

**RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS
(MINUTES)
Regular Board Meeting
February 25, 2008**

The Fayette County Board of Education met at 701 East Main Street, Lexington, KY at 6:00 p.m. on the 25th day of February 2008, with the following members present: (1) Larry Conner, (2) Becky Sagan, (3) John Price (4) Melissa Bacon, and (5) Amanda Ferguson

Staff Members Present for Regular Meeting

Mary Wright, Mike Burke, Carmen Coleman, Michael Ernst, Fabio Zuluaga, Brenda Allen, Melodee Parker, Scott Hawkins, Julie Hawkins, Jack Hayes, Vince Mattox, Rodney Jackson

A. Call to Order

Larry Conner, Chair called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Larry Conner, Becky Sagan, John Price, Melissa Bacon, and Amanda Ferguson

C. Extended Welcome to Guests

Larry Conner, Chair, welcomed the guests and attendees to the meeting.

D. Moment of Silence

E. Pledge of Allegiance, Mission Statement

Amanda Ferguson led the pledge and read the Board Mission Statement.

F. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Becky Sagan and seconded by John Price, to approve the agenda with any changes voiced including the lifting of items from the consent section for discussion. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

G. Introductions, Student Performance and Recognitions

1. Introductions

Larry Conner introduced the teacher and student representatives for the February 25th meeting.

- a. Student Representative: Scott Calvert, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
- b. Teacher Representative: Beverly E. Smith, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School

2. Student Performance

- a. **Linlee Elementary Chorus** – Directed by William Parris

3. Recognitions

- a. **Joseph Hudson, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School: Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award**
Joseph Hudson was awarded the Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award from Top, a non-profit organization best known for its NPR and PBS programs featuring America's best young classical musicians. Joseph Hudson is a sophomore at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, where he plays the

trombone. 25 young musicians from across the United States are given this award. Each student receives a \$10,000 scholarship and performs live on *From the Top's National Public Radio* broadcast.

b. Winburn Middle School, Sixth Grade Academic Showcase State Competition Winners

Winburn Middle School placed first in the annual Kentucky Colonels' Sixth Grade Academic Showcase in December. The one day academic event provides a competitive opportunity for the state's sixth graders in five areas: language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and arts & humanities.

c. Lexington Traditional Magnet School, American Mathematics Competition, Eight State Winner

More than 170,000 students across the nation participated in the American Mathematics Competition 8 in November. The competition consists of a 25 question, 40 minute multiple choice exam for junior high school math students designed to promote the development and enhancement of problem solving skills. The Lexington Traditional Magnet School placed first in the state and rated in the top one percent of teams in the United States.

Sadik Shahidian, Idrees Kahloon and Jessie Li placed first in the state and were awarded a Certificate of Honor for their high scores. Sadik Shahidian was the highest scoring 8th grader in the state and Li was the highest scoring 7th grader in the state. Hank Russell was the highest scoring 6th grader and Christine Brandewie who placed second. Hank Russell and Matthew Williams were named to the AMC 8 Honor Roll for scoring in the top 5 percent of students nationally.

d. Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, United States Academic Decathlon State Winners

The members of Paul Laurence Dunbar High School's U.S. Academic Decathlon team are the newly crowned state champions and will represent Kentucky in the national competition in April in Garden Grove, California. The decathlon is a 10 event scholastic competition that promotes academic excellence through teamwork among students of all achievement levels. This is the 2nd year that Paul Laurence Dunbar has competed.

e. Keep It Real Video Contest Winners

The Keep It Real Campaign is a youth-driven community effort to educate young people concerning the risks involved in drinking alcohol. The cornerstone of the campaign is a contest that gives young people an opportunity to explore the issue of underage drinking and develop messages that will have a positive impact on their peers. Students create videos and posters illustrating the risks of drinking alcohol. 61 videos were submitted from seven schools across Kentucky. Paul Laurence Dunbar High School won first place in seven different categories.

Cory Mabson, Bryan Station high School – The People's Choice Winner for the video "Wake Up".

Lindsay Quick, Stephen Highs, Emily Bratton, Cameron Lindsey, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School – Most Original category winner for the video "It's OK to Be different".

Hutch Pimentel, Kyle Kolpeck, Will Bradley, Sophia Barnhill - Paul Laurence Dunbar High School – Best Direction winner for the video "Don't Drink, Just Think".

