

Franklin County Public Schools Regular Meeting
January 12, 2026 06:00 PM
Franklin County Board of Education
652 Chamberlin Ave
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Attendance Taken: 06:00 PM

Present Board Members:

Chuck Fletcher
Jennifer Kantner
Natalie Lile
Larry Perkins
Justin Watterson

I. Call to Order

Rationale:

Natalie Lile, Chairperson
Chuck Fletcher, Vice Chair
Jennifer Kantner, Board Member
Larry Perkins, Board Member
Justin Watterson, Board Member
Mark Kopp, Superintendent



II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Election of Officers

Rationale:

Superintendent Mark Kopp will conduct the election of officers for 2026

I would like to open nominations for Chairperson.

Chuck Fletcher nominates Natalie Lile.

Is there a second?

Jennifer Kantner seconds the nomination.

Are there any other nominations?

No

May I have a motion to close the nominations?

Larry Perkins motions to close.

Is there a second?

Justin Watterson seconds to close nominations.

If there are no other nominations, all in favor of closing the nominations and electing Natalie Lile as Chairperson?

All against? None

Motion passes.

I would now like to open nominations for Vice Chairperson.

Larry Perkins nominates Chuck Fletcher.

Is there a second?

Natalie Lile seconds the nomination.

Are there any other nominations? No

If not, may I have a motion to close the nominations?

Larry Perkins motions to close.

Is there a second? Jennifer Kantner seconds to close nominations.

If no other nominations, all in favor of closing the nominations and electing Chuck Fletcher as Vice Chairperson?

All against? None

Motion passes.

May I have a motion to nominate Rebecca Roberts as Board Secretary and Teresa Osbourn as Board Treasurer?

Natalie Lile makes the motion.

Is there a second?

Justin Watterson seconds the motion.

All in favor of Rebecca Roberts as Board Secretary and Teresa Osbourn as Board Treasurer?

All against? None

Motion passes.

IV. School Board Recognition Month

Rationale:

Proclamation
Honoring the members of the
Franklin County Board of Education
during School Board Recognition Month
January 2026

WHEREAS our community values a quality education as a vital step along the pathway to success for our children; and

WHEREAS Jennifer Kantner, Natalie Lile, Chuck Fletcher, Larry Perkins, and Justin Watterson contribute greatly to this community through their service on the Franklin County Board of Education; and

WHEREAS these decision-makers are responsible for maintaining strong, effective budgetary oversight, high standards for employment and a safe, well-managed set of school facilities; and

WHEREAS these board members are serving our community with integrity, honor and a commitment to our children's futures; and

WHEREAS January 2026 marks Kentucky's observation of their contributions through School Board Recognition Month;

THEREFORE, Michael Mueller, County Judge/Executive, do hereby proclaim the month of January 2026 throughout this community as School Board Recognition Month and urge all citizens to honor Jennifer Kantner, Natalie Lile, Chuck Fletcher, Larry Perkins, and Justin Watterson for their service.

January 12, 2026

V. Recognitions

Rationale:

Student Voice Committee

Champions of the Month

VI. Tell Me Something Good

Rationale:

Good news reports from schools/district will be shared.

ACA and BMS

Discussion:

Nick Sheridan, The Academy Principal, spoke to the Board about how they are implementing the 6 C's and Courage into their school. Communication

Customer Service

Culture

Climate

Cleanliness

Care Plan

Enoch Welch, Bondurant Middle School Principal, spoke with the Board on what it means for their motto Every Brave Every Day. He highlighted student achievement and the addition of the student pep club.

VII. Public Comments

Rationale:

The Franklin County Board of Education has provided time in its agenda for individuals to make comments. Comments to the Board will be allowed up to a maximum of three (3) minutes. The Board does not allow comments on any matter dealing with personnel issues. Kentucky law states specifically that personnel matters are the responsibility of the Superintendent. On all personnel matters, you should contact the Superintendent of Schools. No questions, comments, or decisions/action related to public comments will be made by Board members at this time, unless the specific topic is on the agenda; however, the Board will listen to the comments and/or suggestions which may lead to a discussion of same at a future meeting. If an individual wishes for the Board to discuss and/or take action on a particular issue, they must follow the procedures outlined in Franklin County Board of Education Policy 10.2. The Superintendent or the designee will be able to assist in this request.

Discussion: None

VIII. New Business

VIII.I. Updated Procedure 09.12 AP.2

Rationale: The Foreign Exchange Student registration procedure 09.12 AP.2 is attached for a reading.

VIII.II. Donations

Order # 2026-1251 - Motion Passed: Approve the donations as presented passed with a motion by Mr. Chuck Fletcher and a second by Jennifer Kantner.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale:

Donations valued at \$1000 or more require board approval. The following donations have been submitted:

Bondurant Middle School

Headway Marketing would like to donate \$2000 to the Youth Service Center Family Fest.

