

**RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS  
(MINUTES)**

Russell County Auditorium/Natatorium  
(Meeting Will Be Held In Room 114)  
April 18, 2022

at 5:00 PM on April 18, 2022 with the following members:  
**Attendance Taken at 5:02 PM:**

Present Board Members:

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

Updated Attendance:

Ms. Sheila Wicker was updated to absent at: 5:03 PM

A sign in sheet was available for the public.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer**

**2. Bella Musica under the Direction of Yvonne Emerson: "My Old Kentucky Home"**

**3. Call to Order**

Rationale:

The Chair calls the Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:02 P.M.

**4. Roll Call**

Rationale:

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

Discussion:

Ms. Sheila Wicker attempted to attend the meeting via zoom (teleconference). Due to technical difficulties was unable to fully participate but she remained online.

**5. Adoption of Agenda**

Rationale:

Meeting agenda is provided for your review.

**Order #9079 - 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 Ms. Joy Wilson.

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

## 6. Public Comment

**Order #9080 - 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 Ms. Joy Wilson.

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

## 7. Recognition: Russell County Special Olympics Team

## 8. Russell County Education Association (RCEA) Certified Employee Recognition: Mollie Hancock

## 9. Updated District Website/Mobile App

### Rationale:

Mr. Chris Godby, District Digital Learning Coach, will provide the board with an overview of the updated district website and the new mobile app for Russell County Schools.

## 10. Updated Russell County Schools Bonding Capacity

### Rationale:

Lincoln Theinert, Vice President, with RSA Advisors, LLC will present the board with an overview of the district's current bonding capacity. The report is attached for your review.

## 11. Consent Agenda

### Rationale:

- A. Meeting Minutes
- B. Payment of Bills
- C. School Activity Fund Reports
- D. Financial Report
- E. Field Trips
- F. Treasurer's Monthly Report- March 2022

### Rationale:

#### Russell Springs Elementary

April 1, 2022	4th Grade	Eco Day @ Fish Hatchery
April 19, 2022	Preschool	Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery
April 22, 2022	Preschool	Wolf Creek National Fish Hatchery
May 4, 2022	1st Grade	Wolf Creek Fish Hatchery
May 12, 2022	1st Grade	Russell County Public Library
May 18, 2022	3rd Grade	Farm Safety Day- Fairgrounds

#### Salem Elementary

May 2, 2022	2nd Grade	Ralphie's Fun Center
May 10, 2022	1st Grade	Ky Down Under
May 11, 2022	Kindergarten	Wolf Creek Fish Hatchery
May 13, 2022	3rd Grade	Jump Air Zone

May 20, 2022

5th Grade

Beech Bend Amusement Park

Russell County Middle School

March 22, 2022 Softball Team

OU vs UK Softball Game, Lexington, KY.

March 23, 2022 Gifted & Talented

Lexington Children's Theater, Lexington, KY

March 25, 2022 Gifted & Talented

Dunnville Christian Church Community  
1st Annual Rowdy Laker Gifted Symposium  
Center, Dunnville, KY

Russell County High School

April 9, 2022 Track Team

Special Olympics Event, Somerset, KY

#### 11.F. Treasurer's Monthly Report- March 2022

**Order #9081 - Motion Passed:** 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
Ms. Sheila Wicker	Absent

#### 12. 2022-2023 District Staffing and SBDM Allocation Policy

Rationale:

The Russell County Board of Education shall notify each council of the school's final staffing and SBDM allocation for the next fiscal year (school year 2022-2023) by May 1.

**Order #9082 - Motion Passed:** I recommend the approval of the final staffing formula, SBDM allocations and the staffing and allocation policy for the 2022-2023 school year and that the formula becomes part of the minutes- 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
Ms. Sheila Wicker	Absent

#### 13. ARP Homeless Children & Youth Grant

Rationale:

Through the American Rescue Plan, Russell County Schools has been awarded a \$72,094.00 Homeless Children & Youth Grant. The plan the district submitted and was subsequently approved provided for 75% of an additional teacher's salary to work with students at Russell County Middle School where our highest concentration of homeless students are enrolled. The remaining 25% of the teacher's salary can be paid for with the regular ARP grant funds. This is a one year grant.

**Order #9083 - Motion Passed:** I recommend the Russell County Board of Education approve the Homeless Children & Youth Grant for an additional teacher for

Russell County Middle School for the 2022-2023 SY- passed with a motion by Mr. Gerald Murray and a second by Ms. Joy Wilson.

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

#### **14. Accept Bids for Russell Springs Elementary Security Vestibule**

**Rationale:**

Russell County Schools received one bid for the security vestibule at Russell Springs Elementary School. A bid from Lake Cumberland Glass was submitted: \$39,995. The bid met all of the requirements.

**Order #9084 - Motion Passed:** I recommend the bid amount of \$39,995 from Lake Cumberland Glass for the security vestibule at Russell Springs Elementary School be accepted- 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
Ms. Sheila Wicker	Absent

#### **15. Revised BG1: Russell Springs Elementary School Security Vestibule**

**Rationale:**

A revised BG 1 for the Russell Springs Elementary School Security Vestibule is attached for your review and approval (the previous BG1 that was approved in July 2021 is also attached).

NOTE: The initial BG 1 was \$46,250.00 and the revised BG 1 is \$51,280 (still to be paid with school security funds).

