

Powell County Board of Education Regular Meeting
April 16, 2024 6:00 PM
Powell County Middle School Media Center

Attendance Taken at : 5:58 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 #24-140 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve agenda 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

IV. Communication Report

Superintendent Wasson communicated the following to the Board:

· Yesterday the Kentucky State Senate confirmed the next Commissioner of Education for Kentucky. Dr. Robbie Fletcher will start his work as Commissioner on July 1 of this year. Dr. Fletcher is the current superintendent of the Lawrence County school district and is a true advocate for the students across the Commonwealth. Last Friday Superintendent Wasson went to the Senate committee meeting with a few other superintendents where members of the Senate asked several questions of Dr. Fletcher and he responded eloquently to each one. We are blessed to have him as our next Commissioner.

· On April 10th, a follow-up Zoom meeting with KDE concerning the Resource Allocation Review was held. They asked questions about the process and how valuable the review was for the District. This was the final step in completing the review.

· Last week, leaders from the Central Kentucky Education Cooperative came to the Middle School and High School to complete site visits and give input and feedback on what they saw. Friday, the leader of the team, Mark Helton, met with the administrative team to share the results. They gave feedback on both positive strengths as well as area of improvement and both administrative teams went away with areas to target for improvement.

· We have run into an issue with the Stanton Elementary construction project regarding the wet soil. Our construction management team and architects, along with Solid Ground special inspectors, have been working towards a solution. The best solution is to fill the pad with rock so we can proceed with the construction. There is an agenda item for a change order approval for this on tonight's agenda, and Mr. Kenny Davis will give more details regarding the process and why this needs to be done.

· Now that the legislative session is over, we have sent a message to Chay Ritter at KDE to find out if we received any of the gap funding. He replied that they have to finalize with the Legislative Research Commission, but he believes we may have received half of our bottom-line amount. As soon as the District is provided with information on funding the Board will be informed.

· Late last Friday, KDE sent us projected SEEK allocations based on what they believed may come out in the final budget from the legislature. Monday, a District team worked up how much money the District would receive above what was planned in the draft budget that could be applied to raises. Mr. Lyons and Superintendent Wasson then worked throughout the day to determine what percentage of a raise could be applied across the district to all certified and classified salary scales. There is still a lot of work to do to make sure that everyone in the district is included on the spreadsheets and ensure all figures are correct, but Superintendent Wasson feels very comfortable in saying that we will at least be able to issue a 5% raise across the board to all certified and classified pay scales. We are also looking at work with coaching salaries to do the work with them that we did with all other scales last year in that we want to make them competitive with other districts in our athletic district. We would like to make those updates and then also be able to apply whatever percentage raise we apply to all other scales to the coaching scales. At the May meeting, we will present the Tentative Budget and will have the exact percentage of raise determined as well as other Section 7 positions that schools would like in addition to the ones presented tonight.

V. Public Comments

Ms. Brenda Crabtree, Board Chair, recognized Ms. Karen Appel to speak. She spoke about traffic issues in and around the high school and middle school. She also spoke about the issue with the need for more mechanics to work and service the buses that are in service.

VI. Consent Agenda

Order #24-141 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve all consent items as presented passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman 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 03.19.24

B. Approval of Payment of Claims

C. Approval of Monthly Financial Report

D. Approval of Orders of Treasurer

E. Monthly Trip Requests

F. Approval of District Technology Plan

G. Approval of Band Out of State Trip

H. Approval of FRYSC Contract for 24-25 Year

VII. Facilities

A. BG5 Closeout for Middle School Boiler Project

Order #24-142 - Motion Passed: Approval of the BG5 to close out the old water heater project at at the Middle School 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

Mrs. Alicia Frazier presented the BG5 to the Board. Board approval is needed to close out this project, which is over two years old.

B. Approval of Pay App #2 for Stanton Elementary Construction

Order #24-143 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay App #2 passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Lisa Mays.

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

Each month the Board will receive a pay application for materials and work that have been completed on site at the new Stanton Elementary. Codell Construction vets all pay requests to ensure the materials have been purchased and the work has been done.

C. Approval of Change Order 21-01 to Rising Sun Developing

Order #24-144 - Motion Passed: Approval of Change Order 21-01 to Rising Sun Developing for Stanton Elementary Project 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

Mrs. Allison Commings, SCB, and Mr. Kenny Davis, Codell Construction, presented to the Board the drawings and explanation of the wet soil issue and the remediation with the construction site for the new Stanton Elementary Project. The recommendation is to place wicking under the lowest level of the soil and then fill the pad with rock. This will keep construction moving as the alternative of drying out the soil and waiting for it to settle could take several months to even a year. The first change order is for the additional work that Rising Sun will have to do to install the wicking.

