

MINUTES
BLEDSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
July 9, 2026

The Bledsoe County Board of Education met in regular session on July 9, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Bledsoe County Middle School. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mr. Andy Billingsley with six members present.

Roll Call:	Mr. Andy Billingsley	-	Present
	Mr. Timothy Churches	-	Present
	Mr. Jacob Frady	-	Absent
	Mrs. Carolyn Oakes	-	Present
	Mr. Steve Perry	-	Present
	Mr. Bron Reece	-	Present via zoom
	Mr. Don Snow	-	Present

1. Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of the agenda with the following addition:

16a. Request by Mrs. Emily Bice, Special Education Supervisor, for the approval of the Stellar Medicaid Reimbursement Agreement.

Motion for approve of addition to the agenda.

Motion: Mr. Reece Second: Mr. Churches

Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes

Motion Passed

Motion for the approval of the agenda.

Motion: Mr. Perry Second: Mr. Reece

Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes

Motion Passed

3. Approval of the minutes from the June 1, 2026 regular meeting and the June 22, 2026 special called meeting of the Bledsoe County Board of Education.

Motion: Mr. Snow Second: Mr. Perry

Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes

Motion Passed

4. Request by Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, to approve monthly financial reports for the month ending May 31, 2026.

Motion: Mr. Perry Second: Mr. Churches

Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes

Motion Passed

5. Request by Mr. Jason Reel, Athletic Director, for the approval of the following non-faculty coach member per the request of Coach Harmon Keith: Darius Fugate

Motion: Mr. Churches Second: Mr. Perry
Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes
Motion Passed

6. Request by Mr. Michael McAnally, Principal Mary V. Wheeler, for the approval of Lauren & Bee Photography Contract.

There were no changes to this contract. It was the same as last year's contract.

Motion: Mr. Churches Second: Mr. Perry
Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes
Motion Passed

7. Approval of Canine Detection agreement.

Motion: Mr. Perry Second: Mr. Billingsley
Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: No
Motion Passed

8. Request by Mrs. Michelle Rains, Nurse Supervisor, for the approval of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development Grant. This grant will be for Nurse Instructor.

Motion: Mr. Perry Second: Mrs. Oakes
Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes
Motion Passed

9. Request by Mrs. Michelle Rains, Nurse Supervisor, for the approval of the Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System memorandum of understanding.

Motion: Mr. Perry Second: Mr. Churches
Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes
Motion Passed

10. Request by Mrs. Michelle Rains, Nurse Supervisor, for the approval of the Centerstone of Tennessee memorandum of understanding.

Motion: Mr. Billingsley Second: Mrs. Oakes
Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes
Motion Passed

11. Request by Mrs. Jennifer Terry, Technology Coordinator, for the approval of Bledsoe County Schools Acceptable Use Policy.

Motion: Mr. Perry Second: Mr. Churches
Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes
Motion Passed

12. Approval of Bledsoe County Schools Handbooks as presented.

Motion: Mr. Perry Second: Mr. Churches
Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: No
Motion Passed

13. Request by Mr. Matt Ridley for the approval to have outstanding P.O.'s after the June 30, 2026 fiscal year end.

Motion: Mr. Churches Second: Mr. Perry

Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes

Motion Passed

14. TSBA recommended policy updates:

#1.400 - School Board Meeting – To allow flexibility for Boards during a natural disaster on inclement weather event. It allows board members to join a meeting electronically when less than a quorum is physically present. This exception may be used three times per year.

#1.403 - Agenda – Provide agenda for regular board meetings 48 hours in advance

#2.100 - Fiscal Management Goals – Comptroller's office recommendation for annual internal control review.

#5.106 - Application and Employment – Requiring use of E-verify program.

#5.200 - Separation Practices for Tenured Teachers – Removes the option for Boards to file complaint to suspend license for breach of contract for teachers who resign mid-year.

#5.201 - Separation Practices for Non-Tenured Teachers – Same as #5.200

#5.600 - Staff Rights and Responsibilities – Teacher Code of Conduct requires teachers to refrain from any sexually related behaviors with students, including students who have graduated or withdrawn in the immediately preceding twelve months.

Motion: Mr. Perry Second: Mr. Billingsley

Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes

Motion Passed

#5.302 - Sick Leave – to shift flexibility from sick to personal and professional leave category. Sick leave will be 8 days a year for 10 month contracts, 9 days per year for 11 month contracts, 10 days per year for 12 month contracts.

#5.303 - Personal and Professional Leave – Professional employees will earn 4 personal and professional days total per year vs 2 total for the years previously.

Motion: Mr. Churches Second: Mr. Perry

Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: Yes
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: Yes

Motion Passed

Memorandum of Understanding for Professionals will need to be revised and approved at next meeting.

#5.801 - Director of Schools Recruitment and Selection. Motion to change the word "shall" to "may" on line 26 section c.

Motion: Mr. Perry Second: Mr. Billingsley

Vote: Mr. Snow: Yes Mr. Billingsley: Yes Mr. Churches: No
 Mr. Frady: Absent Mrs. Oakes: Yes Mr. Perry: Yes Mr. Reece: No

Motion Passed

Request for Mr. Howard Upchurch, Board Attorney, to review the policy and add procedures and bring back to August meeting.

14. Directors Update.

Mrs. Kristy Owens, Food Service Director, gave an update on Nutrition Department

Mr. Mark Oxner, Safety Coordinator, gave an update on the AG Lab for Bledsoe County High School.

16. New Business

Director of Schools