

Floyd County Board of Education Regular Meeting
October 27, 2025 6:00 PM
In Person and Video Teleconference
Floyd County Board of Education
Drs. Chandra and Mahendra Varia Media Center
Eastern, KY



Attendance Taken at : 6:00 PM

Present Board Members:

Ms. Linda Gearheart
Mr. William Newsome
Dr. Chandra Varia
Mr. Steve Slone
Mr. Keith Smallwood

Tonya Horne-Williams, Board Secretary and Board Attorney was in attendance.

1. Chair's Welcome/Call to Order

- A. Roll Call/Welcome**
- B. Review Focus Areas- Safety and Health of Students and Staff; Remain Fiscally Solvent; Attendance 94%; Postsecondary Readiness; ACT 19.5**
- C. Reminder for a Request to Speak**
- D. Pledge of Allegiance**
- E. The Adoption of Agenda**

Order #20746 - Motion Passed: Motion to adopt the agenda passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Dr. Chandra Varia.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

2. Special Reports and Spotlight

3. Community Comments to the Board of Education

A. Students

B. Parents, PTA/PTO

Sarah Stewart as a grandmother addressed the board concerning her grandchild's school.

C. SBDM Councils

D. Classified Employees

Randolph Howell, bus driver addressed the board with concerns about bus drivers losing extra trips.

E. Certified Employees/FCEA

F. Principals' Association

G. Members of the Board of Education

Dr. Varia expressed her desire to be notified when the next principles meeting will be held, she wants to attend.

H. Public Comment

4. Action or Special Reports - Student Learning

A. Receive Attendance & Plans/Enrollment and Health Services Report

5. Action or Special Reports - Student Support

A. Receive Utility Report for Floyd Central High School

Order #20747 - Motion Passed: Receive Utility Report for Floyd Central High School passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

B. Receive Report of Superintendent

Order #20748 - Motion Passed: Receive Report of Superintendent passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

C. Accept Notification of Personnel Matters

Order #20749 - Motion Passed: passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

1. Actions Taken

2. Requests for Leaves of Absences

D. Consider/Approve pay estimate #2 for Duff Allen Central Elementary School Renovation project

Order #20750 - Motion Passed: Approval of pay estimate #2 for Duff Allen Central Elementary School Renovation project passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

E. Consider/Approve proposal for Shrout Tate Wilson Mechanical and Electrical Engineers for Duff Allen Central Elementary School Renovation project

Order #20751 - Motion Passed: Approval of proposal for Shrout Tate Wilson Mechanical and Electrical Engineers for Duff Allen Central Elementary School Renovation project passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

F. Consider/Approve Terracon for Geotechnical Services for the Central Office Track project

Order #20752 - Motion Passed: Approval of Terracon for Geotechnical Services for the Central Office Track project passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

G. Consider/Approve Recessing Board Meeting

Order #20753 - Motion Passed: Approval of Recessing Board Meeting passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Ms. Linda Gearheart.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

1. Convene Floyd County School District Finance Corporation Meeting

Order #20754 - Motion Passed: passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Ms. Linda Gearheart.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

2. Confirm Officers for Floyd County School District Finance Corporation

Order #20755 - Motion Passed: passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Ms. Linda Gearheart.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

3. *Consider/Approve resolution directing the Floyd County School Finance Corporation, to authorize and offer at public sale its School Building Revenue Bonds, Series 2025, in the principal amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 to fund the Betsy Layne Elementary School Dome project and authorizing a lease covering the use and occupancy of the project

Order #20756 - Motion Passed: Approval of resolution directing the Floyd County School Finance Corporation, to authorize and offer at public sale its School Building Revenue Bonds, Series 2025, in the principal amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 to fund the Betsy Layne Elementary School Dome project and authorizing a lease covering the use and occupancy of the project passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes

Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

4. Adjourn Floyd County Schools District Finance Corporation Meeting

Order #20757 - Motion Passed: passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Ms. Linda Gearheart.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

H. *Consider/Approve resolution directing the Floyd County School Finance Corporation, to authorize and offer at public sale its School Building Revenue Bonds, Series 2025, in the principal amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 to fund the Betsy Layne Elementary School Dome project and authorizing a lease covering the use and occupancy of the project

Order #20758 - Motion Passed: Approval of resolution directing the Floyd County School Finance Corporation, to authorize and offer at public sale its School Building Revenue Bonds, Series 2025, in the principal amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 to fund the Betsy Layne Elementary School Dome project and authorizing a lease covering the use and occupancy of the project passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

I. *Consider/Approve a resolution of the Board of Education of Floyd County, Kentucky, authorizing and approving the issuance of General Obligation Bonds not to exceed \$12,200,000 to fund various projects across the school district

Order #20759 - Motion Passed: Approval of a resolution of the Board of Education of Floyd County, Kentucky, authorizing and approving the issuance of General Obligation Bonds not to exceed \$12,200,000 to fund various projects across the school district passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

4 Yeas - 1 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	No
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

J. *Consider/Approve a resolution of the Board of Education of Floyd County, Kentucky, authorizing and approving the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds not to exceed \$35,000,000 to refund the prior Series 2015 Bonds

Order #20760 - Motion Passed: Approval of a resolution of the Board of Education of Floyd County, Kentucky, authorizing and approving the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds not to exceed \$35,000,000 to refund the prior Series 2015 Bonds passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

K. *Consider/Approve revised BG-1 for the Betsy Layne ES Gymnasium Renovations

Order #20761 - Motion Passed: Approval of revised BG-1 for the Betsy Layne ES Gymnasium Renovations passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

L. *Consider/Approve RossTarrant Architects to assist Floyd County Schools with Architectural Services for Property Purchase at North Lake Drive

