MINUTES
BLEDSOE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 4, 2024

The Bledsoe County Board of Education met in Regular Session on March 4, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at Bledsoe County Middle School.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vincent Boring, with seven members present.

Roll Call:

Mr. Andy Billingsley - Present
Mr. Vincent Boring - Present
Mr. Ben Farmer - Present
Mr. Jacob Frady - Present
Mrs. Carolyn Oakes - Present
Mr. Bron Reece - Present
Mr. Don Snow - Present

1. Approval of the agenda with additions:

7a: Request by Bledsoe County High School baseball coach for the approval of Wilson Swafford as a volunteer coach.

7b: Request for early dismissal for softball team on March 15, 2024 and on April 12, 2024 both will be at 2:00 p.m.

13a. Discussion of capital improvement.

MOTION: Mr. Farmer S

SECOND: Mr. Reece

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: AYE Mr. Boring: AYE Mr. Farmer: AYE Mr. Frady: AYE

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

2. Approval of the minutes from the February 5, 2024 regular meeting of the Bledsoe County Board of Education.

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley

SECOND: Mrs. Oakes

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: AYE Mr. Boring: AYE Mr. Farmer: AYE Mr. Frady: AYE

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

3. Director's update.

Mrs. Farah Fields, Assistant Director of Schools, announced that Bledsoe County Schools was named as an Exemplary District. This award was given to only 12 school systems in the state of Tennessee. She also announced that Bledsoe County Schools had 4 Reward schools. This is based on achievement, growth, good attendance and college and career indicators.

Bledsoe County High School

Student of the Month for January and February

"Be the One" door contest winner across the state of Tennessee and received \$500.00 to be used towards school environment.

Had a character chip challenge in February. Chips can be cashed in for prizes. On Friday had games and party during break.

March: a school wide rock, paper, scissors contest and tournament and the winner gets to put a pie in Mr. Ridley's face.

Bledsoe County High has had three FAFSA Frenzy night.

Several college visits UTK, Chattanooga State, Bryan College and Tennessee Tech.

Spring Sport have begun, baseball, softball, boy's soccer.

ASVAB test were given. Goal was a 31. 55 out of 112 students scored above a 31 on test.

ACT Boot Camp for Juniors.

Bledsoe County Middle School

35 students recognized for perfect attendance.

40 students inducted into the Junior Beta Club

Spring Sports have begun, that includes volleyball, archery and baseball

Coffee and donuts with the principal. Invited parents to be on parent advisory board.

Went from being a focus school last year to being a rewards school.

Cecil B. Rigsby

Title I night

December and January perfect attendance

9-week student achievement

PTO Valentine where every student received something from PTO

Farmer Jason visited the school and shared how we take care of our world through music.

Bledsoe County High School Stem students visited 4th and 5th grade

SRO Rusty is reading to Pre-K

Students working on team building activities in the library.

Staff going into classrooms to listen to students read.

Mary V. Wheeler

Breakfast with the principal.

Celebrated the 100th day of school for the whole school.

Wheeler was selected to administer the NAPE test.

Wheeler meet their Accelerated Reading goal. Students read a thousand books to tape principal to the wall.

Karen Angel, Wheelers teacher of the year.

Pikeville Elementary

Pikeville Elementary teacher of the year Mrs. Reagan Deakins

Competed successful PTO basketball season.

First semester AR awards

Completed mid-year benchmarking.

Kindergarten celebrated their fairy tale unit by dressing up and having a royal walk around the school and a waltz

in the cafeteria.

Bledsoe County High Schools stem students visited 5th grade.

Dr. Seuss and Read Across America celebration

Title I night

Career Technical Center

FFA Competitions

Stem Class visiting elementary schools

Skills USA Mckee Bakery tour

Skills USA Conference

National Auto Diesel to visit school

Welding class will be doing AWS certification

DECA students competed in Chattanooga. Two have advanced to finals in California

4. Request by Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, to approve monthly financial reports for the month ending January 31, 2024.

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MOTION: Mr. Billingsley

SECOND: Mr. Farmer

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Boring: YES Mr. Farmer: AYE Mr. Frady: YES

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

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

General Purpose - 141

Amendment #8 - To amend overspent line items.

Amendment #9 – Move insurance recovery revenue from fund balance to pay this year expenditures.

143 - Food Service

Amendment #1 - To spend down fund balance

MOTION: Mr. Boring

SECOND: Mr. Farmer

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Boring: YES Mr. Farmer: AYE Mr. Frady: YES

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

6. Request by Dr. Kristy Walker, Federal Projects Director, for a new Title I assistant for the remainder of the school year.

