

Powell County Board of Education Regular Meeting
September 16, 2025 6:00 PM
Powell County Middle School Media Center

Attendance Taken at : 5:44 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 #26-43 - 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

Superintendent Wasson recognized Mrs. Julie Clark for her years of service and dedication to the students and work throughout the district as she is retiring effective October 1, 2025. Mrs. Clark has served as Board Secretary for several years. She has been a teaching assistant and worked in secretarial positions at the Central Office as well as recently being named the Transportation Supervisor. Mrs. Clark also started the first bass fishing team for the district and developed the program through the years into a very competitive team. Mrs. Clark was presented with a retirement blanket that says, "Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate." Congratulations to Mrs. Clark on her retirement.

V. Communication Report

Superintendent Wasson shared the following information in her communication report:

- Since our last regular Board meeting, I have been able to attend the first Superintendent Advisory Council meeting with the Commissioner of Education in Frankfort. Items on the agenda were the Kentucky United We Learn Council, college admissions exam change from ACT to SAT, and facility funding.
- We have had a little bit of a setback on the timing of competition of the middle school gymnasium because the flooring company was not able to come to the district to determine if the concrete needs to be re-leveled prior to installing the wood floor until about a week and a half ago. They will have to do extensive work to get it leveled, and we actually have a change order request on that to approve tonight. This change order will get us going again to still be on track to be close to competition before boys ball games get started in early November.
- I am proud of both our board meetings and the public forum we held to share the information on why we want to implement the nickel tax so that our community understands what the nickel does. It's because of our

last nickel that we are almost finished with a beautiful new elementary school. This nickel will allow us to continue to focus on our entire District Facility Plan including both athletic facilities and other continued upgrades, which frees up general fund dollars to be utilized for instructional needs and day-to-day operational needs in the district. As you are aware, the County Clerk has notified the Board that an affidavit was submitted that a petition has started to recall the rate the Board set. This petition is about recalling the rate and is not about taking the rate to a vote. While it may come to that, I believe most of our community understands that if they truly want to see improved facilities throughout our district, signing the petition may cost the district money for an election that is not needed.

New School Updates

- The new school is still making a lot of progress. We meet two times a month now to ensure that everyone is on the same page and all companies are working together for completion.
- The playground is being installed. All but one piece of the preschool equipment is in the ground, and they are working on the upper grade equipment today and tomorrow.
- All of the kitchen equipment is in and should be finished being installed this week.
- The gym ceiling is being painted this week, and the walls will be finalized next week.
- The gym floor will be started on October 6.
- They plan to have Area A and Area B pretty much wrapped up by October 7. This is most of the classrooms.
- The classroom doors are coming this Thursday, and windowsills will also get started on Thursday.
- They will be scheduling training for our staff on the maintenance aspects of the building and on the kitchen equipment.
- They are still on track for us to move in on the days we planned. I have spoken with Stanton Elementary staff about the moving plan and have asked for help from any staff in the district that are able to help. I will also be asking community volunteers to help and will put out some information before too long on how they can sign up to help.

VI. Public Comments

Mr. Michael Frazier spoke to the Board about the Board policy on public comments. He stated that the policy was a legal policy but the 5 day prior to Board meeting requirement was something that might intimidate some people from wanting to speak. Superintendent Wasson pointed out that the Board has always allowed anyone to speak who wanted to, just as he was provided the opportunity this evening without having provided 5 days notice.

Board members spoke to Mr. Frazier and let him know that they were always willing to listen and communicate with their constituents.

Mr. Frazier also stated that he disagreed with the removal of comments on the Powell County Schools social media page. The Superintendent and Board Members explained that they utilize the social media page much as a bulletin board and that it is not an appropriate platform for back and forth dialogue as there is not time to read and respond to all social media comments made and do the daily work that is required in the district.

VII. Consent Agenda

Order #26-44 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve all consent items as presented passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Mark Collier.

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

- A. Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting 08.19.25
- B. Approval of Minutes for Special Called Meeting 08.28.25
- C. Approval of Payment of Claims
- D. Approval of Monthly Financial Report
- E. Approval of Orders of Treasurer
- F. Approval of Edmentum as a Communication Tool Per SB 181
- G. Approval of School Fee
- H. Approval of Clay City Elementary PTA Fundraisers
- I. Approval of Adjusted Additional Pay Rate Sheet
- J. Approval of State Park Field Trip Grant for High School
- K. Approval of MOA Amendment with Community Action Council
- L. Approval of Jason Rogers Memorial Scholarship

VIII. Working Budget

Order #26-45 - Motion Passed: Approval of FY26 Working Budget passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

CFO Alicia Frazier and Superintendent Wasson shared the working budget. This budget is very similar to the tentative budget but revenue has been shored up with actual figures. Expenditures have also been reviewed. Staff salaries have gone down from what was predicted in the spring due to the changes in staff hired. Money has been saved to work on the current Stanton Elementary to turn it into a Central Office location and other expenditure items have been adjusted based on what was actually spent in the previous year.

Board members stated they appreciated the work done on the budget to get as much done with the budget as possible.

IX. Request to Annex The New Stanton Elementary into City Limits

Order #26-46 - Motion Passed: Approval to request the new Stanton Elementary School to be annexed into the City of Stanton 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

The property where the new school sits is currently not in the city limits. Superintendent Wasson shared she was contacted by Ann Snowden who is the City Zoning Officer and asked if we would be interested in annexing into the City limits. She shared the benefits of annexation and explained we could request to be annexed. Superintendent Wasson shared that the cost of water and sewer is less if in the city limits by as much as a 40% savings, and over time this could be a significant savings. After a short discussion, a motion was made and the Board voted unanimously to request for the property at 776 West College Avenue to be annexed to the city.

