

**RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS
(MINUTES)
Regular Board Meeting
August 22, 2005**

The Fayette County Board of Education met at 701 East Main Street, Lexington, KY at 6:00 p.m. on the 22nd day of July 2005, with the following members present: (1) **Kathy Lousignont**, (2) **Larry Conner**, (3) **Steve Hyndman**, (4) **John Price** and (5) **Becky Sagan**.

Staff Members Present

Stu Silberman, Virginia Greg, Mary Browning, George Rogers, Doug Gibson, Greg Figgs, Fabio Zuluaga, Jack Hayes, Lisa Stone, Michael Ernst, Jim Searle, Lisa Deffendall, Wayne Smiley, Bob McLaughlin, Greg Drake, Bob McLaughlin, Carolyn Martin, Julane Mullins, Mark Williams, Kathy Dykes

Tax Levy Hearing

Pursuant to KRS Chapter 61, notice was given that on August 8, 2005, the chair of the Fayette County Board of Education announced that the Regular Scheduled Board Meeting scheduled for **Monday, August 22, 2005**, at **6:00 p.m.** 701 East Main Street, Conference Room C, Lexington, Kentucky would include the following: hear public comments regarding a proposed tax levy of 53.8 cents per \$100 assessed value on real property and 53.8 cents per \$100 assessed value on personal property.

Public Hearing Comments

Mary Browning stated that the proposal being presented for the adoption and levy of tax weights for school purposes is 53.8 cents per \$100 real property, .3 of a cent more than the current rate. She also stated that approximately \$91.6 million from property taxes and \$2.6 million from personal property could be expected from this increase.

Since there were no public comments received the public hearing was closed at 6:04 p.m.

A. Call to Order

Mrs. Lousignont called the regular meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Mrs. Lousignont, Mr. Conner, Dr. Hyndman, Mr. John Price and Mrs. Sagan.

C. Extended Welcome to Guests

Mrs. Lousignont welcomed the guests and attendees to the meeting.

D. Moment of Silence

E. Pledge of Allegiance

F. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Price and seconded by Dr. Hyndman, to approve the agenda, with the addition of the addendum items, J.3. Actions for Post Approval and Claims and J.5. Requests From Principals for Extended Trips and pull for discussion, J.1. Award of Bids/Proposals and Bid Contract Extensions, #6 Bid 67-05 Fiber Gigabit Network Services and J.13 Contract with the University of Kentucky

Research Foundation on Behalf of the University of Kentucky College of Education for Smaller Learning Communities Grant. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

G. Recognitions, Introductions and Proclamations

1. Recognitions

Mrs. Lousignont stated that the National Technology Student Association is one of eight career and technical student organizations offered to middle and high school students that strives to meet the education needs and challenges of all students in an ever changing technological world. Mrs. Lousignont recognized the following students.

a. Southern Middle School Technology Student

National Technology Student Association competition:

- Jonathan Grabau – Gold achievement pin for leadership, community service and academics
- Sara Trout – First place in Career Challenge
- Kathryn Hays and Emily Fry – Third place in the Challenging Technology Issues
- Team of Emily Fry, Kathryn Hays and Courtney Harris – Placed in top ten of the Leadership Challenge

b. Lafayette High School Technology Student Association

National Technology Student Association competition:

- Team of Sam Wheeling, John Eldridge and Sarah Kennedy – Placed in top ten in Systems Control Technology
- Team of Sam Wheeling, Scott Harp and Steven Lizer – Placed in top twenty in Jaquar F1 Challenge

c. State Finalists for Presidential Awards for Excellence in Math & Science Teaching

Mrs. Lousignont recognized the following teachers.

