

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
BLEDSOE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 8, 2025

The Bledsoe County Board of Education met in regular session on September 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Mary V. Wheeler Elementary. The meeting was called to order by Vice- Chairman Mr. Carolyn Oakes with 7 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. Election of Board Chairman.

Vice-Chairman Carolyn Oakes opened the floor for nominations for Board Chairman.

Motion was made by Mr. Reece to nominate Mr. Andy Billingsley as chairman and seconded by Mr. Frady. No other nominations were made.

MOTION: Mr. Reece 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

Chairman Billingsley took over the meeting and asked Board member for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Motion was made by Mr. Billingsley to nominate Mrs. Carolyn Oakes for Vice-Chairman and was seconded by Mr. Frady. No other nominations were made.

MOTION: Mr. Billingsley 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

2. Approval of the Agenda with the following additions:

15a. Update and approval of policy #4.601.

15b. Discussion of portable sound system.

MOTION: Mr. Reece 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

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3. Approval of the minutes from the August 11, 2025 regular meeting of the Bledsoe County Board of Education.

MOTION: Mr. Reece 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

4. Discussion and/or approval of Annual Agenda. The Annual Agenda was approved as presented. Request was made that the school calendar always be approved so that it is always a year ahead.

MOTION: Mr. Perry 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

5. Request by Mrs. Kara Walling, Finance Director, to approve monthly financial reports

for the month ending July 31, 2025.

MOTION: Mr. Perry 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

Motion Passed

6. Director's update including Director's 100 day plan, 30 day accomplishments and Strategic Plan.

Some highlights from Dr. Walker:

- Mary V. Wheeler, Bledsoe County High School and Cecil B. Rigsby are TVASS Level 5 schools. Pikeville Elementary was a solid Level 3.
- A supervisors meeting was held in August
- Bridge Meeting with principals in September to discussion of academics, behavior and more.
- Dr. Walker stated she handed out personal notes to every staff member
- A meeting has been set for October 1st to meet with Mayor Ridley, Mr. Swafford, Mr. Billingsley and Dr. Walker
- Board members received a copy of the Strategic Plan with updated information
- Most big projects have been met.
- Schedule a Winter Retreat to discuss the Strategic Plan.
- Dr. Walker stated she had been reviewing Board Policy, areas of concern in the budget, sustaining of programs and personnel needs.
- Mrs. Farrah Fields will be analyzing student achievement.
- Principals will give updates in October and a request to present updates every other month.

Mr. Perry requested that Supervisors give updates every other month.

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7. Request by Mr. Mark Oxner, Safety Coordinator, for the approval to accept the Agriculture Lab Grant. Mr. Oxner provided a Project Description and also a Business Plan. This grant has a \$50,000.00 match. This lab will be used by not only the Ag. Department, but by the Chemistry and Biology department. Mr. Reece requested that Dr. Walker look at getting additional help for the Ag. Department. Dr. Walker stated she would research it.

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

8. Request by Mr. Corey Garrett, Special Education Supervisor, for the approval of the Private Duty Nurse Memorandum of Understanding. Memorandum had no changes from previous year memorandum.

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

9. Request by Mrs. Michelle Rains, Nurse Supervisor, for the approval of the Athletic Trainer Contract renewal. Contract is the same as last year.

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

10. Request by Mrs. Ethan Cagle for the approval for a trip to Washington DC and New York in October of 2026. This trip will be for student in grades 9-11. There will be an interest meeting next month. The trip will be through Southeast Tours. There will only be one bus for this trip. Price will include all expenses.

MOTION: Mr. Perry 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

11. Request by Mr. Ronny Collier, FFA Advisor, for permission to attend the National FFA Conference in Indianapolis October 29-November 1, 2025 and to use a bus for transportation.

MOTION: Mr. Churches 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

12. Request by Mr. Ronny Collier, FFA Advisor, for permission to attend the Cultivation/Emerge Conference at Camp Clements November 14-15, 2025 and an early dismissal for November 14, 2025. This will be an overnight trip.

MOTION: Mr. Frady 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

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Motion Passed

13. Request by Ms. Candi Kempton, Principal Bledsoe County Middle School, for approval to construct an outdoor classroom. Mrs. Debbie Thompson, a former principal at Bledsoe County Middle School, husband gave a sizable donation to help fund this project from a Memorial Fund that was set up in honor of Ms. Debbie.

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

14. Old Business. No Old Business

15. New Business.

- 15a. Request to update policy 4.601 Reporting Student Progress. Approved with requested changes to change language from Progress report to Report Card and also to change schedule to 9 weeks.

Request was made to check on electronic report cards and bring back to November meeting.

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

- 15b. Discussion of portable sound system.

Mrs. Jennifer Terry, Technology Supervisor, presented quotes for the Board to review on two different options for a portable sound system to be used for remote location needs.

Quote A was for sound and visual - \$34, 035.00

Quote B was for sound only - \$14, 685.00

No Action taken.

Date	Meeting	Place	Time
October 13, 2025	Planning Meeting	Bledsoe County Middle	5:30 p.m.
October 13, 2025	Regular Meeting	Bledsoe County Middle	6:00 p.m.

16. Adjourn.

MOTION: Mr. Perry 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

Motion Passed

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