Jackson Lester, Henry Clay High School – Best Comedy winner for the video "Alcohol Isn't Sexy".

Alex Thompson, Henry Clay High School – Best Art Direction for the video "Flashing Life".

Scott Heierman, Dianna Jefferson, Madeline hart and Megan Neal, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School – Cinematography winner for the video "Rush".

Marci Adams, Anne Evans, Jonathan Moore, Emily Yingling, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School – Best Use of Music winner for the video "Not So Cool".

4. Proclamation

a. Discovering Languages Month

John Price read a proclamation from Mayor Newberry proclaiming the month of February 2008 as Discover Languages Month.

H. Reports, Communications, Resolutions

A. Superintendent's Reports

a. FLAP Grant Updates

Jack Hayes – Two elementary schools and one middle school have Chinese language instruction this year and three schools have Japanese language instruction.

Alicia Vincent presented an update regarding the FLAP Grants. Several kindergarten students from Yates Elementary demonstrated their Chinese language skills by singing in Chinese. Students from Crawford Middle School demonstrated their Chinese language skills by performing a short skit and singing.

b. Budget and Finance Committee – Written Report

Mary Wright – Thanked those who served on the committee.

- Committee established in 2002.
- Current committee:
 - John Price – Board Member
 - Amanda Ferguson – Board Member
 - Scott Hawkins – High School Director
 - Stephanie Hong – Equity Council
 - Amy McVey – Principal Veterans Park Elementary School
 - Betty Rhodes – Fayette County Education Association
 - Kent Pleasants – CPA at Dulworth, Breeding and Karns
 - Tanya Dunbar – Parent and private accountant
 - Antonio Blackman – Associate Principal Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
 - Mary Wright – Superintendent's representative
- Committee provided guidance on the biennial budgeting process, zero basing the budgeting, ways to support One Community One Voice, 2020 Vision, using the District's funds as efficiently and effectively as possible.
- Committee looks at investment options.
- Committee reviews the budget before it is brought to the Board.

Stu Silberman – Thanked the Board members who serve on this committee.

John Price – Thanked all the staff and community members who participate on this committee. Great team with this committee.

Stu Silberman – Good feeling for outside people to look at our data and help us to move forward.

- c. **Support Services Position Control Document – No discussion**
- d. **Monthly Construction Report – No discussion**

2. **Remarks by Citizens**

3. **Resolution**

a. **Regarding the death of Jonathan Gonzalez**

Becky Sagan read a resolution regarding the death of Jonathan Gonzalez – student.
A motion was made by Becky Sagan and seconded by Amanda Ferguson, to adopt the resolution regarding the death of Jonathan Gonzalez. The motion carried 5 to 0.

I. Approval of Routine Matters

1. *Approval of the Confidential Minutes of December 17, 2007*
2. *Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2008*
3. *Approval of the Agenda Planning Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2008*
4. *Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2008*
5. *Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of January 31, 2008*
6. *Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2008*
7. *Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2008*

A motion was made by John Price and seconded by Becky Sagan, to approve the minutes. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

J. Approval of Consent Items

- a. *A motion was made by Amanda Ferguson and seconded by Melissa Bacon, to approve the items on the consent calendar including any items added by addendum. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.*
1. **Award of Bids/Proposals and Bid Contract Extensions - No discussion**
 2. **Actions for Post Approval and Claims - No discussion**
 3. **Special and Other Leave of Absences - No discussion**
 4. **Requests from Principals for Extended Trips - No discussion**
 5. **Professional Leave by District Personnel - No discussion**
 6. **Request for a Shortened School Day – No discussion**
 7. **Declaration of Surplus and Intent to Sell – No discussion**

K. Approval of Action Items

8. **Adoption of Procurement Card**

Stu Silberman – Reviewed at the planning meeting.

Larry Conner – Thanked Rodney and staff for bringing this forward. Feel that it will be a great benefit for staff who travel on behalf of the district and have previously had to provide the travel money upfront. How many areas involved in this pilot?

Rodney Jackson – 1 high school, 1 middle school, 1 elementary school, Professional Development, Human Resources, Student Achievement Department, Financial Services and 2 locations at Springhill Drive (probably Maintenance and Food Service). One card at each location. Hope to work out all the kinks and then spread out to the rest of the District.

Stu Silberman – Will help our employees and also help protect our District.

