

**Powell County Board of Education Regular Meeting**  
**April 15, 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  
Diann Meadows  
Kathy Merriman

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Adopt/Approve Agenda**

**Order #25-168 - Motion Passed:** Motion to approve agenda 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

**IV. Staff/Student Recognitions**

Mrs. Sarah Wasson, Superintendent, introduced Jaylee Hearne, PCMS student who competes on the Powell County High School swim team. Mrs. Wasson also introduced the swim team's coach, Laney Neal. Coach Neal is the swim coach for the Montgomery County School District and has graciously added Jaylee to her students to coach. Coach Neal spoke about Jaylee's accomplishments and her swimming talent.

**V. Communication Report**

Superintendent Wasson shared the following communication report:

- Since the last Board meeting, I have assigned the extra duty of Assistant Superintendent to Ms. Tiffany Anderson. Ms. Anderson is a strong leader with top notch organizational skills. I have tasked her initially with two main focuses: the new local accountability model and the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) plan to help us get our MTSS process more effective for supporting the needs of the students in the district. I will support her in her work and trust her to make good decisions along with Ms. Roach and the principals as we place this additional focus on instruction.
- We had a consolidated audit on all federal programs, our preschool program, and our alternative education program. A team of about 12 employees from the Kentucky Department of Education came into the district and interviewed staff at all schools. We have heard back from the Title II portion of the audit and there were no findings and only one recommendation. We look forward to hearing from those reporting on the other programs and I commend Ms. Anderson for her organization in pulling the requested data ahead of time.
- Ms. Laura Young is closing in on the end of her nutrition services audit. The audit will be completed after a visit to Stanton Elementary School next week and a closing meeting on April 28.

- We were asked by KDE to sign a document to be submitted to the United States Department of Education stating that we do not participate in any DEI initiatives. I submitted that today and have provided each Board member with a copy of the letter.
- The Middle School gym is now closed to students as the work on the wall project has begun. The roof project on the middle school gymnasium is near completion. They will come back and finish it when the wall is finished.
- As part of this project, we would like to furnish the new gym with new scoreboards and a new scorers table. The table is a hand me down from the high school and it is falling apart. We may have enough in our contingency to purchase these items, but we won't know until they get to the foundation and see what other work needs to be done. Mr. Brewer is going to discuss the possibility of getting information out to the community to see if there is any interest in sponsoring these items.
- Mr. Brewer will also discuss the possibility of preparing the land out in front of the high school for parking spaces in the future.
- I received a phone call from a representative at Ale 8 who would like to provide product to us at no cost to us. We will be able to distribute the product to various teams and organizations within our district. This will bring extra revenue to them and will prevent multiple organizations contacting Ale 8 for donations.

### **New Construction Updates**

- We had a break in at the construction site. Most of what was taken was tools from two different companies. They did get a couple rolls of wire that will cost us about \$3,600. Our insurance deductible is \$25,000 so there is no impact on insurance.
- The entire building is now considered under roof so there will not be any more rain days. The completion date is supposed to be December 4, but there is a possibility that it will be ready sooner.
- The brick on the outside is moving along well. They are working to get it completed so that all the windows can be installed.
- Window frames are going in and glass has already been installed in some of the frames.
- The majority of the drywall has been hung and they are working on a plan to get the ceiling grid in.
- The grease drain was not sloped correctly so they reworked it and had to go through the concrete in the bathroom of the kitchen and dig up the rock from underneath to get it fixed the way it needs to be.
- The office area is almost done being painted.
- I have finalized the plan on the classroom sound systems. Each large classroom will have a sound system with 4 speakers and the EBD room and Flex Lab will have two speakers. The teachers in those classrooms will be able to hang a microphone around their neck and speak normally, and the students will be able to hear regardless of where they sit in the classroom. This will help with focus and attention. Additionally, the microphones that the teacher wears will have a button that acts like a panic button, so if he or she needs help, they will be able to operate their button and someone in the office will know the area that they need to send someone.

- I have picked out a washer and drier for the FMD classroom and am working on the furniture. I'm trying to get as much lined out as possible before the tariffs have an impact on purchasing.
- There is a lot going on in the building and if any Board member would like to get inside to see it I'd be glad to schedule a time.

Mr. Doug Brewer shared the possibility of Walker Construction using dirt from out in front of the high school as they work on the Hall's Lane project. They would even out the field in front of the high school, take out some of the trees, and prepare the lowest part of the land for a parking lot in the future without cost to the district. Board members expressed their interest in this project and stated that if Walker Construction will do the work without cost to the district it will benefit us in the future if we are able to extend our parking lot.

Mr. Brewer also shared the idea of seeking sponsorship for the scoreboards and scorer's table at the middle school. Board members expressed interest in working to obtain sponsorship.

