

# **RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS (MINUTES)**

Jackson, Ky., January 23, 2018

The Breathitt County Board of Education met in the Breathitt High School Library at 5:00 PM, with the following members present:

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

### Present Board Members:

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton  
Mr. John Hollan  
Mr. George Johnson  
Mr. Albert Little  
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins

Also present: State Manager Mike Murphy

## **I. Call to Order.**

The regular meeting of the Breathitt County Board of Education was called to order by Chairperson Ruschelle Hamilton at 5 PM in the BHS Library.

### **I.A. Roll Call**

### **I.B. Pledge of Allegiance/Recite Mission and Vision**

### **I.C. Review of Commissioner's Approvals**

State Manager Mike Murphy stated that the previous minutes of the Board of Education have been approved by the Commissioner.

### **I.D. Adopt Agenda**

**Order #117 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, and after adding approval of the Race to the Top District Grant Extension with KVEC as Item III-B-17, and moving Item V-A - Communications up to just prior to Item III-B-16, approval of adoption of the agenda passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

## **II. Presentations/Reports**

Superintendent Phillip Watts, along with Board Chair Ruschelle Hamilton presented certificates to the students and staff being recognized. The Kentucky Living Cover Story about Lori Hall was displayed on the screen and she talked about her goat farm and how she uses the goat products to make soap and lotion. She even sells her products on Amazon! AJ Miller then spoke about his inclusion into the Global Citizenship Program where he will serve as an ambassador in this area for Foreign Language. He also gets to spend the summer in China learning the Chinese language. Brooke Halsey then spoke about her participation in the Kentucky Farm Bureau district competition where she spoke about her father and his battle with a physical condition. The speech she gave at the state Farm Bureau Conference was then played on screen.

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Then Brianna Brewer was recognized by playing her performance at the State Farm Bureau Conference. She played the guitar and sang a song. She was not present at the meeting due to work obligations.

Lastly, Superintendent Watts recognized Hack Hudson for being named KAPOC Cheer Coach of the Year. He has worked with cheerleaders all over the state for the past twenty seven years and has put Breathitt County on the map as a very competitive school, at every age level. His teams at MRC have won the state competition two out of the last four years, and the BHS cheerleaders placed 5th in the state this year.

#### **II.A. Student Recognitions**

**II.A.1. BHS FFA Student Lori Hall - Kentucky Living Cover Story**

**II.A.2. AJ Miller - Participation in the Global Citizenship Program-GCCP**

**II.A.3. Brooke Halsey - Kentucky Farm Bureau District 11 State Representative**

**II.A.4. Brianna Brewer - Kentucky Farm Bureau District 11 State**

**Representative**

**II.A.5. Hack Hudson - KAPOC Cheer Coach of the Year**

#### **II.B. Reports**

##### **II.B.1. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Phillip Watts began his report by recognizing the board members for the work they do for our district. Their job is largely a thankless one, but they always make decisions based on what's best for kids. They were presented with a certificate and goodie bag. January is School Board Recognition month and an article and letter to the editor was presented to the newspapers for publication.

Our school year continues to move along in a very positive trajectory and we have now completed 6 months of school. One of our core values of our mission statement is, "Promoting positive school/community culture", and we have been working hard in the public to advocate for the students. I want to thank our faculty and staff for the hard work that they have been putting in everyday to help our students be successful. The passion and dedication has not gone unnoticed and I am truly appreciative.

There has been a tremendous amount of activity in our district towards advancing student achievement. With the collaborative efforts of our staff, principals, central office leadership team and education recovery team members, we are improving systems and processes. Principals and teachers are using real-time data to impact teaching and learning in a more timely manner.

The budget has many concerns and we had a budget committee meeting to review the draft budget for 2018-2019 school year. Trend data shows the loss of student enrollment at 34%.

Central office and schools have aligned the District/School Improvement Plans via e Prove (goals, objectives and strategies)...

Central Office Leadership Team and Principals' meetings have been very productive. Reviewed the following the leadership characteristics: Honesty, Competent, Inspiring and Forward Looking. We discussed the importance of improving our processes, mission and vision, audit, day to day operations, communication and 7-12 reconfiguration planning (action plans).

Training and Meetings: KASA - New Superintendent Training (legal and budgets), KSBA (subjects on: evaluation, school facilities, finance, and fraud, met with Lee County Superintendent - Dr. Jim Evans Mentor, Committee Meetings on the 7-12 reconfiguration, Leadership/RTI meetings with

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principals, scheduled times for principals observations and KVEC board meeting, site visits with Principals.

MRC Bridge Closure, November 28, 2017, Remind everyone to be careful on the detour.

#### **II.B.2. Attendance Report**

Attendance for the year is holding steady right around 94.5%. We had a low 5th month of attendance, but hopefully, it will continue to improve, so our overall rate will also improve, as presented by DPP Susan Watts.

