

Pikeville Independent Board of Education Regular Meeting

May 20, 2025 6:00 PM

John Waddell Administration Building

Attendance Taken at 6:00 PM:

Present Board Members:

Mrs. Ashley Brown

Dr. Kevin Pugh

Mrs. Brittany Ratliff

Mr. Bill Staggs

Mr. Joe Ray Thornbury

I. Call to Order

Chairman Joe Ray Thornbury called the meeting to order and began with a moment of silence afterward, leading attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Paul Potter from Cornerstone Christian Church also lead the meeting in opening prayer.

II. Public Comment

None Given

III. Student Achievement

A. Student/Staff Recognition

None Given

B. PES Principal's Report

Principal Glenda Adkins shared with a brief recap of activities of both academic and athletic achievements.

C. PHS Principal's Report

Principal Brandon Blackburn shared with a brief recap of activities of both academic and athletic achievements.

D. District Administrator Reports

Taffie Wells, Director of District Programs/DAC, shared that KSA testing was wrapping up in a smooth and organized manner. She noted that teachers and students felt comfortable and confident, largely because everyone knew the expectations and procedures. This positive environment was made possible by strong teamwork and support across the district.

Mrs. Wells highlighted the crucial role of the technology department in ensuring that internet connectivity and devices remained reliable throughout testing. She also expressed appreciation for Mrs. Clevinger, who was always willing to step in and help, even sharing responsibilities across buildings to provide extra support wherever needed.

Special recognition was given to Mrs. Vanhooose for her close collaboration to ensure all students with IEPs and 504 plans received the accommodations they needed. Mr. Davis was commended for his careful work verifying attendance, while Mrs. Clark supported ESS and tutoring initiatives that helped prepare students for success.

Mr. Blackburn and Mrs. Adkins were recognized for their efforts in maintaining quiet buildings, distributing materials, and checking in to make sure all needs were met. Lastly, Mrs. Wells praised BACs Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Mullins for being an amazing team, organizing, scheduling, and planning together to ensure a smooth and efficient testing process.

Kim Clevinger, Instructional Supervisor, enthusiastically shared updates on several key initiatives and professional development opportunities across the district. She highlighted the success of the recent PD sessions, including Preschool Renaissance and UFli, both of which are helping educators implement innovative instructional strategies and improve early literacy outcomes. Clevinger also celebrated the Educators Rising Teaching and Learning Showcase, where students demonstrated their commitment and creativity by putting significant effort into their lessons. In her report, Mrs. Clevinger mentioned that teacher Gifted and Talented (GT) surveys would soon be distributed, gathering valuable feedback to guide program improvement. She discussed ongoing plans for flexible professional development for the 2025-2026 school year, emphasizing the importance of meeting teachers' diverse needs and schedules. Looking ahead, she announced the upcoming Kagan Leadership Training in June, which will further equip teachers and administrators with research-based strategies to foster collaboration and student engagement. Mrs. Clevinger expressed gratitude for the dedication of both staff and students, stressing that their hard work and willingness to innovate continue to drive the district forward.

Ashla Vanhooose, Director of Special Education/Preschool Director addressed the board with a strong emphasis on the district's commitment to lifelong learning

and continuous growth. She expressed pride in the enthusiasm shown by staff, noting that 12 members have already signed up for the KY Transition 260 Educators training, reflecting a proactive approach to professional development. Additionally, several staff are preparing to attend the upcoming Low Incidence Conference, further strengthening expertise in supporting students with diverse needs.

Mrs. Vanhooose also highlighted the successful completion of important annual tasks, such as June reporting and the KVEC #1 SETAC data reporting, which underscores the district's dedication to accountability and improvement. She shared updates on recent preschool training sessions aimed at enhancing instructional quality, and celebrated the successful completion of preschool graduation ceremonies, a milestone for many families. Transition meetings were also completed, ensuring smooth progress for students moving into new educational settings. Throughout her remarks, Mrs. Vanhooose reiterated the importance of collaboration, professional growth, and student-centered practices in achieving the district's goals.

Frosty Davis, Director of Pupil Personnel reported a strong district attendance rate of 94.6%. He emphasized that achieving and maintaining high attendance is truly a team effort, beginning each day with dedicated bus drivers, continuing with lunchroom staff, teachers, administrators, and extending to everyone who supports students. Davis highlighted that every member of the school community plays a vital role in creating an environment where students feel welcomed and motivated to attend.

He also reminded the board that important attendance and compliance reports would be due in June, underscoring the need for ongoing diligence and teamwork. Davis gave a special shout-out to Coach McNamee from the transportation department, commending his commitment to both scheduling and driving buses for students.

