

Powell County Board of Education Regular Meeting
November 21, 2023 6:00 PM
Powell County Middle School Media Center

Attendance Taken at : 5:52 PM

Present Board Members:

Brenda Crabtree
Kim Hall
Lisa Mays
Diann Meadows
Kathy Merriman

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Adopt/Approve Agenda

Order #24-67 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve agenda passed with a motion by Kim Hall and a second by Lisa Mays.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

IV. Staff/Student Recognitions

The Middle School boys 8th grade football team had an undefeated year and came away with the championship. We are proud of the work of the coaches and team.

V. Communication Report

Superintendent Wasson presented her Communication Report to the Board:

- Bryan Johnson with Poage Engineers & Associates, Inc. did a site visit at the Middle School on Friday, November 11. He thoroughly assessed the expansion of the wall and is working on creating a report but did let Mr. Brewer know that it will not likely immediately cave in or fall out. There are other structural pieces tying it together. When his report is finalized we will be able to have a cost estimate and a plan of action for correcting the issue.
- Mrs. Wasson attended the ATC fall student showcase and steering committee meeting in Estill County at the ATC. She got to see some of the projects our students are working on and then discussed the needs of our students with the steering committee. Dr. Kincaid also attended the steering committee meeting and we discussed the need to take a look at what other districts do to assist with the scheduling of students so feeder schools like ours don't have students missing extensive time in classes.
- Mrs. Wasson was invited by two high school students to attend a presentation they created about the "Glass Ceiling" and she attended that on November 1st. The girls did a lot of research on how many female administrators there are in the district, how many female superintendents there are in the state and have a project that they may implement in the future to encourage females to take on leadership roles.
- Red / White Night was a great success and time to showcase all our fall athletes.

- Veterans Day Programs at all the schools were very nice and well attended. Mrs. Wasson attended the ceremony at the high school and was impressed by the attention and respect that our students showed to the veterans throughout the program.
- Jaylee Hearne swam for Powell County this past Saturday and performed exceptionally well. What was really special was how welcoming the Montgomery County team was and how they encouraged her and cheered her on. Mrs. Wasson stated she was looking forward to the swim meet in Winchester on November 29th at College Park and invited anyone to attend to cheer her on.
- The KASS Superintendent Conference will be held in Louisville on December 3-5.
- As a reminder, the next Board Meeting will be December 12th. This is the second Tuesday of the month but is considered the regular meeting as it was scheduled in our list at the beginning of the year.

VI. Public Comments

No Comments

VII. Consent Agenda

Order #24-68 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve all consent items as presented passed with a motion by Brenda Crabtree and a second by Kim Hall.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

- A. Approval of minutes for regular meeting minutes 10.17.23
- B. Approval of Payment of Claims
- C. Approval of Monthly Financial Report
- D. Approval of Orders of Treasurer
- E. Approval of Clay City Elementary Fundraisers
- F. Approval of CCE Christmas Store Fundraiser
- G. Approval of Middle School Pennies for Presents Fundraiser
- H. Approval of Trip Requests
- I. Approval of Overnight High School Boys Basketball Trip
- J. Approval of Nine Passenger Van Student Transport Contracts

VIII. Approval of FY23 Finance Audit

Order #24-69 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve the Audit Report for FY2023 as presented passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Kim Hall.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Tom Sparks, with Summers, McCreary and Sparks, presented to the Board highlights of the Fiscal Year 23 Audit.

- Management Comment Letter - no issues were reported

Audit Report:

- Pg 1 - Opinion - Present Fairly
- Emphasis of Matter
- **MD&A:**
- Pg. 6 - Net Position - Change - Total Assets - Increase of Fixed Assets - increase of \$3.5M
- Revenues & Expenses - Governmental - State Revenue Sources - The increase is due to Capital Outlay / On Behalf funding sources from the State - these are employee benefit items
- Pg. 7&8 - Decrease in federal funds due to ESSER and ARPA expenditures and that is due to end 9/2024
- Pg. 23-64 (pg. 34) - New Accounting Pronouncement - GASB 96
- Pg. 36 - Capital Assets
- Pg. 39 - Total Liabilities
- Pg. 44 - Retirement Plans - CERS - \$10M
- Pg. 50 - OPEB portion of CERS Retirement
- Pg. 54 - District portion of KTRS - \$4.5M
- Pr. 63 - ON Behalf - Note #15 - \$8.8M paid by the State for Powell County
- Pg. 64 - Auditing Standard - had to be shown as a right to use asset
- Pg. 65-74 - 10 years of information on Pension Plan - has to be reported in audit report per state
- Pg. 76
- Pg. 77&78 - School Activity Funds - HS Activity Funds listed on Pg 78-80 - no funds had to borrow money in order to stay in the black
- Pg. 81-82 - Federal Programs - specifically audited ESSER Funds
- No Federal Findings / Had 1 State Finding
- Pg. 91 - State Finding - one employee was found not to be paid on the salary schedule
- Pg. 94-96 - Management Comments - as related to Redbook - HS issues with cash receipts - ticket sales - multiple invoices did not have signature - Pg. 95 MS - ticket sales, No findings at CCE, SES and BES had only minor issues with invoices / receipts
- All in all a great audit

The audit was submitted on time and once the Board approves the audit they will upload the federal portion of the audit for district.

