

**ESTILL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS
(MINUTES)**

**Regular Board Meeting
November 20, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Estill County Board of Education
Boardroom
253 Main Street
Irvine, KY 40336**

Present Board Members:

Ms. Tammy Hardy
Ms. Donna Isfort
Ms. Shiela Samples
Ms. Carrie Smallwood
Ms. Sharon Whitaker

Visitors: Toni-Garrett Hall, Jeremy Simpson, Steven Toby, Derek Phillips, Victoria Barnett, Jessica Mullins, Brooklyn Ferrell, Carla Bailey, Tasha Halcomb, Todd Reece, Stacey Reynolds, Tonya Miller, and Josh Yost

I. Call to Order

Ms. Donna Isfort called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

A. Welcome/Pledge

Chairperson Ms. Donna Isfort welcomed everyone, and Miss Emilia Miller led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Reminder to Sign In

II. Facilities

A. Estill County Middle School

Update: Architects from Deco presented the completed **100% Design Development (DD) drawings**, marking a significant milestone in the middle school construction project. These drawings offer the most detailed view of the building to date—over 200 pages of architectural, mechanical, electrical, and site plans.

Key Features of the New School

• Enhanced Safety & Security

- Secured the main entrance with controlled access
- Event entrance with safety upgrades
- Bullet-resistant glass in key areas
- Ability to section off the building electronically in emergencies
- Multiple storm-safe areas built to state requirements

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- **Academic & Learning Spaces**

- Grade-level pods for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade, each with:
 - Classrooms
 - Student restrooms
 - Teacher restrooms
 - Flexible collaboration areas
 - Integrated storm shelters
- Operable partitions between select classrooms to allow team teaching and project-based learning
- The new media center is positioned at the core of the building

- **Music, Athletics & Dining**

- Dedicated band and choir rooms
- New full-size gymnasium with event entry access
- Large cafeteria with modern kitchen and outdoor dining area

- **Site & Traffic Improvements**

- Separation of car and bus traffic
- Improved student drop-off and pickup flow
- Increased visibility at main entrances

2. Consideration/Approval of 100% DD Drawings

Order #15324 - Motion Passed: The board approved the 100% drawing passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Ms. Tammy Hardy.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

3. Consideration/Approval of BG3

Order #15325 - Motion Passed: Approval of the BG3 passed with a motion by Ms. Sharon Whitaker and a second by Ms. Shiela Samples.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

III. Action Items**A. Consideration/Approval of the Family Resource and Youth Services Centers School District Assurance Certification 2026-2028**

Order #15326 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Family Resource and Youth Services Centers School District Assurance Certification 2026-2028 passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Ms. Carrie Smallwood.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

B. Consideration/Approval of the Out-of-State Trip for the ATC to go to the Nashville Auto Diesel College

Order #15327 - Motion Passed: Approval of the ATC going to Nashville Auto Diesel College passed with a motion by Ms. Tammy Hardy and a second by Ms. Shiela Samples.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

C. Consideration/Approval of the MOU with Berea College

Order #15328 - Motion Passed: Approval of the MOU with Berea College passed with a motion by Ms. Sharon Whitaker and a second by Ms. Shiela Samples.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

D. Consideration/Approval of Bank Signatures

Order #15329 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Bank signatures removes Angie Howell from the following accounts and add Josh Yost to Estill Springs, Estill Middle School, Estill High School, South Irvine, and West Irvine—a change in the High School to remove Jeff Rogers and add Josh Yost back to the account passed with a motion by Ms. Tammy Hardy and a second by Ms. Sharon Whitaker.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

E. Consideration/Approval of Lease and Security Agreement with Kentucky Interlocal School Transportation Association

Order #15330 - Motion Passed: Approval of Lease and Security Agreement with Kentucky Interlocal School Transportation Association for the purchase of a new bus, passed with a motion by Ms. Carrie Smallwood and a second by Ms. Tammy Hardy.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

F. Consideration/Approval of Classified Maternity Leave

Order #15331 - Motion Passed: Approval of the classified maternity leave passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Ms. Tammy Hardy.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

G. Consideration/Approval Updated FY 25-26 Auxiliary Salary Schedule

Order #15332 - Motion Passed: Approve the updated F25-26 Auxiliary salary schedule, restoring previous language and adding no new positions, passed with a motion by Ms. Tammy Hardy and a second by Ms. Shiela Samples.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

H. Consideration/Approval of the Contract "Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH)"

Order #15333 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Temporary Contract with Ms. Kim Hall, "Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH)" passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Ms. Tammy Hardy.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

IV. Consent Items

- A.** Approve October Regular Board Minutes
- B.** Approve the Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills
- C.** Approve Superintendents' Travel
- D.** Reviewed Electronica Access User Agreement

Order #15334 - Motion Passed: All consent items passed with a motion by Ms. Tammy Hardy and a second by Ms. Sharon Whitaker.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

V. Superintendent's Report

A. Update:

- Current enrollment: **~248 students** (does not include performance-based virtual until semester end).
- ADA: **93.23%**, slightly above last year.
- Test scores released:
 - Some gains and some declines; overall maintenance despite severe weather disruptions last winter.
 - State calculation model changed (gains/losses doubled in impact).
- High school principal position posted (Mr. Rogers moved to a support role).
- Optimism for academic growth with stable instructional time.

B. Notification of Personnel Actions

(See insert)

VI. Principals' Report

Each Principal was allowed to speak to the board for 2 to 3 minutes about their school. See insert for Principals' handouts.

VII. Board Member Forum

VIII. Public Comments

No Public comments pertaining to this agenda.

IX. Adjourn

Order #15335 - Motion Passed: Adjourned Board Meeting at 7:03 p.m. passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples and a second by Ms. Tammy Hardy.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Tammy Hardy	Yes
Ms. Donna Isfort	Yes
Ms. Shiela Samples	Yes
Ms. Carrie Smallwood	Yes
Ms. Sharon Whitaker	Yes

Charlie Brock, Secretary

Donna Isfort, Chairperson