference Centre – NBHS Prom

Presented was a contract with Paroquet Springs to hold the NBHS prom on April 24, 2021. North Bullitt High School previously submitted a contract with the Ali Center as the venue for the spring prom. That venue has since closed for events due to COVID-19 and the date became available at Paroquet Springs. The venue has also agreed to provide refreshments during the event, which has warranted the cancellation of the previous approved caterer.

Permission to Accept Donations/Grant Funding

| School/Program Receiving Contribution | Donor | Description of Gift | Purpose | Value |
|--|--|------------------------|---|------------|
| BMS/BLMS Tiffany Jenkins | Linda Belcher | Donation Check | For Christmas Assistance | \$300.00 |
| Zoneton Middle School | 4 Imprint | Donation Product | PBIS Incentives | \$500.00 |
| Maryville Elementary Sandy Hutchins | Maryville PTA | Donation Check | Playground Equipment | \$5,016.00 |
| Brooks Elementary | Thanh T. Vu – DBA A&J Pretty Nails | Donation | To change approval from Playground Equipment to K & 3 rd Grade to be divided equally among classrooms (per donor) | \$700.00 |

Permission to Apply – Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

The Department of School Nutrition Services (SNS) requested permission to apply for and participate in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) during the months of June and July. The SFSP ensures that low-income children continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. Free meals are available to all children under the age of 19 years; these meals will be made available at approved SFSP sites in areas with significant concentrations of low-income children. These sites will be located at various places in these low-income communities, such as schools, parks, recreation centers, churches, etc. This request for 2021 includes the need for, at minimum, fifteen (15) cook/bakers, two (2) kitchen managers and substitutes on an as needed basis for no more than 40 days. Participation in the SFSP benefits other community programs such as 21st Century and the YMCA of Bullitt County by providing free meals, thus allowing other program funds to go towards education and enrichment activities.

Use of District Facilities by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services

The Salt River Area Office of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services requested permission to continue to the use of district facilities from February 23, 2021 to March 31, 2022 as a shelter in the case of a local emergency and/or disaster. Facilities Director Ed Oyler will be the contact person for the district.

Request to Alter District Property – Installation of Greenhouse at BCHS

Bullitt Central High School wishes to install a 20'x48' greenhouse on an existing concrete slab. The materials for the greenhouse will be purchased using Section 6 SBDM funding. This project requires no water, electricity or installation cost. The greenhouse will be used as a cold frame housing area for plants and agriculture instruction.

Shortened School Day Request - 2021-10

Parents have requested a modified attendance schedule for their student with disabilities: Student 2021-10. This student is identified by number in order to maintain confidentiality. There is documentation of medical necessity for the modified schedule, and the modified schedule has been recommended for approval by the Admissions and Release Committee (ARC). Full documentation is on file in the office of the Director of Special Education.

Request to Declare Buses Surplus & Sell through KISTA

The Transportation Department requested the Board declare the list of buses provided as surplus and approve the resolution to sell the surplus buses through the 2021 Kentucky Interlocal School Transportation Association (KISTA) annual bus sale. Buses sold through KISTA are put on national and international websites, and have been distributed to multiple continents. Past history has shown KISTA bus sales bring significantly higher bids, allowing the district to make more money. Interested local parties may continue to purchase buses through the KISTA sale.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(None)

NEW BUSINESS

2021-2022 Staffing Plans

Presented were the district Staffing Plans for the 2021-2022 school year. Due to the continued Coronavirus Pandemic and the unknown number of students who may enroll in the Bullitt Cloud Academy, the plans will include and emphasize the statement, "The Superintendent may grant additional positions or hours in extraordinary situations." Changes include the continued addition of the four (4) full-time substitute cook/baker positions. Also, under the lunchroom monitor section, the days were changed from 177 to 170. **Also amended, the approved "one computer science teacher for ROC" was added to the High School Staffing Plan. Once approved by the BCPS Board, the Staffing Plans will be sent to the Kentucky Department of Education for review.

2021-028- Motion made by Lisa Hodges, seconded by Nita Neal, to approve the 2021-2022 Staffing Plans as amended. All members voted YES.

2021 Graduation Ceremonies

Requested was the BCPS County-Wide graduation day to be held on Saturday, June 5, 2021, in Broadbent Arena. The following is the requested order and times based on a rotation schedule:

- Bullitt East High School 11:00 a.m.
- North Bullitt High School 2:00 p.m.
- Bullitt Central High School 5:00 p.m.

2021-029- Motion made by Nita Neal, seconded by Darrell Coleman, to approve the 2021 Graduation date, times and location as presented. All members voted YES.

Broadbent Arena Lease Agreement

Presented was the lease agreement for Broadbent Arena for June 5, 2021. Although the fee has increased from \$4, 000 to \$7,500, the Kentucky Fair Board has arranged for a gradual increase in the next few years in order for the district to budget for the additional cost. The fee this year is \$5,000 and will be paid from the Superintendent's Office 0011075, 0891 Graduation Expenses. Eric Farris has reviewed the agreement. *In the event that vaccinations or use by JCPS supersedes this lease, authorization to contract for Freedom Hall was requested in the event that Broadbent Arena is not available.

2021-030- Motion made by Lisa Hodges, seconded by Nita Neal, to approve the lease agreement for the rental of Broadbent Arena for graduation ceremonies on June 5, 2021 as presented. All members voted YES.

Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) for 2021

Presented was the Bullitt County Public Schools District Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CDIP). The CDIP was developed and will continually be revised with input from district administrators, principals, teachers, and parents. Our CDIP runs January 2021 to December 2021. It is reviewed and adjusted, as needed, monthly with our curriculum, instruction, and assessment team.

2021-031- Motion made by Darrell Coleman, seconded by Nita Neal, to approve the 2021 Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) as presented. All members voted YES.

Remote Learning (March 4th & 5th)

BCPS staff members will receive the second dose of the COVID-19 Vaccine on Wednesday, March 3rd, and Thursday, March 4th. Medical studies and firsthand accounts suggest that the second dose is more likely to cause flu-like side effects that last 24-36 hours than the first dose. Utilizing remote learning for Thursday, March 4th and Friday, March 5th will ensure adequate staffing in the event side effects are more prevalent after the administration of the second dose of the vaccine.

2021-032- Motion made by Linda Belcher, seconded by Lisa Hodges, to approve the request to operate in Remote Learning on Thursday, March 4th, and Friday, March 5th. All members voted YES.

ADJOURNMENT

2021-033- Motion made by Darrell Coleman, seconded by Lisa Hodges, to adjourn at 5:39 PM. All members voted YES.

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY