

**RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS
(MINUTES)
Regular Board Meeting
December 17, 2007**

The Fayette County Board of Education met at 701 East Main Street, Lexington, KY at 6:00 p.m. on the 17th day of December 2007, 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 Browning, Mike Burke, Michael Ernst, Fabio Zuluaga, Brenda Allen, Melodee Parker, Scott Hawkins, Julie Hawkins, Vince Mattox, Rodney Jackson

A. Call to Order

Becky Sagan, Vice Chair, called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Becky Sagan, John Price, Melissa Bacon, and Amanda Ferguson
Larry Conner arrived at 6:17

C. Extended Welcome to Guests

Becky Sagan, Vice Chair, welcomed the guests and attendees to the meeting.

D. Moment of Silence

E. Pledge of Allegiance, Mission Statement

John Price led the pledge and read the Board Mission Statement.

F. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by John Price and seconded by Melissa Bacon, to approve the agenda with the addition of an addendum, J.2 Actions for Post Approval and Claims. The motion carried with a vote of 4 to 0.

G. Introductions, Student Performance and Recognitions

1. Introductions

Becky Sagan introduced the teacher and student representatives for the December 17th meeting.

- a. Student Representative: Jordan Rodgers, Bryan Station High School
Teacher Representative: Heidi Hamlyn, Linlee Elementary

2. Student Performance

a. Central Kentucky Music Educators Association Select Honors Chorus

Teachers from all over Central and Eastern Kentucky select their best singers to participate in the Central Kentucky Music Educator's Association Select Chorus. The students learn music selected by two professional choir directors and perform for their families in Richmond in the fall. The Fayette County students performed for the Board and the audience.

3. Recognitions

a. First Quarter Fred Award Winner

The Fred Awards were developed to showcase the district's commitment to providing top notch customer service. The Fred Award is inspired by the book, "The Fred Factor" by Mark Sanborn about a very service-minded postman named Fred. Anyone can be a "Fred" just by holding themselves to a level of excellence in their work and going that extra step to serve the public. Brenda Holmes at SCAPA Bluegrass was recognized as receiving the First Quarter Fred Award.

b. David Parrell and Victor Yang, Paul Laurence Dunbar High, Perfect ACT Scores

David Parrell and Victor Yang, both seniors at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, were recognized for receiving a perfect 36, the highest composite score on the ACT college entrance exam.

c. Connie Wu, Cynthia Lu and Victor Yang, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, National Beta Club Competition, First and Second Place Honors

Paul Laurence Dunbar High School students Connie Wu, Cynthia Lu and Victor Yang were recognized for first and second place honors received at the National Beta Club Competition. Connie Wu won first place in math, Cynthia Lu won first in art and Victor Yang placed second in English.

d. Staci Davis, Southern Middle School, Kentucky Technology Student Association Advisor of the Year

Southern Middle School teacher Staci Davis was recognized for being named the Kentucky Technology Association Advisor of the Year at the association's national conference.

e. Crystal Dixon, Morton Middle School, Karen Gill, Henry Clay High School; Beth Randolph, SCAPA Bluegrass, 2008 Ashland Inc. Teacher Achievement Awards Semi-Finalists

The following teachers were recognized for being a semi-finalist in the Ashland Inc. Teacher Achievement Awards competition:

- Crystal Dixon – Morton Middle School
- Karen Gill – Henry Clay High School
- Beth Randolph - SCAPA

f. Paul Laurence Dunbar High School Marching Band, Kentucky Music Educators Association State Band Champions

The Paul Laurence Dunbar High School Marching Band was recognized for their accomplishment of State Band Champions. The band played for the Board and audience – 184 band members.

H. Reports, Communications, Resolutions

A. Superintendent's Reports

a. The Commissioner's Parent Advisory Council Report on the Missing Piece of the Proficiency Puzzle

Stu Silberman – The Commissioner's Parent Advisory Committee has been working on ways to enhance parent involvement. A lot of the work that took place with the 2020 Vision process in Fayette County has become part of the state initiative.