D. Approval of Change Order 21-01-01 to Hinkle Contracting Company, LLC

Order #24-145 - Motion Passed: Approval of Change Order 21-01-01 to Hinkle Contracting Company LLC for Stanton Elementary Construction passed with a motion by Kim Hall and a second by Kathy Merriman.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Kim Hall	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes

Diann Meadows Yes
Kathy Merriman Yes

Change Order 21-01-01 was presented to the Board. This change order is the cost of the rock. This cost is worst case scenario for the rock. If they are able to use soil on the top of the rock this cost could be reduced, but that will have to be determined after the wicking is installed and the rock goes on top.

VIII. National School Lunch Program Indirect Cost

Order #24-146 - Motion Passed: Approval of collecting indirect costs from Fund 51 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

Mrs. Laura Young presented to the Board that each year the Board has the opportunity to collect indirect costs from the Food Service Fund 51. These costs include such things as electricity, custodial supplies, etc. that are purchased with general fund money for the cafeterias. A formula is used, and the funding collected is generally close to \$50,000.

IX. Approval of CEP Participation

Order #24-147 - Motion Passed: Approval to participate in the CEP Program passed with a motion by Diann Meadows and a second by Lisa Mays.

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

Mrs. Laura Young presented the opportunity to participate in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program for food service. This program allows all students to eat without charge.

X. Approval of Boys Volleyball Program for 24-25 Year

Order #24-148 - Motion Passed: Approval of Boys Volleyball program, head coach and assistant coach positions, and funding as described 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

Athletic Director Doug Brewer presented a new boys volleyball program to the Board. KHSAA has added Boys Volleyball as a Spring Sport. We would like to offer it to our student athletes as an additional athletic option.

We would like to employ two coaches for the Boys Volleyball Team - one head coach and one assistant coach.

We would like to pay our Boys Volleyball Coaches the same stipend as the Girls Volleyball Coaches. The Head Coach would receive \$2,500.00 and the assistant coach would receive \$1,000.00.

We would like to provide an annual budget that is equal to the budget the Girls Volleyball Team receives. This amount is \$1,000.

Total funding for the Boys Volleyball program would be \$4,500.00.

XI. Approval of Overnight Trip and Funding For 2A Baseball State Championship

Order #24-149 - Motion Passed: Approval of Baseball overnight trip 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

The High School boy's baseball team earned the right through tournament play to participate in the 2A baseball state championship this past Saturday. The state tournament is held in Owensboro this coming Friday and Saturday. The 2A program pays for 5 rooms, tournament entry, and batting cage use for warmups. The Board was asked to fund additional rooms, travel, and meals for the team.

XII. Approval of 8th Grade Field Trip to Holiday World

Order #24-150 - Motion Passed: Approval of 8th Grade Field Trip 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

The 8th grade trip to Holiday World in Santa Claus, IN, is scheduled for May 25. This is an out of state trip requiring Board approval. All 8th grade students have an opportunity to go and have a set of criteria that they must meet in order to be able to earn the trip. Student cost for the trip is \$27 and if a student can't afford that sponsorship will be sought for the students.

XIII. Approval of Bass Fishing Trip to State

Order #24-151 - Motion Passed: Approval of bass team qualifiers to attend state competition passed with a motion by Diann Meadows and a second by Lisa Mays.

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

Mrs. Julie Clark presented the bass fishing trip to the state tournament. As of today, it is still undetermined which teams qualify, but because the tournament is prior to the next Board meeting, Coach Clark was seeking Board approval to take the teams that qualify. The cost of the rooms and travel was requested. Coach Clark stated that a \$20 per day meal stipend that the teams and coaches received last year was not requested due to a

higher cost in the lodging, but the Board wanted to provide meals to the teams and coaches as they recognize the commitment and expense the coaches are out to make this sport happen for the students.

XIV. Approval of Emergency Teaching Certificate

Order #24-152 - Motion Passed: Approval of emergency certification for Donna Walters passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Kim Hall.

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

HR Director David Lyons presented a request for emergency certification. Our most recent Special Education Teacher hire, Mrs. Donna Walters, was previously certified to teach special education but her certification expired.

XV. Approval of FMLA and Extended Disability Leave

Order #24-153 - Motion Passed: Approval of Medical Leave for Selena Lindon and Megan Castle, Sherri Frerichs, and Joyce Wright 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

HR Director David Lyons presented the following leave requests:

Medical leave is being requested for Ms. Selena Lindon, Ms. Megan Castle, Sherri Frerichs, and Joyce Wright.

Joyce Wright is from 4/25/24 to 5/10/24.

Megan Castle from 4/9/24 until further notice

Selena Lindon from 3/26/24 to the end of the school year

Sherri Frerichs from 4/15/24 to 4/30/24

XVI. Position Requests

A. Approval of Renewal of Three Instructional Monitor Positions

Order #24-154 - Motion Passed: Approval of 2 ISD and 1 Virtual Academy Instructional Monitor positions passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Lisa Mays.