A motion was made by John Price and seconded by Melissa Bacon, to adopt the resolution for utilization of Procurement Cards, effective March 1, 2008 as presented. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

9. Approval of a Proposed Change Order (No. Two) to the Contract for the New Construction at Sandersville Elementary School BG 06-037

Stu Silberman – Reviewed in depth at the Planning Meeting

Mary Wright – Reviewed the need to get the sewers installed at the Sandersville Elementary School.

Larry Conner – Change orders were discussed in detail at the Planning Meeting.

A motion was made by Amanda Ferguson and seconded by Melissa Bacon, to approve the proposed additive Change Order No. Two to the contract with D.W. Wilburn, Inc., for the new construction at Sandersville Elementary School in the amount of \$67,253.84, with an equivalent transfer of funds from Object code 0840 to 0450, and a corresponding transfer of \$3,429.95 for design consultant fees from Object code 0840 to 0336, 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.

10. Approval of a Proposed Change Order (No. Three) to the Contract for the New Construction at Sandersville Elementary School BG 06-037

Mary Wright – Discussed deductive change order removing some software from the project. Funds will be taken from the physical support budget.

A motion was made by Becky Sagan and seconded by Melissa Bacon, to approve the proposed deductive Change Order No. Three to the contract with D. W. Wilburn, Inc., for the new construction at Sandersville Elementary School in the amount of \$12,876.00, with no transfer of funds from Object Code 0840 to 0450, and a transfer of \$386.00 for design consultant fees from Object code 0840 to 0336, 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.

11. Approval of a Proposed Change Order (No. Ten) to the Contract for the New Construction at Bryan Station High School BG 03-415

Mary Wright – Agenda item is for installation of permanent bleachers at Bryan Station High School.

A motion was made by John Price and seconded by Amanda Ferguson, to approve the proposed additive Change Order No. Ten to the contract with D.W. Wilburn, Inc., for the new construction at Bryan Station High School, with the transfer of funds from Object Code 1510 to 0450 in the amount of \$264,339.20, and the transfer of funds for design consultant fees from object Code 1510 to 0336 in the amount of \$5,217.00, 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.

12. Monthly Financial Report

Rodney Jackson –

- Indirect cost collection is down because of a change related to how we capture indirect cost as suggested by our auditors. Also, the indirect cost rate was dropped by KDE by approximately 2.25%.
- The economy is continuing to provide some challenges in relation to interest revenue. Last year our interest rate was very consistent. The changes in the fed rates have required us to analyze the effect on our budget related to this area. We will continue to monitor this revenue source along

with the others via our trend analysis review. We also have invested some funds to mitigate this risk.

- Overall January's revenue and expenses are in line with previous years.

A motion was made by Becky Sagan and seconded by Melissa Bacon, to accept the Monthly Treasurer's Report of Revenue/Expense reports as presented to the Board. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

13. Policy Change Recommendations

Stu Silberman – Bringing a request for a change in the policy on inclement weather and the administrative procedure which contains the bulk of the changes. APs are separate from the policy and are really what drive the implementation of the policy.

- Brenda Allen has reviewed the current inclement weather policy. Under the old policy we could close school and she has added into the policy that we can postpone school also.
- Policy – Only two words changed in the policy (policy with changes marked are included with the permanent minutes) – added school or to the first line, first paragraph and postponed or to the first line in the second paragraph. Asking for approval to make these changes in one reading, waiving the second reading.
- Administrative procedures only require Board review. Asking the Board to review the AP. In the old AP there was an option to have a one hour school delay and add the hour to the end of the day. This does not work with our bus drivers who have additional jobs to go to. If we had a two hour delay and had to extend school by two hours, our middle school students would get out at 6:00 pm. The new AP would allow for a one or two hour delay with the same dismissal time. Early dismissals would still be an option when warranted
- Snow Plan B was in the old AP. This plan was used only in very unusual circumstances such as a time when only the main roads were clear. This plan allowed for alternate snow routes where the kids went to a bus stop on a road that had been cleared. The plan stated that families would get their children to the nearest cleared road and this was too ambiguous. Our transportation department is working on creating particular locations and times so parents would know exactly where to bring the kids if we need to use Plan B.
- Parents would be notified this week of the changes.
- Delay of the start of school has not been done in approximately 20 years.
- Any decision regarding closing, postponing school or using Plan B will be made with regard for the safety of our students, families and staff. Realize that whatever decision is made there are going to be people who do not agree.
- Group of employees go out at 2:30 am to check the roads in order to make a recommendation at around 4:00 a.m. These folks do a phenomenal job and if they make a recommendation that it is not safe to travel, the recommendation will not be overruled. If they make a recommendation to go to school, 99.9% of the time we will go.
- Asking for the Board to approve the inclement weather policy, review the AP and waive the second reading on the policy.