MOTION: Mr. Frady

SECOND: Mr. Snow

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley; YES Mr. Boring: YES Mr. Farmer: YES Mr. Frady: YES

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

7. Request by Mr. Jason Reel, Athletic Director, for approval for the high school football team to attend a FCA Sponsored Football Camp at TN Tech University on July 9-11, 2024, this will be an overnight trip. The team and coaches will stay in dorm rooms on campus. Included in this request for approval will be bus transportation to and from the event.

MOTION: Mr. Reece SECOND: Mr. Snow

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Boring: YES Mr. Farmer: YES Mr. Frady: YES

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

7a: Request by Bledsoe County Middle School baseball coach for the approval of Wilson Swafford as a volunteer coach.

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley SECOND: Frady

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: AYE Mr. Boring: AYE Mr. Farmer: AYE Mr. Frady: AYE

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

7b: Request for early dismissal for softball team on March 15, 2024 and on April 12, 2024 both will be at 2:00

p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Reece SECOND: Mr. Farmer

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: AYE Mr. Boring: AYE Mr. Farmer: AYE Mr. Frady: AYE

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

8. Request by Mr. Brian Turner, Maintenance Supervisor, for the approval of bid for site work for Agriculture building.

Recommendation letter from Mr. Allen Jones for DeBord and Son's Construction which was the low bid. The contract will include the alternate of asphalt if funds are available. Total Bid \$195,224.00 including asphalt.

Vendor	Base	Alternate	Total Bid	
		(Asphalt)		
Angel's	\$192,424.81	\$29,375.00	\$221,799.81	Proof deaths to medical of the
Construction	-			
DeBord &	\$151,224.10	\$44,000.00	\$195,224.00	
Son				
Construction		İ		
Hamilton	\$159,940.00	\$.00	\$159,940.00	
Consulting				
and				
Construction				

MOTION: Mr. Reece SECOND: Mr. Frady

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Boring: YES Mr. Farmer: YES Mr. Frady: YES

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

 Request by Mr. Brian Turner, Maintenance Supervisor, for the approval of bid for metal structure for Agriculture building. Recommendation was to approve Summertown Metals which was the low bid. Bid amount \$94,653.21

Vendor	Bid Amount
Summertown Metals	\$ 94,653.21
Angel's Construction	\$105,000.00

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley SECOND: Mr. Frady

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: YES Mr. Boring: YES Mr. Farmer: YES Mr. Frady: YES

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

10. Request by Mr. Brian Turner, Maintenance Supervisor, for the approval of bid for the 2024 mowing cycle for all school grounds.

There was only one bid from Oakes Lawn Care for \$1,800.00 per mowing cycle.

Mrs. Oakes disclosed that this was her grandson.

Mr. Reece questioned the age of the owner of Oakes Lawn Care and who the owner is.

Mr. Upchurch stated that there would have to be an owner over the age of 18. Mr. Upchurch stated we

needed to get something from the adult owner for Oakes Lawn Care and send to Mr. Upchurch to clarify ownership.

MOTION: Mr. Frady

SECOND: Mr. Boring

Tabled until the April meeting to clarify ownership.

- 11. Discussion and/or approval of resolution on 4th grade retention. Table until April meeting.
- 12. Review of School Incentive Bonus procedures and guidelines.

After a brief discussion Mr. Farmer made a motion to evaluate the current policy to clarify intent and to list out potential exceptions and non-exceptions

MOTION: Mr. Farmer

SECOND: Mr. Reece

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: AYE Mr. Boring: AYE Mr. Farmer: AYE Mr. Frady: AYE

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

13. Old Business.

13a. Discussion of capital improvements.

Mr. Farmer requested to set a formal or an informal meeting with the county commission and start to proceed with what the projects are and to set up a time frame to meet with the county commission. Chairman Boring stated he would contact Mr. Swafford about setting up a meeting.

Mr. Brian Turner, Maintenance Supervisor, stated that he would bring an update to the facilities plan at the April meeting.

Mr. Farmer suggested that they meet with the city as well as the county commission to discuss capital projects.

Chairman Boring questioned the electrical at the Bledsoe County High kitchen. Mr. Turner stated they had upgraded some things in the kitchen. Mrs. Kristy Owens, Food Service Supervisor, stated that they were still having issues with tripping breakers.

14. New Business. No new business.

Meeting	Date	Time	Place
Planning Meeting	April 1, 2024	5:30 p.m.	Bledsoe County Middle School
Regular Meeting	April 1, 2024	6:00 p.m.	Bledsoe County Middle School

15. Adjourn.

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley

SECOND: Mr. Frady

VOTE: Mr. Billingsley: AYE Mr. Boring: AYE Mr. Farmer: AYE Mr. Frady: AYE

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

Board Chairman

Director of School