

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

Special Called Board Meeting**January 22, 2026, 6:00 p.m.****Estill County Board Room****253 Main Street****Irvine, Kentucky 40336****Attendance Taken at: 6:00 p.m.****Present Board Members:**

Ms. Tammy Hardy

Ms. Donna Isfort

Ms. Shiela Samples

Ms. Carrie Smallwood

Ms. Sharon Whitaker

Visitors: Todd Reece, Wes Cornett, Jeremy Simpson, Stevie Rogers, and Tony Rowe
Chairperson Ms. Donna Isfort called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. She welcomes everyone, and Mr. Robert Rowe led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Board, at this time, requested a moment of silence to honor Mr. and Mrs. Brock.

I. Recognitions**A. School Board Member Recognition**

Assistant Superintendent Mr. Wes Cornett took this opportunity to recognize the Board Members, Ms. Donna Isfort, Ms. Carrie Smallwood, Ms. Shiela Samples, Ms. Sharon Whitaker, and Ms. Tammy Hardy. At this time, each board member received a small token of appreciation.

B. Student Recognition Middle School Academic Team

Coach Ricky McCone recognized the Middle School Academic Team for outstanding performance at the district competition, including:

- Quick Recall District Champions (first since 2022)
- Future Problem Solving District Champions
- Overall District Champions (68.5 points vs. runner-up 17.5)

Individual recognitions included:

- Robert Row – 1st place Math
- Evan Beckler – 3rd place Math
- John Osborne – 5th place Math (6th grader)
- William Kelly – 1st place Science
- Andrew Finley – 3rd place Science, 2nd place Social Studies (6th grader)
- Camille Spencer – 3rd place Language Arts, 2nd place Arts & Humanities
- Chris Howard – 1st place Arts & Humanities, 3rd place English Composition

- Delena Bailey – 1st place English Composition
- Iris Patrick Howard – 2nd place English Composition
- Tanner Lawson – Quick Recall Team member

The team will advance to the regional competition on February 14.

C. Recognition of New Staff Members

Dr. Trent Singleton, High School Principal, introduced himself and shared plans for student engagement and innovation.

Ms. Sandra Watson, Finance Department, returned to the district from Partners for Rural Impact and spoke about her commitment to supporting students through school finance.

II. Action

A. Consideration/Approval of the SFCC Construction Offer of Assistance

Order #15350 - Motion Passed: Approval of the SFCC construction offer of assistance passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples 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

B. Consideration/Approval of Clinical Education Affiliation Agreement with The University of Kentucky

Order #15351 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Clinical Education Affiliation Agreement with the University of Kentucky passed with a motion by Ms. Tammy Hardy 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

C. Consideration/Approval of Updated Salary Schedule

Order #15352 - Motion Passed: Approval of the updated salary schedule for the SRO program, the Finance Director, and the Assistant Finance Director passed with a motion by Ms. Shiela Samples 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

D. Consideration/Approval of the Updated Bank Signature Authorization

Order #15353 - Motion Passed: The Board approved changes to the Estill County High School bank signature authorization to remove Mr. Jeff Rogers and add Mr. Trent Singleton 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

III. Consent

- A.** Approve the minutes of December 22 and January 8
- B.** Approve Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills
- C.** Approve Superintendent Travels
- D.** Approve The Shuttle Bus For the Mushroom Festival, April 25-26

Order #15354 - Motion Passed: All consent items 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

IV. Superintendent's Report

Update:

The budget is approximately \$700,000 ahead of last year's.

A weather-related safety decision resulted in turning buses around due to sudden black ice this morning. The safety of our students and staff is our top priority.

Attendance has been down somewhat due to the flu and COVID.

The structural engineer came this week and confirmed that the middle school is structurally sound.

The Board will attend the KSBA February conference for mandatory board training.

B. Notification of Personnel Action (See Insert)

C. Save the Date for KSBA 2026 Annual Conference: February 20-22, 2026, The Galt House Hotel, Louisville

V. Board Member Forum

Tammy Hardy announced The Estill Co. Fair board will host Sunshine Day for special needs students scheduled for May 26 at the fairgrounds, and distribution of \$5 student coupons for every student to be used on any day of the fair except Friday or Saturday, thanks to the Estill County Fair board.

VI. Adjourn

Order #15355 - Motion Passed: The Board approved adjournment at 7:00 p.m., 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