

**Powell County Board of Education Regular Meeting  
January 21, 2025 6:00 PM  
Powell County Middle School Media Center**

**Attendance Taken at : 5:51 PM**

**Present Board Members:**

Mark Collier  
Brenda Crabtree  
Lisa Mays  
Kathy Merriman

**Absent Board Members:**

Diann Meadows

- I.** Call to Order
- II.** Pledge of Allegiance
- III.** Adopt/Approve Agenda

**Order #25-104 - Motion Passed:** Motion to approve agenda passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Mark Collier.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

**IV.** Elect Chairperson for 2025 Year

**Order #25-105 - Motion Passed:** Approval to elect Diann Meadows as chairperson passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

**V.** Elect Vice-Chairperson for 2025 Year

**Order #25-106 - Motion Passed:** Approval to elect Lisa Mays as Board Vice-Chair passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

**VI. Elect Board Secretary for 2025 Year**

**Order #25-107 - Motion Passed:** Approval to elect Superintendent Wasson as Board Secretary passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

**VII. Elect Board Treasurer for the 2025 Year**

**Order #25-108 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Ms. Alicia Frazier to serve as Board Treasurer for the 2023 year passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

**VIII. School Board Recognition**

Superintendent Wasson recognized the Board for their service to the students in the district and welcomed Mr. Mark Collier to the Board.

**IX. Staff/Student Recognitions**

Superintendent Wasson introduced the PCHS Volleyball Team that won their 7th district championship in a row. Coach Jazmen Thorpe spoke about their dedication and hard work as a team and the players expressed they planned to get back in the gym soon to try to work towards a regional win next year.

**X. Communication Report**

Superintendent Wasson shared the following communication report:

- She welcomed Mr. Collier to his first meeting as a member of the Powell County Board of Education. Mrs. Wasson looks forward to working with him in service to our district.
- Since the last meeting, Mr. Brewer had a successful meeting with first responders who walked the buildings on January 2nd as part of his Safe Schools program. He stated that he will invite them to another walk through in July.
- Mrs. Wasson attended both the CKEC and KEDC board meetings last week. At both meetings we got to hear from the Commissioner of Education, Dr. Robbie Fletcher, about the push for a local accountability model. This is something that is being piloted in some districts right now and is something we would like to begin work on here in Powell County. Local Accountability means seeking what our community believes to be important and reporting on those things in a format that our community can follow. This might be things like how many students are participating in CTE classes, how many students participate in extra-curricular activities, etc. These are things beyond the federal accountability standards of reading and math scores or state accountability.
- It has been very difficult for us to not be able to get back in school since we left for winter break. We had a lot of snow and ice in a short period of time, and temperatures have not increased. The city and county have done a good job clearing the main roads, but we have several bus turnarounds that are not able to be used. In the past we have had Plan B routes so we utilize picking up students on main routes, but a few side roads are not picked and parents meet us at a specific location. So far, there have been too many roads that we can't travel to do a Plan B route scenario. The extreme cold temperatures we

are having this week not only keep our turnarounds in bad shape but make it dangerous even if buses could get to normal pick-up locations because some students have to walk a way to get the bus stops. We are working to try to find a way to transport as many students as possible to be able to get back in school as soon as possible.

- On our second week out of school we gathered a team of people who created over 2,100 bags of food and handed out a week's worth of breakfast and lunch for almost 300 families. We had cooks, bus monitors and several staff members help put together the food and distribute it as families came into the high school cafeteria. Mrs. Wasson stated that she was very proud of Laura Young for organizing the meals and getting approval from KDE to distribute the meals and all those that helped with kind and positive attitudes.
- The KSBA Conference is coming up February 21-23. Board members will need to get information to Julie so she can set up room reservations and conference registration. If the board wants to do preconference meetings it was requested to let her know that as well. There are also new training hour requirements for board members.
- The Commissioner of Education sent out an email communication at approximately 4:00 p.m. today to explain that there is a shortfall in SEEK money for this current fiscal year. We do not have a dollar figure on how much SEEK funding we will not receive, but we will be looking for this and will watch our spending for the remaining part of the year until we know exactly how much we will not receive that we were projected to receive.

#### NEW CONSTRUCTION UPDATES:

- The weather has pushed the project back a little and the current completion date is around October 23rd
- There is drywalling going on in the cafeteria area
- The roof is on the administrative office and preschool section so they can move there next with the drywall
- They are hoping to be able to get back to some of the outside work next week.
- They plan to pour the rest of the gym walls on Thursday of this week and if the remaining weight bearing walls can be completed in the next few days then they can start working on the steel beams again next week.

