

**BULLITT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
1040 HIGHWAY 44 EAST
SHEPHERDSVILLE, KY 40165**

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED TAX RATES FOR 2020-2021
&
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BULLITT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**September 09, 2020
5:00 PM**

MINUTES OF RECORD

The Bullitt County Board of Education met in person, although the meeting was streamed virtually via telecommunication due to the Governor's Executive Order 2020-215, at 5:00 PM on September 9, 2020, with the following members present:

Attendance Taken at 4:52 PM

(1) Ms. Linda Belcher	(2) Mrs. Diane Thompson	(3) Mrs. Debby Atherton
(4) Mr. Steve Hornback	(5) Mr. Darrell Coleman	

CALL TO ORDER

The September 9, 2020 special meeting of the Bullitt County Board of Education was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Board Chairperson Debby Atherton.

On March 6, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 2020-215, declaring a state of emergency throughout Kentucky pursuant to his power under the Kentucky Constitution and KRS Chapter 39A regarding the threats to public health presented by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

In an Opinion issued on March 18, 2020, issued as OAG 20-05, the Kentucky Attorney General opined that at this time during the present state of emergency it is not "feasible" under KRS 61.840 to precisely identify and provide a primary physical location for a video teleconference under the Open Meetings Act at which the public may attend and view a meeting held via video teleconference, and that various other technological means by which the public may view a meeting should be provided instead until the conclusion of the state of emergency.

As a result, the Board adopted a Resolution on March 23, 2020, (see Board Order Number 2020-060) providing for all future Board meetings to proceed by video teleconference until such time as social distancing restrictions for public meetings are lifted.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

2020-151- Motion made by Darrell Coleman, seconded by Steve Hornback, to adopt the agenda as presented. All members voted YES.

EXPLANATION OF TAX RATES

Finance Director Lisa Lewis gave a presentation of the proposed tax rates, expenses of the district, budget shortfalls, and anticipated revenue.

HEARING OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

Anyone wishing to address the Board was asked to contact Communications Director John Roberts to schedule a time to speak at the meeting. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, the meeting was not open to an audience due to social distancing requirements, but accommodations were

made for any citizen registering to address the Board. One community member scheduled a time to speak but failed to attend the meeting. No public comments were received by the Board.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

2020-152- Motion made by Diane Thompson, seconded by Linda Belcher, to close the public hearing. All members voted YES.

ADOPT TAX RATES FOR 2020-2021

Recommended were the tax rates on real property to remain the same at 71.6 cents and the rate on personal property decrease to 72.2 cents.

2020-2021 Proposed Tax Rates:

	Real Estate	Tangible
General Fund	54.8	55.4
Building Fund	16.8**	16.8**
Total	71.6	72.2
Motor Vehicle - 47.7		
Occupational Tax - 0		
Utility Tax - 3.00		
Excise Tax - 0		

2020-153- Motion made by Darrell Coleman, seconded by Steve Hornback, to adopt the tax rates as follows:

71.6 cents Real Property
72.2 cents Personal Property
47.7 cents Motor Vehicle

All members voted YES.

RECESS

Board members took a five-minute recess.

CONSENT ITEMS

2020-154- Motion made by Diane Thompson, seconded by Linda Belcher, to approve Consent Items as presented. All members voted YES.

Construction Item - New 800 Student Elementary School (OMES) - BG 20-142 CD & Bid
Requested was Board approval for the following as provided by Cate Ward, Architect with Studio Kremer Architects:

1. Construction Document approval for New 800 Student Elementary School, BG 20-142
2. Permission to solicit bids for the New 800 Student Elementary School

Following Board approval, the documents will be submitted to KDE for approval and once approved by KDE, solicitation of bids will commence.

Permission to Accept Donation & Alteration to Grounds Request – EMS - Concrete Pad

Eastside Middle School requested permission to allow Southeast Christian Church to install a concrete pad to the immediate front of the storage building donated by the church earlier in the year. The 4,000-psi concrete pad will be 5'x20' and approximately 4"-5" thick. It will be used to load and offload equipment that will be stored onsite by Southeast Christian Church. All funding for labor and materials for the concrete slab will be provided by Southeast Christian Church as a donation to the school valued at \$2,400.

