

Lawrence County Board of Education

Regular Meeting

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

October 15, 2018; 6:00 p.m.
Lawrence County High School
Louisa, Kentucky

Attendance Taken at 6:00 p.m.:

Present Board Members:

Mr. D. Heath Preston, Chairman
Ms. Barbara Robinson
Mr. James See
Ms. Maddlene Roberts

Absent Board Members:

Ms. Garnett Skaggs, Vice-chair

Present: Superintendent Dr. Robbie Fletcher; Financial Auditor Darrell Blair, Wells & Company; Finance Officer Brandi VanHoose; Director of Pupil Personnel & District Personnel Vernon Hall; Director of Special Education/Preschool Rhonda Colvin; Federal Programs/District Assessment Coordinator Mary Hall; Lawrence County High School Principal Christy Moore; Blaine Elementary Principal Shawn Jennings; Louisa West Elementary Principal: Debbie Delong; Fallsburg Elementary Principal Sara Bowen; Louisa East Elementary Principal Anna Prince; Louisa Middle School Principal Joe Cecil; Chief Information Officer/District Technology Coordinator Thomas Burns; Board Secretary Betty Mullins

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. APPROVE AGENDA

2.A. Approval to excuse the absence of Board Member Garnett Skaggs for medical reasons passed with a motion by Mr. James See and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 4 to 0.

2.B. Approval to amend the agenda to include additional items, **5.D.2.d. Memorandum of Agreement FY 19 Preschool Partnership Grant**, **5.D.3.a.3. Additional Louisa Middle School Fundraiser** pending SBDM approval, and **5.H.1. Lawrence County's 2017 Kentucky Schools Energy Management Report**, passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

3. STUDENT/STAFF PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

3.A. Lawrence County Middle Grades Tennis

The first ever Lawrence County Middle Grades Tennis Team received certificates of recognition for a productive first season of learning and winning their first and only match this fall against a West Liberty's middle grade tennis team. Dr. Fletcher stated that in the past a few middle grade students have practiced and played with the high school tennis team, but this middle grades initiative by Coaches Cindy Hay and Cassandra Webb will be a great feeder program for the high school team. He noted that the Board had also provided funding for a clinic early in the fall by tennis professionals for the 6-8th grade students. The coaches praised the efforts of the students stating that fifteen students came out and finished the first season and they had great parent support. Charter LC Middle Grade Tennis Team: Wyatt Branham, Jackson Burgess, Malachi Hutchinson, Blake Cook, Eli Fletcher, Landon Frazier, Trey Hall, Elden Perry, Josh Spillman, Amberly Haynes, Kennedy Gauze, Lexie Frazier, Jenna Sammons, Riley Sammons, Emily Shortridge. In addition, 28 students are currently on the high school tennis team.

3.B. Louisa Middle School: PBIS BRONZE LEVEL for 2017-2018

In recognition of Louisa Middle School's fidelity of implementation of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), they received a Bronze Level medallion to place on their PBIS banner. Principal Joey Cecil accepted a certificate of recognition from the Board.

4. COMMUNICATION

4.A. Superintendent's Update

4.A.1. Visit from Congressman Hal Rogers - October 17 @ 10:15 AM

After hearing of the success of a school in his district while in a meeting in our nation's Capitol, Congressman Rogers requested to visit the school identified as being number one in the nation in *Learning Blades* usage completing over 70,000 missions while exploring Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) careers. That school is our own Louisa Middle.

The *Learning Blades* program, made possible by the AEP Credit Counts grant, provides missions such as preventing a virus outbreak, designing a prosthesis fin for a dolphin, or determining the impact of traffic patterns, that allow students to explore the multiple STEM careers that are related to each mission. Congressman Rogers' visit to Louisa Middle School is scheduled for October 17. Dr. Fletcher will be among those welcoming him.

A.2. STEM Activities in the Middle School Setting

Colorful flyers created by AEP Credits Count Project Director Mia Brown were provided to the Board to illustrate the many opportunities our middle grades students have been afforded through the focus on STEM careers.

4.A.3. Nickel Tax Information to Staff and Parents

Dr. Fletcher has been sending and will continue to send out informational emails to staff, parents, and the media to clarify misconceptions about the nickel tax and to answer any questions people may have. He encouraged anyone with a question or concern about the nickel tax to contact him.

