

Powell County Board of Education Regular Meeting
November 19, 2024 6:00 PM
Powell County Middle School Media Center

Attendance Taken at : 5:55 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 #25-72 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve agenda passed with a motion by Diann Meadows and a second by Lisa Mays.

Brenda Crabtree	Yes
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Kim Hall	Yes
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Lisa Mays	Yes
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Diann Meadows	Yes
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Kathy Merriman	Yes
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IV. Staff/Student Recognitions

The Board recognized the high school boys soccer team and coaches Bernardo Vasquez and Jason Gilispie for winning the regional soccer tournament and advancing all the way to the Elite 8 in the state tournament. Superintendent Wasson asked the boys to share what it took to get that far in the competition and they credited their win to the coaches. Coach Vasquez said that the boys have worked hard and have grown as a team.

V. Communication Report

Superintendent Wasson shared the following communication report:

- District administrative classroom visits have been going well. Several district administrators are participating in classroom visits and it is really nice to connect with kids and teachers and see the great work that is going on in our classrooms around the district.
- If you didn't see it on Facebook, we had a visit from Carla Kersey with KEDC. She does a video series entitled "On The Road With Carla" in which she interviews students to understand the opportunities that districts are providing. She spent some time with Stanton Elementary STLP students as well as high school students who are on the media team and in the FFA program at the high school. Our students all did a fabulous job with their interviews and spoke so highly of our small community and the community outreach we can do from our schools.
- We held our Comprehensive District Improvement Planning meeting on October 28 with a team of stakeholders from the schools and the community. Our CDIP is close to completion but we meet next week

with the middle school team to see what supports they need as a TSI school, so I didn't want to bring the plan to the Board until our December meeting.

- Three representatives from Western Kentucky University came to the construction site on November 12 to look at the site for the Mesonet. Mr. Brewer, Kevin Babcock, and I walked back to the site with the team. A supervisor for Rising Sun Developing came back with us and placed a stake where they plan to put the center of the tower. Pictures of the site were shown.
- On October 30th we had a Zoom meeting with KDE regarding our consolidated audit that is being performed on our Title programs, preschool, and alternative education program. Mrs. Anderson is leading the way in the collection of data for the majority of the audit which will not take place until March. We will be collecting data all the way through that time.
- Mrs. Frazier and I have been working to gather requested documents from an audit company that is working to verify information submitted for the Gap Funding. The audit is being performed by an accounting firm selected by the legislature. We have submitted everything requested at this time and are waiting for them to review it and get back to us with more questions or the need for more information. It is our understanding there have been a few districts come off the list for funding requested because they no longer have the need, and we are hoping to hear something about the possibility of receiving the funding after the legislative session.
- I attended the fall advisory meeting over at the ATC. There are good programs at the ATC but it is still challenging for our students to participate in all that is offered due to location and scheduling.
- Ms. Frazier, Mr. Lyons and I met with our representative from Houchens Insurance to review our property and workers' compensation claims. This has been a pretty good year for both so far, but the past three years have been very high workers' compensation benefits paid out. This will cause our insurance premiums to increase. I have spoken with the principals and asked them to remind their staff to practice safe work habits and encourage staff to not perform duties they are not properly trained for doing.
- Mr. Lyons and I attended a meeting hosted by the Dean of Education from ECU to give input on how they can improve their programs for teacher education paths. There were several HR Directors, Superintendents, and principals from surrounding districts in attendance and we are thankful that ECU is trying to be innovative in how they prepare their students to become teachers in the future.
- Mr. Brewer and I attended a meeting with JRA Architects to discuss plans for the gym wall project. They sent a person on November 18 to complete thermal imaging of the middle school roof to see how much damage there is. They have sent us plans to review for the painting of the gym and the new gym floor and are working on the plans for the rebuilding of the wall.

New Stanton Elementary Construction Updates

- I met with staff at Stanton Elementary to talk about the potential timeline for moving into the new school. I asked them to start thinking now about moving and start the work of determining what things in their classrooms they never use anymore. I also talked about the casework that is scheduled to be installed in each classroom and the furniture needs that they have. We had a good discussion, and I gave them a form to input data so we can make good decisions when we purchase furniture for the building.
- In looking at the casework, I realized that there were some sinks left in classrooms that we don't want. They left two sinks with water fountains in each LBD Resource room and they left a sink with a water

fountain in each preschool room. The preschool rooms have sinks inside bathrooms and don't need these sinks with water fountains in the classrooms.