A power point presentation was shown - hard copy included with permanent minutes.

Alice Nelson:

- Commissioners Parents Advisory Council - Appointed by the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, State PTA and the Kentucky Association of School Councils. Commission Gene Wilhoit gave the charge to the Council to develop the report.
- KDE has very specific plans for the report – report has already been presented to the State Board.
- Strong partnership in Fayette County between the district PTA and the Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership.
- Fayette County Public Schools will be a pilot district. Fayette County is already doing a lot the things in the report.
- FCPS existing policy aligns directly with the rubric.
- FCPC policy requires schools to have a family involvement component in their school improvement plan which is not true across the state. This sets FCPS as a cutting edge district for this work.
- Each school has been asked to designate a lead person for the family component in their school. Each school has already done this and a meeting has been held with them.
- FCPS has many partnerships within the community.
- The report defines family and community involvement, specifically for improving student achievement and sets standards for what this look like at the school level at novice, apprentice, proficient, and distinguished levels of performance.
- The rubric has six objectives which are a part of the report.
- FCPS is using the rubric as a self assessment tool, as a guide to write Family Involvement Component in every SIP, to provide consistency across components and to fully implement our Parent Involvement Policy.
- Support for the schools will consist of follow-up meetings with component leads, opportunities to share work, best practice resources and tools and centralized data collection.

Melissa Bacon – It speaks highly of our 2020 Vision that KDE is using this as a pilot. Appreciate all the work that has been done.

Becky Sagan – Nice to see that our policy is being used around the state as an example. We are a model for parent involvement. There is more that we can do, but we are doing so much more than a lot of districts around the state. Regarding the component leads, are the principals appointing someone to support the components so that their policy is consistent with what our policy asks for?

Stu Silberman – Principal is ultimately responsible, but they are appointing lead persons.

Becky Sagan – Are the schools doing their meetings that show their parent involvement?

Vince Mattox – Yes, they have to bring them before the council to be approved.

Alice Nelson – Encouraging schools to think about who will be writing this component. We encourage schools to form committees that look at their family involvement.

Becky Sagan – Parents can contact their council to find out how they can get involved or what is going on.

Becky Sagan – Parents can get involved through their Site Based Decision Making Council?

Vince Mattox – Correct.

Stu Silberman – Lots of ways that parents can get involved by contacting their school. Would like to encourage parents to get involved. Lots of great things happening.

John Price – As each school works on their School Improvement Plan, I assume that one of the action steps discussed is the annual meeting with families. Would like to see data collection that talks about the number of families represented at these meetings so that as a district, as a whole, we know what kind of parent participation we have. This is a way to quantify the parent involvement.

Alice Nelson – Trying to have consistent tools for everyone across the district. This will allow for feedback and allow us to track numbers.

John Price – If one school is having a large annual meeting they can share their strategies with other schools.

Vince Mattox – This is part of the power that is being done by bringing together the component leads. Part of the rubric talks about data collection.

Stu Silberman – Some of this started through One Community One Voice – one of the things that they have been focusing on is parent involvement. They are looking at what are some of the best practices going on at a school.

Larry Conner – Regarding the self assessment process, will we be auditing schools to determine where they are on the rubric versus where they say they feel they are?

Alice Nelson – Schools need to be sure that they do not have just a small group doing the assessments. If all the parent focus groups spend some time with the rubric, it shows a truer picture. KDE is working to align this with the SISI document and put together an audit piece that will work with it.

Larry Conner – Will it be used as part of the scholastic audit or will we be able to take the instrument and use it separate from the audit?

Vince Mattox – They are going to fine tune the rubric with the SISI document

Larry Conner – When will this instrument be ready?

Alice Nelson – Probably six months to a year. This doesn't mean that we won't be working on trying to do that here.

