

Regular Meeting  
March 19, 2026 5:30 PM  
King Middle School

**Attendance Taken at : 5:30 PM**

**Present Board Members:**

Ms. Amber Franceschi  
Ms. Amy Hart  
Mr. Randy Phillips  
Mr. Cliff Prewitt

**Absent Board Members:**

Mr. Billy Montgomery

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Amber Franceschi, District 1 Amy Hart, District 2 Billy Montgomery, District 3 Cliff Prewitt, District 4  
Randy Phillips, District 5

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**Order #203149 - Motion Passed:** Approval of agenda passed with a motion by Ms. Amber Franceschi and a second by Mr. Cliff Prewitt.

Ms. Amber Franceschi	Yes
Ms. Amy Hart	Yes
Mr. Billy Montgomery	Absent
Mr. Randy Phillips	Yes
Mr. Cliff Prewitt	Yes

The agenda is being presented for approval. Any changes are to be made at this time.

**4. Recognitions**

1. Superior Titan Award- A student from each school (Mercer Elementary, Mercer Co. Intermediate School, King Middle, and Mercer County Senior High School) will be recognized each month at the board of education meetings for their efforts in the classroom, leadership skills and attitude. The student award recipient must meet the following guidelines: Perfect attendance during the month student(s) are being observed. Completed all homework assignments and tests. Passing grade. No discipline issues. Demonstrates good leadership skills. Exhibits a winning attitude and spirit toward learning and peers. Mercer County Elementary School- Stella Stamper Mercer County Intermediate School Alaina Surer King Middle School Cadence Santiago Mercer County Senior High School Emerson Daniels 2. Other Student Recognitions: Kobie Shirley- Named a National Merit Scholar KMS Math Counts Team: - Layne Sutton, 6th place - Gary Fleming, 8th place KMS Wrestling: - Neveah Woods, 4th place in the Girls State Tournament - Jayce Hampton, 1st place in Region, 3rd place in Kentucky - Peyton Mankin, 1st place in Region, 6th place in Kentucky MCSHS Wrestling MijaiaDunn- Region 6 3rd Place Finisher; First Boys HS State Qualifier Jaycee Foley - Region 3 3rd Place Finisher; First Girls HS State Qualifier KUNA - Grayson Beltran - Sawyer Bryant - Layney Francis - Emma Goodlett - Ashlynn Ison - Aubree Kinnard - Kinsley Steele - Cora Tyler - Chelsie Watts - Tori Weatherly STLP: 6th Grade - Russell Jones - JJ Kinnard - Braden Peyton - Kamdyn Stamps 7th Grade: - MiKayla Hudson - Isabel Franks - Kayla Snyder Dulzaides - Emma Pennington - Rook Sallee 8th Grade: - Eric Kelly - Malachi Kord KMS Cheerleading Team- First Place at the Rockcastle Tournament - Addy Lancaster - Adilyn Reed - Ainsley Savage - Avery Minor - Ayden Lewis - Brielyn Hooper - Camryn Murphy - Chloe Franks - Gabriella Reynolds - Grace Mullins - Harper Bivins -

Hazel Turner - Jayme Stringfellow - Juliet Franks, Manager - Kaitlyn Browning - Kali Woods - Kalin Warren - Karley Wethington - Kayden Moore - Kenzie Hall - Kynzlee Perry - Lyla Burgess - Madi Perry - Paisley Lancaster - Zaydee Anness - Zoey Foster

## 5. KMS Principal Reports

Any principal may report to the board at this time if needed.

## 6. Public Participation

Pursuant to Board Policy 01.421, persons wishing to address the Board must first be recognized by the Chairperson and stand behind the podium. An individual or group granted the privilege of being heard must give his/her name, address, and reason for speaking. The Chairperson may rule on the relevance of the topic to the Board's Agenda, and will set the time limit to three (3) minutes, but not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes. The Board will only act on/respond to items on the published agenda. If you wish to have an item placed on the agenda, you must first meet with the Superintendent. At this time the board will receive comments from the public.

## 7. Reports

This section of the agenda is reserved for reports only, no action will be taken.

### A. Finance Officer's Report

The Finance Officer will report to the board at this time.

### B. Attendance/Enrollment Report

The DPP will report to the board at this time.

### C. Instruction Report

The Chief Academic Officer will report to the board at this time.

### D. Personnel Report

KRS 160.390; KRS 160.38; KRS 160.370 The Superintendent is responsible for all personnel actions including hiring, assignments, transfer, dismissal, suspension, reinstatement, promotion, and for reporting these actions to the board of education (KRS 160.390 (1)). All appointments, promotions and transfers of principals, supervisors, teachers, and other school employees shall be made only by the Superintendent of schools, who shall notify the Board of the action taken (KRS 160.380(2a)).

### E. Student Board Member Report

### F. New Elementary School Update

### G. Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent will report to the board at this time.

## 8. Consent Agenda

**Order #203150 - Motion Passed:** Approval of consent agenda passed with a motion by Mr. Cliff Prewitt and a second by Ms. Amy Hart.

Ms. Amber Franceschi	Yes
Ms. Amy Hart	Yes
Mr. Billy Montgomery	Absent
Mr. Randy Phillips	Yes
Mr. Cliff Prewitt	Yes

Consent Agenda items are voted on with one motion and one vote. These are, typically, items that happen on a regular basis, are annual fees, or routine items in doing business. The board may discuss any item they

wish. The board has the option to pull any item out for a separate vote.

