

Powell County Board of Education Regular Meeting
March 18, 2025 6:00 PM
Powell County Middle School Media Center

Attendance Taken at : 5:57 PM

Present Board Members:

Mark Collier
Brenda Crabtree
Lisa Mays
Diann Meadows
Kathy Merriman

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

Order #25-145 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve agenda passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Mark Collier.

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

IV. Staff/Student Recognitions

Ms. Charissa Knox, teacher at the Middle School, reported that the Middle School had one student qualify for the state academic meet. Aiden Whitaker competed and performed 63rd out of 121 students who competed.

V. Communication Report

Superintendent Wasson shared the following communication report:

- Since our last meeting I was able to attend the KSBA conference and a conference sponsored by KASA called the Leadership Summit. Both were a great opportunity to network with colleagues and learn ideas that will strengthen our team.
- I was fortunate enough to get to watch the KHSAA high school swim meet and watch our very own Jaylee Hearne perform. She did very well just making it that far as an 8th grade student and I can't wait to see what the future holds for her. She is practicing for an upcoming competition but will be with us at the next Board meeting.
- As the superintendent mentor of Renee Smith in Jackson County she came here to spend the day with me and I went to Jackson County to spend the day with her. She came with me to all our buildings and met with the principals and I as we discussed next year allocations and I got to see all of her facilities and gained ideas that we might want to work on here.

- Mr. Lyons and I attended a mock interview session and job fair at ECU and met with some promising students graduating this spring. Although many of the students want to work in their home counties, we did meet a few who said they would go where the jobs are.
- On March 11th I met with the KASA Government Affairs committee to discuss current legislation and how we can best impact legislation. We strategized on the KASA drive in day, the principal for a day program, and means of communicating with constituents.
- House Joint Resolution 32 has still not passed out of this legislative session. This resolution is simply the release of funds that were appropriated by HB6 in the last legislative session. The legislators required each district on the list go through an audit process and if we cleared the audit then we would remain on the list. Powell County cleared all aspects of the audit. We were very disappointed that our Representative voted against this resolution, but are still hopeful that it will pass so that we can finalize our funds for the elementary school and start other projects.
- We would like to work on daycare for staff for the children in the preschool age program, but are not likely able to do birth to age 2 at this time due to space not being available in the current Stanton Elementary School.
- To give you a simplistic version of what other funding we have available that can only be used on building projects:
 - o \$853,102 in SFCC Funds- Plan to add to the new Stanton Elementary
 - o \$1,529,255- Broken down to \$396,898 in Capital Outlay and \$1,132,357 in Building Funds
 - o We have calculated that we have approximately \$237,132 in current funds on the Stanton Elementary Project to use if we get the \$2.9 million figure through the Gap funding. We will have to add to that by selling bonds.
- To give an idea of our plans for organizing these funds:
 - o We need about \$1,800,000 additional for the new Stanton Elementary School. We plan to put all the SFCC funds of \$853,102 towards that project and would like to sell bonds for the rest.
 - o We would like to move the \$396,898 in Capital Outlay and \$661,677 of the Building Funds to the current Middle School wall project. That frees up our general fund money to have more flexibility in turning the current Stanton Elementary into Central Office.
 - o The remaining Building Fund money is what we would like to use for the HVAC project that we are working on.
 - o When we sell bonds for the new elementary school we also plan to request we sell enough to take care of the middle school and high school roofs, the vestibule projects at Clay City and maybe Bowen (although we might be able to do that ourselves from some of the general fund cash we are setting aside for projects) and we are working on figuring out the baseball and softball fields.
 - o Much of what we can do will be determined by what needs to be done on the roofs at these two schools and how much it will cost.

New Construction Updates

- There is a lot going on at the construction site. Section A and B are completely under roof. That is the administration and classroom section. The cafeteria is under roof. The only part that is not under roof is the gymnasium and the foyer. They are finishing up the front and back entrance with the arch way and it is looking really good.
- There is some painting going on in the cafeteria and drywall throughout the building. The administration offices are getting close to being closed in with walls so the offices are shaping up.
- Their goal in the next little bit is to get the parent parking loop graveled so they can move their storage units and supplies to behind the building and start using the back as an entrance. They will work on the sidewalks back there once the brick and stone is laid, which is an effort to keep as much mud from coming in the building as they can.
- Window frames will be delivered by the end of this week and will start going in soon. The glass should be on site on the 25th.
- The electric company will start moving their poles onto our property soon.
- They will work on the movement of the water and sewer onto our property so that it can be moved onto what the right of way will be when the state widens the road.

VI. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VII. Consent Agenda

Order #25-146 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve all consent items as presented passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

Mr. Collier asked if all the trips were included because a middle school softball trip was not on the list. Superintendent Wasson explained that we have a computer system to request trips and the trip may not have been requested by the coach prior to printing the report. He also asked Mrs. Wasson if she had information on the holes in the football field that he asked her about when discussing the Quicksand agreement and she replied she did not at this time.

- A. Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting 02.18.25
- B. Approval of Payment of Claims
- C. Approval of Monthly Financial Report
- D. Approval of Orders of Treasurer
- E. Approval of Impact Library Program Donation
- F. Approval for FFA to travel to Hardinsburg, KY to FFA Camp July 14-July 18
- G. Approval of FCCLA to Travel to Louisville, KY to State Leadership Conference April 22-25
- H. Approval of FBLA to Travel to Louisville, KY to State Competition April 14-16
- I. Approval of Clay City Elementary Fundraiser for PTA- Charlestown Wrap

J. Approval of Quicksand Farms Agreement

K. Approval of TC Energy Grant for STEM at Bowen Elementary

L. Approval of Senior Trip

M. Approval of Monthly Trip Requests

N. Retroactive Approval of Middle School State Overnight Trip

O. Approval of Superintendent Travel Expense

P. Mercy Health Donation

Q. Unite Donation

R. Crumb Rubber/Tire-Derived Products Grant for Waste Tire Market Development

The Crumb Rubber/Tire-Derived Products Grant was approved to submit an application. The deadline for the grant is April 1. The grant matching funds will be taken care of through the general fund budget.

VIII. Special Education Policy and Procedure Update

Order #25-147 - Motion Passed: Approval of the updated district special education policy and procedure document passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Lisa Mays.

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

Director of Special Education, Erica Price, presented changes to the current district special education policy and procedure document.

In reviewing our district special education policy and procedure, she noted some changes that needed to be made. The following are changed and highlighted in the attached document:

Page 8- The definition for hearing impairment has been updated

Page 14- The definition for visual impairment has been updated

Pages 29-30- We have included the use of the RTI model for evaluation purposes in addition to the discrepancy tables

IX. Establish High School Graduation Date

Order #25-148 - Motion Passed: Approval to set the graduation date for June 1 at 2:00 p.m. passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

Mrs. Wasson shared that Dr. Kincaid requested to set high school graduation for Sunday, June 1 at 2:00 p.m. She noted that with the passage of HB241 we may be able to take two days off our calendar at the end of the year, but in the event we miss more days we would not request that now. However, even if we do take these days off, this date for graduation would still be the best.

X. Second Reading of SRO Policy 02.31

Order #25-149 - Motion Passed: Approval of 2nd reading of SRO Policy 02.31 passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Mark Collier.

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

XI. Review ERate Bids and Select Vendor for Fiber

Order #25-150 - Motion Passed: Approval of Mountain Telephone proposal and contract for the ERate Fiber Bid pending KDE 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	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Mrs. Ashley Randall, Chief Information Officer, presented to the Board information about the e-Rate bid:

- Reminder: WANRack initial bid was \$144k / 5-years
- Mountain Telephone submitted a bid of \$55,768.88 / 5-years
- WANRack wants \$124k upfront cost for construction
- Mountain Telephone stated that they would help relocate the fiber and reconfigure the software of the current Annex location to the new space in the old Stanton Elementary at no cost
- Mountain Telephone does not do "Spin Billing"
- Mountain Telephone does higher monthly cost = \$1,000.08 (before relocation) / \$882.36 (after relocation)
- WANRack has the lowest monthly cost (5-year plan) = \$328

Mrs. Randall recommended Mountain Telephone to be our fiber provider.

XII. Instruction

A. Emergency Teaching Certificate

Order #25-151 - Motion Passed: Approval of emergency certification for Shelby Powell passed with a motion by Brenda Crabtree and a second by Lisa Mays.

Mark Collier	No
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Mr. Collier raised concerns about hiring of emergency certified staff that don't have experience in teaching in a subject area. He asked for a roll call vote.

B. Principal Instructional Reports

1. Powell County High School

Mr. Joshua Crowe, Dean of Students, presented to the Board:

- PLC's weekly led by administration with specific instructional focus each week
- Administration continuing to do weekly walkthroughs and have now started taking teachers from the Leadership Committee with them so teachers can see what is going on in other teachers classrooms (peer classrooms)
- All Juniors and some Seniors completed the ACT, results should be in next month
- CTE programs are all in their competition season, FBLA competed at regionals and had several students advance to state. One PCHS student was elected to the regional office of Historian
- Working on summer PD options with teachers

2. Powell County Middle School

Dr. Martina Skidmore, Principal at the Middle School, presented to the Board:

- Kentucky Writing Project in grade level teams
- Student Voice Summit
- Continued work in PLC-instructional activities
- What Great Teachers Do Differently - Todd Whitaker Summer PD

3. Bowen Elementary School

Mrs. Julie Foster, Principal at Bowen Elementary, presented to the Board:

- PLC with Kentucky Writing Project and implementing accompanying strategies
- Resuming peer observations for teachers this week. This allows teachers to share and learn from one another.