Neil Arnett, District Technology Coordinator, shared several important updates reflecting the ongoing progress and achievements within the district's technology department. He highlighted the success of "Steam Night," an event that fostered collaboration and showcased the collective expertise of the department. Arnett proudly announced that the district's STLP program had produced three state-level winners this year, a testament to both student talent and staff mentorship.

Arnett reported that the technology department had recently submitted detailed plans to the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), aligning district goals with state requirements. He discussed efforts to secure federal grant funding and the ongoing evaluation of existing technology programs to ensure their continued effectiveness. Collaboration with Digital Learning Coaches Brian Hobbs and Sarah Blackburn was noted as a key factor in identifying and implementing technology initiatives.

He also informed the board that a public notice had been distributed regarding the upcoming Responsible User Access Policy. This new policy aims to educate staff, students, and families on best practices in digital citizenship, underscoring the district's commitment to maintaining a safe and effective learning environment for all users. Throughout his remarks, Arnett emphasized the importance of teamwork and forward-thinking to keep technology resources strong and relevant.

IV. Action/Consent Items

- A. Excuse Absence of Dr. Kevin Pugh at the April 15, 2025 Regular Meeting
- B. Approve Minutes of the April 15, 2025 Regular Meeting
- C. Approve Bills, Payrolls, and Financial Reports for the period April 16, 2025 to May 20, 2025
- D. Ratify Transportation/Trip Requests
 - D.1. PHS Seniors to Pigeon Forge, TN on May 14, 2025
- E. Approve Transportation/Trip Requests
 - 1. PHS FCA to Williamstown, KY on May 24, 2025
 - 2. PHS Girls Basketball to Winchester, KY on June 12-14, 2025
 - 3. PHS Girls Basketball to Bowling Green, KY on June 19-21, 2025
 - 4. PJHS TSA to Nashville, TN on June 27 to July 1, 2025
- F. Approve Facility Requests
 - 1. Blue Goose Gym by Pikeville First Baptist on June 16-20, 2025
- G. Approve 2025-2026 KETS Education Technology Plan
- H. Approve 2025-2026 Principal's Combining Budgets
- I. Approve FY2025 Capital Funds Request
- J. Approve 2025-2026 Salary Schedules
- K. Approve 2025-2026 Calendar of Pay Dates
- L. Approve 2025-2026 MOA with Mountain Comprehensive Care Center
- M. Approve FY2025 Audit Contract with White & Associates, PSC
- N. Approve Series 2019 Bond Payment in the amount of \$89,177.51

Order #2069 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve all action/consent items as presented passed unanimously with a motion by Mrs. Brittany Ratliff and a second by Dr. Kevin Pugh.

V. Action/Discussion Items

A. 2025-2026 Tentative Budget

Denise Clark, Chief Finance Officer, highlighted the close collaboration between the food service and finance departments, describing them as a unified team dedicated to supporting the district's goals. She expressed excitement about upcoming plans and ideas designed to further strengthen both departments. Clark emphasized that ongoing training and are prioritized, fostering a culture of continuous growth and improvement across all finance-related operations.

She reminded the board about the tax ticket sale scheduled for tomorrow at 10:00, an important event for district revenue. Clark also shared positive news regarding the district's financial outlook, noting that the proposed budget includes a built-in 2% raise for district staff. This increase reflects a commitment to valuing and investing in the workforce. She further explained that anticipated increases in SEEK funding, along with carryover funds from the previous year, have contributed to a stable financial foundation.

Order #2070 - Motion Passed: Motion to Approve 2025-206 Tentative Budget passed unanimously with a motion by Mrs. Ashley Brown and a second by Mr. Bill Stagg.

B. Other Business

None

VI. Information/Review Items

A. Personnel Report

Superintendent's Personnel Report May 2025

NON-RENEWALS:

Jenny Collins, Band Teacher - District Wide

TRANSFERS:

K. Denise Clark, Finance Office to Chief Finance Officer

Misty Justice, Special Education Teacher to Preschool Teacher - PES

Jeri McNamee, 7th Grade Math Teacher to Assistant Finance & Food Service Director

RESIGNATIONS:

Hannah Fields, Preschool Teacher - PES

RETIREMENTS:

Honda Salyer, 3rd Grade Teacher - PES

SUBSTITUTES:

Josie Clevinger Classified

Brookelin Frazee, Certified

B. Miscellaneous

None Given

VII. Closed Session

None

VIII. Return to Regular Session

None

IX. Adjournment

Order #2071 - Motion Passed: Adjournment passed unanimously with a motion by Mr. Bill Staggs and a second by Mrs. Ashley Brown.

Joe Ray Thornbury, Chairman
Pikeville Independent Board of Education

David Trimble, Superintendent/Secretary
Pikeville Independent Board of Education