- David Helm – Tates Creek High School
- Paula Cissell – Beaumont Middle School

H. Reports, Communications and Resolutions

1. Progress Reports

A. Superintendent's Report

a. Reading First Presentation

Marsha Benton, District Reading First Coach, along with Debbie Carter, State Reading First Coach, presented a power point presentation on the Reading First Program. She stated that Reading First is the academic cornerstone of No Child Left Behind. Eleven elementary schools were awarded the grant in the spring of 2004 and implementation began during the 2004-2005 school year. The District has received over \$11 million and continuation of these funds is contingent on progress and compliance with the grant requirements. Ms. Benton stated that one of the requirements of the grant was for each school to hire a Reading First coach who was required to have eighty hours of professional development each year for the six years of the grant. Reading First teachers were required to have eighty hours of PD and principals were required to have a minimum of twenty hours of PD. There is also a parent and a family literacy component. Ms. Benton stated that there are five essential components of reading instruction, which are grounded in scientifically based reading research. These components are phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and text comprehension. Mr. Price asked whether the variety of core programs used at the various schools creates a problem when students move to another school. Ms. Benton stated that to help facilitate the issue of mobility, all the programs are organized around the five components of reading and the coaches are constantly in communication with each other so that the data is immediately transferred to the new school. Mr. Conner inquired as to what methods are used to get

parents involved with their child's reading. Ms. Benton stated that there are regular conferences with parent and the Family Literacy Nights are highly structured around the components in order for parents to receive specific ideas for each area. She also stated that part of the grant was a school to home connection, which was a plan for students to take literature from school to home. Mr. Conner also inquired as to why in both grade two and three, some schools still failed after two semesters of Reading First instruction. Ms. Benton stated that some students are reading, but are not reading with rate, expression and accuracy. This is a new focus for our District and we have not had fluency rates set as benchmarks. She also stated that several of the schools have realized that they need to change their reading selections. Mrs. Sagan stated that some schools are struggling across the board and Ms. Benton stated that there will be intensive intervention strategies. Dr. Hyndman complemented Ms. Benton on the many details that were included in the report and presentation. Dr. Hyndman expressed concern that it did not seem that students were on grade level as they progressed through the elementary grades and there something needed to be done to reverse this process. Debbie Carter stated that she felt the grant was multi faceted and was intended to provide ample money for materials and provide professional development to help teachers make changes. Dr. Hyndman asked if the assessment that was given students in the program was a common assessment used in all schools. Bob McLaughlin stated that it was used in twenty-seven schools and will be available to the other elementary schools this year.

b. Assessment Report

Jack Hayes along with Carolyn Martin gave a power point presentation on the new proposed internal assessment process being developed. Mr. Hayes stated that the new assessment process ties into the Reading First program and is geared toward grades K-12, He also stated that the program was created due to feedback from the schools indicating that they needed more assistance with diagnostic testing. The concentration on reading and math will continue. Funding being suggested is up to \$9 per student, up to \$500,000, one time funding this school year, budgeted in subsequent years. Additional training support for use of the data analysis tools will be given to teachers. Mr. Hayes stated that four diagnostic assessments fit the criteria for the programs - MAP, PASS, GRADE and G-GRADE. Mr. Hayes stated that the schools, in conjunction with the School Based Decision Making Council, had to submit a plan that gave the step by step their assessment process. Also, he stated that the progress monitoring is the KCCT type learning check that is developed and distributed by It's About Kids Support Services staff. He stated that there is a series of questions that schools will have to answer to qualify for funding of these assessment tools. Mr. Price inquired as to how assessments could be compared if schools were all using different assessment tools. Superintendent Silberman stated that all schools would be performing the same learning checks. Dr. Hyndman inquired as to whether the learning checks were paper or electronic and Mr. Hayes stated that they were open response. Dr. Hyndman stated concern that schools would be given the choice of their assessment tools and that he felt that the district should be choosing the assessment tools. Superintendent Silberman stated that ultimately each assessment tool gives the same result and that the funding is based on what the cost would be district-wide and all the schools will be administering the same learning checks. Any cost that is higher than the district wide cost would have to be paid by the school. Superintendent Silberman stated that assessment tools will not be locked in, that it could be suggested that a school use another assessment tool that is working better across the district. Mr. Ernest stated that at the middle school level there will be a team effort to achieve student proficiency. Superintendent Silberman stated that the new assessment process came out of the many SBDM council meetings with the Board.

c. Report on the Immex Project and Power Users Conference

Doug Gibson stated that for the last two years the district has been participating in the Immex grant which was funded by the National Science Foundation. Greg Drake, Coordinator for Instructional Technology stated that he and Jeff Jones had been working with the grant, which was for middle and high school students. He also stated that Fayette County Public Schools has received a lot of publicity through this grant and that he was invited to the United Nations last year to speak to a group of “power users”. Jeff Jones stated that the students and sponsors spent five days and five nights in Costa Rica under this project. There were eight American students in the Immex Project in Costa Rica with four students being from Fayette County Public Schools. Four students were in attendance to provide a power point presentation to show the project that they had created for the Immex Project.

d. Support Services Position Control Document Monthly Report – Written Report

e. Monthly Construction Report – Written Report

f. One Community/One Voice – Written Report

2. Remarks by Citizens – None.

Break: 8:38 p.m.