4. Stanton Elementary School

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

- Focused on writing instruction with Kentucky Writing Project, morning writing groups in fifth grade
- Continued focus on learning targets that match the Kentucky learning standards

5. Clay City Elementary School

Mrs. Suzanne Meadows, Principal, and Kim Hearne, Assistant Principal, at Clay City Elementary, presented to the Board:

- PLC's with focus on instructional activities and assessments that support student learning
- PRI funded a part-time interventionist

XIII. KETS 2nd Offer of Assistance

Order #25-152 - Motion Passed: Approval of 2nd Offer of Assistance of \$15,743 to be matched by general fund. passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Lisa Mays.

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

CFO Alicia Frazier explained that the KETS 2nd offer of Assistance of \$15,743 would be matched by general fund dollars and used for technology purposes which align to the District Technology Plan.

XIV. Facilities

A. Approval of Pay App #13 and Solid Ground Invoice for the New Stanton Elementary School

Order #25-153 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay App #13 and the Solid Ground invoice for the SES project passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Kathy Merriman.

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

B. Change Order Requests for New Stanton Elementary

Order #25-154 - Motion Passed: Approval of Change Orders 4-2, 7-1, 18-2, 19-3, 19-4, 21-4, 21-5, and 21-6-2 passed with a motion by Brenda Crabtree and a second by Kathy Merriman.

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

The following explanation of the change orders was presented:

These change orders relate to several projects for the new building. The casework change order was requested by us. The credit change order is for changes that were made to meet the needs of the classrooms. When the plan was originally created, teachers were not asked what casework was needed and it wasn't shown to our team as we restructured the building. We had asked for sinks to come out of all the classrooms but they were somehow left in the special education resource classrooms. We made slight changes to preschool, FMD, EBD, FRYSC, and resource classrooms as well as a couple classrooms.

The second casework change order adds shelving to the Discovery Zones. The teachers are concerned that there is not enough storage in their rooms. By adding this shelving to each Discovery Zone, teachers will have a place to put things not used daily in the area outside of the classroom and all the casework will match.

The total cost of both the credit and the addition of new shelving is \$17,589.15.

The other change orders relate to:

- The removal of the kiln room in the art room in exchange for a closet. This was supposed to be changed in the plan changes.
- Dry wall header in the Discovery Hub in place of a masonry header- the costs balance out on this project
- Removal of frame around the squares in the concrete on the sidewalks. Rising Sun believes this type of sidewalk will retain water and usually causes long term problems. This is a savings of \$10,000.

C. Select Bid Proposal for Special Inspections of Middle School Wall Repair Project

Order #25-155 - Motion Passed: Approval of hiring Solid Ground Consulting Engineers for special inspections of the middle school wall project passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Mark Collier.

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

COO Doug Brewer presented the following information:

The following proposals were received for the special inspections on the Middle School Gym Wall repair project:

Solid Ground Consulting Engineers: \$4,500.00

Terracon: \$7,637.50

Thoroughbred Engineering: \$8,970.00

LE Gregg: \$9,291.00

ECS: \$10,450.00

We have been utilizing Solid Ground Consulting at the new Stanton Elementary Project and believe that is why the cost is the best. The district receives regular reports on the construction and we believe that company does a very thorough job and would be the best to use.

D. Bri-Den Roofing Owner-Contractor Agreement

Order #25-156 - Motion Passed: Approval of Bri-Den Roofing Owner-Contractor Agreement passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Mark Collier.

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

COO Doug Brewer presented the Bri-den Owner-Contractor Agreement. The Board has already selected this company and this is the agreement to perform the work.

E. Tekton Owner-Contractor Agreement and Direct Purchase Orders for Middle School Gym Structural Repairs

Order #25-157 - Motion Passed: Approval of Owner-Contractor Agreement with Tekton Construction and Direct Purchase Orders listed passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

COO Doug Brewer presented the owner-contractor agreement for Tekton Construction as well as the Direct Purchase Orders for equipment listed below:

Tekton Construction - General Contractor

- **AIA A101 Owner-Contractor Agreement**
 - Contact amount is \$674,671.00
 - This is the base bid minus the Direct Purchase Order totals (see below)
- **DPO Summary**
- **Individual DPO's** – two of these have been signed by the vendors, waiting on the other three.
 - DPO 24-404-01 Schiller Hardware \$7,400.00
 - DPO 24-404-02 Acer Sports Flooring \$64,330.00
 - DPO 24-404-03 Clay Ingels \$32,000.00
 - DPO 24-404-04 Lee Brick & Block \$15,000.00
 - DPO 24-404-05 The Wells Group \$6,700.00
 - TOTAL DPO's \$125,430.00