X. Amend the School Calendar

Order #26-47 - Motion Passed: Approval to amend the school calendar as presented 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

Superintendent Wasson shared the request for a calendar change was to be able to move the current Stanton Elementary into the new school. The changes reflected in the updated amended calendar request are:

October 20 will be a break day for staff and students instead of a planning day for staff. This will extend Fall Break by one day for staff.

December 17, 18, and 19 will become days off school for students and will become planning days for staff. Two of these planning days were previously placed at the end of the school year to be able to move to days when the school could be open. The other was the October 20 planning day.

The last day for students will now tentatively be May 15.

XI. Instruction

A. Advanced Coursework Plan

Order #26-48 - Motion Passed: Approval of Powell County Schools' Advanced Coursework Plan 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

Chief Academic Officer Tonya Roach shared the new advanced coursework plan. This plan is a requirement of legislation passed in the most recent legislative session. She shared the plan must be created for advanced coursework in grades 4-12. The plan includes examples of what might take place in various curriculum areas as well as delivery methods for the advanced coursework.

B. School Instructional Presentations

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

- Completed the first round of MAP testing. Looking at student need and planning instruction accordingly.
- Started Kid Venture with Mrs. Caudill in August
- Started Clubs this week.

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

- PLC focus on MAP data
- MTSS data carryover from last year
- High Attendance Day was a huge success for the school. Three (3) students were absent. During the day however, a few students had to leave and the school dropped to 98%.

Mrs. Suzanne Meadows, Principal at Clay City Elementary, and the Assistant Principal, Ms. Andrea Foster, presented to the Board the following information:

- Ron Clark House Sorting
- PLC Instructional Focus : Writing

Dr. Martina Skidmore, Principal at Powell County Middle School, presented the following information:

- Yondr Pouch - paid for by Partners for Rural Impact (PRI) - pouch for students to put their cell phone in during the day to have a device free time.
- MTSS Academy
- Attendance Incentives
- Student Voice Committee
- Weekly Recap

Dr. Jennifer Kincaid, Principal at Powell County High School, presented the following information:

- Yondr Pouch Implementation
- Power Hour
- SAT Prep
- Exact Math

XII. Technology Activity Report

Order #26-49 - Motion Passed: Approval of the FY25 Powell County Schools' TAR Report 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

CIO Ashley Randall presented the Technology Activity Report. She stated that the report details the expenditures in technology throughout the district. She pointed out that the cost of fiber is increasing this year but it has been significantly lower than average across the state in the past.

XIII. Digital Readiness Survey

Order #26-50 - Motion Passed: Approval of the 2025-2026 Digital Readiness Survey for Powell County Schools 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

CIO Ashley Randall presented the Digital Readiness Survey.

XIV. Facilities

A. Middle School Wall Construction Pay Apps and DPO

Order #26-51 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay Apps and Direct Purchase Order 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

B. Middle School Wall Change Order to Address Side Wall

Order #26-52 - Motion Passed: Approval of Change Order 3 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

COO Doug Brewer reported in the repair of the back gym wall, we noted water leaking into a science classroom. When investigating the issue of the water, it was discovered the wall has cracked, likely due to steel plates not being appropriately installed during original construction and the wall has moved slightly. We need to correct this problem so that it does not continue to get worse and cause other issues. Attached are the official AIA Change order document and the change order in FACPAC.

C. Change Order For Floor Leveling in Middle School Gym

Order #26-53 - Motion Passed: Approval of change order for gym floor leveling 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

COO Doug Brewer shared that the floor of the gym needs to be grinded and leveled prior to the floor installation. This will be an extra cost to come out of the contingency of the project. Superintendent Wasson shared the cost was about \$4,800 more than the contingency had but in discussion with CFO Alicia Frazier, we can take that money out of Capital Outlay.

D. Stanton Elementary Pay App # 19

Order #26-54 - Motion Passed: Approval of pay App 19 for Stanton Elementary Construction 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

E. Change Order for Stanton Elementary Flooring

Order #26-55 - Motion Passed: Approval of Change Order 22-03 for Stanton Elementary passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

Superintendent Wasson shared that the flooring for the kitchen and bathroom floors could not be installed without a layer of moisture mitigation material due to the moisture level of the concrete. In order to keep moving the project forward, this needed to be done.

XV. Extension of Medical Leave

Order #26-56 - Motion Passed: Approval of leave extension for Marie King 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

Marie King requested an extension of medical leave.

XVI. Informational Items

A. Personnel Report

HR Director David Lyons presented the personnel report. The Board asked about the maternity leave policy and Mr. Lyons reported that the staff appreciated the maternity leave and he believes it is a good recruitment and retention tool for the district.

XVII. Other Business

None

XVIII. Enter into closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(m) to discuss student requests for hardship graduation and partial day students

Order #26-57 - Motion Passed: Approval to go into closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(m) to discuss student requests for hardship graduation and partial day students 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

XIX. Return To Open Session

Order #26-58 - Motion Passed: Approval to return to open session 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

XX. Action Taken as a Result Of Closed Session

Order #26-59 - Motion Passed: Approval of student requests for students A-L with the exception of student G who withdrew her application. 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

XXI. Adjourn

Order #26-60 - Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn passed with a motion by Mark Collier and a second by Diann Meadows .

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

Board Chairperson

Board Secretary