

**RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS  
(MINUTES)**

The Russell County Board of Education Meeting  
was held at Russell County Auditorium/Natatorium  
June 21, 2021

June 21, 2021 with the following members:

**Attendance Taken at 5:00 PM:**

\*\*Ms. Joy Wilson will be participating via zoom from an offsite location\*\*

Present Board Members:

Mr. Gerald Murray  
Ms. Joy Wilson  
Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham  
Mr. Richard Kazsuk  
Mrs. Sheila Wicker

A sign in sheet was available for the public.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer**

**2. Call to Order**

Rationale:

The Chair calls the Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

**3. Roll Call**

Rationale:

This action is taken by calling each board member's name, with the board member answering present.

**4. Adoption of Agenda**

Rationale:

Meeting agenda is provided for your review.

**Order #8914 - Motion Passed:** If there are no corrections or amendments, I recommend the agenda be approved as presented- passed with a motion by Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham and a second by Mr. Richard Kazsuk.

Mr. Gerald Murray	Yes
Ms. Joy Wilson	Yes
Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham	Yes
Mr. Richard Kazsuk	Yes
Mrs. Sheila Wicker	Yes

**5. Public Comment**

**6. Recognition**

**6.A. RCMS Baseball**

**6.B. RCHS Track State Participants**

**7. Consent Agenda**

Rationale:

- A. Meeting Minutes
- B. Payment of Bills
- C. Construction Funds
- D. School Activity Fund Reports
- E. Financial Report
- F. Field Trips
- G. Treasurer's Monthly Report-May 2021

Rationale:

June 10, 2021 NJROTC London, KY Help setup of the traveling Vietnam wall  
 June 15, 2021 NJROTC London, KY Help take down the traveling Vietnam wall

**Order #8915 - Motion Passed:** If there are no changes or amendments I recommend approval of consent agenda items- passed with a motion by Mr. Richard Kazsuk and a second by Ms. Joy Wilson.

- Mr. Gerald Murray Yes
- Ms. Joy Wilson Yes
- Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham Yes
- Mr. Richard Kazsuk Yes
- Mrs. Sheila Wicker Yes

**8. Fidelity (Performance) Bonds of Treasurer**

Rationale:

Per KRS 160.560 and 702 KAR 3:080, it is the duty of each local board of education to bond its treasurer and any other school employee who is responsible for board of education funds. Bonds are attached for your review.

**Order #8916 - Motion Passed:** I recommend approval of the performance bonds for the 2021-2022 school year- passed with a motion by Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham and a second by Mr. Gerald Murray.

- Mr. Gerald Murray Yes
- Ms. Joy Wilson Yes
- Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham Yes
- Mr. Richard Kazsuk Yes
- Mrs. Sheila Wicker Yes

**9. Renewal for Property, General Liability & Fleet Insurance**

Rationale:

Our current insurance coverage for property, general liability and fleet expire June 30, 2021. \$115,847 is the first installment and the remaining half is paid January 2022.

**Order #8917 - Motion Passed:** I recommend that the Russell County Board of Education renew our policy with Liberty Mutual from McKinney & Blair and Grider Insurance Agency for property, liability and fleet coverage for the 2021-2022 school year- passed with a motion by Ms. Joy Wilson and a second by Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham.

- Mr. Gerald Murray Yes
- Ms. Joy Wilson Yes

Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham	Yes
Mr. Richard Kazsuk	Yes
Mrs. Sheila Wicker	Yes

**10. FY 22 Pay Dates**

Rationale:

It is necessary for the board to set pay dates for FY-22 (See Attached Document)

**Order #8918 - Motion Passed:** I recommend the approval of the FY-22 pay dates as presented- passed with a motion by Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham and a second by Mr. Gerald Murray.

Mr. Gerald Murray	Yes
Ms. Joy Wilson	Yes
Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham	Yes
Mr. Richard Kazsuk	Yes
Mrs. Sheila Wicker	Yes

**11. Contracts/Memorandum of Agreements Approval**

Rationale:

The following contracts/memorandum of agreements are attached for your review.

- Energy Manager: Scott Caslow
- Kentucky Department of Education, LEAD Kentucky Participant, & Russell County Schools

**Order #8919 - Motion Passed:** I recommend approval of the contract and/or memorandum of agreements that have been approved by the board attorney- passed with a motion by Mr. Richard Kazsuk and a second by Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham.

Mr. Gerald Murray	Yes
Ms. Joy Wilson	Yes
Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham	Yes
Mr. Richard Kazsuk	Yes
Mrs. Sheila Wicker	Yes

**12. 2021 KSBA Policy Updates (#44)- 1st Reading**

Rationale:

No Action Required

**13. Review of Procedures**

Rationale:

Russell County Schools has been working with Kentucky School Boards Association to either develop procedures or revise existing procedures specific to our school board policies.

Procedures are for review only and do not require board action.

**14. SB 128 Implementation Plan**

Rationale:

The Russell County Board of Education previously approved for students to participate in SB 128 or what is commonly referred to as the "do over" year. An implementation plan for SB 128 is attached for your review and approval.

**Order #8920 - Motion Passed:** I recommend that Russell County Schools SB 128 Implementation Plan be approved as presented- passed with a motion by Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham and a second by Ms. Joy Wilson.

