Powell County Board of Education Regular Meeting
June 16, 2026 6:00 PM ET (5:00 CT)
Powell County Board of Education Board Room

Attendance Taken at : 5:57 PM

Present Board Members:

Brenda Crabtree

Lisa Mays

Diann Meadows

Kathy Merriman

Absent Board Members:

Mark Collier

I. Call to Order
II. Pledge of Allegiance
III. Adopt/Approve Agenda

Order #26-210 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve agenda passed with a motion by Diann Meadows and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

IV. Staff/Student Recognitions

Director of Special Education Crystal Kirk recognized Mary Beth Wade for outstanding service as a special education teacher. She was recently named a CKEC Special Education Teacher of the Year.

V. Communication Report

Superintendent Wasson shared the following communication report:

- The senior breakfasts, the Honor's Night, and the graduation ceremony for our seniors were all very well planned by our staff and turned out to be nice events for our seniors. I appreciate the time and effort the counselors, principals, and staff put into these special events. Additionally, the Powell County Academy had 3 students attend the graduation ceremony of the Academy and they had several very proud family members attend.

- I was also able to attend the promotion ceremony of our 8th graders and Clay City and Stanton Elementary 5th grade students. Mrs. Anderson attended many of these as well as the Bowen Elementary 5th grade promotion. Again, the staff all did a very nice job of making the events memorable and meaningful for our students.

- The summer feeding program started last week. Our food service staff served 643 children in the community. Any child 18 and under qualifies for the meals and each child gets a gallon of milk. Because they are sending food home for 7 breakfasts and 7 lunches, we served 4,501 breakfasts and 4,501 lunches. The staff and volunteers that helped serve made the first day go very smoothly. This week, the line will also be providing books for the summer reading boost program.

- Since the last Board meeting, the vestibule project has begun. Demolition at Clay City Elementary has started and you may have seen coming in tonight that we are going to utilize their former reception desk in our front lobby of the new Central Office. We are looking forward to this safety feature being installed at Bowen and Clay City Elementary.

- We held a close out meeting for the middle and high school roofing projects on Monday of this week. The high school roof is keeping the building dry but can't be seen as well as the metal on the middle school roof. The look of this roof is very nice and now the building is dry.

- I hope that you noticed on the way into the Board room tonight that the flooring was recently laid. The work started last Monday and they made it through this entire side of our new central office building renovation. We also now have all new ceiling tile in this side of the building and our electrical work has made a lot of progress. The doors for the offices have been held up a little but should arrive close to July 6th. While we wait on the doors, we will finish the bathrooms at the end of the hallway by installing the new vanities and we will work on HVAC in the three rooms that need it. We will then be able to start moving into our new office spaces after the doors are painted and installed, which should be the middle of July. I feel confident that we can be in by the start of the new school year. This summer we will also be working on painting the classrooms where the Powell County Academy is now moved into. Everything is out of those rooms and they are being prepped for paint. After the new school year has begun, we will be into the final phase of the project which is the second lobby, hallway to the cafeteria and gym, and the cafeteria itself as well as the back gym hallway. A renovation project this big takes time, but we have accomplished a lot in just the 6 months that the school has been moved and we should be near completion at the end of this calendar year.

- In addition to facility work, our instructional team has been working really hard on a new district mission, vision, and the instructional non-negotiables that make up "The Powell County Way." We are setting the stage for the upcoming school year to make a total transformation in the way we think about instruction, the way we deliver instruction, and the way we do business. I don't want to share a lot about this work now because Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Roach have worked extremely hard to get feedback and buy-in from all stakeholders and they will present this at the July Board meeting, but I want to get you excited and prepared to see the great work ahead.

When looking back at this past year, we have accomplished many things for our district:

- Finished the new elementary school and moved the students and staff to the new building to finish out the year.
- Expanded our virtual learning program.
- Created a new mission, vision, values, and instructional non-negotiables for the district.
- We finished the middle school gym wall project which included a new gym floor and the side wall being structurally repaired.
- Installed new roofs on the last two buildings that didn't have new roofs installed. Now there are only a few sections of roof at Clay City and the High School without new roofs.
- Repaired the lights outside the middle school.
- Installed a new chiller at Bowen and new boilers at Clay City and replaced several failing HVAC units throughout the district.
- Began the vestibule projects that have been a priority in the District Facility Plan for years.
- We donated the trailers to Dessie Scott and they should be moving them soon.
- We have been exploring what we will be able to accomplish on athletic facilities even though the nickel didn't pass. We won't likely be able to accomplish all that we wanted to do for our students, but we will be bringing ideas to the Board on what we believe are priorities in the plan and what we can do.