Franklin County High School

Stephanie Olds would like to donate \$1500 to help offset any unforeseen costs.

VIII.III. 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 School Calendars

Order # 2026-1252 - Motion Passed: Approve the 2026-2027 school calendar passed with a motion by Jennifer Kantner and a second by Mr. Chuck Fletcher.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale: The updated 2026-2027 school calendar is presented for approval with the start and end dates mirroring this year's calendar. The 2027-2028 school calendar is attached for review.

VIII.IV. 26-27 Board Meeting Schedule

Order # 2026-1253 - Motion Passed: Approve the 26-27 Board Meeting Schedule passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Perkins and a second by Mr. Justin Watterson.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale: The 2026-2027 Board Meeting Schedule is attached for approval.

VIII.V. AP Seminar for English II

Order # 2026-1254 - Motion Passed: Approve AP Seminar to substitute English II passed with a motion by Ms. Natalie Lile and a second by Mr. Chuck Fletcher.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale: Per 704 KAR 3:305, Section 5(1), a local board of education may substitute an integrated, applied, interdisciplinary, occupational, technical, or higher level course for a required course if the alternative course provides rigorous content. We request that AP Seminar be allowed to substitute for English II for Western Hills High School. Many high schools offer AP Seminar as a substitute for English II (or English 10) to build critical thinking, research, and writing skills, aligning with College Board recommendations. This higher level alternative course provides rigorous content.

VIII.VI. KETS 1st Offer of Assistance

Order # 2026-1255 - Motion Passed: Accept the KETS 1st Offer of Assistance passed with a motion by Jennifer Kantner and a second by Mr. Chuck Fletcher.

5 Years - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale: Pursuant to KRS 157.655-157.660 and 750 KAR 2:010, the School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) is hereby making an official FY2026 KETS offer of assistance. Acceptance of this offer of assistance commits the Board of Education to follow the statutes and regulations of the SFCC and the Kentucky Department of Education governing the Education Technology Funding Program.

Based on the statewide ADA figures being used for 2024-25 SEEK this year, the first offer of assistance in FY2026 is in the amount of

\$64,918. Accepted state technology fund offers of assistance must be matched equally or can be escrowed for up to three (3) years.

VIII.VIII. FY27 Draft Budget

Rationale: The FY27 Draft Budget is attached for your review.

VIII.IX. Approve Waiver of Reconvening the LPC and revising the DFP

Order # 2026-1256 - Motion Passed: Approve waiver of reconvening the LPC and revising the DFP passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Perkins and a second by Jennifer Kantner.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale: Consideration to approve an application for a waiver regarding reconvening the Local Planning Committee and revising the District Facilities Plan. The waiver would provide a 4-year extension of the current district facility plan, "Per 702 KAR 4:180, Chapter 5, Section 501, due to no major changes in enrollment and the most recent plan being developed in July of 2022 and revised for "findings" in July of 2024.

VIII.X. Approve the purchase of two buses

Order # 2026-1257 - Motion Passed: Approve the purchase of two buses as presented passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Perkins and a second by Jennifer Kantner.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Order # 2026-1258 - Motion Passed: Approve the purchase of two buses as presented passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Perkins and a second by Jennifer Kantner.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale:

The purchase of two buses from Central States Bus Sales in the amount of \$433,680 is requested for approval.

IX. Construction

IX.I. Approve Pay Apps for BG24-331, EES Construction

Order # 2026-1259 - Motion Passed: Approve pay apps for BG24-331 as presented passed with a motion by Jennifer Kantner and a second by Mr. Justin Watterson.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale:

Approve the following pay apps for BG24-331, EES Construction:

Pay app 5 in the amount of \$310,693.41 to Green Mechanical for mechanical services.

Pay app 5 in the amount of \$107,087.56 to Rising Sun for concrete services.

Pay app 6 in the amount of \$655,200 to Carmicle Masonry for masonry services.

Pay app 6 in the amount of \$105,994.33 to Excel Services electrical services.

Pay app 7 in the amount of \$9292.50 to Louisville Paving for sitework.

Pay app 7 in the amount of \$151,954.65 to Avenue Fabricating for structural steel.

Pay app 7 in the amount of \$8,820 to Wehr Constructors for joint sealants.

Pay app 8 in the amount of \$12,285 to Wehr Constructors for onsite services.

Pay app 8 in the amount of \$25,924.10 to Wehr Constructors for CM services.

Pay app 8 in the amount of \$112,500 to Wehr Constructors for general trades.

IX.II. Approve Invoices for BG24-331, EES Construction

Order # 2026-1260 - Motion Passed: Approve invoices for BG24-331 as presented passed with a motion by Mr. Justin Watterson and a second by Mr. Chuck Fletcher.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale: The invoices for BG24-331, EES Construction are attached for approval.

