

Lawrence County Board of Education Special Meeting & Tentative Budget Working Session

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

May 10, 2016 6:00 p.m.
Lawrence County High School
Louisa, Kentucky

Attendance Taken at 6:02 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. Edris Humphrey, Director of Federal Programs/Finance; Mr. Vernon Hall, Director of Pupil Personnel/ Personnel; Ms. Cassandra Webb, Chief Academic Officer; Mr. Mark Harrell, Project Lead The Way Director of School Engagement-Midwest Region; Blaine Elementary Principal: Shawn Jennings; Lawrence County High School Principal: Ms. Christy Moore; Fallsburg Elementary Principal: Mr. Stuart Cook; Louisa East Elementary Principal: Mary Hall; Louisa East Elementary Assistant Principal: Ed Dixon; Mr. Joey Cecil: Louisa Middle School Principal; Mr. James Ellis, Director of Adult & Community Education; Mr. Tommy Burns, Chief Information Officer; 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*, and then Chairman Preston led *The Pledge to the United States Flag*.

2. STUDENT/STAFF PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

2.A. Sweet Sixteen: LCHS Boys Basketball Team

Dr. Fletcher introduced Coach Travis York who along with the team and fellow coaches had been escorted to the board meeting in a celebratory parade which included fire trucks and law enforcement for Lawrence County High School's first-ever trip to the State Boys Basketball Tournament, the 99th year of the Sweet Sixteen. Coach York thanked the Lawrence County community for their support and attendance at the game saying that it was hard not to get distracted by the enormous LC crowd in attendance at Rupp Arena, also thanking the board for their support and all the schools and students who wrote letters and made signs to give the team a great send-off as they headed to Rupp. Sharing personal strengths of each player, Coach York introduced and praised the boys for their teamwork, skill, and hard work and thanked them for realizing the dream of all those who have played basketball in Lawrence County of playing in the Sweet Sixteen. "It was such a great thing to realize those dreams." Coach York also introduced his fellow coaches thanking them for their excellent work with the team. A group photo of the teams, coaches, and the Board was taken in the gym prior to the board meeting and will be framed in a plaque and provided to the high school.

2.B. Lawrence County Schools Academic Teams

Sharing his personal experience with being an academic team member as a student, Dr. Fletcher praised the teams for their accomplishments and for taking advantage of the additional learning opportunities that academic competition affords. He noted that opportunities from his academic team participation were building blocks to his current position as superintendent.

High school, middle, and elementary, and team coaches introduced their teams and announced the individual and team accomplishments in both league and Kentucky Governor's Cup competitions. Highlights include: LCHS has won the District three years in a row; sophomore Carrie Jo Cecil was 2nd in language arts in regional Governor's Cup and competed at state placing 6th in the state scoring 46 out 50 on the written assessment; Louisa Middle won District Governor's Cup for the 17th consecutive year and Ashley Hayes placed 4th in composition advancing to state competition where she ranked 18th out of 125 students who competed; Louisa Middle also placed 2nd in 6th Grade Showcase; Fallsburg student Carly Kirk placed 3rd in the language arts written assessment at regional and competed at state ranking 33 out of the 120; and Louisa East Elementary was the district winner and regional runner-up taking both 1st place in mathematics, Saibra Moore, and 1st place in arts and humanities, Trey Hall.

All Conference plaques were presented by Dr. Fletcher with the help of Ed Dixon, Assistant Principal at Louisa East Elementary, who also coordinates elementary and middle school in-district conference competition. Dr. Fletcher stated that it is his hope that elementary teams can eventually travel outside of county lines and that league play can possibly include teams from neighboring counties. A group photo of teams, coaches, and the Board was taken in the gym prior to the board meeting and will be framed in a plaque and provided to each school. Coaches and their teams thanked the Board for its support for the purchase of t-shirts and the all conference plaques. Parents and teachers across the district were applauded for their support and time.

3. COMMUNICATION

3.A. Superintendent's Update

3.A.1. Project Lead The Way Presentation: Mark Harrell, Director of School Engagement-Midwest Region

Dr. Fletcher introduced and thanked Mr. Harrell for making himself available on short notice to provide the board information on the K-12 Project Lead The Way curriculum "...before we ask the board to fund a PLTW initiative and incorporate it into the budget."

Mr. Harrell provided an overview of the K-12 curriculum and career pathways available to Lawrence County students through Project Lead The Way, which is a nonprofit organization founded in 1997 whose goal is to "Empower students to thrive in an evolving world". PLTW offers comprehensive K-12 pathways in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science where students develop skills in problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication and collaboration. Students engage in real-world activities that are cross-disciplinary and project-based learning experiences.

Launch is the primary and intermediate curriculum being the springboard for getting kids to love math and science. It contains modules to explore and create in the pathway areas of computer science, engineering, and biomedical science. Gateway is for middle grades, set up in independent, nine-week units, and it also continues the exploration of all three pathways. The high school curriculum offers separate career pathways in engineering, biomedical science, and computer science designed to get students college and career ready. Teacher training occurs in the summer at the University of Kentucky. Mr. Harrell also shared

information on a new initiative, SOAR-STEM, whose goal is to create a workforce ready for high skill/wage jobs in the SOAR region.

In conclusion, Dr. Fletcher shared his perspective as a “biomedical pathway parent”, promoting the pathway’s merit as exposing students to high level content and job shadowing opportunities and building problem-solvers. “I think this would take our schools to another level if we can add this as part of our curriculum,” stated Dr. Fletcher. Dr. Webb shared that expanding the PLTW curriculum to include all elementary and middle grade students will be developing “a feeder program for their life and their career.”

