

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
BLEDSOE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
January 14, 2025

The Bledsoe County Board of Education met in regular session on January 14, 2025 at 6:07 p.m. at Bledsoe County Middle School. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mr. Andy Billingsley with six members present and one absent

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 via zoom
	Mr. Don Snow	-	Absent joined at 6:08 via zoom

1. Approval of the Agenda with the following changes: Tabled item #2 and addition of 12a. Discussion and/or approval of a resolution on school vouchers

MOTION: Mr. Perry

SECOND: Mrs. Oakes

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

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

2. Discussion and or approval of annual agenda. Tabled

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

MOTION: Mrs. Oakes

SECOND: Mr. Billingsley

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

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

## Motion Passed

- Request by Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, to approve monthly financial reports for the month ending November 30, 2024.

MOTION: Mr. Churches

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

5. Request by Mr. Mark Oxner, Security Coordinator, for the acceptance of the Unmanned Aircraft System Grant. Mr. Perry questioned the funding amount of the grant. Mr. Oxner stated it was a 90% funded grant. This will be implemented in the fall.

Mr. Oxner requested permission to allow purchases to be made for this program before contract was received.

Motion was made to allow purchases to be made prior to receiving contract.

MOTION: Mr. Frady

SECOND: Mr. Billingsley

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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. Director Update:

**Bledsoe County High School**

Stem Project Anything but a gingerbread  
Drama Production  
ACT Word of the Week  
Warrior Weekly still during weather days  
Submitted STEM Application

**Bledsoe County Middle School**

Holiday Hallway Competition  
Jadryen Anderson Teacher of the Year

**Mary V. Wheeler**

Smokey the Bear visited to share information about forestry, drought and fire prevention  
Weather Station Data  
Working on Precipitation date  
Annual Christmas Program  
Assistant decorated the school for Christmas  
PTO Basketball is starting

**Pikeville Elementary**

Christmas dress up days  
Retiree's recognition  
Hall decorations  
Donated books from BETA

**Cecil B. Rigsby**

Winter clothing drive  
Aims Web testing  
Mastery Connect testing  
15 days of festivities  
Trip to see BCHS play

**Bledsoe Career Technical Center**

27 students tested at TCAT of NC3 Battery Charger Certification  
50 in dual enrollment through TCAT  
Had a student compete in an extemporaneous speaking contest and received first place.

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7. Streaming of Board meetings on social media. A yes vote is to stop streaming the meeting.  
Mr. Churches and Mr. Reece both expressed concerns about no longer streaming the meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley                      SECOND: Mr. Frady

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

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

Mr. Snow noted that he voted yes but to make sure whatever we do it works.

**Motion Passed**

8. Request by Jason Reel, Athletic Director, for approval of sports early dismissals.

Early Dismissal for Basketball Junior Varsity Games

Friday 1/24/25 Both JV teams 2:00 Marion County

Friday 1/31/25 Both JV teams 2:15 Sequatchie County

Tuesday 2/4/25 Boys JV only 2:15 CSAS

Thursday 2/6/25 Boys JV only 2:00 Tyner

Friday 2/7/25 Both JV teams 2:00 Van Buren

When both JV teams play they will travel together and the varsity will travel after school is dismissed.

MOTION: Mr. Perry                              SECOND: Mr. Churches

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

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

**Motion Passed**

9. Request by Ms. Candi Kempton, Principal Bledsoe County Middle School, for approval of volunteer coaches for baseball:

     Avery Roberson

     Gunter Sweat

MOTION: Mr. Frady                              SECOND: Mrs. Oakes

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

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

**Motion Passed**

10. Request for approval of the following TSBA recommended policies:

     5.118 – Background Investigations

MOTION: Mr. Churches                      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

     Approved policy includes contractors to be enrolled in the RAP Back program as well as volunteers and employees that have signed waivers to do so. This is the version listed as 32a.

**Motion Passed**

     4.603 – Promotions and Retention

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Approved with state mandated changes and recommendations by Mr. Farrah Fields,  
Curriculum Supervisor

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**

### 1.501 – Visitors to the School

Approved with changes made by Mr. Howard Upchurch, Board Attorney

MOTION: Mr. Churches                      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**

## 11. Old Business

None

## 12. New Business.

12a. Discussion and approval of a resolution for school vouchers.

After some discussion a motion was for the approval of a resolution to oppose school vouchers.

MOTION: Mr. Perry                      SECOND: Mr. 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**

The next regular meeting of the Bledsoe County Board of Education will be February 3, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Bledsoe County Middle School

13. Adjourn.

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**