

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

Attendance Taken at : 5:55 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 #26-61 - 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

Superintendent Wasson congratulated the boys' soccer team for winning back-to-back regional championships.

Clay City Elementary created a video of their house selection day to share the student excitement and what it meant to them to be a member of the house and family at Clay City Elementary. This video was played for the Board.

V. Communication Report

Superintendent Wasson shared the following communication report:

- We want to congratulate our boys' soccer team for their accomplishment of back-to-back regional championship winners. They played in the first round of the state soccer championship last night and lost to the Prestonsburg Bearcats but they repeatedly demonstrate athleticism and character and we are proud of our team.
- Our girls' volleyball team is competing in the district championship tonight in Lee County.
- I attended the KEDC legislative breakfast and heard from 6 different lawmakers as they answered questions posed by moderator Bill Bryant. Most of the legislators present were supportive of the work we do in the school systems to provide opportunities for students. They all said that they plan to work on SB 181 to make it better for all. They talked about funding for preschool and codifying kindergarten funding but there were no commitments. While we would like to see preschool fully funded, we know there are issues with that for many districts in regard to facility space and staffing. However, the challenges can be overcome with funding. They also talked about facility funding and the need to improve the current method of funding because some districts are fortunate that their communities understand the nickel tax and the current

equalization by the state and some don't understand that is the only way that a district will be able to improve their facilities. Many districts with aging buildings are unable to get the funding needed to improve them, and all children deserve the opportunity to have a school that isn't falling down around them.

- Mr. Lyons and I once again attended the student teacher mock interview day at Eastern Kentucky University. It is refreshing to see young people getting ready to graduate who are prepared to be educators. These students will graduate in December. One of them that I had the opportunity to interview currently works with us in one of our kindergarten rooms and we will be lucky to hire her in December for full-time work with our young students.
- Our middle school gym project is nearing completion. I noticed yesterday that the floor is being painted. The transformation of the space is going to be really positive for the entire school. We are working on bids to replace the lighting or fix the lights, and we hope to be able to use the gym by the first week in November.
- The roofing project at the high school will begin soon. Much of the material has been delivered and they are staging the areas that they will work in. The middle school roofing will come after the high school.
- The HVAC project at the high school, Clay City, and Stanton Elementary has started in places that the equipment has arrived.
- Over fall break we got some other projects completed like the pipes at Bowen Elementary that were leaking on the gym floor and the electricity at the library at the high school. There is more work to be done on both of these projects but we have a good start.

New Construction

- During fall break a lot of the work to run the fiber between the high school and the new school was completed. They should be pulling the fiber through starting tomorrow.
- The biggest part of the playground is complete. There is a little more gravel that needs to go into the preschool playground and the work to build a sidewalk to the upper level playground has started. The sidewalk will be poured this week.
- The inside work in the classrooms is nearing completion. I found out yesterday that the waxing of the VCT flooring was not included in the bid. We have one price from the company that installed the flooring to put two coats of wax on it and then we can put the remaining coats, but we are getting a couple other bids for this work.
- Our classroom sound equipment has been delivered and we are working on an install date.
- The gym floor in the new school will be painted soon. Bleachers come in tomorrow.
- Mrs. Randall is working to schedule the installation of the new Lite Touch boards.
- They are hoping to be able to put the final coat of the blacktop on this Thursday and Friday, but they aren't sure a few other things can get done first. They are concerned with the weather turning colder. They are also having to do a little work under the blacktop similar to what they had to do to ensure the ground is stable.
- We will soon start with training on various aspects of the school.

- Every day the school changes. It is amazing and will be a great building for our students.

VI. Public Comments

Mr. Adam Brown addressed the Board.