3.A.2. Louisa Middle School Principal: Joey Cecil

Dr. Fletcher announced that Mr. Joey Cecil was selected as principal of Louisa Middle School. He is currently transitioning from his former duties as assistant principal of Lawrence County High School to his new position at Louisa Middle.

4. STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

4.A. Approval of Consent Agenda items with the exception of tabling 4.A.2, District Technology Plan, and 4.A.4, Nicely/M &M Inflatables passed with a motion by Mr. James See and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 5 to 0.

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

4.A.2. Approve 2016-2017 Lawrence County Schools District Technology Plan (tabled)

4.A.3. Approve Lawrence County Board of Education as the Fiscal Agent of the 2016-2017 Lawrence County Community Early Childhood Council Grant

4.A.4. Approve contract between Louisa East Elementary and Nicely/M & M Inflatables for May 20th: \$600 (tabled)

4.B. 2016-2017 TENTATIVE BUDGET WORKING SESSION

4.B.1. Overview: Dr. Robbie Fletcher, Superintendent

Dr. Fletcher opened the working session stating that the board has provided a fiscally responsible budget for several years; and that last year, they did so, and also addressed student needs in a clear way with purchases of Read 180, math textbooks, buses, technology and STEMscopes for science. “The Tentative budget proposal has built into it the potential to continue these and the possibility of other opportunities for our students.” He thanked Central Office staff for their valuable input, hard work, and “multiple sit-downs” and data gatherings.

4.B.2. 2016-2017 Tentative Budget Update: Edris Humphrey, Director of Federal Programs & Finance/Treasurer

Ms. Humphrey distributed her *2016-2017 Tentative Budget Talking Points* as a guide for discussion. The tentative budget contains the projected revenues and expenditures of all funds for the upcoming fiscal year. State law requires that the local board adopt a Tentative Budget by May 30 of each year. The Tentative Budget will be on the regular May meeting agenda for approval. She reviewed revenue sources including SEEK, local and federal revenue and detailed expenditures reflected in the budget.

As expenditures were discussed, she answered the board’s questions and gave clarifications and comparisons to last year’s budget. Included in the talking points document was a chart showing district programs purchased through state or federal grants: Read 180, MAP, Renaissance Place, Learning A-Z, APEX, textbooks, STEMscopes, PBIS/SWISS, and PTLW.

“These programs have been evaluated and determined valuable to continue.” She noted that expansion of Project Lead The Way to the elementary and middle schools across the district would be an additional start up cost of \$100,000. Two other areas that may have additional expenditures in the fall when the Working Budget comes out are technology and transportation. The budget does not include a pay increase, the KTRS district match remains at 3%, and the contingency is 5%, which does not take in the additional start-up cost to expand PTLW K-12.

Construction carryover and Section 7 funds were also discussed. When the board takes action on the Tentative Budget at the regular May meeting, the minutes will need to reflect the specific options used to determine how Section 7 funds are spent. The options are: *A. An amount per year final ADA; B. Based on student needs identified by council in CSIP (needs assessment) and designated by the board; C. For specific instructional purposes based on student needs identified by board from disaggregated data; and D. Combination of A, B, and/or C.* Currently and in the Tentative Budget proposal, the funds are allocated based on a combination of Option B and C, which is the recommendation of Ms. Humphrey and Dr. Fletcher for the Section 7 funds in the Tentative Budget.

5. PERSONNEL

5.A. Approval of creation, changes and extension regarding positions, as indicated, passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Garnett Skaggs by a vote of 5 to 0.

The following positions are created effective May 23, 2016:

- Up to (31) Food Service Summer Feeding Workers to work as needed from May 23, 2016 through July 29, 2016 -- \$12/hour

The following positions are changed effective July 1, 2016:

- From (1) Itinerant Instructional Assistant at Lawrence County High School and Louisa Middle School (1-Year) – 8hrs/day; 183 days to (1) Instructional Assistant at Lawrence County High School – 8hrs/day; 183 days
- From (1) Cook/Baker at Lawrence County High School (1-Year) to (1) Cook/Baker at Lawrence County High School

The following positions (*expiring on June 30, 2016*) are extended for a period of one year for the 2016-2017 school year effective July 1, 2016 to expire on June 30, 2017:

- (1) Teacher at Louisa West Elementary School (1-Year)
- (2) Preschool Teachers at Louisa West Elementary Schools (1-Year)
- (2) Instructional Assistants (Preschool) at Louisa West Elementary School (1-Year)
- (2) Instructional Assistants at Louisa West Elementary School (1-Year)
- (4) District School Health Nurses/District Special Needs Nurses (1-Year)
- (1) District Special Needs Nurse
- (1) Itinerant Physical Education Teacher at Blaine Elementary School and Fallsburg Elementary School (1-Year)
- (1) Instructional Assistant at Fallsburg Elementary School (1-Year)
- (1) Teacher at Louisa East Elementary School (1-Year)
- (1) Teacher at Louisa Middle School (1-Year)
- (1) LBD Teacher at Louisa Middle School (1-Year)
- (1) Instructional Assistant at Louisa Middle School (1-Year)
- (1) English Teacher at Lawrence County High School (1-Year)

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

Hiring

Michelle Workman - Custodian at Louisa Middle School

Change of Position

Joey Cecil - from Assistant Principal at Lawrence County High School to
Principal at Louisa Middle School

Teresa Parsons - from School Secretary at Louisa West Elementary School to
Custodian at Louisa Middle School

6. ADJOURNMENT

Approval to adjourn passed with a motion by Ms. Garnett Skaggs and a second by Mr. James See by a vote of 5 to 0.



Chairman – D. Heath Preston



Secretary to the Board – Betty Mullins