Larry Conner – Great document and hats off to everyone who participated in putting this document together. The document talks about the relationship between student achievement and parent involvement and we know that there is a direct link between student achievement and how involved parents are. Those parents that don't feel comfortable getting involved are the ones that we need to reach. Any assistance that we can give schools in terms of resources and ideas would be appreciated. It needs to be tailored to the greatest needs in terms of our gap kids and their parents participating in the process.

Vince Mattox – Absolutely. First conversations were about the rubric and would we be able to use it like you said.

Alice Nelson – Asking schools to think about tracking all contacts, paying attention to who is involved, which parents are there for the open house night, what teachers are doing about the parents that weren't there and what are they doing to build relationships with those parents that did not attend.

Stu Silberman – Thanked everyone for their work on the plan – the work they are doing is very important. By no means are we where we want to be yet and won't be until all of our schools are at proficiency, not only with academics, but with parent involvement.

b. International Spanish Academy Presentation

Alicia Vincent – We are celebrating the Spanish Immersion Program at Maxwell Elementary, Bryan Station High School and Bryan Station Middle School. These schools are now Spanish International Academies. Alicia introduced Jacobo Mir, the Location Advisor from the Embassy of Spain. Also, recognized were former students of the Immersion Program, parents, Rev. C.B. Akins, and the first president of Los Amigos.

The three Spanish Immersion schools were presented a plaque by Jacobo Mir on behalf of the Embassy of Spain. The following principals accepted the plaques for the schools:

- Heather Bell – Maxwell
- Jim Thomas – BSM
- Gladys People – BSHS

Jacobo Mir - A group of parents, Los Amigos, was instrumental in getting these programs started in the district. Los Amigos means friends, in Spanish. The group was honored for their continued support and advocacy on behalf of Spanish Immersion students in Fayette County Public Schools. Kay Safari, President of Los Amigos, accepted the plaque.

Stu Silberman – This is a tremendous honor. Thanked Los Amigos, Fabio Zuluaga and everyone that worked on these programs. Thanked the principals for the program going forward.

Larry Conner – The Board allocates millions of dollars of resources to the schools and one of the finest jewels in the District is the Spanish Immersion Program. Whenever we travel, someone is always asking about the program and wanting to duplicate the program in their district. Thanks goes to the parents for bringing the program to the current status. The Spanish Immersion Program has grown tremendously and we now have other foreign language programs, but not to the extent the Spanish Immersion Program has developed. Our District is rich in foreign languages.

c. Support Services Position Control Document – No discussion

d. Monthly Construction Report – Written Report – No discussion

2. Remarks by Citizens

3. Resolutions:

a. Regarding the death of Loma Vives

Becky Sagan read a resolution regarding the death of Loma Vives, a teacher at Winburn Middle School.

A motion was made by Becky Sagan and seconded by John Price, to adopt the resolution regarding the death of Lorna Vives. The motion carried 5 to 0.

b. Regarding the death of Christopher Chadwick Stuart

Melissa Bacon read a resolution regarding the death of Christopher Chadwick Stuart, a student at Henry Clay High School.

A motion was made by Melissa Bacon and seconded by Amanda Ferguson, to adopt the resolution regarding the death of Christopher Chadwick Stuart. The motion carried 5 to 0.

I. Approval of Routine Matters

1. *Approval of Agenda Planning Meeting Minutes of November 5, 2007*
2. *Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2007*
3. *Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes of November 29, 2007*

A motion was made by Becky Sagan and seconded by John Price, 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 Melissa Bacon and seconded by Becky Sagan, 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** - No discussion
2. **Actions for Post Approval and Claims** - No discussion
3. **Special and Other Leave of Absences** - No discussion

06294

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. **Substitute Salary Schedule Revision** – No discussion

K. Approval of Action Items

8. FY08 KETS Offer

Amanda Ferguson – This is the offer for the fiscal year 08?

Stu Silberman – Yes. Usually in the spring we get a much smaller offer. This is the first offer for this year.