Mr. Gerald Murray	Yes
Ms. Joy Wilson	Yes
Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham	Yes
Mr. Richard Kazsuk	Yes
Mrs. Sheila Wicker	Yes

**15. Annual Board Action for Emergency Teacher and Emergency Substitute Teacher Certification**

Rationale:

KRS 161.100 and KRS 161.102 calls for each board of education to approve one-year emergency certification for teachers of specified areas of critical shortage in order to fill unanticipated vacant teacher positions, which may occur prior to and after the opening of the upcoming 2021-2022 school year, and approve emergency certification for non-certified substitute teachers who are hired to broaden the substitute pool to cover classes when teachers are absent.

**Order #8921 - Motion Passed:** I recommend approval of the Annual Board Action for Emergency Teacher/Substitute Teacher Certification- passed with a motion by Ms. Joy Wilson and a second by Mr. Richard Kazsuk.

Mr. Gerald Murray	Yes
Ms. Joy Wilson	Yes
Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham	Yes
Mr. Richard Kazsuk	Yes
Mrs. Sheila Wicker	Yes

**16. Russell County School District 2021-2022 Trauma-Informed Care Plan**

Rationale:

All school districts in Kentucky are to have a school board approved Trauma-Informed Care Plan in effect July 1, 2021. The Russell County School District (RCSD) began transforming into a trauma-informed school district in 2019 when it was awarded a grant from the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky. Known as The Rural Kentucky ACEs Project, the Bounce Coalition was contracted to provide trauma-informed care professional development, implementation support, program evaluation, and progress monitoring.

**Order #8922 - Motion Passed:** I recommend that the Russell County School District Trauma-Informed Care Plan be approved as presented- passed with a motion by Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham and a second by Mr. Richard Kazsuk.

Mr. Gerald Murray	Yes
Ms. Joy Wilson	Yes
Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham	Yes
Mr. Richard Kazsuk	Yes

Mrs. Sheila Wicker Yes

**17. 2021-2022 District Funding Assurances**

Rationale:

Federal and State programs provide financial support for the implementation of District Comprehensive Improvement Plan under the supervision of each program director. The 2021-2022 (FY 22) District Funding Assurances are attached for your review and approval.

**Order #8923 - Motion Passed:** I recommend that the Russell County Board of Education accept the 2021-2022 district funding assurances as presented- passed with a motion by Ms. Joy Wilson and a second by Mr. Gerald Murray.

Mr. Gerald Murray Yes  
Ms. Joy Wilson Yes  
Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham Yes  
Mr. Richard Kazsuk Yes  
Mrs. Sheila Wicker Yes

**18. Out of State and/or Over Night Trips**

Rationale:

The following group have received approval from the Superintendent for the following out of state and/or overnight trip:

**Russell County Middle School:**

April 4-8, 2022 8th Grade Class Washington D.C.

**Order #8924 - Motion Passed:** I recommend approval of the out of state and/or overnight trip- passed with a motion by Mr. Richard Kazsuk and a second by Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham.

Mr. Gerald Murray Yes  
Ms. Joy Wilson Yes  
Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham Yes  
Mr. Richard Kazsuk Yes  
Mrs. Sheila Wicker Yes

**19. Superintendent Evaluation Information**

Rationale:

At the June 30, 2021 meeting the Russell County Board of Education will complete Superintendent Ford's annual evaluation. Attached is a blank evaluation form for the board's review along with the standards.

**20. Personnel Reports**

Darren Gossage	Retiring-RCHS Principal Effective July 31, 2021
Bethany Baird	Retiring-Director of Curriculum/Instruction & State Programs Effective July 1, 2021
Jera Dunbar	RSES Hired-K Teacher

Bridget Holmes	RSES Moving to 2nd grade
Haley Middleton	RSES Hired Instructional Assistant
Madison Bell	RSES Hired Instructional Assistant
Megan Tarter	RSES Hired MSD Teacher
Lorie Holder Fortune	RSES Hired Instructional Assistant
Mariah Dykes	RSES Hired Instructional Assistant
Emily Wilson	SES Hired Primary Teacher
Hannah Mitchell	SES Hired Instructional Assistant
Kristina Railback	SES Hired Instructional Assistant
Kayle Helm	SES Hired Instructional Assistant
Joy Shearer	RCMS Hired Social Studies Teacher
Jessica Gossage	RCMS Hired School Counselor
Billy Shawn Kemp	Hired Substitute Bus Driver
Melissa McFall	Hired Director of Curriculum/Instruction & State Program
Marcy Ryan	Resigned Effective June 30, 2021
Keith Ellis	Resigned RCMS Head Football Coach
Ashley Coppage	Resigned RCMS Head Softball Coach
Cheryl Newby	Resigned RCMS 6th Grade Girls Basketball Coach

## 21. Adjournment

**Order #8925 - Motion Passed:** Adjournment of the meeting passed with a motion by Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham and a second by Mr. Richard Kazsuk.

Mr. Gerald Murray	Yes
Ms. Joy Wilson	Yes
Mrs. Brenda Higginbotham	Yes
Mr. Richard Kazsuk	Yes
Mrs. Sheila Wicker	Yes

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Chairperson

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Superintendent