- The construction is moving along really well. All of the concrete that needed to be chipped out of the gym wall is done and they are now working on forming up the wall for the new concrete. Once that is completed, the gym wall should move along quickly and that section of the building will see progress again.
- While waiting for results of the gym wall and the work to be redone, the rest of the building has really been progressing. There is roof decking on the kitchen, cafeteria, office area, preschools room, and the upper pod of section B. They are working now on the tall walls of the media center that will have windows for natural lighting. They are also working on finishing all that is needed to be able to pour the remaining concrete floors in section A and the main entrance of the building. If weather conditions allow continued progress, all floors except a little work in the gymnasium area will be poured on Thursday.
- They are predicting that by December 15th all bearing walls will be up and they hope to have the steel company back by Christmas to work on the joists in the ceiling and the decking.
- There is continued conversation with the local water and sewer companies to get plans for movement of lines in the right of way. The water flow test is not considered to be a problem any more since the Prep Academy building across the road tested good, but we may have to pay for one more test. They will start a temporary entrance before long to be able to get the current entrance on grade.
- By the middle to end of January they are hoping that the majority of the building will be under roof.

VI. Public Comments

No public comments

VII. Consent Agenda

Order #25-73 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve all consent items as presented 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

A. Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting 10.15.24

B. Approval of Payment of Claims

C. Approval of Monthly Financial Report

D. Approval of Orders of Treasurer

E. Approval of Monthly Trip Requests

F. Approval for Clay City Elementary to Prepare Laura Bush Foundation Library Grant

VIII. Presentation & Approval of FY2024 Audit Report

Order #25-74 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Audit Report for FY2024 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

Thomas Sparks from the audit company of Summers, McCrary & Sparks, Inc. spoke to the Board about the financial audit findings. Mr. Sparks commended the district and school finance team for providing the requested documentation in a timely manner, stating it made the audit process go smoothly. He discussed the fact that they did not find any concerns that were noted on last year's audit in the current audit. Mr. Sparks went through various pages of the audit document provided to the Board members and in the end stated that there were no management letter comments regarding District accounts in the current year. The High School had 3 comments related to:

1. Two activity accounts ended the year in a small negative fund balance. This is not allowed by Redbook standards.
2. They found a disbursement for a cash advance that was not documented using the Advance Report For F-SA-9.
3. During the testing of cash receipts, they noted multiple instances where receipt numbers were not being identified on the deposit slips.

They also made one management comment regarding not being able to find a booster organization's annual report for Stanton Elementary.

The District listed responses for correcting these findings.

IX. Presentation from Partners for Rural Impact

Mr. Amon Couch with the Partners for Rural Impact grant came to share with the Board that our grant with PRI helps connect the school and the community. He stated that there are four pillars that focus on accelerating outcomes for rural youth from cradle to career. After he briefly introduced what the grant is about the PRI School Coordinators from each school presented some of the activities they are doing to connect kids and families with the schools and the schools with the community. Our coordinators are: Sherrie Hale- Bowen Elementary, Emily Taube- Clay City Elementary, Melissa Jordan- Stanton Elementary, Elisha Wills- Powell County Middle School, and Victoria Looney- Powell County High School.

X. Presentation of 25-26 School Calendar For Discussion

Director of Pupil Personnel Meredith Robinson presented the proposed 2025-2026 school year calendar. She explained that the calendar was created based on what we usually try to put in the calendar with a planning day at the end of the first week of school, a planning day at the end of fall break, and a planning day before students return from winter break. She explained that CAO Tonya Roach consulted with principals and wanted to have all four of the professional learning days before school. She also explained that the calendar was focused on getting as much instruction in without putting additional missed days in February and March to allow for us to adjust the end of the year when we get to move into the new school. The projected date for taking over the new building is in October, so it is our hope that we can add a few days to fall break to move things into the

new building and we can utilize the two planning days at the end of the year when we get to move buildings by moving those days up to October.

Tonight is just a discussion of the calendar, and it has to be approved at a subsequent meeting.

XI. Instruction

A. Principal Instructional Information

Each school principal presented information to the Board regarding their instructional programs focusing on work impacting instruction.

Bowen Elementary

- Peer observations started this month to support teachers in developing instructionally. Kindergarten was paired with 1st, 2nd paired with 3rd grade, and 4th grade paired with 5th grade. Peer observations will take place each month.
- Continued focus on implementation of curriculums including reading, math, social studies, and science (newly added for grades 3-5). Continued monitoring through building walkthroughs and classroom observations.

Stanton Elementary

- Focused on KY learning standards-making sure weekly lessons match the standards. These discussions are taking place in weekly PLCs and principal feedback after classroom walkthroughs.
- Continued emphasis on walkthroughs, getting into each classroom at least once per week.