#### **II.B.3. KG Readiness Report**

Wayne Sizemore shared the KG readiness report released by the state. It shows that our preschool readiness rate is 51%, slightly above the state average of a little over 50%. Approximately 30% of students entering KG from home settings are prepared for KG and about 24% of those students entering KG from Head Start are ready for KG. We are certainly proud of our preschool program but always know that it can be improved. It is important to serve as many students as possible in order to prepare them adequately with KG. The school district has not authority over Head Start so there isn't much we can do to address their deficiencies in preparing students for KG.

#### **II.B.4. Gear Up Report**

Alonzo Fugate shared a Powerpoint presentation updating the Board on the opportunities offered to our students through the Gear Up program. He summarized the programs for which Gear Up pays to help our kids benchmark on state testing including ACT preparation, and noted that Gear Up is able to assist needy students in paying for the fee assessed for the ACT exam. He also reviewed the College visits that they make with students in an effort to encourage students to continue their education, especially for those students who may be the first person in their family to attend college. However, this is the last year for the Gear Up program, unless another grant is awarded. The District won't know that until September.

#### **II.B.5. Public Comments regarding the School Nutrition and Physical Activity Report Card Issued in November 2017**

School Nutrition Director Tabitha Napier reviewed the School Nutrition and Physical Activity Report along with all the nutrition programs offered by the District. No other public comments were made regarding the report. Anyone with a concern is encourage to contact Ms. Napier at any time.

### **III. Student Learning and Support Items Recommended for Approval**

#### **III.A. CONSENT ITEMS**

**Order #118 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the consent items passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.A.1. Consider approval of the SMS PTO Fundraiser Sucker Sales.**

**III.A.2. Consider approval of the Breathitt Wahoos Request to use MRC for Basketball Games on February 3, 2018.**

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**III.B. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**III.B.1. Consider approval of minutes of previous meetings**

**III.B.1.a. December 12, 2017 Regular Meeting**

**Order #119 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the December 12, 2017 regular meeting minutes passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.1.b. January 4, 2018 Special Meeting**

**Order #120 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the January 4, 2018 special meeting minutes passed with a motion by Mr. Albert Little and a second by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.2. Consider approval of January 2018 bills for payment.**

**Order #121 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the January 2018 bills for payment passed with a motion by Mr. Albert Little and a second by Mr. George Johnson.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.3. Consider approval of the December 2017 Treasurer's Report.**

Finance Officer Darnell McIntosh reviewed the December 2017 Treasurer's Report noting that this was the first property tax collection of this year, which included money to be allocated for the nickel passed in September. The overall cash balance is improving this year, and is projected to be around 6% at the end of June. This will be critical to creating a balanced budget next year due to the proposed cuts that have just been released. The District has also received information that this year's SEEK allocation will be reduced, along with the Flexible Focus funds. As the District moves forward, it is going to become extremely difficult to develop a balanced budget if proposed cuts become reality.

**Order #122 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the December 2017 Treasurer's Report passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.4. Consider approval of the 2018-2019 Draft Budget.**

Finance Officer Darnell McIntosh reviewed the 2018-2019 Draft budget, by first stating that since it is so early and no real allocations have been

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made, the budget is in a preliminary phase. We only have proposals to discuss and trend data to determine what next year's budget may look like. According to the Governor's budget proposal, several state programs have been eliminated, along with a significant cut to Transportation funding. If these proposed cuts take place, it will mean cutting approximately \$400,000 out of next year's budget. Along with step increases and rank changes in salaries, and the increase to the matching county retirement rate of approximately \$200,000; next year's budget is a huge challenge. All of these numbers are just proposed; however, so there is no way of knowing what will actually take place. The Draft Budget is only required to be reviewed by the Board, but in May a Tentative Budget will have to be submitted to KDE. By that time, the District should know more concrete numbers to include in the budget.

**Order #123 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the 2018-2019 Draft Budget passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.5. Consider approval of BG #18-244 - Breathitt County New ATC - Phase 1.**

**Order #124 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of BG #18-244 - Breathitt County New ATC - Phase 1 passed with a motion by Mr. George Johnson and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.6. Consider approval of reconvening the Local Planning Committee to conduct a finding to the District Facility Plan for the replacement of the BHS PE Gym Bleachers.**

**Order #125 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of reconvening the Local Planning Committee to conduct a "finding" to the District Facility Plan in order to address the need for replacements bleachers in the BHS PE Gym. passed with a motion by Mr. Albert Little and a second by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.7. Consider approval of BG #18-245 Breathitt County High School PE Gym Bleacher Replacement Project.**

**Order #126 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Philip Watts, approval of BG #18-245 - Breathitt County High School PE Gym Bleacher Replacement Project passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes

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Mrs. Rebecca Watkins                      Yes

**III.B.8. Consider approval of reconvening the Local Planning Committee to conduct an amendment to the District Facility Plan to change the status of Sebastian Middle School from "transitional" to "permanent".**

**Order #127 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of reconvening the Local Planning Committee to conduct an amendment to the District Facility Plan to change the status of Sebastian Middle School from "transitional" to "permanent" passed with a motion by Mr. George Johnson and a second by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.9. Consider approval of authorizing the Superintendent to advertise for Architectural and Engineering Services for work pertaining to BG #18-244 - Breathitt County New ATC - Phase 1.**