4.A.4. High School Football, Soccer, and Volleyball Playoff Information

Dr. Fletcher gave a summary of end-of-season accomplishments and post-season games. First year boys soccer team won the district tournament. Girls soccer also repeated as district champs for the eighth year in a row, and girls volleyball had their first winning season. Football has had a winning season, and if they win this Friday night, they will earn the honor of hosting a post-season game at Lawrence County.

4.A.5. Middle School Football and Girls' Basketball Success

Seventh and eighth grade girls basketball won the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) this past week, and middle grades football had a successful season. Girls and boys basketball programs at Blaine and Fallsburg are underway. Dr. Fletcher also noted that academic team competition has begun.

4.A.6. Changes in High School Graduation Requirements Passed By KBE

Dr. Fletcher provided the board with the KDE news release outlining the new high school graduation requirements and discussed several changes. He sees some very positive changes, one being the focus on students' Individual Learning Plans, and some changes that are going to be a challenge for smaller school districts such as ours. Allowing for more variety in course offerings, which is great for addressing students' interests, has possible financial implications as does the exit tests mentioned in the new requirements.

4.A.7. Wednesday Connection Reminder

Dr. Fletcher gave a reminder for staff and board members to continue to expect his Wednesday Connection Reminder each week. Having begun the Connection in August, he chooses three topics to share in an effort to improve communication in the district.

4.B. Public Comment

5. STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

5.A. Approval of Minutes of the September 17, 2018 Regular Meeting, September 24, 2018 Special Meeting & Working Budget Work Session, and September 28, 2018 Special Meeting Following Public Hearing on Proposed District Facility Plan passed with a motion by Mr. James See and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

5.B. Annual Financial Report (AFR) Fiscal Year 2017-2018

5.B.1. Approval to accept the 2017-2018 Annual Financial Auditor Reports from Darrell Blair, Wells & Company, P.S.C. passed with a motion by Mr. James See and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

5.B.2. Approve to accept the 2017-2018 Lawrence County School District Audited Annual Financial Report (AFR) - July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 passed with a motion by Ms. Barbara Robinson and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

5.C. Approval of Claims and Orders of the Treasurer passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Mr. James See by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

Dr. Fletcher pointed out several items including the auditor's bill, the assistance the board provided in the purchase of cheerleading mats, and out-of-district travel expense for the superintendent.

5.D. FINANCE

5.D.1. Approval of the Monthly Financial Report presented by Finance Officer Brandi VanHoose passed with a motion by Ms. Barbara Robinson and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

5.D.1.a. Bank Reconciliation Report

Finance Officer Brandi VanHoose reported that the beginning balance for September was \$3,481,133. Total revenue for the month of September was \$1,425,211. Expenditures for the month totaled \$1,680,851. The Fund 1 cash balance for the month of September was \$2,436,986. The ending balance of all funds for September was \$3,209,854.

5.D.1.b. MUNIS Balance Sheet and Monthly Financial Report

Balance Sheets reflect the balance for each fund as of September 30.

5.D.1.c. Finance Update (none)

CONSENT AGENDA

5.E. Approval of Consent Agenda items, including the additional items as indicated, passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Mr. James See by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

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

5.E.2. Contracts & Services:

5.E.2.a. Air Source Technology, Inc. proposal for required asbestos Three-Year Re-inspection; estimated services/training: around \$2,000

5.E.2.b. American Fidelity Section 125 Plan annual re-service agreement

5.E.2.c. KSBA School Law Resources subscription; July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019: ~~\$210.00~~ (pro-rated to \$158)

5.E.2.d. Memorandum of Agreement FY 19 Preschool Partnership Grant: \$148,500.00 (added to agenda) *Dr. Fletcher noted that Preschool Director Rhonda Colvin applied for this grant in collaboration with Trinity Christian due to recent cuts in pre-school funding. The grant provides a fully equipped pre-school classroom for students in our district.*

5.E.3. Requests:

5.E.3.a. Fundraisers:

5.E.3.a.1. Lawrence County High School

5.E.3.a.2. Blaine Elementary School

5.E.3.a.3. Louisa Middle School (one additional fundraiser pending SBDM approval added to agenda) *(subsequently approved and signed)*

5.E.3.b. Trip Requests:

5.D.3.b.1. Out-of-state trip request: LCHS FFA officers to National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 24-27; and request to travel with Carter County; Melissa Blackburn