- Bowen Elementary was a green school in the academic ratings, and all our other schools made good progress on test scores. The Middle School was labeled a CSI school and the help that KDE has given has provided great insight for what needs and actionable steps we can take to get all the schools to be high performing.
- Our district leadership has worked on our Multi-Tiered System of Supports throughout the year and are very close to having a refined system that will be teacher friendly and student centered.
- We started our own police department and we are very proud of the service our officers provided to our schools.
- We started our daycare for district employees and I am confident that it is due to the daycare we are recruiting staff.
- We earned a COPS grant for over $480,000 and have begun the work to get the intercom systems in the schools switched over to a new system and have been quoting the key card access and door replacement.
- We were able to have our first Board meeting in our new Board room in January and have made a good deal of progress towards our new Central Office.

VI. Public Comments

None

VII. Consent Agenda

Order #26-211 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve all consent items as presented passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

A. Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting 05.19.26

B. Approval of Payment of Claims

C. Approval of Monthly Financial Report

D. Approval of Orders of Treasurer

E. Approval of End of Year Closing Entries

F. Approval of Monthly Trip Requests

G. School Fees

H. Approval of KDE District Funding Assurances

I. Approval of MOA with EKU For Reduced Tuition Cost for Powell County Staff

J. Approval of FY27 Payroll Schedule

K. Approval of Food Service Contract with Discovery Cove Daycare

L. Approval of Food Service Contract with The Learning Ship Daycare

M. Approval to Add and a Second Track Coach Assistant with $750 Stipend

N. Approval of Final 25-26 School Year Calendar

O. Approval of PCHS Girls Soccer Trip

P. Approval of MOA with Community Action Council

Q. Approval of MOA with EKU Upward Bound for Spanish Credit

VIII. Insurance Renewal

Order #26-212 - Motion Passed: Approval of FY 2027 insurance renewal and maintain coverage through EMC, workers compensation through KEMI, and Cyber liability through CFC passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

Superintendent Wasson shared the insurance proposals. She noted there is a slight increase in insurance premiums of 5.3% from the previous year with EMC. Worker's Compensation is less than a 1% increase through KEMI and Cyber Liability will increase 11% from the previous year.

IX. Policies and Procedures

A. Approval of Second Reading of Changes to Policy 01.421

Order #26-213 - Motion Passed: Approval of changes to the second reading of policy 01.421 passed with a motion by Brenda Crabtree and a second by Diann Meadows.

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

The second reading of the Public Participation policy was finalized. The former policy was restrictive to the public in that the public was required to submit items that are not on our agenda 5 days prior to the meeting. Our agendas are not usually finalized by that time due to the need for items to be placed on the agendas coming up to closer to the meeting date and our Board provides flexibility to the district employees to add items close to the meeting date. The 5 day requirement was removed and language was added that the Board will not take action on an item that isn't on the agenda on that same meeting unless there was an emergency.

Additionally, language was added that on a special called meeting only items on the agenda can be discussed in a public comments section because the agenda itself can't be changed within 24 hours of the meeting date and time.

B. 09.123 AP.2 Procedure Update

Mrs. Robinson noted that the EHO policy references CATS testing and the new testing is KSA. In order to not have to change this as the testing changes, she updated the procedure to simply read "statewide testing."

C. First Reading of KSBA Policy Updates

Order #26-214 - Motion Passed: Approval of first reading of KSBA policy updates passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Diann Meadows.

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

The policy updates from KSBA are based on changes to the law. Superintendent Wasson highlighted some of the changes that impact us the most.