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

HR Director David Lyons presented the request for three instructional monitor positions. The three Instructional Monitor positions that were hired with ESSER funding have been beneficial to our

schools. We have one in an ISD position at the Middle School, one in ISD at the high school that they would like to also take care of credit recovery next year, and one taking care of the Virtual Academy. We are seeking Board approval to continue these three positions.

B. Approval of JAG MOA with Revision Letter

Order #24-155 - Motion Passed: Approval of JAG MOA and program and additional funding needed for program passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Kim Hall.

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

Superintendent Wasson was joined by Principal Dr. Jennifer Kincaid to present the JAG program to the Board. Dr. Kincaid explained the program and the JAG competencies. The Board asked questions regarding who could participate, and Dr. Kincaid explained that they would start with students that they felt were at risk of dropping out and could include up to 65 students. Superintendent Wasson explained that this position would be combined with teaching one period of the Teaching and Learning Pathway. That portion of a teacher salary would be paid from Title IV. JAG provides \$40,000 towards the teacher salary, and the remaining cost of almost \$11,000 would come from the general fund. The District was seeking approval of the MOA to have the program and the funding to pay for the teacher.

C. Approval of Change in Classified Position

Order #24-156 - Motion Passed: Approval to change the receptionist Admin. Secretary II position to an Account Clerk III position. 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

Superintendent Wasson shared the reasoning for requesting a change in position.

At the end of last year when one Account Clerk III position retired, the position was not filled. The work was redistributed and spread out to the Accounting Manager and the food service Account Clerk III. This has put an extreme strain on the food service Account Clerk III because one of her duties is also to fill in for cooks when there are vacancies we can't fill. On multiple occasions this year we have had vacancies and the food service director and Account Clerk III have covered positions and we are not being efficient with either paying the bills of maintenance and transportation or food service.

Instead of rehiring a full-time Account Clerk III position, we would like to change the position of the Central Office front office Administrative Secretary II to an Account Clerk III position. That position has been taking care of Medicaid which is not as time consuming, and those duties would switch to the food service Account Clerk III. The new position would take over maintenance and transportation billing and purchasing and possibly add some additional billing to relieve some work that was added on to the CFO or Accounting Manager.

We would like to change this as soon as it is approved. This will cost the district approximately \$650 this year and with fringe and salary next year approximately \$3,000.

D. Approval of Full Time Gifted Education Position

Order #24-157 - Motion Passed: Approval to hire a full time gifted education teacher 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

For several years the District has had a part time gifted education instructor to serve all gifted students in the district. This position has also held other duties, and we don't feel as though we have been able to provide quality services to our gifted student population. We have put a lot of funding into our special needs population and our at risk students, but do not even have one person dedicated to enrichment opportunities for all gifted students. Instructional Supervisor Tonya Roach is going to work with Superintendent Wasson to see what other districts do to have quality gifted education programs, and we would like to have a full-time gifted teacher for the district for the 24-25 year. We can fund this full-time position with funding from the state in approximately \$40,000 and funding from Title IV. With current salary scales and federal budgets, we believe that these two budgets will be able to fully fund the position, however, depending upon who is selected and their years of experience or the possibility in these budgets fluctuating, we may have to contribute a small amount of general funds to fully fund this position.

XVII. Instruction

A. Presentation Of Social Studies Curriculum Selection

Chief Academic Officer Tonya Roach presented the Social Studies curriculum selected by the staff.

Mrs. Roach has been working with teachers at each school in the selection of social studies curriculum. She presented the process used as well as the curriculum that the teachers and schools would like to utilize. The teachers love the SAVVAS curriculum, and Mrs. Roach shared a presentation with examples from both the digital curriculum and the books. The cost of the curriculum is approximately \$243,000, and this covers grades K-12 for the next 6 years. The Board had the opportunity to ask questions and provide input on the selection. They expressed excitement in having this new resource for our teachers.

XVIII. Informational Items

A. Review of Senior Trip Itinerary

The senior trip was approved at the last meeting, but the itinerary was not attached. The attached itinerary displays the activities the seniors will do on their trip.

B. Personnel Report

HR Director David Lyons presented the personnel report.

C. Special Education Staffing for 24-25 Year

Special Education Director Michelle Ashcraft helped Superintendent Wasson in describing the needs for special education staff in the upcoming year. In the 24-25 School year the population of special education students is shifting. We will need an additional LBD teacher at the Middle School and an additional LBD teacher at Stanton Elementary. Also, we will need a second EBD teacher at Stanton Elementary. We will need to reduce one special education teacher from the High School and are in the process of evaluating how many assistants are needed based on student needs at each school.

XIX. Other Business

No other business was presented.

XX. Adjourn

Order #24-158 - Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn passed with a motion by Kim Hall and a second by Kathy Merriman.

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

Board Chairperson

Board Secretary