A. Board Meeting Minutes

B. Invoices

C. Transportation of students to KY School for the Deaf

New transportation procedure attached. I have consulted with Teresa Combs who agrees that when our district can't transport due to weather, etc. it is a liability and safety concern to then transport three students to another district. We also discussed if that is a denial of FAPE and she indicated that we are providing FAPE only when our school district is in session, not according to another district's schedule. No change to cost or funding

D. Surplus Equipment

The following items are being requested to be deemed as surplus: - Truck bed toolbox - to be sold or scrapped - See list of equipment from MCSH attached - to be sold or scrapped

E. Leave Report

Policy 03.12322 states, Board Shall approve FMLA

F. Out of State Travel

Kings Island Reward Trip for Band on May 1st-King Middle School and MCSH. Funding will come from students and the band activity fund.

9. Action Items for Discussion

The following items require board action, but do not require a roll call vote for approval.

A. 2025-2026 Calendar Updates

**Order #203151 - Motion Passed:** Approval of calendar updates passed with a motion by Ms. Amber Franceschi and a second by Ms. Amy Hart.

Ms. Amber Franceschi	Yes
Ms. Amy Hart	Yes
Mr. Billy Montgomery	Absent
Mr. Randy Phillips	Yes
Mr. Cliff Prewitt	Yes

Please see attached calendar

10. Action Items for Roll Call Vote

The following items require board action and a roll call vote for approval.

A. KETS 2nd Offer of Assistance

**Order #203152 - Motion Passed:** Approve the KETS 2nd Offer of Assistance for FY26 passed with a motion by Ms. Amy Hart and a second by Mr. Cliff Prewitt.

Ms. Amber Franceschi	Yes
Ms. Amy Hart	Yes
Mr. Billy Montgomery	Absent
Mr. Randy Phillips	Yes
Mr. Cliff Prewitt	Yes

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 to Mercer County Schools. 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 2024-2025 SEEK this year, the second offer of assistance in FY2026 is in the amount of \$20,856. Accepted state technology fund offers of assistance must be matched equally by the Board of Education or can be escrowed for up to three (3) years. Approval is being sought to accept the KETS 2nd Offer of Assistance.

**B. FY27 Banking Services**

**Order #203153 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Community Trust Bank to provide Banking Services beginning July 1, 2026 passed with a motion by Mr. Cliff Prewitt and a second by Ms. Amy Hart.

Ms. Amber Franceschi	Yes
Ms. Amy Hart	Yes
Mr. Billy Montgomery	Absent
Mr. Randy Phillips	Yes
Mr. Cliff Prewitt	Yes

We opened bids for Banking Services for fiscal year 2027, and had three responses. Please see the attached information regarding the responses received.

**C. FY27 Student Accident Insurance**

**Order #203154 - Motion Passed:** Approval to renew the Student Accident Insurance for fiscal year 2027 with Zurich through Roberts Insurance in the amount of \$78,955 passed with a motion by Ms. Amber Franceschi and a second by Ms. Amy Hart.

Ms. Amber Franceschi	Yes
Ms. Amy Hart	Yes
Mr. Billy Montgomery	Absent
Mr. Randy Phillips	Yes
Mr. Cliff Prewitt	Yes

Mercer County Schools has used Roberts Insurance in Richmond, Kentucky for our Student Accident coverage for well over ten years. They are very well known and utilized among Kentucky school districts. The current plan covers up to a maximum benefit of \$25,000 for each injury for a 26 week loss period, and medical charges within two years of injury. It also includes an accidental death benefit of \$10,000 and catastrophic coverage up to \$7,500,000. Current plan: Zurich Insurance Company - \$78,574 Rate History: 2018-19 - \$84,836 2019-20 - \$80,969 2020-21 - \$80,909 2021-22 - \$78,574 2022-23 - \$78,574 2023-24 - \$78,574 2024-25 - \$78,574 2025-26 - \$78,574 2026-27 - \$78,955 There is a slight increase of \$381 to renew with Zurich.

**D. FY26 Audit Services**

**Order #203155 - Motion Passed:** Approval of Montgomery & Company to provide Audit Services for fiscal year 2026 in the amount of \$25,000 passed with a motion by Mr. Cliff Prewitt and a second by Ms. Amy Hart.

Ms. Amber Franceschi	Yes
Ms. Amy Hart	Yes
Mr. Billy Montgomery	Absent
Mr. Randy Phillips	Yes
Mr. Cliff Prewitt	Yes

We held a bid opening for Audit Services for the 2025-26 fiscal year. We did not receive any bids during that opening. We proceeded to contact our current auditor first to confirm they would not be able to provide the services any longer. After confirming that information with them, we reached out to Joe Montgomery with Montgomery Company in Lebanon, KY, who was able to provide us with a price proposal of \$25,000. We have paid \$19,550 the past three years for audit services, and that price has increased less than \$3,000 from 2009. Looking at other districts similar in size to ours, and with similar assets as ours, the \$25,000 proposal seems reasonable.

## 11. Adjournment

**Order #203156 - Motion Passed:** Approval to adjourn the meeting passed with a motion by Ms. Amy Hart and a second by Ms. Amber Franceschi.

Ms. Amber Franceschi	Yes
Ms. Amy Hart	Yes
Mr. Billy Montgomery	Absent
Mr. Randy Phillips	Yes
Mr. Cliff Prewitt	Yes