IX. Gear Up Presentation

Student presenters presented what the GEAR-UP Program offers to the students that are being covered by the program.

- Tutoring
- Counseling
- College Tours
- 1 - on - 1 Assistance
- STEM
- Family Engagement Activities
- Job Site Visits
- Summer Opportunities

Tiffany Anderson stated that we have one more year with the GEAR Up grant and are hoping that they will renew. She commended Dolly Noble and the rest of the GEAR Up staff for their work in the program and what they bring to the kids.

X. Instruction

A. KSA Overview & Next Steps

Mrs. Tonya Roach, Chief Academic Officer, shared the results of Powell County Schools 2022-2023 KSA (Kentucky Summative Assessment) scores.

Senate Bill 158 was reviewed and the accountability indicators were examined.

Mrs. Roach discussed the Overall Designations and how they are determined with regards to the color rating system.

Suppressed data definitions were explained and it was shared that any suppressed data cannot be shared in a public setting.

Mrs. Roach shared the overall accountability weights in a table that relays the changes that occur when moving from elementary to middle to high school.

Federal Classifications for 2023 were shared by Mrs. Roach with regards to TSI and CSI. She then shared the overall performance rating for elementary, middle and high school.

The overall rating and score for each school was also presented by Mrs. Roach along with their Federal classification if applicable.

B. Clay City Elementary Next Steps for Improvement

Principal, Suzanne Meadows, and Assistant Principal, Kim Hearne, presented their next steps for improvement.

Topics discussed were:

- Utilize the new reading and math series.
- Collaborate with KDE and Achievement Network
- Disaggregation of TSI Data Analysis
- Re-work the schedules to best benefit special education students
- Work with CKEC on Specially Designed Instruction/Station Teaching
- Participate in the CKEC sponsored Shipley Systems Training

C. Powell County Middle Next Steps for Improvement

Principal, Martina Skidmore, and Assistant Principal, Whitney Merriman, presented their immediate next steps for improvement.

- New curriculum has been purchased and in use for Math and Reading. Social Studies and Science curriculum are being reviewed now for use in the next school year.
- The school has restructured to move to grade level teams rather than pods of mixed grades.
- They are utilizing the PBIS Rewards system for behavior and the SmartPass system to ensure students stay in classrooms and track those who ask to be out of class multiple times a day.
- They have implemented a CREW time each day for additional help and PRI is providing new opportunities for students.
- Specific to special education, they are using highly qualified instructional resources, updating goals to accommodate text readers, setting high expectations, and working in small groups and individually with students.

- Upcoming things are trauma informed training, the utilization of a program called UFLI for special education fluency in reading, and continued PD for new curriculum.

D. Powell County High School Next Steps for Improvement

Principal, Dr. Jennifer Kincaid, and Assistant Principal , Mrs. Savannah Denniston, presented to the Board their Next Steps for Improvement:

30-60-90 Plan (November 2 - January 30)

The First 30 Days (Already in action.)

- Pilot Moving Special Education teachers into Regular Education Rooms
- Works towards goal of Station Teaching (Staff attended training with Co-Op)
- All teachers have Standards posted in room
- All teachers using KSA Testing Items for Warm-ups and/or Exit Slips
- Admin attend PLC's and look for lessons being connected to the Standards
- Research Mastery Connect
- Implement new ELA and Math Curriculum
- Admin meet wit ELA classes to explain importance of doing your best
- Create a year-long reward for putting forth a good effort
- Monthly meal with Principal
- Info meeting for JAG
- Pay department leads for work done outside of the normal school day.