Becky Sagan – With these changes, the District could start an hour later with no change in the dismissal time?

Stu Silberman - Correct. Afternoon dismissal times would not change.

Becky Sagan – We have to look at the whole county and parts of the county may not have ice or snow. Our job is to look at the whole county and make sure the kids and staff can get to school safely. Appreciate the change that would allow for a delay if needed.

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Melissa Bacon – Parents can be made aware that we are also looking at the safety of the teen drivers and not just the bus drivers. We are also looking at the condition of the sidewalks and parking lots.

Becky Sagan – Don't our custodians go to school earlier on days when we have snow or ice to make sure everything is clear?

Stu Silberman – Correct. We have additional crews from Ken Tates' department that make sure the parking lots are clear. These folks do a phenomenal job.

Melissa Bacon – If we do a 1 or 2 hour delay, how many hours will KDE allow us before we have to make up the time?

Stu Silberman – The current and past policy was that we were allowed a total of six hours of early dismissals or delays and after that you had to make up the time. This could change at any time. There is some question in the budget language that currently exists as to whether the six hour piece still exists, we think that it does. The six hour point will not change how we make our decisions. We are going to make the best decision based on what is best for the kids that day. Everyone has their own level as to what they think is safe, I have to make the decision, I have to make sure our students, staff and families are safe.

Amanda Ferguson – The six hour period is cumulative for the school year?

Stu Silberman – Correct. Once we pass the six hour mark, we have to make it up. We are waiting on an answer to clarify this.

Amanda Ferguson – On the policy, under System of Notification, does the word postpone need to be added as well?

Brenda Allen – We could change it to read close or delay schools.

Stu Silberman – Agree that this would be a good change. We try to make a decision by 5:00 am or earlier if possible.

Amanda Ferguson – Why the 5:00 a.m. time? Does it cause confusion?

Stu Silberman – Last year we made a decision to go to school at 5:00 a.m., with no rain or snow, by 6:15 a.m. we had a dangerous situation. Don't want to lock us in to the 5:00 a.m.

Amanda Ferguson – Does there have to be any time in the AP or can it say as early as possible?

Stu Silberman – That would be OK. We try for 5:00 a.m.

Amanda Ferguson – Under the transportation options on the AP, the third bullet, is this the equivalent to Plan B?

Stu Silberman – Correct. Marcus Dobbs in the Transportation Department is working on locating the bus stops for Plan B. We have the names of the streets that are on the city's priority list so we know which roads will be cleared first and we can make our plan match up with the city's plan. Not sure that we will have this plan in place this year.

Amanda Ferguson – It won't be called Plan B?

Stu Silberman – Basically we are calling it a snow plan. It would be used in unusual circumstances. Would be similar to the LexTran alternate pickup plan.

John Price. – Would the abbreviated plan always be the same?

Stu Silberman – Yes. We are working on the schedule for the exact pickup locations and time. Only time that it would change is if we have a new subdivision. It would be posted on our web site.

John Price – Would it be communicated another way other than electronically?

Stu Silberman - Yes.

Brenda Allen – We are taking out 5:00 a.m.?

Larry Conner – Yes.

A motion was made by John Price and seconded by Becky Sagan, to approve the recommended changes in Board Policies 06.21 and waive second reading. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

L. Informational Items

1. Personnel Changes – No discussion

M. Oral Communications

1. Public Comments
2. Board Requests – None

3. Other Business

- a. Board
Discussion of Board Work

- c. Staff

N. Motion Making Agenda Part of the Official Board Minutes

A motion was made by Amanda Ferguson seconded by Melissa Bacon , to make the agenda dated February 25, 2008, 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.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Melissa Bacon and seconded by Becky Sagan , to go into closed session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss acquisition or sale of real property pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(b) and to discuss proposed or pending litigation pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(c). The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

Open Session

A motion was made by Amanda Ferguson and seconded by Melissa Bacon, to reconvene in open session. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

Adjournment

A motion was made by John Price and seconded by Melissa Bacon to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 p.m. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

CHAIR

SECRETARY