NEW BUSINESS

Request to Increase AP Extended Days - BAC/ROC/SM

Mr. Danny Clemens, Principal of the Bullitt Alternative Center/Riverview Opportunity Center/Spring Meadows, requested an increase to the extended days for the Assistant Principal position from 10 to 23. The additional 13 days will be paid through Title I funds. This addition of extended days is consistent with the other high school assistant principals and allows the administration at BAC/ROC/SM to continue to support the needs of each of their students.

2020-155- Motion made by Diane Thompson, seconded by Linda Belcher, to approve the request to increase the number of extended days by 13 for the Assistant Principal position at BAC/ROC/SM. All members voted YES.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Superintendent Jesse Bacon mentioned the new E-Newsletter for the district went out last Friday and will do so every other week. On alternate weeks, a newsletter from the high schools will be sent. Anyone in the community can sign up for them.

October 3rd was the tentative date for a district graduation date for the three high schools set back at the end of the last school year. Due to on-going COVID-19 guidelines, specifically social distancing and capacity limitations, we do not see a way to move forward with this event.

Director of Secondary Education Rachelle Bramlage-Schomburg spoke about the start of the fall athletics season and general protocols in place regarding student athletes and events.

Assistant Superintendent for Student Learning Adrienne Usher mentioned the COVID-19 protocols were updated online for the transitioning of students to return to school on September 28th. Some students have already been on campus for class work at the Area Technology Center, athletics and some special education meetings.

The first round of benchmark testing starts next week during remote learning. There are no waivers like at the end of the last school year. Future testing windows are before Christmas break and spring break.

Facilities Director Ed Oyler gave an update on training with district staff on the security system, installation of water bottle fillers, and disinfecting efforts of schools and buses. He added that replacing the clocks at Bullitt East High School would be costly and recommended they be removed or covered. Collaboration with school custodians has improved since they now report to the maintenance department. A more uniform approach to the upkeep of all buildings has resulted.

Mrs. Usher responded to the need for additional information regarding free and reduced meal prices and that the numbers of those students now qualifying had increased for the district.

Ms. Belcher brought up the issue of school supply lists. Mrs. Usher replied that those lists are going to be reviewed again and items like paper towels, tissues, copy paper are things the district needs to consider providing to eliminate families being asked to purchase.

Ms. Belcher also asked for additional information regarding fundraisers the schools hold each year. Instead of a list of what the schools could do, she'd like to see what the schools actually utilized and where the money was directed for a specific cause. Mrs. Usher responded that this year there have been two fundraisers that she was aware of: EMS Mum Sale for school supplies & BES had an online fundraiser for safer playground equipment. Ms. Lewis responded that fundraisers are reviewed and approved by the Board twice a year and will keep the suggestion in mind for the next submission of requests.

Mrs. Usher mentioned we have 50 new ESL students this year. If the trend continues, we will have many more students learning English as a second language in years to come.

Darrell Coleman brought up the issue of revising staffing plans to include assistant principals at the elementary school level for enrollments less than 600 students. Other criteria could be considered for the need of an additional assistant principal. Dr. Bacon said he will take that under consideration in November and December in order to present a staffing plan for approval in February.

Ms. Belcher shared her appreciation for all the teamwork with the current situation. She hopes to see a reduction in COVID cases in Bullitt County and the return of students to the school campuses. Dr. Bacon responded that this has been a great challenge for the entire staff and he's thankful that there have been no in-house transmissions of COVID-19 with having teachers in the buildings, some classes meeting at the school, and student athletes picking up with sports. He is hopeful that with everyone following the guidelines and the protocols in place, the district is well prepared to receive students back in the buildings at the end of the month.

ADJOURNMENT

2020-156- Motion made by Diane Thompson, seconded by Darrell Coleman, to adjourn at 6:58 p.m. All members voted YES.

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY