

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BLEDSOE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
October 1, 2024

The Bledsoe County Board of Education met in regular session on October 1, 2024 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 an addition as follows:

22a.Request by Dr. Becky Ridley, AWARE Director, for the approval of the Memorandum of Agreement for Project Basic

MOTION: Mr. Snow 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

2. Approval of the minutes from the September 3, 2024 regular meeting of the Bledsoe County Board of Education.

MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Snow

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 reports for the month ending August 31, 2024.

MOTION: Mrs. Oakes 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

4. Request by Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, to approve budget amendments.

Fund 141 Amendment # 1 Add Grant Revenue & Expenditures to Budget

Fund 141 Amendment #2 Remove Afterschool budget from 141, no in Federal Funds (Fund 142)

MOTION: Mr. Churches SECOND: Mr. Perry

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

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

Motion Passed

5. Discussion and or approval of redistribution of local option sales tax.
Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, addressed the Board with the idea of possibly moving some of the local option sales tax to Capital Projects fund, if allowable, to be able to complete more projects that are on the Capital Projects list quicker. No action was taken, but Mrs. Walling is going to continue exploring the option to verify if this would be an allowable transfer.
6. Directors Update

Kristy Owens Food Service Supervisor

Bledsoe County Schools was awarded the Tennessee Healthy Meals Incentive Recognition Award. Only 5 counties in the state of Tennessee were nominated for this award. Only 34 districts in the United States were recipients of this award. Bledsoe County Schools was also awarded a grant to purchase local foods and Mrs. Owens stated she had partnered with Burn's Farms and Swafford's Beef Company to provide local fresh beef to be used for school lunches and Goolsby's Sausage Company for pork. P3 Custom Meats will be doing local processing of the beef.

Mary V. Wheeler Elementary

Little Blue Homecoming with dress up days
Mrs. Candace Gifford's class won the ice cream party from Little Blue Kindergarten went to Bledsoe County High School to attend senior homecoming games Celebrated Mary V. Wheeler 60th Anniversary with approximately 220 guest
In attendance was 20 Members of Ms. Wheelers family
15 Wheeler alumni that attended when Wheeler first opened
Former principals
PTO provided the meal for celebration
Student stem project is the weather station
Daily reporting MVW weather report
Comparing temperature on the mountain to the temperature in the valley
Student are doing Data tracking
Partnering with WRCB channel 3 and Fall Creek Falls State Park
Bench Mark and Mastery Connect assessments

Pikeville Elementary

Kindergarten participated in the senior homecoming games
Cow bells were number 1 gift
Little Blue Ice Cream Party was awarded to Mrs. Sherry Deakin's classes
Bench Mark and Mastery Connect assessments
Student of the Month received Embers ice cream
Thanks to Mr. Perry for donating cans for stem recycling projects
Book fair in October
Family Engagement night Thursday

Cecil B. Rigsby

Little Blue Homecoming ice cream party was awarded to Ms. Camree Swafford's class.

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Kindergarten visited Bledsoe County High School Senior Homecoming Games.
Hosted TNTP and they came and visited CBR. 20 to 25 leaders from the Upper
Cumberland came to see teachers in action and they were very complimentary.
Stem projects workday Wednesday highlight careers every Wednesday
Mastery Connect assessments
October 24th fall festival

Bledsoe County Middle Schools

FCA leadership team went to conference in Chattanooga
7th grade attended the Fall Creek Falls Festival
Family Night - Internet Safety – Homeland Security
October the 22nd we will have another speaker
8th grade superlative
Aims Web is finished
Football softball and cross country is completed
Basketball started yesterday
Mark Cagle and Stephen Sharp Boys Basketball
Greta Vanwinkle and Jonica Davis – Girls Basketball

Bledsoe County High School

Celebrated Homecoming
Dress like a student and teacher day
Won homecoming game
Kindergarten meet at the 50 with seniors and exchanged gifts
Homecoming games
Citizens Tri County Bank sponsor event
See you at the pole met and student lead gathering and prayer
College application month
Snacks and apps day senior apply to college 62 participated and 250 submitted.
Travel to New York City and Washington DC will be during fall break
FCA leadership conference Bledsoe County students stood out
BCHS Taco Bell night was a success
Big news UT considers Bledsoe County High Schools a flagship school. Students that
apply and gets in go for 4 years for free. Valued at \$55,000.00

Bledsoe Career and Technical Center

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Project - Mr. Davis and his class helped with this project.
Sponsors were Bledsoe Telephone Co-op and Mr. Steve Perry
Hope to continue this in the spring
DECA attend the Dollywood hospitality event
FFA is going to National convention
FFA attended leadership conference
80 attended TCAT dual enrollment, former students hosted
Ambulance simulator has been installed
Fiber optics class 14 students learning to splice fiber and put together
Hope to continue this in the spring.
Career opportunities are good in this field
Golf is officially over

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7. Request by Mr. Billy VanWinkle with the Ayers Foundation for an out of state trip to Berry College for a campus visit.
MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Frady
VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
 Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
Motion Passed

8. Request by Mrs. Jennifer Terry, Technology Supervisor, for the approval of the Cybersecurity Grant. This grant is in the amount of \$13,500.00. It will be used to purchase Cyber Security Services for 1 year. Cost of the Cybersecurity Services is \$17,900.00.
MOTION: Mrs. Oakes SECOND: Mr. Frady
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 Mr. Steve Reel for permission to surplus laser engraver at the Career Technical Center. This unit will be sold on GovDeals. The unit will have a reserve bid placed on it.
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

10. Discussion and approval of supplement for Bledsoe County High School girls flag football coach and discussion of an assistant. After some discussion. Mr. Jason Reel, Athletic Director, made the recommendation of a 7% coaching supplement for the Flag Football Head Coach. This would be 7% of the state base minimum for a BS degree and 0 years' experience.
MOTION: Mr. Frady SECOND: Mr. Billingsley
VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: YES Mr. Frady: YES
 Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
Motion Passed
No Action was taken on the assistant coaching position for flag football

11. Request by Mr. Ronnie Collier, FFA Advisor, for approval for an out of state overnight trip to Indianapolis, IN to attend the National FFA Convention on October 23, 2024 – October 26, 2024. This request is for the approval of a bus for transportation also.
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

12. Request by Mr. Ronny Collier, FFA Advisor, for the approval for students to attend Tennessee Forestry Jobs Camp on October 22, 2024-October 24, 2024. Parents or students would be responsible for transportation. Mr. Churches abstained stating that his daughter was the student that would be taking this trip.

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MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Frady
VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: ABSTAIN Mr. Frady: YES
 Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: YES Mr. Snow: YES
Motion Passed

13. Presentation by FFA Students to discuss their experience at Camp Clements.
Jaylan Evans and Abigail Housley attend the conference and had a very good experience.

14. Mr. Allen Jones and Mr. Brian Turner to discuss practice field and site cost.
Mr. Jones was not present at the meeting.
Recommendation to move the fence back and give extra yardage in Option #1 behind the
baseball fields. Motion to move forward with this project.
MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Frady
VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: AYE Mr. Churches: AYE Mr. Frady: AYE
 Mrs. Oakes: AYE Mr. Perry: AYE Mr. Reece: AYE Mr. Snow: AYE
Motion Passed

15. Request by Mr. Brian Turner, Maintenance/Transportation Supervisor, for the approval of change order #3
for barn site work. This change order is in the amount of \$38,458.31 to DeBord & Son Construction.
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

16. Request by Mr. Brian Turner, Maintenance/Transportation Supervisor, for approval to surplus doublewide
trailer located on Sequatchie Road
MOTION: Mr. Perry 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

17. Mr. Brian Turner, Maintenance/Transportation Supervisor, to present transportation report.
This Report included: Daily Transportation Totals and number of bus routes. Yearly extra trip report,
grants that have been awarded, bus purchasing schedule, safety procedures, and a list of Board owned
vehicles and year models.

18. Request by Mr. Brian Turner, Maintenance/Transportation Supervisor, for accept the EPA Electric Bus
Grant. This grant will cover all but \$40,000 of the cost of the bus. The \$40,000.00 can be recouped
through a tax credit with the IRS. Mr. Turner stated he hoped to get the charging infrastructure updated to
accommodate the new busses for under \$20,000.00.
Mr. Turner stated the warranty on the electric bus is 8 years, but hoped to get 10 years of life per bus.
A motion was made to accept the grant. There was more discussion on batteries and
battery life of the electric bus.
MOTION: Mr. Frady SECOND: Mrs. Oakes
VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Churches: NO Mr. Frady: YES
 Mrs. Oakes: YES Mr. Perry: YES Mr. Reece: NO Mr. Snow: NO

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Motion Passed

19. Request by Mr. Brian Turner, Maintenance/Transportation Supervisor, to pay substitute bus drivers the same hourly rate as a first year driver. After much discussion a motion was made to approve the rate. In the future this rate will follow the pay each year for a first year driver.

MOTION: Mr. Frady SECOND: Mrs. Oakes

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

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

Motion Passed

Note: Mr. Reece stated he voted yes with an explanation that he wanted the drivers to get more money, but was afraid it may open a can of worms.

Mr. Perry asked Mrs. Farmer, who was attending the meeting for Mr. Upchurch, if Mr. Upchurch could do an opinion letter on this.

20. Approval of updated policies from TSBA.

Policy # 4.201 - Class Size Ratios

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

Policy # 4.600 - Grading System

MOTION: Mr. Perry SECOND: Mr. Snow

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

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

Motion Passed

Policy # 4.700 – Testing - The percentage in this policy will stay at 15%

MOTION: Mrs. Oakes 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

21. Old Business.

22. New Business.

- 22a. Request by Dr. Becky Ridley, AWARE Director, for the approval of the Memorandum of Agreement for Project Basic.

Mr. Upchurch, Board Attorney, had reviewed this agreement and recommended it for approval.

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

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Meeting	Date	Time	Location
Regular Meeting	11/04/2024	6:00 p.m.	Bledsoe County Middle School

23. Adjourn.

MOTION: Mr. Perry 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

Chairman

Director of Schools