

# Lawrence County Board of Education

## Special Meeting & Quarterly Academic Reporting

*Every Child College and Career Ready;  
A Community Involved and Informed*

February 13, 2017; 6:00 p.m.  
Lawrence County High School  
Louisa, Kentucky

Attendance Taken at 5:51 p.m.:

Present Board Members:

Mr. D. Heath Preston, Chairman  
Ms. Garnett Skaggs, Vice-chair  
Ms. Barbara Robinson  
Mr. James See  
Ms. Maddlene Roberts

Present: Dr. Robbie Fletcher, Superintendent; Ms. Brandi VanHoose, Finance Officer; Chief Academic Officer: Dr. Cassandra Webb; Director of Pupil Personnel & District Personnel: Vernon Hall; Director of Special Education & Preschool: Rhonda Colvin; Director of Federal Programs/DAC: Mary Hall; Director of Pupil Intervention: Sharon Parsons; Lawrence County High School Principal: Christy Moore; Blaine Elementary Principal: Shawn Jennings; Louisa West Elementary Principal: Debbie Delong; Louisa East Elementary Principal: Anna Prince; Fallsburg Elementary Principal: Sara Bowen; Louisa Middle School Principal: Joey Cecil; Director of Adult and Community Education: James Ellis; Mr. Tommy Burns, Chief Information Officer/District Technology Coordinator; Ms. Betty Mullins, Board Secretary

### MINUTES

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Preston called the meeting to order with a reminder that the mission of the Board and Lawrence County Schools is *Every Child College and Career Ready; A Community Involved and Informed*. He led *The Pledge to the United States Flag*.

#### 2. STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

##### CONSENT AGENDA

2.A. Approval of the **Consent Agenda** items, as indicated, passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Mr. James See by a vote of 5 to 0.

2.A.1. Per diem and expenses for members present

2.A.2. 2016-17 Memorandum of Understanding with Kentucky Office for the Blind

2.A.3. Notice of Shortened School Week for student

2.A.4. Fundraisers:

2.A.4.a. Lawrence County High School

2.A.4.b. Louisa Middle School

2.A.4.c. Fallsburg Elementary School

2.A.5. Use of Facilities Request: Louisa Middle by Lawrence County Conservation District for Annual Art & Writing Contest Banquet; March 21, 2017; Kelli Hanshaw; insurance confirmed

#### **2.A.6. Trip Requests:**

**2.A.6.a. Out of state: Fallsburg 8th Grade Cultural Trip to Williamsburg, VA and Virginia Beach; April 17-20, 2017; Kim Hatfield, Carrie Tomlin, Paul Chapman**

**2.A.6.b. Out of state: LCHS overnight Senior Trip to Ohio: Cincinnati Art Museum, Contemporary Arts Center and King's Island; April 27-28, 2017; Kim Shirkey**

### **2.B. QUARTERLY ACADEMIC DASHBOARD REPORTING**

#### **2.B.1. Introduction**

Dr. Robbie Fletcher, Superintendent, and Dr. Webb, Chief Academic Officer

With the second round of MAP testing having been completed, it is time to look at data projections for state testing in the spring. The high school also has some preliminary data to report based on practice tests given. Dr. Fletcher noted that there are some bright spots and also areas to improve upon. Principals will share highlights of their data and their plus/deltas and next steps. Then the district plus/deltas and next steps will be discussed.

#### **2.B.2. School Quarterly Reports**

Louisa West Elementary (K-1): Debbie Delong, Principal; Louisa East Elementary (2-5): Anna Prince, Principal; Blaine Elementary School (K-8): Shawn Jennings, Principal; Fallsburg Elementary School (K-8): Sara Bowen, Principal; Louisa Middle School (6-8): Joey Cecil, Principal; Lawrence County High School (9-12): Christy Moore, Principal

A brief overview of the reporting follows.

**LWES:** on the right track for math and implementing GoMath with fidelity; struggling with a drop in reading scores; examining what to do differently; Ms. Delong stated that about 160 kids are receiving intervention services and that teachers will also be working with students on test-taking skills;

**LEES:** small gains since fall testing in both reading and math but still a concern because of the goals that need to be met; novice reduction in math is a celebration point; plan is to develop an intentional focus on students by creating Student Growth Action Plans; common assessment data will be analyzed and used to guide intervention strategies; Ms. Prince also mentioned setting individual classroom goals as a next step; Dr. Fletcher pointed out that LEES is a Third Year Focus School;

**BES:** although there was an increase in the achievement index in both reading and math, there is a need to focus on them, on novice reduction with all Gap groups, and on CCR students; bright spots in middle grades included an increase in reading, Gap proficient and distinguished, and in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade CCR; next steps are to develop and utilize student learning plans, conferencing with students using data folders, implementation of RTI Plan, and analyzing and acting upon common assessment data; Mr. Jennings noted that four eighth grade students are currently taking high school geometry and another area to work on is enrichment; Dr. Fletcher explained, however, that the students who complete Algebra I and geometry at the middle school level still must take four years of math in high school; taking these courses early allows them to take higher math courses in high school;

