

Lawrence County Board of Education

Regular Meeting

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

Tuesday, February 21, 2017; 6:00 p.m.
Lawrence County High School
Louisa, Kentucky

Attendance taken at 5:52 p.m.:

Present Board Members:

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

Note: Mr. James See left at 7:15 p.m. due to a conflict with another meeting.

Present: Dr. Robbie Fletcher, Superintendent; LCHS FFA students and Ms. Melissa Blackburn, EdD, agriculture teacher; Ms. Brandi VanHoose, Finance Officer; Chief Academic Officer: Ms. Cassandra Webb, EdD; Director of Pupil Personnel & District Personnel: Vernon Hall; Director of Special Education & Preschool: Rhonda Colvin; Director of Federal Programs/DAC: Mary Hall; 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: Joe Cecil; Board Attorney: Jonathan Shaw; 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 then led *The Pledge to the United States Flag*.

2. APPROVE AGENDA

Approval to amend the agenda to include **5.D.2.f. Louisa East with Superior Office for Modified Copier Lease Agreement** and **5.D.3.c. Fundraiser for Lawrence County High School** passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Garnett Skaggs by a vote of 5 to 0.

3. STUDENT/STAFF PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

3.A. LCHS FFA Presentation

FFA Club members expressed appreciation to the Board and Dr. Fletcher for the support shown to the club. The students presented a FFA pin to each board member and an FFA coffee mug to Dr. Fletcher. They also shared highlights of their recent trip to the FFA National Convention including getting to meet fellow students across the nation, rodeo events, and the concerts. Team sponsor Melissa Blackburn, agriculture teacher at the high school, also expressed her thanks for the Board's support and praised the students for raising over \$4,000 for their trip to the national convention. Dr. Fletcher stated that anytime our students have been able to take advantage of

opportunities outside our county, they have represented Lawrence County well. “We’re very proud of you and how you represent our school. Thank you.” Personal expressions of gratitude to the students were also given by board members.

4. COMMUNICATION

4.A. Superintendent's Update

4.A.1. 2016 LC Special Education Recognition

Dr. Fletcher explained that as required by the U.S. Department of Education an annual determination of local special education services must be made by the state using a results-driven accountability system. Out of the possible four levels, overall Lawrence County Schools received the highest level, “Meets Requirements”, as the district’s 2016 determination. Dr. Fletcher acknowledged the efforts of our staff. “We are very proud of our special education department, Ms. Rhonda Colvin as director, and her teachers and staff.”

4.A.2. LCHS Award \$12,000 PLTW Grant

Congratulations on the grant award were extended to Mary Hall in her new role as grant writer in collaboration with bioscience teacher Connie Huff and Dr. Webb who has worked with the PLTW grants in the past. The \$12,000 will be for implementation of the fourth course, the capstone course, of the biomedical science pathway of Project Lead The Way. Thanking all who have had a role in past and present grant efforts to help build the PLTW program, Dr. Fletcher concluded, “This is a great opportunity for our students.”

4.A.3. Latest Accountability Design

Dr. Fletcher shared the most recent draft proposal of Kentucky’s new Accountability System, noting that the Accountability Steering Committee of which he is a member is scheduled to meet one more time. He briefly reviewed the seven areas of the basic framework of the proposed accountability system. **Proficiency** will be based on student performance on state tests in reading mathematics, science, social studies, and writing at all three levels, elementary, middle and high. **Growth** at elementary and middle level will be measured from where students start; high school is not included in the growth indicator at this time. For **Transition Readiness**, the specific measures for essential skills have not yet been developed for elementary and middle; high school measures such as academic-ready, technical-ready, or military-ready are being considered as well as professional-readiness. **Achievement Gap** will still be an indicator in the accountability system. **Opportunity and Access** is an indicator where there will be only reporting rather than testing in such areas as student measures, content/standards/program measures, and policy measures. An **Overall School Rating** will be assigned, and presently the rating continuum is from Outstanding, Excellent, Good, Fair, Concern to Intervention as the lowest rating. The seventh indicator is **School Improvement and Support** which should now have the same criteria for identification as what is required to get out of the designation. Dr. Fletcher concluded saying that a final version of Senate Bill 1 must first pass before the final accountability system design can be established.

4.A.4. Senate Bill 1 Update

Dr. Fletcher provided a summary of the primary adjustments being made at this time to Senate Bill 1, which is being touted as the “Let Teachers Teach Bill”. Areas he reviewed included removal of program reviews, possible changes to the teacher evaluation system, the process for reviewing and revising standards which could impact common core standards,

and changes with visual and performing arts and world language. At the upcoming KSBA Conference, there will be a session that will review the latest on Senate Bill 1.