Reconvened: 8:50 p.m.

I. Approval of Routine Matters

1. *Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2005*
2. *Approval of Agenda Planning Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2005*
3. *Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes of July 16, 2005*
4. *Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2005*
5. *Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes of July 19, 2005*
6. *Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2005*
7. *Approval of Confidential Board Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2005*
A motion was made by Mr. Conner and seconded by Dr. Hyndman, to approve the minutes. The motion carried with a vote 5 to 0.

J. Approval of Consent Items

- a. *A motion was made by Mr. Conner and seconded by Mr. Price, to receive the information items and approve the action items in the consent section of the agenda. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.*
1. Award of Bids/Proposals and Bid Contract Extensions

#6 Bid 67-05 Fiber Gigabit Network Services

Superintendent Silberman stated that after Insight was determined to have the low bid, there were some questions as to whether they qualified for our E-rate rebates (USF funding). He stated that after checking with Insight again, we were informed that they were eligible. Superintendent Silberman stated that the recommendation needed to be modified to contain a contingency based on Insight being eligible for USF funding. Dr. Hyndman asked for a clarification that the contract was for 6.5 years and for a total amount of \$3,447,180 and Mr. Gibson stated that was correct. Superintendent Silberman stated in response to Dr. Hyndman that with the 6.5 year contract that we could lock in a good rate for a significant time. He stated that the purpose for going to fiber network is that we are slightly behind in the stat in the area of fiber network, and there are some significant slow downs in the district. Superintendent Silberman stated that this is not a request for any additional money for the

fiber network and that it is already a part of the budget. Dr. Hyndman asked where the money is being moved from to fund the project and Doug Gibson stated that the money was being moved from file servers and networking hardware. Dr. Hyndman stated that he would like to know the names of the districts to match up with the information that the Board had received regarding what those districts were paying for fiber networking. Superintendent Silberman stated that the information could be gotten from KDE.

A motion was made by Mr. Conner and seconded by Mr. Price to approve the bids and specifications presented with the addition of a contingency on Bid67-05, as stated by the Superintendent, that Insight Phone of Kentucky, LLC is eligible to receive USF funding. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

2. Monthly Financial Report for the Month of June/July 2005
3. Actions for Post Approval and Claims
4. Special and Other Leave of Absences
5. Requests from Principals for Extended Trips
6. Professional Leave by District Personnel
7. Declaration of Surplus and Intent to Sell
8. School-wide Fund Raising Project
9. Approval of Treasurer's Bond
10. Approval of a BG-4 Final Approval and Payment Application for Lafayette High School Football Field BG#05-081
11. Kentucky Department of Education Read to Achieve Grants – Round 2
12. Approval for the Great Books Foundation Contract for Bryan Station High School
13. Contract with the University of Kentucky Research Foundation on Behalf of the University of Kentucky College of Education for Smaller Learning Communities Grant

Dr. Rentama from the University of Kentucky stated in response to a question from Mrs. Lousignont that the evaluation began approximately eighteen months ago and will end in June, 2006 with a possible one year extension. She stated that the evaluation team was focused on the goals and objectives of the grant and that they are collecting data from the schools and that a report was submitted to Washington, D.C. in January, 2005, which was well received. Superintendent Silberman stated that he and the Board were very interested in the evaluation of the student achievement data and what the impact of the small learning communities will be. He also stated that he and the Board would like to receive a copy of the report sent to Washington.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lousignont and seconded by Mr. Price to authorize the Superintendent to enter into the contract with the University of Kentucky Research foundation in an amount not to exceed \$26,000 to provide a third-party evaluation of the Small Learning Communities Implementation Grant. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