IX.III. Approve invoices for BG23-431, Auxiliary Gyms

Order # 2026-1261 - Motion Passed: Approve invoices for BG23-431 as presented passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Perkins and a second by Mr. Chuck Fletcher.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale: Invoices for BG23-431, Auxiliary Gyms are attached for approval.

IX.IV. Approve Pay App #20 for BG23-431, Auxiliary Gyms

Order # 2026-1262 - Motion Passed: Approve pay app #20 for BG23-431 as presented passed with a motion by Mr. Chuck Fletcher and a second by Jennifer Kantner.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale: Pay app #20 for BG23-431, Auxiliary Gyms in the amount of \$143,910.26 to Devere Construction, is attached for approval.

X. Reports to the Board

X.I. Superintendent's Personnel Actions

Rationale: Personnel Actions taken since the last meeting of the Board are presented for your information.

X.II. Reports from School Councils

Rationale:

Draft minutes from schools' SBDM Councils are presented for your review.

X.III. Instructional Services Update

Rationale: Assistant Superintendent, Tammy McDonald, will update the board on instructional services in the district.

X.IV. Update from Student Board Members

Rationale: Student Board Members will give updates from both high schools.

X.V. Superintendent Report

Rationale: Superintendent will share information on district events.

Discussion: The Superintendent recognized Board members for their service. He spoke about preliminary work in the current legislative session, inclement weather days and an upcoming State of the Community event. He also highlighted administrative goals this year that include the 6 little c's and Courage.

XI. Consent Agenda

Order # 2026-1263 - Motion Passed: Approve of the Consent Agenda as presented passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Perkins and a second by Mr. Chuck Fletcher.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale: The Consent Agenda is presented for your approval.

XI.I. 2025-26 CSIP and CDIP Review

Rationale: The 2025-2026 FCS Comprehensive Improvement Plan and the Comprehensive School Improvement Plans are attached for your review.

XI.II. Payment of Bills

Rationale:

Orders of the Treasurer

Warrant #:011226 Fund: General Fund/Federal Programs

At the regular monthly meeting of the Franklin County School Board, the following claims and bills were submitted to the Board for approval. The Treasurer was ordered to pay the amounts as indicated.

XI.III. Minutes

Rationale: The December 8, 2025 meeting minutes are attached for your review and approval.

XI.IV. Contracts

XI.IV.I. Nurse Aide Program MOA's-CTC

Rationale: The MOA's for the Kentucky Medicaid Nurse Aide program with Bradford Square and The Home Place are attached for approval.

XI.IV.II. 26-27 Barksdale School Photography Agreement

Rationale: The agreement to use Barksdale School Photography is attached for approval.

XI.IV.III. Midway MOA: Business Advantage Program (BAP)

Rationale: The MOA with Midway University for an opportunity for staff to further their education is attached for approval.

XI.IV.IV. ECU MOA: School Social Workers

Rationale: The MOA with ECU to host Social Workers is attached for approval.

XI.IV.V. Approve Amerigas Propane Agreement

Rationale: The Amerigas propane agreement is attached for approval.

XI.V. Human Resources

XI.V.I. Leave/Requests

Rationale:

Request board approval for the following requests:

Leave Requests

Employee Number: 9045

Type of Leave: MED

Dates of Leave: 11/9/2025-1/21/2026

Employee Number: 10054

Type of Leave: MAT

Dates of Leave: 1/9/2026-1/30/2026

Employee Number: 9354

Type of Leave: MAT

Dates of Leave: 12/1/2025-2/27/2026

XI.V.II. Modify Director of Communications Job Description

Rationale: Amend Job Description

XI.V.III. Modify/Create Positions- add to salary schedule

Rationale:

Modify/Create Position- add to salary schedules:

Modify Dwide: Speech Therapist position from 93.5 days to 117.5 days; funded by General Funds

Modify Dwide ARC Chair from 100 days to 128 days; funded by General Funds

Create: Dwide Permanent Substitute Teacher position; funded by General Funds

Create: Academy: .5 LBD Teacher; funded by General Fund

XI.V.IV. Approve Extra Duty Schedule FY 26

Rationale:

Approve Revised Salary Schedule

Extra Duty Schedule FY 26

XI.V.V. Request approval of Emergency Certification:

Rationale:

Request approval of Emergency Certification:

XI.VI. Overnight/Out-of-State Trips

XI.VI.I. 2027 French Club to France-WHHS

Rationale: WHHS would like approval on a proposed trip to France in the summer of 2027. Details are attached.