F. Capital Funds Request for Middle School Gym Wall Project

Order #25-158 - Motion Passed: Approval of CFR for the middle school gym wall project passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

Superintendent Wasson shared after meeting with RSA Financial Advisor Dwight Salsbury and determining what funding we have and what funding is needed on various projects, we would like to apply Capital Outlay funds to the Middle School wall project to allow us to put the general funds designated for that project to be committed to other projects. This requires a Capital Funds Request (CFR) because the project is no longer on our District Facility Plan as it was started before the plan was finalized.

G. Revised BG-1 For Middle School Wall Project Pending CFR Approval

Order #25-159 - Motion Passed: Approval to revise the BG-1 for the Middle School wall project passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Mark Collier.

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

The attached BG-1 reflects the changes approved in the CFR.

H. Pay App. #1 for Middle School Gym Wall Project

Order #25-160 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay App #1 to Bri-den roofing for the Middle School Gym Wall project pending receipt of all financial documents passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

The district has received a Pay Application from Bri-den roofing for supplies that have been delivered. The architect has verified that the supplies are there and we would like to pay the company when all W9 information and anything else the finance department needs is received. We are asking approval pending receipt of all required documentation.

I. Request for Quotes for HVAC Project

Order #25-161 - Motion Passed: Approval to create a Request for Quotes for HVAC units and separate RFQ for installation passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Kathy Merriman.

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

Mrs. Wasson reported that Mr. Brewer has been working with Jamie Craft to determine which HVAC units in the district need replaced. We believe we can get better pricing if we do a request for quotes and compile the list into one project. She asked to do a Request for Quotes (RFQ) for the units and a separate request for the installation for all HVAC units in the district that need to be replaced. The project would be funded with current Building Funds.

J. Membership In TIPS- The Interlocal Purchasing System

Order #25-162 - Motion Passed: Approval of membership with The Interlocal Purchasing System passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Mark Collier.

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

The Interlocal Purchasing System is a cooperative system that allows districts to utilize companies who are members for facilities projects. Sportscape is a member of this purchasing agency and is the company that was used in Wolfe County to build their baseball and softball fields. In order for us to explore the cost of the fields with Sportscape, we have to become a member of TIPS. Membership is free and will allow us to determine if this is a good way to build our fields.

K. TIPS Resolution

Order #25-163 - Motion Passed: Adoption of the TIPS Resolution passed with a motion by Brenda Crabtree and a second by Mark Collier.

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

The attached resolution authorizes Superintendent Wasson to sign and deliver all necessary documents on behalf of the Board of Education as needed to execute the membership.

XV. Instructional Assistant I Position Job Description and Pay Scale

Order #25-164 - Motion Passed: Approval of job description and pay scale for Instructional Assistant I positions passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Kathy Merriman.

Mark Collier	No
Brenda Crabtree	Yes
Lisa Mays	Yes
Diann Meadows	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

We have positions available for some of our specialized highly structured special education classes where quality applicants have applied but not been able to pass the paraeducator exam or don't have two years of college. We would like to establish a second category of Instructional Assistant that does not require these exams for the positions because we know good people who would love to work with our students. Attached are both a job description and a pay scale for this position.

Mr. Collier expressed concern over using people that were not qualified for positions with highly skilled units, and Mrs. Wasson clarified that the units are highly structured units meaning they are students with special needs. Mrs. Merriman explained that this could be diapering a student. Mrs. Wasson stated that we have some people who are very passionate for this particular student population who can't pass the math portion of the paraeducator exam or who don't have two full years of college who would be very good at working with our students, and this is a means to allow for them to work with us.

XVI. Approval of Leaves of Absence

Order #25-165 - Motion Passed: Approval of leaves of absence for Charolette Bowman and Holly Adams passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Lisa Mays.

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

Charolette Bowman and Holly Adams are seeking leaves of absence.

XVII. Informational Items

A. Personnel Report

Superintendent Wasson presented the personnel report.

XVIII. Other Business

A. Middle School Academic Out of State Trip

Order #25-166 - Motion Passed: Approval of out of state trip for PCMS Academic team passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Lisa Mays.

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

Mr. Cade Ball presented a trip they would like to take overnight to Dayton, OH, with the academic team. The trip would be funded by PRI. The mode of transportation would be a school bus.

XIX. Adjourn

Order #25-167 - Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Kathy Merriman.

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

Board Chairperson

Board Secretary