VII. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting 09.16.25

Order #26-62 - Motion Passed: 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

B. Approval of Payment of Claims

C. Approval of Monthly Financial Report

D. Approval of Orders of Treasurer

E. Approval of Annual Donation for Mercy Health for Red Ribbon Week to be distributed to all FRYSC centers

F. Retroactive approval of Bass Team Donation from Farm Bureau

G. Approval of Monthly Trip Requests

H. Approval of Sterling Health Contract Addendum Pending Superintendent Review

I. Approval of Bowen Elementary STLP Grant

J. Approval of GasBoy Agreement

K. Approval of MOU with Partners for Rural Impact

L. Clay City Elementary PTA Candle Fundraiser

M. Stanton Elementary PTA Christmas Bazaar Fundraiser

N. Bowen Elementary Laura Bush Foundation Grant

O. Approval of KSBA First Degree & CTE Scholarship Recommendations

VIII. Select Board Member for District Calendar Committee

Order #26-63 - Motion Passed: 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

Mrs. Lisa Mays volunteered to be on the calendar committee and the Board selected her to serve.

IX. District Calendar Committee

Order #26-64 - Motion Passed: Approval of district calendar committee members as presented 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 calendar committee needs to be approved by the Board. DPP Meredith Robinson explained she sends out a survey asking for volunteers and she takes the first people that reply. There are certain requirements of membership as categorized below.

Classified Staff: Chelsea Townsend and Chris Roberts

Community/Tourism: Alicia Wasson and Jenell Brewer

District Administration: Tiffany Anderson

Parents: Danielle Trent and Shelly Weaver

Principal: Andrea Foster

Teachers: Jackie Arvin and Amy Barlow

Board Member: Lisa Mays

X. Baseball Field Lease with City of Stanton

Order #26-65 - Motion Passed: Approval of the lease for the baseball field 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

Board member Mark Collier pointed out that the money that is spent on leasing the field and upkeeping the city field could be spent on the maintenance of our own field if we had one. He also noted that not being able to hang banners for political candidates as part of the stipulations of the lease brought about loss in revenue for teams. He understands that the city has its own rules, but if we had our own field we would be able to have sponsors of our choice.

XI. Instruction

A. Principal Instructional Reports

Mrs. Jennifer Kincaid, Principal at Powell County High School, presented to the Board the following information:

- Exact Path work continuing to help us provide pinpoint support for students

- JAG induction ceremony-year 2
- Soccer and Darcy Lawson compete at state level
- Preparing to give the ASVAB for interested students

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

- JAG students
School store
- Media Team Implementation
- Science Curriculum Work--LabAids Resource
- Yondr Pouches- Increase in attendance
- MTSS Academy

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

- Focus on small group instruction using all available resources (regular education, special education, interventionist, paraeducators, ESS,...)
- Peer observations during PLC times

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

- Identifying students needing tier II interventions
- PLC work on matching reading/math series to KY standards

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

- Student opportunities - Pre-Scientist activity for 5th grade students and the start of clubs for the school year.
- Heavily focusing on RTI during PLC time.

XII. Facilities

A. Additional Property Coverage

Order #26-66 - Motion Passed: Approval of additional property coverage for the Bowen Sewer Treatment Plant 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 that this cost of additional coverage for the sewer treatment plant at Bowen Elementary was requested by the Board previously. Superintendent Wasson let the Board know that she did not have sufficient information at this time to be able to know exactly what this would cover in relation to the sewer plant. If it is the fencing and the small outbuilding, this coverage may not be necessary. Mr. Brewer stated the walls of the sewer plant are deteriorating and are older. Superintendent Wasson recommended more time to be able to determine exactly what would be covered, as the aging structure was not likely to be a covered item. The Board agreed and tabled the item until we could get information from our insurance carrier.

B. Pay App #20 for New Stanton Elementary & Solid Ground Invoice

Order #26-67 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay App #20 for Stanton Elementary & Solid Ground Invoice passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Lisa Mays.

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

C. Pay App #3 for Briden Roofing

Order #26-68 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay App #3 for Bri-den for Middle Wall Construction 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

D. Pay App # 7 for Middle School Wall Construction

Order #26-69 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay App #7 for Middle School Gym 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

E. Payment #1 for District HVAC Project

Order #26-70 - Motion Passed: Approval to pay Invoice 1 for HVAC 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

F. Pay App. #1 for Middle School and High School Roofing Projects

Order #26-71 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay App 1 for the Middle and High School Roofing projects 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

G. Revised BG1 for MS & HS Roofing Projects

Order #26-72 - Motion Passed: Approval of revised BG1s for Middle School and High School Roofing projects 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

H. Revised BG1 for New Stanton Elementary

Order #26-73 - Motion Passed: Approval of revised BG1 for New 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