## VI. Public Comments

None

## VII. Consent Agenda

**Order #25-169 - Motion Passed:** Motion to approve all consent items as presented 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

**A.** Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting 03.18.25

**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 Donation for After Prom Party

**G.** Approval of District Surplus Items

**H.** Approval of MOA with KSPMA

**I.** Approval of KEDC Membership

**J.** Approval to Revision of FRYSC Job Description

**K.** Approval of Kubota Grant for Community Garden

## VIII. Travel Resolution and Release Form

**Order #25-170 - Motion Passed:** Approval of the travel resolution and release form for times when bus travel is not available 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 is increasingly having difficulties having enough drivers to take trips. Board Attorney Grant Chenoweth suggested we have a resolution similar to the one used for the baseball team and a release form for times when bus transportation is not available.

There was discussion that this is not the ideal situation, but while there is a shortage of drivers, the district has the option of approving the waiver or trips that don't have drivers will have to be cancelled.

It was discussed that Transportation Director Doug Brewer and his team do their best to look at the trips that go the farthest distance first when assigning drivers. They also try to spread out the loss of transportation as evenly as they can between teams.

#### **IX. Ed Rising Out of State Trip**

**Order #25-171 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Ed Rising out of state trip and transportation by airplane 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

Ed Rising National Qualifiers will travel to Orlando Florida for the National Competition June 25-June 30 by airplane. Cost will be covered by CTE and Ed Rising Club Funds. Sponsor: Melissa Meade

Assistant Superintendent Tiffany Anderson shared that this is the first time we have had students in the teacher pathway qualify for the national competition.

#### **X. After Prom Party Overnight Trip**

**Order #25-172 - Motion Passed:** Approval of after prom party trip 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. Bass Fishing Overnight Trip**

**Order #25-173 - Motion Passed:** Approval of funding request and overnight trip with coach and parent transport for KHSAA State Championship if the bass team qualifies after regional competition 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

The bass fishing team is set to be able to compete at the KHSAA State Championship if they qualify in regional competition. Because the competition will take place prior to the next Board meeting, Coach Julie

Clark is requesting funding and permission to go overnight in the event they qualify. She is seeking funding of rooms and mileage for boat captains per the attached information.

The Board recognized that the team captains provide transportation and equipment throughout the year to be able to compete and the coach does not receive pay for the position. The funding for the state competition and travel by the team captains was approved.

## **XII. Powell County Schools District Technology Plan**

**Order #25-174 - Motion Passed:** Approval of the 2025-2028 Powell County Schools District Technology 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	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Mrs. Ashley Randall presented the 2025-2028 District Technology Plan to the Board with highlights in each of the following categories:

- Collaborative Leadership
- Robust Infrastructure & Ecosystem
- Data Security, Safety, Privacy & Use
- Budget & Resources
- Digital, Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
- Personalized Professional Learning
- Use of Space & Time

## **XIII. Staffing Allocations**

**Order #25-175 - Motion Passed:** Approval of staffing allocations to be provided to the SBDM councils as presented 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 staffing allocations were presented to the Board with the following information:

Attached are the staffing allocations for the May 1 SBDM requirements showing how many staff the schools currently have and how many they will lose or gain. In addition to the general fund allocation, the Title I or CTE/Federal Funds allocations for each school and a list to show what teachers are paid from which funding sources was provided. Last year the Board approved an additional teacher at Clay City and part of a teacher at Bowen and Clay City through Section 7 funds for music and we funded an additional teacher at the middle and high school beyond allocation formula for scheduling needs. Those positions have been included in the allocations this year too and that is reflected on the attached sheets.

There are also the following positions being requested out of Section 7 for this year even though they are outside allocation formula approved by the Board.

- The high school enrollment has dropped significantly which would cause them to lose 3 teachers after 1 additional is already provided through Section 7. They will lose 2 teachers, but losing 3 from one year to the next is very difficult on scheduling and it is the opinion of the Superintendent that we need to watch high school enrollment numbers one more year before reducing this many staff.
- Clay City Elementary enrollment projections take them to 386. According to the Board approved staffing allocation formula, an assistant principal is only provided for schools over 400 students. Clay City has always had more than 400 students until now and it is the opinion of the superintendent that we need another year to determine if this decline is going to be continuous or if their population will increase to over 400 again.
- The JAG program at the middle school only funds part of the teacher providing about \$38,000 towards that position. We would fund somewhere in the neighborhood of 25-35% of the position out of general fund which is also above the allocation formula.
- Bowen Elementary's allocation is 12.1 so they should plan for the loss of 1 teacher from general fund. However, they are losing 1 from Title I funds so losing 2 teachers would be difficult for scheduling. The Superintendent recommendation is that we fund a half of a teacher from general fund over allocation and the other half from Title I funds that are available.
- Stanton Elementary is at 15.7 allocated and I recommend we fund the other .3 out of Section 7 to get them to 16.

If approved, the net result for each school is:

Bowen Elementary will be reduced 1 teacher from Title I. (This is 1 over allocation.)