The Next 60 Days

- Evaluate where we are with Co-teaching
- Continue to have admin attend PLC meetings
- Administer first Mastery Connect Assessment
- Iron out year long rewards both small and culminating one
- Hold 1st meal with the principal - Breakfast on 11/20/2023

The Next 90 Days

- All classes with Co-teachers will use station teaching
- All lessons will have standards they are connected to posted in the room
- Hold second meal with the principal
- Analyze Mastery Connect data and use to create next 30-60-90 day plan

E. Approval of Emergency Teaching Certifications

Order #24-70 - Motion Passed: Approval of emergency teaching certificates as presented passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Kim Hall.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Emergency teaching certification was requested for the following:

Gina Childress- Special Education- LBD Certification

Allison Frye- Middle School Social Studies and English

Rayann Bowling- Middle School Social Studies

XI. Approval of Changes in Board Districts

Order #24-71 - Motion Passed: Motion to postpone action to the December 12th meeting passed with a motion by Kim Hall and a second by Diann Meadows.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Superintendent Wasson received a call from James Whisenhunt with Bluegrass Ad regarding the possibility of adjusting the School Board districts to better align with the new Magisterial Districts in the county. He indicated there has been a population shift based on 2020 census data and it is required to keep the population served in each district relatively even amongst districts. Additionally, for ease of voting to allow for fewer mistakes in who votes in which district, it would be good to try to have the School Board districts as similar to magisterial districts as possible.

Mr. Whisenhunt attended the meeting and presented the magisterial districts to the Board as well as the new proposed Board districts. The proposed Board districts would allow for three of the five magisterial districts to exactly match the Board districts. However, two of our current Board members reside in what will become Magisterial District Number 1. Mr. Whisenhunt explained that he held a meeting with Jackie Everman and her team as well as Superintendent Wasson and worked to divide Magisterial District 1 and 2 to more closely align with the current Board districts ensuring that the population was as evenly distributed as possible.

Board Attorney Grant Chenoweth was present to represent the Board and answer questions regarding the legality of the need to adjust Board district. When asked by Superintendent Wasson if it was common for magistrates to adjust the magisterial districts and then School Boards to try to mirror them, he said it was. He mentioned that School Districts are required to keep population represented spread as evenly as possible, and one district he knew of had been sued due to an uneven spread of population. He told the Board that if the Board were to simply mirror the magisterial districts, the two Board members that lived in Magisterial District number 1 would have to use some form of random selection to determine who kept that seat and who would temporarily represent the unrepresented magisterial district until the next election.

The Board members reviewed the maps to look at the areas that they would represent if the proposed Board Districts were approved. Some Board Districts changed more than others, so it was agreed to postpone the voting of the new districts until the December 12, 2023 regular Board meeting. Mr. Whisenhunt asked the Board to let him know what information they needed from him to make a decision and told them it would be important to make a final decision in December so Ms. Everman could begin her work in setting up the district for voting. He offered to come work with the Board members to look at potential ways to shift the population and keep the Board and Magisterial Districts as close as possible.

XII. Approval of Surplus Copier Bids

Order #24-72 - Motion Passed: Approve surplus copy machine bids as presented passed with a motion by Diann Meadows and a second by Kim Hall.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

The Ricoh copy machine bids have been received. Mrs. Frazier explained the bid amounts received and made recommendations to the Board for acceptance.

The final results of the bids that are in the best interest of the district are:

Bethany Christian School- \$2,500 for one machine

Coretek Enterprises- \$5,850 for 11 machines

Total received to be deposited in the general fund is- \$8,350

XIII. Approval To Dispose of Remaining Copy Machines

Order #24-73 - Motion Passed: Approval to relocate two machines within the district and donate 3 machines to Bethany Christian School passed with a motion by Kim Hall and a second by Lisa Mays.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

There were four machines that did not receive any bids and one machine that received a \$50 bid from the company who did not have the highest overall bid but no other bids.

KRS 45A.425(4) "Surplus or Excess Property" allows that if we receive no bids the property may be disposed of, consistent with the public interest, in a manner deemed appropriate by the local public agency.

It was recommended that we relocate two of the machines within the district to the trailer where our curriculum specialists and gifted teacher work and to the high school counseling office. The remaining three machines we recommend be donated to Bethany Christian School because they gave us a substantial bid on the machine they won the bid on.

XIV. Review and Comment of Board Procedure 09.36 AP.1 & 09.36 AP.21 For Transportation

Per Board policy 01.51 administrative procedures are to be presented to the Board for review and comment. There have not been procedures in place that provide consistent information to the Board for overnight or out of state trips. These procedures clarify the expectations for those involved in extended day or out of state trips as well as provide a format for school personnel to provide consistent information to the Board.

The Board reviewed these documents and did not request any changes.

XV. Approval of Bus Purchases

Order #24-74 - Motion Passed: Approval to purchase two used buses from Harlan County and one new bus passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Diann Meadows .

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

13 of our buses in the bus fleet are out of depreciation, which is the point that most of the time they start costing the District more money than they are worth. Several of the buses are 08 models which have given us a great deal of trouble since the District purchased them. Just last week we had a driver of one of our buses try 4 different buses in the morning before she had one that would start and run causing her to be 30 minutes late on her route.