01.0	Legal advertisements and board notices have to have central and eastern time noted. Anytime a public notice is mentioned is other Board policies this change is made.
01.11	The Superintendent may remove a principal if they are in TSI or CSI for two or more consecutive years and no tax dollars may be spent to advocate for or against any public question that appears on a ballot.
01.41	Requires each Board to review the procedures and responsibilities of the Board and employees regarding the district budget. Also specifies that the Board chair terms are not to exceed 2 years. Also specifies the Board appoints a secretary and elects a treasurer, neither of whom are Board members.
01.83	Requires annual in-service training for school board members to include ethics, open meetings, open records, finance training, and superintendent evaluation.
02.12	Adds to duties of Superintendent the language of preparing budgets required by the Board AND statute.
02.131	Requires superintendent percentage pay increase not be greater than that provided for classroom teachers and requires the superintendent contract to be published on the District's website and submitted to KDE within thirty days of execution
02.31	Requires criminal justice agencies to provide criminal history records to requesting agencies when they are conducting a basic suitability or fitness assessment for federal or contractor employees
02.442	Requires schools to display academic information on the school's Internet landing page.
03.11 & 03.21	Requires the superintendent to annually notify District employees of the self-reporting requirement if they have been found by the Cabinet to have abused or neglected a child. Also requires our district to disclose any disciplinary action resulting in resignation or termination related to abusive conduct to other districts if asked about an applicant and puts requirements on the hiring district as well.
03.121	Regulates salary increases for administrators to no more than a teacher unless the administrator is a professional advancement with a significant change in job duties or result of local board action uniformly increasing the pay associated with a specific job category.
03.1311 & 03.2311	Requires employees to notify the superintendent if charged with a felony within 7 days.
03.1321 & 03.2321	Requires that no tax dollars and resources be used to advocate for or against any public question appearing on a ballot and requiring the Superintendent to require any driver of any non-school bus passenger vehicle owned, leased or contracted by the District meet the same requirements set forth as CDL drivers.
03.1324	Same language of not using tax dollars or resources to advocate for anything on a ballot.
03.19 & 03.29	Requires PD training for all employees on appropriate relationships and communications with students. (For 2027-2028 year and beyond.)
04.1	Establishes the calendar and procedures to adopt a district budget and includes the Finance Officer to assist in establishing the district budget.
04.31	District expenditures shall be made in accordance with the Board approved working budgets submitted and approved by the Kentucky Board of Education.
04.32	Increases the amount for small purchase procedures from $40,000 to $50,000 and beginning Jan. 1 2030 increases every 5 years thereafter by $10,000.
04.91	The District shall post on the financial disclosure website district financial information and the KDE report must be posted for 2 years.
05.48	Adds the bus stop as jurisdiction of the district.

06.2	Revises 9 or fewer passengers to 10 or fewer for allowable vehicles and allows the District to install and maintain a camera monitoring system on any school bus for enforcement of a stop arm violation.
07.111	Allows student-based enterprise programs to sell competitive foods throughout the school day and authorizes the Board to establish policies regarding the operation of and revenue generated by the student-based enterprise.
07.13	Allows a Board participating in any of the US Department of Ag child nutrition programs to purchase Kentucky grown agriculture products
08.1313	Requires a Board to develop a policy on dyslexia.
08.1341	Removes the annual reporting requirement on the essential workplace ethics program.
08.1346	The requirement of Physical Education instruction has been amended so the policy states it is in accordance with the new regulation.
08.215	Requires the superintendent to adopt policies that determine the writing program for the District and ensure the writing program is published on the District website.
08.231	Religious Beliefs Excusal policy to assist with Supreme Court decision requiring the district to provide parents/guardians with notice of materials to be taught and the right to opt-out based on sincerely held religious beliefs.
08.2323	Adds additional individuals for reporting purposes of traceable communication systems.
08.2324	Updates the Traceable Communication policy to follow new law.
09.12	Homeless students must immediately be enrolled
09.2211 & 09.425	Requires school employees to report intentional physical injury or intentional attempt to cause physical injury of any school employee and intentional assault resulting in serious physical injury to law enforcement unless the school employee has cause to believe a student's disability interfered with his or her ability to conform to the code of conduct.
09.227	Requires a district to report and investigate abusive conduct involving a minor or student.
09.3	Prohibits a student expelled from participating in school sponsored extracurricular or interscholastic activities.
09.435	Requires a Board to expel a student in grades 6-12 for at least 12 months if the student physically assaults, batters, or abuses school personnel without just cause or provocation on school property or at a school function.