Order #20762 - Motion Passed: Approval of RossTarrant Architects to assist Floyd County Schools with Architectural Services for Property Purchase at North Lake Drive passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

M. *Consider/Approve awarding a construction contract and associated direct purchase orders to Rising Sun Developing Inc. for the Betsy Layne Elementary School Gym Renovations

Order #20763 - Motion Passed: Approval of awarding a construction contract and associated direct purchase orders to Rising Sun Developing Inc. for the Betsy Layne Elementary School Gym Renovations passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

6. Action by Consent

Order #20764 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve consent items 6-A thru 6-Z passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

Order #20765 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve consent item 6-AA as presented passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

Order #20766 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve consent item 6-BB as presented passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

Order #20767 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve consent item 6-CC thru 6-II as presented passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes

Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

- A. Consider Approval of Minutes**
- B. Consider Payment of Bills and Claims**
- C. Consider/Retroactive approval for Floyd Central High School Golf Team \$2,000.00 to assist with State Competition expenses in Winchester, KY on September 29, 2025 and September 30, 2025**
- D. Consider/Approve the creation of two Response to Intervention (RTI) teaching positions at South Floyd Elementary**
- E. Consider/Approve the Comprehensive School Improvement plans (CSIP) for Floyd Central High School, JD Adams Middle School, and Prestonsburg Elementary Schools, who have received SIF Grant Funding for Targeted Support Improvement (TSI) school based on a two-day review from the Kentucky Department of Education**
- F. Consider/Approve the Facility Use Agreement for the John M. Stumbo Elementary PTO for various events throughout the 2025-2026 school year**
- G. Consider/Approve the Betsy Layne Ladycats middle school girls' basketball to go to Governors Crossing in Tennessee from November 14th to 16th, 2025**
- H. Consider/Approve accepting FY 2026 KETS 1st Offer of Assistance in the amount of \$53,235.00**
- I. *Consider/Approve authorizing the surplus of damaged and obsolete equipment for various schools/departments**
- J. Consider/Approve purchase of 3 new school buses**
- K. Consider/Approve Floyd Central High School to sign an agreement between the Floyd Central High School and Narrative 4 to pilot their Civil Engagement Model**
- L. Consider/Approve Betsy Layne High School to sign an agreement between the school and Narrative 4 to pilot their Civil Engagement Model**
- M. Consider/Approve the renewal of ArbiterPay for all of our county schools**
- N. Consider/Approve 2nd reading of the 2025 Annual Policy Update for Policy #48 and Procedure Update (#29)**
- O. Consider/Retroactive approval of Head Start Child Care Food Program Meal Service Agreement with Big Sandy Area CAP**
- P. Consider/Approve the yearly Head Start Delegation Agreement for November 1st, 2025 through October 31st, 2026**
- Q. Consider/Approve Memorandum of Understanding between Floyd County Board of Education and Maryville University**
- R. Consider/Retractive approval of contract with Commonwealth of Kentucky Comprehensive Literacy Grant (KyCL25): Year 2**
- S. Consider/Approve the submission of notice to KDE for Students with Disabilities who require a shortened school day or school week based upon their IEP and physician recommendation for the 2025-2026 school year**
- T. Consider/Approve Betsy Layne High School's agreement with Five Star Parks & Attractions during their visit to The Port of Ashland on November 25, 2025**
- U. Consider/Approve agreement between Betsy Layne High School and Appalachian Arena to host prom 2025-2026 school year on May 9, 2026**
- V. Consider/Approve changing one of the Personnel Assistant positions to the title of Secretary I**

W. *Consider/Approve the Bus Drivers Employment Agreement between the Floyd County Schools bus drivers and the Floyd County Board of Education

X. *Consider/Retroactive approval for up to \$2000 for Prestonsburg High School Boys Soccer Team to cover travel expenses, including food and transportation, for the KHSAA State Boys Soccer Tournament if they advance to the final 4 on Saturday, October 25th and go on to finals in Lexington

Y. *Consider/Approve an agreement with The Eastern Kentucky Next Gen Workforce Project, led by the Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program (EKCEP)

Z. *Consider/Approve Apple School Manager Service Agreement

AA. *Review information on possible loss of Head Start funding and financial impacts should the federal government shutdown continue beyond November 1st

BB. *Consider/Approve Speech Language Therapy Contracting services to be provided to students with Speech Language Impairments who require it as part of their IEP

CC. *Consider/Approve the Head Start Continuation of Service Agreement to be in effect during the Federal Government Shutdown

DD. *Consider/Approve Floyd County Schools to enter agreement with KEDC for the assignment of a local Education Agency (LEA) Coordinator, an employee of FLOYD COUNTY SCHOOLS, to serve as the Floyd County LEA Coordinator for the KEDC Project THRIVE grant

EE. *Consider/Approve combining the vacant Assessment Assistant position and the one Employment Specialist position in order to create an Assessment/Employment Specialist Classified position

FF. *Consider/Approve the use of Floyd County Facilities, when approved by Principals, by Warhawks Wrestling Club from October 15, 2025-March 31, 2026

GG. *Consider/Retroactive Approval for a Licensed Speech Language Pathologist to be called in as a substitute as needed when a hired SLP is absent or when there is a vacant SLP position posted. Consider to approve the creation of Districtwide Teacher Mentors

HH. *Consider/Approve changing the wording of KRS 158.189 (SB 15) to specific language to clarify BOE policy 09.141 regarding Student Privacy

II. *Consider/Approve awarding Endris Engineering to do the survey work for the Central Office Track Project

7. Executive Session to Discuss (Litigation, Property, Personnel, and Expulsions), KRS 61.810

8. Adjournment

Order #20768 - Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn the meeting, the time being 7:05 PM passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Ms. Linda Gearheart.

5 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes

CHAIR

SECRETARY