**Order #128 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of advertising for Architectural and Engineering Services pertaining to BG #18-244 Breathitt County New ATC - Phase 1 passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.10. Consider approval of the 2017-2018 CDIP for Breathitt County Schools.**

**Order #129 - Motion Passed:** Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the 2017-2018 CDIP passed with a motion by Mr. George Johnson and a second by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.11. Consider approval of amending the 2017-2018 school calendar to change Monday, February 19, 2018 to a regular school day in order to make up one day.**

**Order #130 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of amending the calendar to change Monday, February 19, 2018, to a regular school day to make up one day passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.12. Consider approval of contract with David Ditsch for Field Maintenance for the BHS Football Field; Baseball Field and Softball Field.**

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**Order #131 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent David Gibson, approval of the contract with David Ditsch for athletic field maintenance passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.13. Consider approval of the Civics exam for high school students, as required by Senate Bill 159(2017) .**

**Order #132 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the KRS required Civics exam for high school students passed with a motion by Mr. Albert Little and a second by Mr. George Johnson.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.14. Consider approval of accepting the name change of the Cadet Leadership Education Program (CLEP) to the Jackson Youth Development Center (JYDC) .**

**Order #133 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of changing the name of the Cadet Leadership Education Program (CLEP) to the Jackson Youth Development Center (JYDC) passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.15. Consider approval of the SFCC Offer of Assistance in the amount of \$75,571 towards proposed construction or major renovation of facilities as outlined in the most current approved facility plan.**

**Order #134 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the SFCC Offer of Assistance in the amount of \$75,571 towards proposed construction or major renovation of facilities as outlined in the most current approved facility plan passed with a motion by Mr. George Johnson and a second by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.16. Communication/Sharing (All Present)**

A sign up sheet for anyone who wished to address the Board was available prior to the meeting. Only four people signed up. Barbara Deaton addressed the Board regarding the Non-resident Contract with Jackson Independent stating that both systems need to work together for our community and that she feels the contract should remain the same.

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Key Douthitt then spoke regarding the same topic stating the he felt the contract should remain the same so that parents can decide where they feel their children will be best suited.

BCEA President Margaret Henson then addressed the Board and the audience encouraging everyone to contact Frankfort regarding the proposed budget as well as the pension changes. She shared the Hotline that can be called which is 1-800-372-7181. She also encouraged everyone to wear red on Wednesdays to support public education.

**III.B.17. Consider approval of non-resident contracts with adjacent districts as follows:**

**Order #135 - Motion Passed:** Upon the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the non-resident contracts with adjacent districts as follows, passed with a motion by Mr. George Johnson and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**III.B.17.a. Hazard Independent** - Any/All

**III.B.17.b. Knott County** - Any/All

**III.B.17.c. Lee County** - Any/All

**III.B.17.d. Magoffin Co.** - Any/All

**III.B.17.e. Morgan Co.** - Any/All

**III.B.17.f. Owsley Co.** - Any/All

**III.B.17.g. Wolfe Co.** - Any/All

**III.B.17.h. Estill Co.** - Any/All

**III.B.17.i. Perry County** - One to One

**III.B.17.j. Jackson Independent** - Only those students enrolled at the end of the 2017-2018 school year and under the 2017-2018 contract along with their siblings will be allowed to attend Jackson Independent beginning in the 2018-2019 school year

**III.B.18. Consider approval of the 5th Year Extension of the RTTT Grant with KVEC.**

**Order #136 - Motion Passed:** Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Phillip Watts, approval of the 5th Year Extension of the RTTT Grant with KVEC passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

**IV. Personnel Notifications**

**Resignations/Retirements/Terminations/Non-renewals/Suspension/Reductions**

Robert Stamper, Resignation as Bus Driver, Effective January 8, 2017

**Employment/Transfers**

Tracey Spicer, Instructional Assistant I/II at BHS, Effective December 27, 2017

**FMLA/Leave**

Marlene Hamilton, December 4, 2017 through January 2, 2018

Karen M. Miller, January 3, 2018 through March 2, 2018



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Hazel Noble, December 13, 2017 through January 10, 2018  
Crussie White, January 1, 2018 through April 30, 2018

**V. Informational Items**

**V.A. School Financial Reports**

**V.B. School SBDM Reports**

**V.C. Nursing Home Agreement**

**VI. State Management Report and Recommendation**

State Manager Mike Murphy stated that he is honored to work with this Board, and commended them for their commitment to the students of Breathitt County. He stated that the minutes of this meeting would be recommended for approval by the Commissioner without reservation.

**VII. Adjournment**

**Order #137 - Motion Passed:** There being no further business of the Board, adjournment at 6:15 PM passed with a motion by Mrs. Rebecca Watkins and a second by Mr. Albert Little.

Ms. Ruschelle Hamilton	Yes
Mr. John Hollan	Yes
Mr. George Johnson	Yes
Mr. Albert Little	Yes
Mrs. Rebecca Watkins	Yes

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Secretary

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Board Chairperson