**Order #9085 - Motion Passed:** I recommend the revised BG1 for the Russell Springs Elementary School Security Vestibule 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
Ms. Sheila Wicker	Absent

#### **16. Russell County Regional Agri-Business Training Center "Seed Academy" Funding**

**Rationale:**

Attached is a preliminary budget/cost opinion for the Russell County Regional Agri-Business Training Center (Seed Academy). The proposed budget is \$5,104,973 with Russell County Schools contributing \$100,000 towards the project. The proposed funding sources are as follows:

We have previously discussed the training center but no formal action has been taken. Now that funding has been secured from the state legislature to fulfill the project the board needs to formally approve the \$100,000 contribution. The facility will be constructed under the direction of the Russell County

Industrial Development Authority and then turned over to the Russell County Board of Education for use. Somerset Community College is also interested in partnering to offer an agricultural based post-secondary pathway.

**Order #9086 - Motion Passed:** I recommend the Russell County Board of Education contribute \$100,000 towards the Russell County Regional Agri-Business Training Center (Seed Academy)- 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
Ms. Sheila Wicker	Absent

#### 17. Resolution Electing to Opt in to HB 678

**Rationale:**

The Kentucky legislature recently passed HB 678 (attached for your review) and it was recently signed into law by Governor Beshear. HB 678 provides school districts with additional flexibility regarding construction of school and athletic/extra-curricular facilities. The Kentucky School Boards Association has provided a draft resolution for school boards that "elect to conduct its facilities-related projects and affairs under the provisions of House Bill 678 enacted during the 2022 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly". The draft resolution is attached for your review and approval.

**Order #9087 - Motion Passed:** I recommend approval of the resolution relating to HB 678 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
Ms. Sheila Wicker	Absent

#### 18. Upgrades: Athletic Facilities

**Rationale:**

Attached is a cost opinion put together by Branscum Construction that covers the "soft costs" (construction management, inspections, fiscal agent fees, architect/engineering, etc.) along with the construction costs for the athletic facility upgrades discussed at the April 13, 2022 special called board meeting. The total cost is \$7,650,278.00. This amount includes the new track with the turf soccer field and turf football fields in the middle, appropriate lighting, bleachers, etc. along with turf for the current baseball field. The drainage and paving would also be included.

**Order #9088 - Motion Passed:** I recommend the Russell County Board of Education approve the athletic facility upgrades and authorize Superintendent Ford to complete the BGI for Kentucky Department of Education approval- 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

Ms. Sheila Wicker	Absent
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## 19. Purchase: 3500 Crew Cab 4x4 Service Truck for Transportation Department

### Rationale:

The service trucks for the transportation are all old and have significant mechanical issues. There is a 3500 Crew Cab 4x4 Service Truck available with Don Franklin through state price contract. The truck is usually priced at \$57,130 but is \$48,121 with state price contract plus \$9,950 for the bed. The price quote for the truck and truck bed are attached along with a stock photo of the truck.

**Order #9089 - Motion Passed:** I recommend approval of the service truck and truck bed- passed with a motion by Mr. Gerald Murray and a second by Ms. Joy Wilson.

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

## 20. Contracts/Memorandum of Agreements Approval

### Rationale:

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

Vision Itinerant Services Contract - Read Braille Co.  
Commonwealth of Kentucky- FRYSC

**Order #9090 - 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 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
Ms. Sheila Wicker	Absent

## 21. Fundraisers

### Rationale:

The following groups has received approval from the superintendent for the listed fundraisers:

Jamestown Elementary:

March 16-20, 2022 Scholastic Book Fair  
April 1-15, 2022 Krispy Kreme Donuts

**Order #9091 - Motion Passed:** I recommend approval of the school wide fundraisers- 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
Ms. Sheila Wicker	Absent

## 22. Personnel Reports

Rationale:

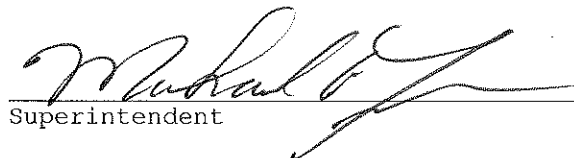
Amy McQueary	JES- Hired Instructional Assistant
Tracy Bunch	JES- Hired Instructional Assistant
Rene' Gossage	RSES- Retiring Principal
Kristina Villanueva	RCMS- End of Year 6-30-2022/Non-Renewal
Alissa Thomas	RCHS- Hired Assistant Dance Coach
Tyler Ford	RCHS- Hired Assistant Football Coach
Rachel McFall	RCHS- Hired English Teacher
Taylor Grider	RCHS- End of Year 6-30-2022/Non-Renewal
Jacob Conner	RCHS- End of Year 6-30-2022/Non-Renewal
Amanda Turner	RCHS- Resigned Laker Dance Team Head Coach
Jerad Flatt	RCHS- Hired Employment Specialist
Kayla Jefferson	Hired- Substitute Bus Driver
Brittany Ginn	Substitute Bus Driver to Standby Driver
Kevin Kempf	Substitute Bus Driver to Standby Driver

## 24. Adjournment

**Order #9092 - Motion Passed:** Adjournment of the meeting 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
Ms. Sheila Wicker	Absent

  
chairperson

  
Superintendent