4.A.5. Other Bills of Interest in the Legislative Session

In addition to having provided the Board the February 10th KASS Legislative Report in board packets, Dr. Fletcher spoke briefly about bills other than Senate Bill 1 that would have a potential impact on our district. Discussion included House Bill 520 that deals with charter schools, Senate Bill 159 which would require a citizenship test as a graduation requirement, and HB 151 which would allow a student to enroll in the school closest to their residence. HB 307 would require schools to have an RtI policy and for colleges to provide teacher preparation courses in intervention and dyslexia. HB 58 deals with home school students participating in public school athletics and HB128 with allowing a Bible literacy class to serve as a social studies elective. Dealing with teacher certifications, HB 152 has the potential to remove the Master's Degree requirement. SB 50 dealing with the school calendar would provide incentives for a start date of late August. In addition to stating he will email the board the latest legislative reports, Dr. Fletcher concluded, "For you to know - when there are issues that I see that would directly impact us, I automatically call Senator Jones and Representative York. Matter of fact, I have talked with both of them today."

4.A.6. PIPE Presentation at KASA March Finance Institute

Dr. Fletcher will be presenting at the upcoming KASA March Finance Institute on the success of our district's projects resulting from the Process Improvement Performance Excellence (PIPE) program. Dr. Fletcher thanked all administrators and managers involved in the PIPE efforts and Dr. Webb in particular for finding and applying for the grant that made the PIPE work possible.

4.A.7. Organizational Effectiveness Work for LC Schools

Dr. Fletcher provided more details on the organizational effectiveness work, those who were involved in the various projects, and an overview of the improvements and the cost savings that has either already been realized or have the potential for future savings once fully implemented. The PIPE projects reviewed include on-boarding savings, an electronic purchase order process, streamlining processes in food service to eliminate overtime, transportation improvements and savings, cleanliness surveys of our buildings, work on a communication process to meet adult education goals, and Big Rock strategic planning. Future efforts include to continue choosing areas for improvement and to take them through the PIPE process.

4.B. Public Comment

5. STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

5.A. Approval of the **Minutes** of the January 17, 2017 Regular Meeting, January 26, 2017 Special Meeting & Draft Budget Working Session, and the February 13, 2017 Special Meeting & Academic Dashboard Reporting passed with a motion by Ms. Barbara Robinson and a second by Mr. James See by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.B. Approval of **Claims and Orders of the Treasurer** passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.C. Approval of the **Monthly Financial Report** by Finance Officer Brandi VanHoose passed with a motion by Mr. James See and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.C.1. Bank Reconciliation Report

Ms. VanHoose reported that the beginning balance for January was **\$4,397,240**. Total revenue for the month of January was **\$1,455,728***. Expenditures for the month totaled **\$1,881,767**. The Fund 1 cash balance for the month of January was **\$3,195,985**; and the ending balance of all funds for January was **\$3,881,892**.

5.C.2. MUNIS Balance Sheet and Monthly Financial Report

*Balance Sheets reflect the balance for each fund as of January 31st.

5.C.3. Finance Update

Expenditures exceeded revenues due to bond payments made in the amount totaling \$330,424.57.

CONSENT AGENDA

5.D. Approval of the **Consent Agenda** items, as indicated with the additions, passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Garnett Skaggs by a vote of 5 to 0.

5.D.1. Per diem and expenses for members present

5.D.2. Contracts & Services:

5.D.2.a. Credit Application to Fast Lane Lube & Oil, Inc. of Louisa, KY, for vehicle maintenance services

5.D.2.b. Drug & Alcohol Prevention Program for LMS and LCHS; motivational speaker Ezekiel Pike; March 9, 2017; services and expenses: \$733.20 FRYSC; (*approved with supplementary conditions*)

5.D.2.c. Memorandum of Agreement between LC Schools and Teach For America, Inc.; three years: 2017-18, 2018-19; and 2019-20

5.D.2.d. Approval of the School District Assurance Certificate for FRYSC for the 2017-2018 school year

5.D.2.e. Contract with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt for 7-12 English/Language Arts professional development services, pending availability of a consultant: \$2,950

5.D.2.f. Louisa East with Superior Office for Modified Copier Lease Agreement for addition of used Advance 6255; 03-01-17 to 06-30-18 (added to agenda)

5.D.3. Requests:

5.D.3.a. Use of Facilities:

5.D.3.a.1. Use of the field behind Louisa Middle School by Lawrence County Youth Soccer; March 1 to May 20, 2017; 4:00-8:00 p.m.; Myram Brady; insurance provided

5.D.3.b. Permission for LCHS to apply for the Energy Technology Engineering Career Pathway Grant

5.D.3.c. Fundraiser: Lawrence County High School (added to agenda)

5.D.4. For Review/FYI: (no action required)

5.D.4.a. School Activity Fund Reports: ~~November~~ January

5.D.4.b. SBDM/Advisory Council Minutes (LWES, BES, FES, LMS)

5.D.4.c. Monthly Energy Report

5.E. A motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs, seconded by Ms. Barbara Robinson, that the Lawrence County Board of Education intends to levy an additional five cents (\$.05) equivalent tax rate on real and personal property, which will produce an equivalent revenue of five cents (\$.05) per one hundred dollars (\$100) of property assessed, passed by a vote of 5 to 0. For the 2016-2017 fiscal year, the District's 5 cent equivalent rate is 5.1 cents, which when applied to the current rate brings the total real property rate to 54.3 cents for Real Estate and 57.1 cents for Personal Property. The District's five cents (\$.05) equivalent rate changes each fiscal year and may be higher or lower when applied to future tax bills. The District will not begin collecting the additional revenue from this levy until the 2017-2018 tax year. The revenue produced by this increase will be dedicated to major renovation of existing school facilities, new construction, and debt service.