Board Vice Chair Lisa Mays asked about the current Middle School gym wall project and where it currently stands.

Mrs. Wasson responded that the project is out for bid and those bids will be opened on February 4, 2025.

#### XI. Public Comments

None

#### XII. Consent Agenda

**Order #25-109 - Motion Passed:** Motion to approve all consent items as presented passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

**A.** Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting 12.17.24

**B.** Approval of Payment of Claims

- C. Approval of Monthly Financial Report
- D. Approval of Orders of Treasurer
- E. Approval of Monthly Trips
- F. Approval of Waiver for Shortened Day/Week
- G. Approval of SEBT School Payment Contract
- H. Approval of Stanton Elementary PTA School Wide Fundraiser
- I. Retroactive Approval of Gear-Up MOU for Grant Application
- J. Approval of MOA with KSPMA
- K. Approval of Amended Extracurricular Stipend Sheet Per MOA
- L. Retroactive Approval for Kentucky FFA Agriculture Innovation Grant
- M. Approval To Write AED Grant
- N. Approval to Write Kentucky Numeracy Counts K-3 HQIR Grant
- O. Approval to apply for Steel Reese Grant
- P. Approval of Crumb Rubber Grant for Bowen Elementary Courtyard
- Q. Approval of Student Accident Policy with Zurich
- R. Approval to Apply for Donation for Middle School Football Uniforms

**XIII.** Approval to Authorize the School District to Establish the Creation of a School Based Law Enforcement Agency (SBLEA)

**Order #25-110 - Motion Passed:** Motion to table until February 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. as a special meeting, for discussion and possible approval passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Kathy Merriman.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Superintendent Wasson began the conversation by stating that the idea of the district having its own school based law enforcement agency is not being brought to the Board because our relationship with the Stanton Police Department is broken. She stated the school district and city have a good relationship with our current SRO program, but this is just another avenue for the school district to pursue to hire SRO's for the district. She indicated that at a recent city council meeting one of the council members wanted to end our current contract and renegotiate the terms of the contract, and it is the responsibility of the district to provide SROs so she felt it would better serve the district to have our own program. She stated that surrounding counties such as Clark, Montgomery, Menifee, Lee, and Estill have their own school based law enforcement agencies.

Mrs. Wasson invited and introduced Mr. Joshua Kincaid, Assistant Superintendent from Menifee County Schools to present to the Board. Menifee County School District has successfully operated their own SRO program for a couple of years. Mr. Kincaid spoke to the Board about their program concerning all aspects including employment contracts, salary, budgeting and programs. He also took questions from the board.

Board member Mark Collier asked police chief Grant Faulkner how much additional funding would be needed by the city in a future contract. Superintendent Wasson stated that may not be a fair question for him because he was not involved in the negotiations of the current contract and she presented a document to the Board that showed how much the SRO program cost the city. This document was provided to her in the negotiation of the current contract. She explained to the Board that according to the document, the two officers cost the city \$57,600 for their salaries, but vehicle insurance, bonding, and liability insurance costs added an additional \$29,226.00 That figure plus other costs made the cost to the city for an SRO program \$94,344.00 and the

district gives the city \$84,000.00 for the SRO program. Superintendent Wasson shared that the school insurance company has indicated our vehicle insurance would be approximately \$2,700 per vehicle and our liability insurance would increase between \$1,200-\$1,500 according to the estimate of our insurance agent. She stated the cost of our insurance was likely less because we would not run the risk of high speed chases in an SRO program and the duties of the position are different than a full time police officer.

A lot of discussion and questions took place during the meeting. Mark Collier made a motion to table the discussion until the February board meeting. The motion died due to a lack of a second. Discussion was had about potential effects of postponing the vote for another month, and a new motion was made to hold a special called meeting in two weeks to be able to obtain more information prior to coming to a final decision.

#### **XIV. Presentation of Nutrition/Physical Report**

Nutrition Director Laura Young presented the nutrition and physical report to the Board.

#### **XV. Approval of School Day for 25-26 School Year**

**Order #25-111 - Motion Passed:** Approval of the start and end times for the Powell County Schools for the 24-25 school year as presented passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Per KRS 157.350 and 702 KAR 7:140, the local board of education is required to approve the start and end times of the district schools instructional day.