Stanton Elementary will be reduced 1 teacher from General Fund and 2 Assistants from Title I. (This is 0.7 over allocation.)

Clay City Elementary will be reduced 2 teachers from General Fund and 1 Teacher from Title I. (This is 2 over allocation.)

The Middle School will be reduced 1 teacher from Title I but gain 1 full teacher and part of a JAG teacher so they are overall staying the same amount of staff as they have now but adding JAG. (This is .9 plus part of JAG over allocation.)

The High School will be reduced 2 teachers from General Fund. (This is 2.48 over allocation.)

#### **XIV. Salary Scales for 2025-2026 Year**

**Order #25-176 - Motion Passed:** Approval of salary scales for the 2025-2026 school 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	Yes
Kathy Merriman	Yes

Each year the salary scales have to be approved by the Board. Because we will be using the scales in our upcoming Tentative Budget, I would like to have them approved for the upcoming year.

There are no changes or overall percent increases being proposed. All the attached scales have been previously approved and everyone will get their step increases as per the schedule.

#### **XV. Instruction**

## A. School Instructional Reports

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

- Kentucky Writing Project 2nd visit was this week. Teachers were excited and receptive to simple strategies presented to enhance writing instruction.
- Reviewing Spring MAP data and focusing on finishing this year strong instructionally.

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

- Reviewing Spring MAP data, making adjustments where necessary
- Kentucky Writing Project 2nd visit will be April 25th

Mrs. Suzanne Meadows, Principal at Clay City Elementary, presented to the Board:

- Houghton Mifflin visited CCE for instructional PLC's K-5 for more intensive professional learning
- New peer observation routine / instructional PLC's

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

- KWP visited April 10th
- PD discussions with teachers based on need
- Student Voice Summit application process complete
- May 21st training for students at Extension Office with Deana Brooks
- Captain's Bash for 4th 6 weeks
- Working in collaboration with Mountain Comp on Mental Health Awareness Week
- SEL classes weekly with Dr. Tramel beginning April 15th
- PRI: Murals with Ashley Delrasario & Author visit Mary Knight - Saving Wonder
- Realty Store

Dr. Jennifer Kincaid, Principal at Powell County High School, presented to the Board:

- Admin Team has begun working through 1:1 meetings with all staff and senior students. Asking seniors: 1) What was the best part of high school for you? 2) What could have made your high school career better? And 3) Do you feel prepared for whatever you are doing next? Why or why not?
- Completed the ACT
- Increased focus on student data in PLC's each week. Reviewed last year's test data and what we are doing differently to move it forward
- Capstone Projects underway for all classes. Students must connect their learning to at least two of the 4 C's (Contributor, Critical Thinker, Collaborator and Communicator)

## XVI. Renewal of Banking Agreement

**Order #25-177 - Motion Passed:** Approval to the renewal of Banking Agreement with Peoples Exchange Bank for FY 25-26 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 District is seeking to renew the banking agreement with People's Exchange Bank. They have given us a letter stating they would increase the rate from 3.15% fixed to 3.75% fixed.

Rick Stamper represented People's Exchange Bank and provided information that they would still honor free accounts for any staff and all the same benefits as they previously provided.

## **XVII. Facilities**

### **A. Stanton Elementary BG1 & Bowen Elementary BG1 Revisions**

**Order #25-178 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Stanton and Bowen Elementary revised BG1s 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

CFO Alicia Frazier explained these BG1s are for the current Stanton Elementary and Bowen Elementary Roofing Projects. We are seeking approval of the revisions for both roofing projects. We had to go back and revise them due to recommendation by KDE to get the residual to zero since we used ESSER funds and remaining funds on the project was transferred back to the ESSER grant.

### **B. Pay Application #14 for Stanton Elementary Project**

**Order #25-179 - Motion Passed:** Approval of construction Pay App #14 for the New Stanton Elementary 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

### **C. Pay Application #2 Bri-Den Roofing**

**Order #25-180 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Pay App # 2 for Middle School Roof Project with Bri-Den Roofing 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

### **D. Pay Application #1 Tekton Construction**

**Order #25-181 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Pay App #1 for Tekton Construction for Middle School wall project 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

**XVIII. Leave of Absence**

**Order #25-182 - Motion Passed:** Approval of leave of absence for Johna Thomas 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

A leave of absence for Johna Thomas was requested due to the birth of her child.

**XIX. Informational Items**

**A. Personnel Report**

HR Director David Lyons presented the personnel report.

**XX. Other Business**

While there was no other business, Superintendent Wasson told the Board that she provided each member with a copy of the low and high estimates that Garland Roofing provided to Mr. Brewer for the cost of the middle school and high school roof replacements. This was a lot higher than we initially thought it might be and Mrs. Wasson told the Board we would be looking at getting other quotes and options.

**XXI. Adjourn**

**Order #25-183 - Motion Passed:** Motion to adjourn 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

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Board Chairperson

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Board Secretary