5.E.3.c. Request: Permission for Brenda Curry, Fallsburg FRYSC, to apply for Wal-Mart backpack grant for \$1,000

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

5.E.4.a. School Activity Fund Reports: September

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

5.F. ACADEMIC REPORTING

5.F.1. State Assessment Results: District & Schools

Dr. Robbie Fletcher, Superintendent

Dr. Fletcher began with some great news concerning Lawrence County High School and the average ACT of the Class of 2019. LCHS students substantially increased its state ranking in ACT scores. Specifically, when compared with the 15th and 16th regions, the District was only outscored by Ashland, Russell, Pikeville, Paintsville, and Rowan County. LCHS also scored above state average in transition readiness and in graduation rate. While the results had several positives, Dr. Fletcher pointed out that the ACT mathematics scores fall below state average.

Regarding the middle and elementary schools state testing results, Louisa Middle School was above state average in reading and led the county middle schools in both math and reading. Fallsburg Middle greatly surpassed the state average in social studies. Blaine Middle led the district in science and writing. As for the elementary schools, Louisa East scored well above the state average in reading and writing leading the county in these areas as well as in mathematics, science, and social studies. Plans for addressing the very low writing scores from Blaine and Fallsburg Elementary were also discussed.

Dr. Fletcher also shared information about new designations for Kentucky schools as a result of state testing. Lawrence County did not have any school fall within the bottom 5% of Title I schools, which would have resulted in the label of Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI), but three of our schools out of 418 identified in the state are designated as Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI). These are Louisa East Elementary for Special Education as a low-performing sub-group; Louisa West given the same designation because it is a feeder school to Louisa East; and Blaine Elementary for Free/Reduced Lunch as a low-performing sub-group. He noted that neighboring Johnson and Martin County also has TSI schools.

5.F.2. Quarterly Academic Dashboard Reporting

5.F.2.a. Academic Dashboard: New Local Testing Model

Dr. Robbie Fletcher, Superintendent

The district decreased the number of tests in reading and math that students are required to take this year. Students in kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade take a reading readiness assessment. If the student reaches the readiness benchmark, then he/she enters into the scoring levels of novice, apprentice, proficient, and distinguished based on STAR assessments. This change greatly impacts the reports of the elementary schools, especially Louisa West. Students in grades 6-11 are continuing with MAP assessments in reading and math with the

focus of grade 12 reporting being graduation rate and transition readiness. Each principal will give a snapshot of his/her school's STAR and/or MAP scores and the efforts being taken to address areas of need.

5.F.2.b. Louisa West Elementary (K-1): Debbie Delong, Principal

100% of the kindergarten students took the reading readiness test, and the goal will be to have all students move to the STAR Reading assessment by the end of their 1st grade year. In addition, 81% of first grade students participated in Early Star. Ms. Delong praised the instructional planning tools that are available with the Star program noting that they are very prescriptive. She also stated that support for Special Education students will be a focus.

5.F.2.c. Louisa East Elementary (2-5): Anna Prince, Principal

Louisa East Principal Anna Prince presented a plan to the Board that made mathematics the number one priority for providing intervention for struggling students since math scores stayed about the same. Reading had about a six-point gain, and writing scores were above the state average. Areas of focus are math scores and performance of students with disabilities.

5.F.2.d. Blaine Elementary School (K-8): Shawn Jennings, Principal

100% of the kindergarten students took the reading readiness test, and the goal will be to have all students move to the STAR Reading assessment by the end of 1st grade. Blaine Principal Shawn Jennings shared his goals for grades 3-5 and 6-8 which includes a focus on reading and math with a specific focus on students that fall into the Non-Duplicated Gap Group. Elementary writing and social studies scores were low, and support and strategies for those areas are being put in place. The PLC protocol has been refined to focus on standards, instructional strategies, and assessments. Additionally, analysis of data will increase for students with disabilities and free/reduced lunch students.

5.F.2.e. Fallsburg Elementary School (K-8): Sara Bowen, Principal

100% of the kindergarten students took the reading readiness test, and the goal will be to have all students move to the STAR Reading assessment by the end of their 1st grade year. Even though Fallsburg Principal Sara Bowen reported a great start for the reading scores at Fallsburg, she discussed the focus on mathematics that must occur in her classrooms. An additional math teacher was added recently by the board as support. Elementary writing and social studies scores were low, and support for those areas is also being put in place.

