

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BLEDSOE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
April 6, 2026

The Bledsoe County Board of Education met in regular session on April 6, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at Bledsoe County Middle School. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mr. Andy Billingsley with seven 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 with the following addition:
14a. Discussion and/or approval of Policy 1.404 Appeals to and Appearance Before the Board.
MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Reece
VOTE: Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
 Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Motion Passed
2. Approval of the minutes from the March 2, 2026 regular meeting of the Bledsoe County Board of Education.
MOTION: Mr. Churches SECOND: Mr. Perry
VOTE: Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
 Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Motion Passed
3. Request by Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, to approve monthly financial reports for the month ending February 28, 2026.
MOTION: Mr. Billingsley SECOND: Mr. Snow
VOTE: Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
 Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Motion Passed
4. Request by Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, to approve budget amendment.
Amendment #15: Amend VPS Budget to match State Approved Budget.
MOTION: Mr. Reece SECOND: Mr. Churches
VOTE: Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
 Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Motion Passed

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5. Approval of resolution for Tennessee State Board of Education student member nominee Peyton Simmons.
MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Churches
VOTE: Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
 Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Motion Passed
6. Bledsoe FFA requests to attend Forestry Camp May 31- June 5, 2026. We can take up to 4 students. Also request the use of 3 buses to use during forestry camp. There is no charge for Bledsoe County students to attend camp because Bledsoe County provides buses.
MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Reece
VOTE: Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
 Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Motion Passed
7. Request by Mrs. Jennifer Terry, Technology Supervisor, for the approval of the contract for Skyward as the SIS package for the 2026-27 school year.
MOTION: Mr. Reece SECOND: Mr. Perry
VOTE: Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
 Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Motion Passed
8. Request for approval of Health Connect America Memorandum of Understanding.
MOTION: Mr. Reece SECOND: Mr. Frady
VOTE: Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
 Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: no Mr. Frady: YES
Motion Passed
9. Discussion and/or approval of Bledsoe County Schools Strategic Plan.
MOTION: Mr. Billingsley SECOND: Mr. Churches
VOTE: Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
 Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
Motion Passed
10. Discussion of appropriation funds for Cecil B. Rigsby Elementary School.
Ms. Kara Walling, Finance Director, gave an update on possible uses for additional funds appropriated for Cecil. B. Rigsby and Energy Savings Grant. Some of the items listed for possible improvements, electrical panels, playground equipment, awnings, remodel of a classroom, ceiling grid, plumbing and septic, site drainage, gym flooring, new flooring in staff restrooms and library, Pre-K parking lot, fence to block dumpster, replace hot water heater in the new addition, gym equipment upgrades, safety improvements, interior paint, ADA upgrades, and bleacher and stage upgrades
11. Discussion and/or approval of increasing steps for years of service on pay scales that have

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less than 30 years of service steps.

Motion to Table

MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Reece

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

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

Motion Passed

12. Discussion and/or approval of rate for certified substitute teacher pay.

Motion to increase substitute pay daily rate as follows:

Mr. Billingsley made a motion to increase certified sub pay to \$100.00 per day.

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley SECOND: Mr. Frady

Mr. Reece requested the motion be amended as follows:

Daily Rate

\$80.00 for High School Diploma

\$90.00 for Bachelor's Degree

\$100.00 for Certified Teacher

Mr. Billingsley and Mr. Frady agreed to amend the motion.

New pay for subs will be effective as of July 1, 2026.

Vote to amend motion.

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley SECOND: Mr. Frady

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

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

Motion Passed

Vote for approval of Substitute Rates beginning on July 1, 2026

Daily Rate

\$80.00 for High School Diploma

\$90.00 for Bachelor's Degree

\$100.00 for Certified Teacher

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley SECOND: Mr. Frady

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

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

Motion Passed

13. Discussion of budget. Tabled until April 14, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at Bledsoe County Middle School.

MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Snow

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

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

Motion Passed

14. New Business.

14a. Discussion and/or approval of Policy 1.404 Appeals to and Appearance Before the Board.

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Amend Policy 1.404 to incorporate provisions of Public Chapter 620.

Motion to amend policy 1.404 to include Public Chapter 620 as it is written to be updated in current policy.

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley SECOND: Mr. Frady

VOTE: Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: NO Mr. Reece: NO Mr. Snow: YES

Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: NO Mr. Frady: YES

Motion Passed

15. Directors Update. Dr. Walker, Director of Schools, gave an update on grants that have been recently received as follows:
The Rural Work Force Development Grant
The Tennessee Rural Health Care Center for Excellence Grant
Pre-School Development Grant
Dr. Walker reported that we had District Parent Engagement Meeting
Principals gave updates on events and activities at the schools.
16. Discussion on Due Process Proceedings in executive session. Executive session at approximately 7:21 p.m.
17. Meeting was recessed until April 14, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at Bledsoe County Middle School.

Chairman

Director of Schools