I. Revised BG1 for PCMS Gym Project

Order #26-74 - Motion Passed: Approval of revised BG1 for Middle School 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

J. Revised BG1 for District HVAC Replacement Project

Order #26-75 - Motion Passed: Approval of revised BG1 for District HVAC replacement 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

K. Change Order 05 For Middle School Gym Project

Order #26-76 - Motion Passed: Approval of change order number 05 for sub-contractor change on middle school gym floor 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

XIII. Change in Position and Days

Order #26-77 - Motion Passed: Approval to change Admin Secretary with 215 days to Account Clerk III with 225 days 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

Superintendent Wasson shared that with the recent retirement of Ms. Julie Clark, her duties as billing clerk need to be filled. We are not planning to rehire a transportation supervisor at this time. Instead of hiring a new person to do billing, we would like to change the position that Ms. Cassie Brandenburg holds from an Administrative Secretary working 215 days to an Account Clerk III position working 225 days. In discussion with CFO Alicia Frazier and DPP Meredith Robinson, they believe this will be sufficient to add billing duties on to the current work that Ms. Brandenburg does as an administrative secretary to the DPP and also take care of billing duties throughout the year. We will reevaluate this work at the end of the year and report back to the Board if it is not enough time or does not work as a combined job. The change will cost \$4,073.65 for a full year but will be prorated for the remainder of this year. The district will save the prorated portion of the transportation supervisor salary of \$55,718.40. This is a difference for a full year of \$51,644.75 savings.

XIV. Addition of Records Copy/Inspection Clerk Position

Order #26-78 - Motion Passed: Approval of part time records clerk position with a rate of \$15.00 per hour 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

Superintendent Wasson requested to add a part-time as needed position to make copies and assist in fulfilling the open records requests due to the recent number of requests. This could be copying or preparing records for inspection as well as observing during inspection. The rate of \$15.00 per hour on an as needed basis was recommended.

XV. Discussion & Approval of Next Step Per KRS 132.017 In Relation To Tax Rate

Order #26-79 - Motion Passed: Approval to hold a common school election to be held on Tuesday, November 25 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

Superintendent Wasson shared with the Board that notification was received today that the recall petition has been certified by the County Clerk. The Board was presented with the following options:

1. Authorize litigation to challenge the certification of the petition.

2. Reduce the tax levy to a non-recallable rate (the 4% rate) to avoid the election.
3. Allow the election to coincide with the next regular election in November 2026.
4. Call a common school election to be held between November 25 and December 5, 2025.

Superintendent Wasson noted that there does not appear to be any substantial reason to challenge the certification process. She also stated that waiting until the next regular election in November was not a workable option because the rate needs to take place in the year of 2026. She made a statement to the Board that the community had requested improved facilities since she took on the role of superintendent and the nickel is the only way to obtain enough funding for facilities. She reminded the Board that this is a budget year for the legislative process and if the state determines to equalize nickels for districts, now is the time to move forward. Board members Mark Collier, Kathy Merriman, Lisa Mays, and Diann Meadows all spoke to the fact of wanting to improve not only athletic facilities but continuing with other facility projects has been a long term goal. They pointed out all the items that have been completed to date to get to this point and that we have been working on completing multiple facility projects that took priority over athletic facilities in an effort to improve things such as leaking roofs, poor HVAC, and structural issues such as the middle school wall. The Board wants to see improved athletic facilities to give our students the same opportunities to play on quality facilities that other students in districts around us have.

XVI. Calendar Change

Order #26-80 - Motion Passed: Approval to amend the calendar to close school December 24 and 25 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

With the election being held on November 25, we will have to close school because schools are used as polling places. That leaves just Monday of that week to have school because it is Thanksgiving week. It was recommended by Superintendent Wasson that we take both of those days as break days due to poor attendance for a one day school week.

XVII. Maternity Leave

Order #26-81 - Motion Passed: Approval of maternity leave for Mary Bennett 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

Mary Bennet was approved for maternity leave. She had her baby Monday.

XVIII. Informational Items

A. Personnel Report

XIX. Other Business

None.

XX. Adjourn

Order #26-82 - Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn 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

Board Chairperson

Board Secretary