5.F.2.f. Louisa Middle School (6-8): Joey Cecil, Principal

Louisa Middle Principal Joe Cecil discussed the increases in the percentage of proficient students at Louisa Middle and incremental growth in every area. Reading was above the state average but not in the top 5%; and although there was growth in math, it was still below state average. Next steps include to maintain the continuous improvement processes and systems in curriculum, instruction and assessment and to improve the areas that are below the goals that have been set.

5.F.2.g. Lawrence County High School (9-12): Christy Moore, Principal

LCHS Principal Christy Moore reported that the MAP scores are used as a predictor of the ACT. MAP scores from last spring for grades 9, 10, and 11 are on track for growth in the upcoming year. Students are more prepared each year with a greater number meeting benchmark. The reading index was higher than state average as was the graduation rate and transition rate. Focus will be on intervention in both reading and math.

5.F.2.h. District Quarterly Data

Dr. Fletcher reviewed the data points and goals for each grade level in the district explaining that the different look of the district dashboard resulted from discussion with the board last spring to reduce the number of district assessments that students take during the school year. Some areas improved and some areas declined with supports being implemented in content areas with low scores. Consultant Angela Hilterbrand is being brought in to train elementary and middle grade teachers in the area of writing, and resource teachers are working with schools in the area of reading, math and social studies. Dr. Fletcher discussed other improvement strategies including pinpointing the individual needs of students, using data notebooks to focus interventions, and using MAP as a good predictor of K-PREP.

5.G. Approval of Achievement Gaps Targets for closing the achievement gap in all schools (BES, FES, LCHS, LEES, LMS, LWES) passed with a motion by Ms. Barbara Robinson and a second by Mr. James See by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

5.H. Approval to cancel the November 19 Regular Board Meeting and reschedule it as a Special Meeting on November 15, due to conflicts and having no school during Thanksgiving week, passed with a motion by Mr. James See and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

5.I. New Business

5.I.1. Approval of *2017 Kentucky Schools Energy Management Report-Lawrence County* passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent. *(added to agenda)*

6. PERSONNEL

6.A. Approval of creation and/or changes regarding positions passed with a motion by Ms. Maddlene Roberts and a second by Ms. Barbara Robinson by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

The following positions are created effective October 16, 2018:

- (1) Itinerant LBD Teacher (District-wide)
- (1) Preschool Partnership Grant: Preschool Teacher
- (1) Preschool Partnership Grant: Instructional Assistant

The following position is changed effective January 1, 2019:

- From (1) Clerical Assistant III/Medicaid Billing Clerk (Classified Pay Scale C; 8hrs/day; 258 days) to (1) Accounting Clerk III/Data Entry Assistant (Classified Pay Scale C; 8hrs/day; 238 to 258 days max)

6.B. Superintendent Professional Growth and Evaluation System (SPGES) Update
Dr. Robbie L. Fletcher, EdD

6.B.1. Collaborative and Managerial Leadership
District Facilities Planning Committee collaboration to complete the district facilities plan

Dr. Fletcher discussed the final steps of facility planning relating to the Managerial Leadership goal on his professional growth plan. In consultation with KSBA, Dr. Fletcher led the year-long collaborative process with school, parent, and community partners to develop a comprehensive plan "making sure we have the facilities plan we need". The next step in the process occurs in December when the plan will be considered by the Kentucky Board of Education.

6.C. 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 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.

Hiring:

Substitute Teachers

Alayna Gauze

Lori Lacey

Michaela Wells

LaShea York

Charles P. Preece

Resignations:

Paulette Simpson

- Clerical Assistant III/Medicaid Billing Clerk at the District Office (Effective January 1, 2019)

7. ADJOURNMENT

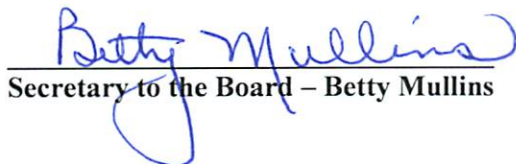
Approval to adjourn passed with a motion by Ms. Barbara Robinson and a second by Ms. Maddlene Roberts by a vote of 4 to 0 with Ms. Garnett Skaggs absent.



Chairman – D. Heath Preston



Vice-Chair – Garnett Skaggs



Secretary to the Board – Betty Mullins