D. Review of KSBA Procedural Updates

The KSBA Procedural updates are written to update procedures based upon the changes in the law.

X. Facilities

A. Approval of Change Orders and KDE Supplement for Clay City Vestibule Project

Order #26-215 - Motion Passed: Approval of change order CO-1 and KDE Supplement passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

There was an expensive shade in the vestibule project in the window facing the interior hallway that we would like to remove and then we would like to add the same tile in the two rooms attached to the office that is going in the renovated space so the entire office matches. Additionally, there are some casework changes being requested to meet the needs of the staff who use the desk in the front office. The total of all changes with the deduction from the shade and the addition of tile and casework is $1,290.20.

B. Approval of Pay App #1 for Security Vestibule Project

Order #26-216 - Motion Passed: Approval of Pay App #1 for Vestibule Projects passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

C. Approval of Final Pay App for Boiler and Chiller Project

Order #26-217 - Motion Passed: Approval of Final Pay App for Boiler and Chiller Project passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Diann Meadows.

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

D. Change Order for Middle and High School Roofing Projects

Order #26-218 - Motion Passed: Approval of change orders for the middle and high school roof projects passed with a motion by Brenda Crabtree and a second by Diann Meadows.

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

The high school did not need to replace gutters on the building as the roof was repaired, so the high school change order is a savings of $40,923. We knew based upon visual inspection that the decking of the middle school roof was going to be an issue but the extent could not be determined until the shingles were removed. What was discovered was the decking was barely hanging on, which had we not completed the work would have left the roof board vulnerable to coming off in a storm. In order to secure all the decking that was loose and proceed with the roof replacement, the roofing company had to correct the issue as they went and had a cost of $60,657.54. This cost is less than the contingency put in place for this issue and leaves an overall expenditure of $19,734.54 when the credit from the high school roof is taken into consideration. We now have brand new roofs on both of the schools.

E. Approval of Hiring Energy Tax Savers for Geothermal Rebate

Order #26-219 - Motion Passed: Approval of the ETSI service agreement and grant power of attorney for the limited purposes necessary to implement the service agreement passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

The use of geothermal energy at the new school qualifies us for a federal tax rebate in the amount of close to $1.4 million through estimates of our engineers on the project CMTA and Energy Tax Savers. We need to hire a company who has done this work and knows all the pieces of information needed to get the rebate. Superintendent Wasson attended a conference session by Energy Tax Savers and they have the knowledge to complete the rebate and a cost structure that is less than other companies identified by CMTA. The agreement presented will cost us $14,100 for them to help us get the $1.4 million rebate. Our recommendation is to use this company for the rebate work.

We also need to make the company POA for limited purposes necessary to implement the service agreement.

XI. Informational Items

A. Personnel Report

Superintendent Wasson presented the personnel report.

XII. Other Business

None

XIII. Approval to Enter Closed Session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(b) To Discuss the Sale of Property

Order #26-220 - Motion Passed: Approval to Enter Closed Session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(b) To Discuss the Sale of Property passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Diann Meadows .

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

XIV. Approval To Return To Open Session

Order #26-221 - Motion Passed: Approval to return to open session passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Kathy Merriman.

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

XV. Potential Action Concerning Disposal of Property

Order #26-222 - Motion Passed: Approval of motion to declare the Annex surplus to the educational needs of the district as described in the current facility plan and to authorize an appraisal and advertising for sealed bids passed with a motion by Lisa Mays and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

Order #26-223 - Motion Passed: Approval of motion to solicit bids or proposals for demolition of the current Central Office building passed with a motion by Diann Meadows and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

Board members discussed that the current DFP specifies that the current central office building be demolished when staff are moved into the new office space at the former Stanton Elementary. The building is not in good condition. Board Attorney Grant Chenoweth expressed to the Board the need to seek bids or proposals on taking the building down as well as confirming with an architect or housing authority what may need to be done in the disposal.

The Board also discussed the desire to sell the Annex building and declare it surplus to the educational needs of the district.

XVI. Adjourn

Order #26-224 - Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn passed with a motion by Kathy Merriman and a second by Brenda Crabtree.

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

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Board Chairperson

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Board Secretary