**FES:** math and reading are both areas of concern, as is novice reduction in all areas; causes for celebration include having gains in MAP scores for reading and math; another cause for celebration pointed out by Dr. Webb, is that for the first time in the history of quarterly reporting of data, a goal has been reached midyear: 6-8 middle grades goal of 51.2 was surpassed with a January score of 55.9; next steps include "intense RTI", sharing ideas in PLCs, and setting personal goals for MAP; additionally, in middle grades following pacing for reading and math using Benchmark and GoMath; Ms. Bowen commented that the

biggest challenge is motivation and that good instruction is what will impact learning most of all;

**LMS:** growth in both math and reading indices and some areas of growth in Gap and novice reduction but both math and reading are significantly below goals in all areas; celebration point is that compared to last year, are very close or have already surpassed numbers from last year; Mr. Cecil commented, "We did have growth, but it's not where it needs to be"; next steps include continuing to follow the CSIP and Big Rock and to continue to identify students for RTI in 7<sup>th</sup> period Core Plus and ESS Daytime Waiver;

**LCHS:** celebration point is that all areas have increased; increase in Algebra II scores across the board and number of novice is decreasing; math and reading remain areas of concern; next steps include the direct instruction focus with all teachers and continuing implementing Kagan structures; Ms. Moore noted that credit recovery using the APEX program has been a benefit to students and their achievement.

### **2.B.3. Plus/Delta/Next Steps for District Quarterly Report**

Dr. Robbie Fletcher, Superintendent, and Dr. Webb, Chief Academic Officer

Plus/Delta discussion included that the Non-duplicated Gap for middle grades math is slightly above the 15-16 year-end goal with reading currently 10.6 points away for the year-end goal. For Novice Reduction Gap in reading, middle grades increased significantly, 39.3 points higher than the end of last year; high school increased from a 0 index to 40.9; and elementary is 3.4 points lower than end of last year KPREP. For Novice Reduction Gap in math, high school increased from 0 last year to 29.3 which is more than end of year for 15-16; elementary had a significant decrease from October to January, 40.3 to 27.7. The Achievement Index for district middle grades at midyear is slightly above the year-end 15-16 Index; elementary reading is 21.9 points away from this year's goal; and elementary math is 16.9 points away from this year's goal. For Non-duplicated Gap at the elementary level, gains occurred but not nearly as much as needed to meet our goals. District At or Above Grade Level (K-8) in reading had a decrease. Program Review Index is on track for 100 at all grade levels.

District next steps: Math grading practices need improvement, and we need a critical look at standards-based grading. Training from the instructional focus sessions must be implemented by teachers and monitored by principals. The training, centered on the Gradual Release of Responsibility Model, resulted from novice reduction training. Common assessments must be implemented with fidelity and used as an instructional tool. Teacher-level data and student-level data must be reviewed and used for planning for interventions. Collaboration among teachers and schools must continue and strengthen.

Chairman Preston stated that it is good to hear of things that work, but we have a long way to go, "Remember that our goal this year is to be a Distinguished District." He also reiterated that it's important that the attendance policy is being implemented and adhered to. "We know that if they're not in the seat, you can't teach them."

### **2.C. Review of the Recallable Nickel Tax Levy timeline (no action)**

Dr. Fletcher reviewed the timeline for moving forward on the recallable nickel tax that will enable construction of a new school building and the replacement of Louisa West Elementary. Dr. Fletcher thanked Finance Officer Brandi VanHoose for working with Ross, Sinclaire, and Associates in developing the timeline and also thanked Board Secretary Betty Mullins for developing a visual calendar timeline of the process.

Great effort has been taken to keep the public informed about the proposed tax levy. Dr. Fletcher has advertised the levy in local news media and has spoken about it at civic functions. "We don't want people to be surprised. We've been talking about this for two or three months, and it's time to bring it to the Board for a vote." According to the timeline, the board will move forward with a motion to levy the nickel tax at the next regular meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>. An advertisement for a hearing on the nickel tax to be held March 15<sup>th</sup> will be published in the Big Sandy News and on the Levisa Lazer on March 1<sup>st</sup> followed by the required second advertisement on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Information on recalling the nickel tax will be published on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, and the recall option will end on April 29<sup>th</sup> if voters in the last election do not complete the process to place the nickel tax levy on the ballot for a vote. The timeline has been reviewed and approved by Board Attorney Jonathan Shaw.

Chairman Preston stated, "For the public's knowledge, without the recallable nickel, the state will not assist us in any way, shape, or form. I've been there and they will not talk to you (*about construction money*) unless you have the nickel." Dr. Fletcher pointed out, "School systems around us that have built new schools have the nickel tax. The nickel tax can only be used for facilities, not for salaries, not anything else."

### 3. PERSONNEL

**3.A.** Approval of **Leave of Action** for Joe Maynard passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 5 to 0.

**3.B.** Approval to acknowledge receipt of **Superintendent's Personnel Action/Update** passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Mr. James See by a vote of 5 to 0.

### 4. ADJOURNMENT

Approval to adjourn passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 5 to 0.

  
Chairman – D. Heath Preston

  
Secretary to the Board – Betty Mullins