The current school start time is 8:10 a.m. and school end time is 3:20 p.m. and it is recommended that we keep these start and end times for the 2025-2026 school year.

#### **XVI. Approval to Amend the 24-25 School Calendar**

**Order #25-112 - Motion Passed:** Approval to use February 14, 2025 and March 14, 2025 as make-up days passed with a motion by Brenda Crabtree and a second by Kathy Merriman.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

DPP Meredith Robinson asked the Board to use February 14, 2025 and March 14, 2025 as make-up days. These two days were originally flexible PD days and not designated as make-up days, but with as many days as we have missed and additional snowfall predicted, we would like to use these days for make-up. The attached calendar shows that this would allow the last day of school to currently be May 22, giving us 5 more days before entering into June or taking some of spring break. With today's missed day added in, the last student day would be May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **XVII. Instruction**

### **A. Comprehensive School Improvement Plan Presentations**

#### **1. Stanton Elementary**

Mr. James Crase, Principal at Stanton Elementary, presented the following:

**By 2027 Stanton Elementary will increase the percentage of students scoring Proficient/Distinguished in:**

- Reading from 41% (2024) to 51%.
- Math from 35% (2024) to 45%
- Science from 24% (2024) to 40%
- Social Studies for Elementary from 22% (2024) to 40%,
- Combined Writing/Editing and Mechanics for Elementary from 22% (2024) to 40%

**By 2027 Stanton Elementary will increase:**

- Climate index from 78.4 to 83.4
- Safety index from 71.1 to 76.1

#### **KCWP 2: Design and Deliver Instruction**

- Principal and teachers will meet weekly in PLC meetings to analyze student work, progress, MTSS implementation. Teachers will continue to plan implementing our reading, math, and social studies series.
- Differentiate instruction

#### **KCWP 4: Review, Analyze and Apply Data Results**

- KSA (Kentucky Summative Assessment) test scores from previous school year analyzed for areas of growth.
- Student data will be analyzed for small group instruction 8:30-10:30 in reading and math.

#### **KCWP 5: Design, Align and Deliver Support**

- Weekly PLC agendas focused on the Powell County Schools Learner Profile (Collaborator, Communicator, Contributor, Critical Thinker)
- Principal conducts regular walkthroughs and provides individual instructional coaching.
- Daytime ESS (Extended School Services) provided at Stanton Elementary.
- Increase student attendance by establishing weekly classroom and monthly individual incentives.
- Making sure our daily learning targets align with KY state academic standards.

#### **2. Powell County High School**

Dr. Jennifer Kincaid, Principal at PCHS, reported the following:

**By 2027 Powell County High School will increase the percentage of students scoring Proficient/Distinguished in:**

- By 2027 PCHS will increase the percentage of students scoring Proficient/Distinguished in Reading from 33% to 38%.
  - o Previous goal of 23% (2023) to 33% was met.
- By 2027 PCHS will increase the percentage of students scoring proficient/distinguished in Math from 23% to 28%.
  - o Previous goal of 13% (2023) to 23% was met.
- By 2027, PCHS will increase the percentage of students scoring proficient/distinguished in Science by 30% overall.
  - o Maintaining the same goal because Science scores are suppressed.

- By 2027, PCHS will increase the percentage of students scoring proficient/distinguished in Social Studies from 18% to 25%.
  - o Previous goal of 15% (2023) to 25% was not met.
- By 2027, PCHS will increase the percentage of students scoring P/D in Combined Writing/Editing and Mechanics from 22% to 27%.
  - o Previous goal of 13% (2023) to 23% was barely missed.

**By 2027 Powell County High School will increase:**

- Postsecondary readiness rate from 80.5 to 85
- Climate index for High School from 61.7 to 80
- Safety index for High School from 56 to 75
- Graduation rate from 91.4 to 95

**OTHER:**

- Implementation of elements of an effective lesson in PLC work
- Focus on standards based learning targets
- Continued use of new curriculum in 3 core content areas
- Continue use of ESS daytime waiver
- Gave ACT to all students at each grade level
- Science teachers are viewing sample curricula
- Continued focus on writing in all contents
- Crew Time used to implement tiers of support or enrichment for all students
- Continue to work with multiple mental health agencies available to students

Dr. Kincaid reported that the SBDM council approved to retain their mission statement and developed a Vision Statement:

"Preparing all students for what's next."

**B. Presentation and Approval of Middle School Improvement Plan**

**Order #25-113 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Powell County Middle School Improvement Plan passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Dr. Martina Skidmore, Principal at PCMS, and Mrs. Whitney Merriman, Assistant Principal, presented the following to the Board:

**By 2027 Powell County Middle School will increase the percentage of students scoring Proficient/Distinguished in:**

- Reading for Middle School from 21% to 31% and 21% to 24% by 2025.
- Math for Middle School from 17% to 27% and 17% to 20% by 2025.
- Science for Middle School from 7% to 27% and 7% to 10% by 2025.
- Social Studies for Middle School from 20% to 30% and 20% to 23% by 2025.

- Combined Writing/Editing and Mechanics for Middle School from 32% to 42% and 32% to 37% by 2025. By 2027 Powell County Schools will increase the
- Climate index for Middle School from 67% to 77% and 67% to 70% for 2025
- Safety index for Middle School from 57% to 67% and 57% to 60% for 2025.

### **KCWP 1: Design and Deploy Standards**

- Principals and Teacher Leaders to work with reading, math and social studies teachers to support
- Implementation High Quality Instructional Resources
- Examination and adoption of additional resources and curriculum currently being used for science
- TEacher and administrative team will work through the Model Curriculum Framework to select a High Quality Science Resource

### **KCWP 2: Design and Deliver Instruction**

- Principals will conduct weekly walkthroughs to ensure quality instruction within classrooms
- Principal and teacher leaders will conduct weekly PCL's

### **KCWP 3: Design and Deliver Assessment Literacy**

- Utilize MAP and other formative assessments to better plan specific, intentional instruction

### **KCWP 4: Review, Analyze and Apply Data Results**

- KSA test scores from previous school year analyzed for areas of growth

### **KCWP 5: Design, Align and Deliver Support**

- PCMS administration will work with CKEC to align processes for MTSS at both the district and building level
- PLC work will guide teachers through workshop model lessons for increase in student engagement
- SDI Training for Co-teaching classroom teachers
- Station teaching with regular and ECE teachers
- ECE students will receive tier 1 instruction from content specialist

### **KCWP 6: Establishing Learning Environment and Culture**

- Establish positive classroom culture through PBIS implementation and SEL curriculum
- TSI Stakeholder Committee will work with students in targeted subgroup

### **PCMS TSI Addendum: (see attachment also)**

- Data tracking through PCL's to develop tiered support
- Students obtaining access to Tier 1 instruction with a co-teaching model of SDI through Station Teaching
- TSI Stakeholder Committee concentrating on Data Analysis
- ECE Paraeducator



**XVIII. Review of Draft Budget for FY 2026**

Chief Financial Officer Alicia Frazier and Superintendent Wasson explained the draft budget they prepared for the district. CFO Frazier explained how she projected the revenue for the upcoming year. Superintendent Wasson explained that salary is the first thing put in the budget because it is the largest expense. The salaries include everyone's step raises for the coming year and where positions are vacant the average salary is used. The budget does include salaries for a potential daycare program that we would like to offer to our staff. The funding for three SROs was placed in the school security code on the budget to signify what we believe the cost of the program could be, but in the final budget those numbers would be spread out to the salary categories. Because we are hoping to repair many things in the district from this year's budget, we have reduced the projected spending in building repair and maintenance for next year.

The draft budget is presented for review and does not require approval at this time. The tentative budget will come before the Board at the May meeting.

**XIX. Facilities**

**A. Approval of Pay App # 11 and Solid Ground Invoice**

**Order #25-114 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Pay App #11 and Solid Ground invoice passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Mark Collier.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Pay application #11 for the new Stanton Elementary School and an invoice for Solid Ground were presented for payment.

**XX. Approval of Leaves of Absence**

**Order #25-115 - Motion Passed:** Approval of leaves of absence for Ashley Crowe, Jonathan Conley, Greg Webb, and Jason Rogers passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

We have received extended leave reports for:

Ashley Crowe, Jonathan Conley, Greg Webb, and Jason Rogers.

**XXI. Informational Items**

**A. Personnel Report**

HR Director David Lyons presented the personnel report to the Board.

**XXII. Other Business**

None

**XXIII. Adjourn**

**Order #25-116 - Motion Passed:** Motion to adjourn passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

Mark Collier	Yes
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Absent
Kathy Merriman	Yes

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Board Vice-Chairperson

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Board Secretary