

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BLEDSOE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
AUGUST 11, 2025

The Bledsoe County Board of Education met in regular session on August 11, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Bledsoe County Middle School. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mr. Andy Billingsley with 7 members present.

| | | | |
|------------|-------------------------|---|---------|
| Roll Call: | Mr. Andy Billingsley | - | Present |
| | Mr. Tim Churches | - | Present |
| | Mr. Jacob Frady | - | Present |
| | Mrs. Carolyn Oakes | - | Present |
| | Mr. Steve Perry | - | Present |
| | Mr. Charles(Bron) Reece | - | Present |
| | Mr. Don Snow | - | Present |

1. Approval of the Agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Reece SECOND: Mr. Churches

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: AYE Mr. Churches: AYE Mr. Frady: AYE

 Mrs. Oakes: AYE Mr. Perry: AYE Mr. Reece: AYE Mr. Snow: AYE

Motion Passed

2. Approval of the minutes from the July 10, 2025 regular meeting, the July 17, 2025, July 21, 2025 and July 29, 2025 special called meeting, of the Bledsoe County Board of Education.

MOTION: Mr. Reece SECOND: Mr. Perry

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: AYE Mr. Churches: AYE Mr. Frady: AYE

 Mrs. Oakes: AYE Mr. Perry: AYE Mr. Reece: AYE Mr. Snow: AYE

Motion Passed

3. Request by Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, to approve monthly financial and quarterly reports for the month ending June 30, 2025.

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley SECOND: Mr. Perry

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES

 Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES

Motion Passed

4. Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, to review yearend fund balances. Unaudited fund balance.

| Fund | Balance |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| General Purpose 141 | \$9,001,668.00 |
| Central Cafeteria 143 | \$1,447,041.00 |
| Daycare 146 | \$ 10,748.00 |
| Debt Service 156 | \$3,597,096.00 |

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| Capital Projects 177 | \$ 572,719.00 |
|----------------------|---------------|

5. Request Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, for approval of new Medical, Dental and Vision insurance rates. The increase to health insurance premiums was an average of 5% for the 2026 year. Motion was made to leave the percentages paid by the Board the same with no changes.

MOTION: Mr. Reece SECOND: Mr. Perry

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES

 Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES

Motion Passed

6. Request Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, for the approval of the Federal Consolidated Funding Application.

MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Reece

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES

 Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES

Motion Passed

7. Directors Update. Dr. Walker stated she had visited the schools and things are going great and attendance is about the same as last year.

Mrs. Oakes donated a book to each library the Adventures of Suzzie Squatch and Queen Bee. It is a book about kindness.

Staffing is going well with all teaching positions filled and only a few para-professionals positions are still open.

8. Request by Dr. Becky Ridley, AWARE Director, for the approval of Teen Mental Health Program contract for Bledsoe County High School.

MOTION: Mr. Frady SECOND: Mrs. Oakes

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES

 Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES

Motion Passed

9. Request by Dr. Becky Ridley, AWARE Director, for the approval of Centerstone MOU.

MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Churches

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES

 Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES

Motion Passed

10. Request by Mrs. Michelle Rains, Nursing Supervisor, for the approval of Public School Districts Opioid Recovery Trust Grant which will include 2 full time social workers for 3 years.

MOTION: Mr. Churches SECOND: Mr. Frady

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Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES

Motion Passed

11. Request by Mr. Jason Reel, Athletic Director, for the approval of non-faculty coaches.

John Paul Thomas,
Josh Kincannon,
Tate Everett
Harmon Keith
Gunner Sweatt,
Tristen Smith
Samantha Chancey
Brittany Hudson
Joel Standefer
Chris Evans
Savannah Couser, Halee anger
Avery Roberson
Gunner Sweat
Billy Akin
Kelley Telle
Patty Farley

MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Churches

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES

Motion Passed

12. Request by Mr. Jason Reel, Athletic Director, for the approval and/or discussion of increases to middle schools assistant coaching supplements. Tabled

13. Request by Mr. Michael McAnally, Principal Mary V. Wheeler Elementary, for the approval of picture contract with Lauren & Bee for the 2025-26 school year. The commission for pictures was increased to 20%.

MOTION: Mr. Frady SECOND: Mr. Reece

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES

Motion Passed

14. Request by Ms. Candi Kempton, Principal Bledsoe County Middle School, for approval to construct an outdoor classroom. Tabled until September meeting.

15. Request by Mrs. Farrah Fields, Curriculum Supervisor, to update policy# 6.204, Non-Resident Student policy. Policy was approved with changes to procedures for meeting times to review applicants as made by Mr. Upchurch.

MOTION: Mr. Reece SECOND: Mr. Churches

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES

Motion Passed

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16. Discussion and/or approval Student Board Member Policy#1.1021.

After some discussion the criteria was set as follows: There will be an application process. Students will submit an application and Mr. Ridley will form a committee to nominate member. One student for fall and one for spring. Student has to be either a Junior or a Senior. Terms will be August 1 Dec. 31 and Jan 1 – May 31

MOTION: Mr. Snow SECOND: Mr. Perry

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES

 Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES

Motion Passed

17. Old Business. None

18. New Business. None

| Meeting | Date | Time | Place |
|-----------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| Regular Meeting | 09/08/2025 | 6:00 p.m. | Mary V. Wheeler Elementary |

19. Adjourn.

MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Reece

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: AYE Mr. Churches: AYE Mr. Frady: AYE

 Mrs. Oakes: AYE Mr. Perry: AYE Mr. Reece: AYE Mr. Snow: AYE