Clay City Elementary

- Walkthroughs and Immediate, Personalized Feedback along with use of district walkthrough tool
- Strong implementation of curricula for Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies with a major emphasis on vocabulary instruction

Powell County Middle School

- Science Curriculum work with Science Dept.
- MS Connect Program
- Co-teaching: Station Teaching

Powell County High School

- Working with Instructional District staff to revamp PLC's and use that time to focus on taking our standards and making them into Learning Targets. This helps the teachers and students to better understand what the standards are asking of them and helps teachers to connect the standards to lessons.
- 9th and 10th grades took the ACT. We will administer to 11th grade in the Spring.
- Science is working on adopting a curriculum that is standards based and rigorous.
- JAG ribbon cutting ceremony was a success. This program will help students academically and in so many other areas of life.

XII. Facilities

A. Approval of Pay App #9 for New Stanton Elementary

Order #25-75 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay App #9 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

B. Change Orders for New Stanton Elementary

The following change orders for the new Stanton Elementary project were presented:

1. Credit from Rimar Electric due to electric strips not being needed at the top of cabinets.
2. Addition of supplies needed for Rising Sun Developing to fix a water drainage issue on the connector road to the middle school.
3. Additional cost for vinyl flooring.
4. Credit received for changing rubber tiling to vinyl flooring.

1. Approval of Change Order #19-1 to Rimar Electric

Order #25-76 - Motion Passed: Approval of CO #19-1 issued to Rimar Electric for a credit in the amount of \$10,110.00 for PR #3-Delete plug mold outlets along the top of the cubbies and quad outlets behind upper cabinets in all classrooms 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

2. Approval of Change Order #21-2 to Rising Sun Developing

Order #25-77 - Motion Passed: Approval of CO #21-2 issued to Rising Sun Developing Co.in the amount of \$2,630.64 for Install of french drain system to remediate water leaching from underneath the new MS connector road 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

3. Approval of Change Order #22-1 to Rosa Mosaic & Tile Co.

Order #25-78 - Motion Passed: Approval of CO 22-1 issued to Rosa Mosaic & Tile Co in the amount of \$17,140.00 for PR #2 to provide and install VCT in lieu of vinyl rubber tile passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Kathy Merriman.

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

4. Approval of Change Order #22-1-1 to Kiefer America

Order #25-79 - Motion Passed: Approval of CO #21-1-1 issued to Kiefer America for a credit in the amount of \$218,380.00 for PR #2 to provide and install VCT lieu of vinyl rubber tile 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

C. Approval of Owner Architect Agreement for Middle School Gym Wall Project

Order #25-80 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Owner-Architect Agreement for the Middle School Gym Wall project 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

The Board selected JRA Architects in a previous meeting but the owner/architect agreement was just recently sent to the Board for the middle school gym wall project.

D. Approval of Highest Bids On Surplus Items

Order #25-81 - Motion Passed: Approval to accept the high bids on the 6 items as presented 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

The following items were approved for surplus at the August Board meeting and bids were finalized on November 13, 2024. The Board approved to accept the following high bids for each item:

Denford MRC 40 Milling Machine: \$29.99

Denford Micro Milling Machine: \$25.55

Hydrolic Student Work Station: \$105.95

Flat Bed Traylor: \$501

Black Chevy Truck: \$501

School Bus: \$255.55

E. Approval to Authorize Superintendent to Dispose of Property Declared Surplus

Order #25-82 - Motion Passed: Approval to authorize the Superintendent to dispose of the trailer declared surplus by the most cost-effective means 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

The trailer behind the middle school was declared surplus at the July 16, 2024 Board of Education meeting. A surplus bid auction was recently completed including the trailer, and nobody bid on the trailer. The Board authorized the Superintendent to dispose of the trailer by the most cost effective means.

XIII. Approval of Van Driver Sub and As Needed Rate

Order #25-83 - Motion Passed: Approval of as needed and sub pay rate for van driver 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

Although a pay scale was created for a van driver at last month's Board meeting, we didn't specify a pay rate for a sub driver or "as needed." Our intent would be if a current employee drives as needed, they would receive their hourly rate at the years of experience they are granted in their current job. If someone who doesn't work for us in another capacity subs or works "as needed" they would receive the 0 years rate of pay as other classified sub positions currently get.

XIV. Approval of Additional CTE Stipend

Order #25-84 - Motion Passed: Approval of 9 CTE Stipends passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Kathy Merriman.

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

XV. Approval of Leaves of Absence

Order #25-85 - Motion Passed: Approval of maternity leave for Holly Adams and FMLA Leave for Alison Wasson 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

Leaves of Absence were granted for:

Holly Adams- Maternity Leave

Alison Wasson- Intermittent FMLA Leave

XVI. Informational Items

A. Personnel Report

The personnel report was presented as attached.

XVII. Other Business

XVIII. Adjourn

Order #25-86 - 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