Prior to the action, Dr. Fletcher reviewed the legal timeline and process for the tax levy. If approved by the Board, the required legal advertisements will be with The Big Sandy News, the Levisa Lazer, and My Town. The first required advertisement for the hearing will be published March 1st and the second required ad will be published on March 8th. The tax levy hearing will be held on March 15th (followed by a special meeting to consider the tax levy) then the recall notice will be published on March 22nd. The people of Lawrence County will have from March 22nd to April 29 to complete a petition to have the tax levy placed on the ballot for a vote.

5.F. After review of school data, approval of additional ESS intervention funds for Fallsburg Elementary School and Louisa East Elementary School of \$3,000 each passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 5 to 0.

Last fall, the Board provided funds for additional math intervention services to schools. During recent quarterly reporting, principals were instructed to submit data on the success of their intervention efforts to accompany future requests for intervention funds. Dr. Fletcher recommended approval of these additional funds for Fallsburg and Louisa East Elementary.

5.G. New Business (no action)

6. PERSONNEL

6.A. Approval of up to 25 additional emergency substitute teachers for 2016-2017 passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 4 to 0. (*Mr. James See left at 7:15 p.m. prior to this action due to a conflict with another meeting.*)

6.B. Approval of creation and changes regarding positions for 2016-17, as indicated, passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Garnett Skaggs by a vote of 4 to 0. (*Mr. James See left at 7:15 p.m. prior to this action due to a conflict with another meeting.*)

The following positions are created effective February 22, 2017:

- Instructional Assistant at Louisa West Elementary School (1-Year – if needed) – Classified Pay Scale

The following positions are changed effective February 22, 2017:

- From (1) District School Health Coordinator / Nurse Practitioner (District salary contribution not to exceed Classified Skilled Pay Scale) to Extra Duty Service: District School Health Coordinator -- \$5000 Extra Duty Service Pay
- From (1) Part-Time School Resource Officer (Law Enforcement Officer) -- District salary contribution not to exceed \$8000/year to (1) Part-Time School Resource Officer (Law Enforcement Officer) -- District salary contribution not to exceed \$8000/year for Part-time School Resource Officer or \$12,000/year for Full-Time School Resource Officer

6.C. Superintendent Professional Growth and Evaluation System (SPGES)

Dr. Robbie L. Fletcher, EdD

6.C.1. Influential Leadership

Dr. Fletcher provided an update to the Board on two of the standards that are part of his evaluation, influential leadership and instructional leadership. He stated, "One of the challenges this Board gave me when I first came was to work to become influential statewide on issues that would be beneficial to our students." Some of his actions this past month include conversations with Senator Jones and Representative York on the school calendar bill and charter schools. Being part of statewide organization, such as his membership on the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents (KASS) Board of Directors, has provided Dr. Fletcher additional opportunities. The KASS Board interacts with legislators across the state.

6.C.2. Instructional Leadership

Dr. Fletcher has also been challenged by the Board to be an instructional leader in the district and being an instructional leader is part of his growth plan. He discussed helping Dr. Webb and the District Resource Teachers deliver the professional development on the gradual release instructional model to teachers at each school. In addition, as part of the scheduled districtwide professional development taking place on Friday, February 24, Dr. Fletcher will be delivering part of the PD session for all math teachers in the district.

6.D. Approval to acknowledge receipt of **Superintendent's Personnel Action/Update** passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 4 to 0. (*Mr. James See left at 7:15 p.m. prior to this action due to a conflict with another meeting.*)

Hiring

Alyssa Gussler - Full-Time Bus Monitor

Substitute Teachers

Doris Hayes

Resignations

Kristina Noel Goble - Family Resource Center Community Liaison at Louisa East Elementary School and Louisa West Elementary School (effective 03/03/17)

Gracy Cook - District School Health Nurse/District Special Needs Nurse (1-Year) (effective 03/03/17)

Crystal Elswick - Full-Time Bus Monitor

7. ADJOURNMENT

Approval to adjourn passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Garnett Skaggs by a vote of 4 to 0. (*Mr. James See left at 7:15 p.m. prior to this action due to a conflict with another meeting.*)

Chairman – D. Heath Preston

Secretary to the Board – Betty Mullins