XI.VI.II. KY-KMEA All State Choirs Overnight-FCHS

Rationale:

TRIP INFORMATION: Louisville, KY-KMEA All-State Convention and In-Service Conference: Louisville Convention Center, Embassy Suites and KCA-Whitney Hall. February 4-6, 2026.

Five hotel rooms: 16 Students, Choir Director, and 1 Chaperone

1. Trip Cost per student is \$150. This amount includes lodging for 2 nights, 2 breakfasts and one meal together.
2. Lodging: Embassy Suites, 501 S. 4th Street, Louisville, KY 40202
3. Event Registration costs (\$75) were paid using school activity funds. No child will be denied the opportunity to go based on financial reasons. The students are also responsible for food costs throughout the weekend.
4. Raye Hurley-FCHS choral director, Main Chaperone.
5. TRIP DETAILS: Departure will occur around 9 a.m. on Wednesday morning from FCHS with district bus transportation provided to Louisville. Departure at 9 AM due to time for lunch before check-in, Competitions at 1, with rehearsals starting at 3:30 PM. Students will be picked up by parents Friday night at the conclusion of their concert.
6. BUSES: District transportation needed to Louisville on WEDNESDAY Only. Embassy Suites dropoff.

XI.VI.III. Baseball Team Tournament in FL-WHHS

Rationale: The Western Hills Baseball Team requests approval to travel to FL over Spring Break to play in a tournament. Parents will transport their own students.

XI.VI.IV. Y-Club Conference-WHHS

Rationale: Students will be competing in mock UN at the annual Y-Club Conference March 1-3, 2026 in Louisville.

XI.VI.V. ACDA Southern Division Honor Choir-FCHS

Rationale:

Re: ACDA Southern Division Honor Choir

Memphis, TN

March 4-7, 2026

(Travel on March 3rd and March 8th

Trip Information: Memphis, TN ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) Southern Division (best of the Southeastern Conference.) Senior High Honor Choir Participants: 5 FCFS Choir Students.

Lodging: Sheraton Downtown Memphis, 250 North Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee 38103

Trip Cost: FCFS is covering Student Registration costs as well as the application fee. Choir Boosters are assisting with flights and students cover their housing, approximately \$700 for each kid. The only additional costs will be meals in Memphis, but the Boosters plan to assist with a meal a day.

Educational Value: These 5 students competed against voices, 11-12th graders, from across our country to be selected for participation in the ACDA Southern Division Honor Choir and work under the world-renowned guest conductors.

Supervision: Raye Hurley, FCFS Choir Director, will be supervising the trip and flying with them, along with several parents. Hotel will provide a shuttle to/from airport.

XI.VI.VI. Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference-FCFS

Rationale:

Franklin County High School requests approval to send one student (2025-2026 sophomore) to the summer Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference. The conference will be held June 4-7, 2026 on the campus of Berea College in Berea, KY. Students do stay overnight at the Berea campus. FCHS selects one representative to attend the summer leadership conference. The cost of the conference registration is \$410; the student's family is responsible for the cost of the registration. Parent is responsible for transportation to and from the conference. Supervision is by the HOBY Leadership Conference staff.

XI.VI.VII. HOSA Competition-CTC/WHHS

Rationale: CTC/WHHS are requesting permission to attend an overnight out of district trip for the HOSA Competition March 19-21, 2026. Advisors (Kathy Meador, Diane Hieatt and Marina McCay) we be taking approx. 20 HOSA students to Louisville to attend the HOSA Competition at the Crowne Plaza. Advisor fees such as rooms, registration, etc... will be covered out of the Perkins Funds and school activity funds.

XI.VI.VIII. Key Club Overnight Trip-FCHS & WHHS

Rationale:

The 2026 Key Club Kentucky/Tennessee District Convention is March 20 - 22, 2026 at the Park Vista Doubletree Hotel, Gatlinburg, TN.

Number attending: There is a tentative number of 15 students and 3 adults attending the convention at this time (2 teacher chaperone and Eugene Harrell, Kiwanis member).

Students will take FCS bus transportation to Lexington and then travel by Martin Motorcoach to TN.

The Martin Motorcoach agreement with Frankfort Kiwanis is also attached for review.

XII. Adjournment

Order # 2026-1264 - Motion Passed: The meeting be adjourned at 6:57PM passed with a motion by Mr. Larry Perkins and a second by Mr. Chuck Fletcher.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Mr. Chuck Fletcher

Yes

Jennifer Kantner

Yes

Ms. Natalie Lile

Yes

Mr. Larry Perkins

Yes

Mr. Justin Watterson

Yes

Rationale: The next meeting of the Franklin County Board of Education will be 11:30am on January 26, 2026 at Peaks Mill Elementary.

Discussion: Jennifer Kantner gave shoutouts to both high schools for combining the Key Club trip as well as the WHHS proposed trip to France.

Chairperson

Board Secretary