

**FORT THOMAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS**  
**Board of Education Regular Meeting**

Fort Thomas City Building – 130 N. Fort Thomas Avenue

Fort Thomas, Kentucky 41075

November 11, 2024

6:30pm

**Attendance Taken at 6:26 PM:**

Present Board Members:

Mr. Clem Fennell IV

Mrs. Sarah Foster

Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein

Absent Board Members:

Mr. Jeff Beach

**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**

Board members shared the following:

- Santa House was a success
- *Puffs* performance was great
- Thank you to our Veterans
- Veterans Day programs were well done at all schools
- HHS Girls Soccer are Regional Champs
- HHS Boys Soccer are Regional Runner Ups
- Erika Volpenhein named Principal of the Year by the Kentucky Science Association
- Archery and Speech Teams are both off to fantastic starts
- HHS Volleyball are District Champs
- Two HHS Journalism students received Honorable Mentions
- HHS Marching Band are Class A Grand Champions
- HHS Freshman Football beat Cov Cath for the Championship
- Holiday Walk is Sunday, December 1 with many of our talented students participating throughout the community
- Congrats to Julie Kuhnhein on her re-election and to Noah Gibson on his election to the Board

### C. Student Showcase - JES: Veterans Day PBL

Students from the 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Johnson Elementary presented on their Veterans Day project. Students shared details and their favorite parts about the project. Students presenting included:

- Callie Carlson
- Cameron Carlson
- Khaleesi Connor
- Gemme Dinkelacker
- Johannah Farley
- Evie Laber
- Abigail Sand
- Leo Smith
- Aubrey Stewart

The Board thanked the students for their presentation and each was given a Rich in Tradition t-shirt.

### 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

Jerry Wissman shared the project is progressing and work is currently being done where the new building will be located. There continues to be work on the storm and sanitary sewers, as well as the retaining walls. He also shared that the walkway from the neighborhood to the park is actively being used.

#### 2. Riegler Blacktop Inc Pay Application #6

**Order #2598 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Pay Application #6 to Riegler Blacktop Inc in the amount of \$221,564.70 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	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes

#### 3. Morel Construction Co. Pay Application #4

**Order #2599 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Pay Application #4 to Morel Construction Co. in the amount of \$663,430.50 for the Highlands Athletic Complex at Tower Park Project passed with a motion by Mr. Clem Fennell IV and a second by Mrs. Sarah Foster.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes

### **III. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **A. Summer Enrichment Report**

Jamee Flaherty shared that enrollment numbers were up compared to the past few years, and that no classes had to be cancelled due to low numbers. Jamee and the Board are hopeful there will be continued interest and high enrollment in the coming years.

#### **B. Brigance Screening Report**

Jamee Flaherty provided data to the Board showing current and historical data of Kindergarten Readiness. For 2024, 79% of kindergarten students in our district were considered ready. This continues to be a strong number for FTIS.

#### **C. 2024 KY State Accountability Report**

Keith Faust presented on the Kentucky State Accountability Report. He detailed how the scores are calculated and shared that our district achieved Blue status at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

#### **D. Board Committee Updates**

There were no committee updates to share.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**Order #2600 - 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 Mrs. Sarah Foster and a second by Mr. Clem Fennell IV.

Mr. Jeff Beach	Absent
Mr. Clem Fennell IV	Yes
Mrs. Sarah Foster	Yes
Mrs. Julie Kuhnhein	Yes

#### **A. Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 14, 2024 and Working Board Meeting of November 7, 2024**

#### **B. Financial Report for Month of October 2024**

#### **C. Food Service Report for October 2024**

#### **D. Attendance Report for 2nd Month of 2024-25**

#### **E. Authorization for Payment of Claims**

#### **F. Adoption of Changes to Procedure 03.21 AP.25**

#### **G. Notification and Approval of Student Trips**

##### **1. HHS Girls Basketball - Bowling Green, KY - December 27-30, 2024**

**H. Grant Extended Leave**

- 1. Gretchen Hinkel - Maternity (January 30 - May 8, 2025)
- 2. Allison Roch - Maternity (March 3 - May 9, 2025)
- 3. Maddie Roy - Maternity (December 18, 2024 - February 28, 2025)

**I. Personnel Action Taken Since October 14, 2024**

Transfer of the following Classified Employee

Lisa Kroger - Cafeteria I Staff Member - JES to HHS

Employment of the Following Classified Employees

Matthew Campbell - Part-time Instructional Assistant - WES

Corrine Ruschman - Part-time Instructional Assistant - WES

Employment of the Following Extra-Service Positions

Kevin Hester - Lego Robotics - HMS

Frank "Mitch" Meyer - JV Baseball Coach - HHS

Employment of the following Paraprofessional Employees

Brian Benzinger - Baseball Field Maintenance - HHS

Matheus Benvenuti-Gerotto - Assistant Swimming Coach - HHS

Kristopher Hendrix - Baseball Field Maintenance - HHS

Daniel "Mitchell" Jones - Baseball Freshman Coach - HHS

Colton Sayers - Assistant Swimming Coach - HHS

**J. Approval of Superintendent Travel**

- 1. KASS Annual Conference - Louisville, KY - December 8-10, 2024

**V. OTHER BUSINESS**

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Julie Kuhnhein adjourned the meeting at 7:18pm.

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Chairperson

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Superintendent