Harlan County is purchasing several new buses and is going to surplus their fleet. Mr. Brewer and Nathan Foster went to look at the buses and would like to purchase two buses from their fleet. They would like to purchase a 2016 bus with 56,405 miles and a state value of \$22,381.58 for \$19,800 and a 2018 bus with 90,631 miles and a state value of \$31,727.52 for \$30,000. We would still be able to depreciate these buses for the remainder of the 10 years that they are allowed to depreciate.

Additionally, the District would like to purchase one new bus and the specs are attached. The state pricing has not been officially released at this time but Thomas bus has the projected pricing listed.

Because of the sale and receipt of the income from our annuity, the District has the funds to buy these three buses without having to add to our KISTA debt at this time.

XVI. Facilities

A. Update on New Stanton Elementary Construction

The Friday after the last Board meeting, Mrs. Wasson met with a district team and Correy Carrico from CMTA Engineering. Mr. Carrico walked the team through the existing technology, sound, electrical, and security plans. A list of changes made was provided to the Board and is included with Board documents. Mrs. Wasson talked through some of the biggest changes such as lighting in the media center, sound in the gymnasium, and lighting in the gymnasium.

Mrs. Wasson and Mr. Brewer also met with a representative from a furniture company to narrow down some ideas and considerations for the media center and the Discovery Zones. While the plan is to wait until the bidding is compiled to ensure we can afford to build the school, we need to be prepared to line up the furniture so it can be ordered in a timely manner and will be shipped when the school is ready.

Mrs. Wasson shared that the bids for the Stanton Elementary construction project were due today. Mrs. Wasson, Mr. Brewer, and Mr. Lyons met at the extension office to open the bids with representatives from a variety of bidding companies present. At this time the bids are in the hands of our Construction Manager, Kenny Davis, with Codell Construction. He will be working to review all the numbers and provide the District with a spreadsheet for the winning bids. The numbers came in good with the totals including all alternates well under the projection for construction costs on our BG for this project. The bids will be brought to the Board for review and approval at the December 12th meeting.

B. Update on Current Stanton Elementary Roofing Project

Mrs. Wasson and Mr. Brewer did a walkthrough of the SES Roofing and Gutter Project last Thursday. Mr. Brewer and Jamie Craft had already noted several issues with the guttering. Mrs. Wasson and Mr. Craft walked around the building the week before when the office staff smelled the odor of gas. Mr. Craft determined at that time that the roofing company covered up the gas vents on the roof, so while there was no gas leaking, the smell of the additive was coming back into the building because it was trapped.

Mr. Rick Sunderman got in touch with the Project Manager for Eskola Roofing and they came the following day to evaluate the roof vents. Mrs. Wasson was able to locate and provide Mr. Craft with the original construction plans in which all roof vents were marked and he helped the project manager locate each vent pipe location. That problem was corrected the following day.

When Mr. Craft and Mrs. Wasson walked around the building, they noticed the following issues with the gutters:

- There are connections in what should be seamless gutters. Some of the connected pieces were riveted together and some silicone.
- Parts of the guttering was not straight, so water wouldn't flow easily down to the spouts.
- The gutter in many parts was not flush with the building, so water would flow between the building and the gutter.
- In a few areas, there was a hole in the bottom of the gutter where two pieces were connected.
- The brackets holding downspouts to the building were hand cut and sharp and some of the downspouts don't run into the drainpipes in the ground.
- Some of the downspouts go into a drainpipe that has to come back uphill.
- One downspout from the top of the gym is at a 90 degree angle meaning debris could catch in the elbow.

There is still some rotted wood on the edges of the roof and that is going to also be taken care of. Some of these sections of rotted wood affect the guttering but some also affect the roof.

Finally, the construction team broke a small section of brick with their equipment on the side of the building and the repair work looks terrible and is incomplete. Mr. Sunderman asked Mr. Brewer to get an estimate from a local person that can repair the brick correctly.

They have given us their final pay application, but due to the repairs that still need to be made, the pay application was not placed on the agenda for payment at this meeting.

XVII. Approval of Maternity Leave

Order #24-75 - Motion Passed: Approval of Hannah Parsons maternity leave passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Kim Hall.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Maternity leave was sought for Ms. Hannah Parsons.

XVIII. Approval to Amend Extra-Curricular & Academic Pay Scale for CTE

Order #24-76 - Motion Passed: Approval to amend the extra-curricular and academic pay scale to include up to 8 CTE positions passed with a motion by Brenda Crabtree and a second by Kim Hall.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Currently, there are up to 6 extra-curricular stipend positions for CTE and Mrs. Anderson requested to increase that to 8 to cover all clubs that students participate in.

XIX. Informational Items

A. Personnel Report

The attached personnel report was reviewed by the Board.

XX. Other Business

No other business was noted.

XXI. Adjourn

Order #24-77 - Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn passed with a motion by Kim Hall and a second by Lisa Mays.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Board Chairperson

Board Secretary