14. Approval to Execute Contract with the Health Department
15. Retirement Adjustment
16. ESL Content Specialist
17. Copier Agreement

K. Approval of Action Items

18. Policy and Administrative Procedures Revisions – 2nd reading

A motion was made by Dr. Hyndman and seconded by Mrs. Sagan, to approve the policies as presented. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

19. Board Objectives and Ground Rules Superintendent Objectives

A motion was made by Mr. Price and seconded by Mrs. Sagan to accept the performance goals and objectives of the Board as listed. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

20. Booker T. Washington Preschool Tuition

Lisa Stone stated that this program originated in the One Community/One Voice plan and is a plan to begin a tuition based program that would open up the preschool program to a more diverse population regardless of income or special needs of the students. She stated that it was written into the Knight Foundation Grant and would be at the Booker T. Washington Academy. Ms. Stone responded to a question by Mrs. Lousignont stating that transportation, meals or before/after school care are not included in the cost. Superintendent Silberman reiterated that the District is not supplementing the program and that it is a four-day program.

A motion was made by Dr. Hyndman and seconded by Mr. Conner to approve \$110.00 per week for Booker T. Washington Academy preschool tuition. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

21. Approval of a Proposed Change Order (No. Two) to the Construction Contract for the Eastside Technical Center Resource Area Storage Project BG 04-448- BID 04-05

A motion was made by Dr. Hyndman and seconded by Mr. Price to approve the proposed deductive Change Order No. Two to the contract with Griggs Enterprises for the Eastside Technical Center Resource area storage project in the amount of \$3,451.02, subject to the approval of the Kentucky Department of Education, Division of Facilities Management, per the provisions of 702 KAR 4:160. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

22. Adoption and Levy of Tax Rates for School Purposes

Mary Browning stated that a request was being brought to the Board for a tax rate of 53.8 cents per \$100 of assessed value (real estate) for fiscal year 2006 and 53.8 personal property. Also, she stated that the final SEEK money allocation has not been received and some adjustments might have to be made in that area. Mrs. Browning stated in response to Mrs. Lousignont that the exonerations are being taken by people who can take advantage of the Homestead Exemption of \$29,400. Mrs. Lousignont stated that she would like to share with the legislature what local boards are having to do because of what is being done at the state level. Mr. Price stated that he felt that this tax rate would be supporting the 2020 vision with dollars for the best interest of the students. Dr. Hyndman reiterated that he saw this tax levy being presented as a shifting of the tax burden from one public segment to another segment. Superintendent Silberman stated that with the SEEK funding the way it is, it does drive the tax rate to an extent.

A motion was made by Mr. Price and seconded by Mr. Conner that the Board of Education levy a total school tax rate of 53.8 cents (real estate) and 53.8 cents (personal property) per \$100 assessed valuation which includes a .3 cents increase on real estate that is allowable to recover prior year losses due to exonerations, a total motor vehicles property rate of 59.2 cents per \$100 assessed valuation and continue the 3.0% permissive utility gross receipts tax (including the tax on cable television) and the .5% occupational license tax for 2005-2006, and that the Chair and Secretary of the Board called a public hearing on August 22, 2005 for the purpose of hearing public comments regarding these proposed rates and to cause preparation of the Working Budget for School Year 2005-2006. The motion carried with a vote of 4 to 1 with Dr. Hyndman voting no.

L. Informational Items

- 1. Personnel Changes**
- 2. Update #28 Board Policy Revisions – First reading**
- 3. Policy and Procedure Revisions Automated External Defibrillators (AEDS) – First reading**

M. Oral Communications

1. Public

N. Motion Making Agenda Part of the Official Board Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Conner and seconded by Mr. Price, to make the agenda dated August 22, 2005, which action has been taken at this meeting, a part of the minutes as if copied in the minutes verbatim. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

A motion was made by Dr. Hyndman and seconded by Mrs. Sagan, to go into closed session to discuss acquisition or sale of real property pursuant to KRS 61.810(a)(b), discuss proposed or pending litigation pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(c) and discuss personnel pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1)(f). The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

Closed Session

Larry Conner left at 11:10 p.m.

O. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mrs. Sagan and seconded by Mr. Price, to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 p.m. The motion carried with a vote of 4 to 0.

CHAIR

SECRETARY