Mike Burke – Last year the first offer was \$366,750 in the fall and an additional offer of \$94,744 in the spring. The second offer does not require Board approval.

John Price – Pointed out that the wording in the motion should read FY08 instead of FY07.

Stu Silberman – Correct, it should read FY08.

A motion was made by John Price and seconded by Melissa Bacon to approve the FY08 KETS Offer of \$397,879. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

9. Approval of a Proposed Change Order (No. Four) to the Contract for the New Construction at William Wells Brown Elementary School BG 06-035

Stu Silberman – Agenda item reviewed at the planning meeting – change order is a deduct.

A motion was made by Becky Sagan and seconded by Melissa Bacon, to approve the proposed deductive Change Order No. Four to the contract with Alliance Corporation, for the new construction at William Wells Brown Elementary School in the amount of \$1,155.05, with no transfer of funds from object code 0840 to 0450, and no transfer 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 Reduction in Retainage on the Construction Contract for the New William Wells Brown Elementary School BG 06-035

Stu Silberman – Agenda item reviewed at the planning meeting. Project is over 55% complete. We keep a retainage on all contracts and as the work continues to finish we gradually lower the retainage and we are asking the retainage for William Wells Brown be lower to 5%. This will leave \$5.497 million in the retainage amount.

A motion was made by John Price and seconded by Melissa Bacon to approve the reduction of the contract retainage to 5% of the contract with Alliance Corporation for the construction of the new William Wells Brown Elementary School, per the provisions of 702 KAR 4:160. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

11. 2008 Attendance Area Assignments Update

Stu Silberman – Reviewed agenda item at the planning meeting. There are five areas in town being developed, with no students presently living there. Asking the Board to make these school assignments.

The following are areas that have no completed homes and no students and have new assignments proposed only at the elementary school level for Booker T. Washington Academy and Russell Cave.

- Ward Drive Extension at Russell Cave Road
- South of Citation near Greendale Road's bend
- Area between Georgetown Road and Coldstream Research Park

The following are areas that have some homes under construction with no students currently.

- Newtown Springs off Newtown Pike SE of Citation
- Vacant Bluegrass-Aspendale land planned for subdivisions

John Price – Thanked the staff for being proactive.

Larry Conner – Could you go over the process for determining assignments?

Bob Joice – We participate in the Planning Commission's process of development review and this helps us keep abreast of all new developments. Regarding the feeder patterns, we try to make sure that all assignments are consistent with the feeder pattern. This is not always possible, but we try to consider going to the closest school and the school that has room.

A motion was made by Melissa Bacon and seconded by John Price, to accept and approve the 2008 attendance area assignments as recommended by the staff. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

12. Monthly Financial Report

Rodney Jackson presented the Monthly Financial Report.

- Revenue collection coming in faster and will increase significantly in December and January related to ad valorem and other taxes.
- Tax revenue, in relation to property taxes, appears low through November. This is rectified and caught up in December. As of today, for December only, we received an additional \$49 million dollars in property tax revenue, which will align our revenue to where it should be. The delay is just a timing difference of taxpayer payments.
- The variance in other state funding as reported last month has been adjusted. This amount primarily included a flexible spending account refund check, which we deposited, then reconciled and sent the appropriate amount to KDE after adjustments.
- Overall November's revenue and expenses are in line with previous years.

John Price - On the revenue report, is our beginning balance the audited balance?

Rodney Jackson – Next month everything will be in line with the audit.

Larry Conner – Stated that he was pleased with the audit and expressed appreciation for doing a good job.

A motion was made by John Price and seconded by Becky Sagan, 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.

L. Informational Items

1. Personnel Changes – No discussion
2. Board Policy Review and Revision – 1st Reading

06294

Stu Silberman – This policy was reviewed at the Planning Meeting and will be a 2nd reading at the January meeting. We are asking for deletion of the section that requires a teacher wanting to transfer to turn in a transfer request by January 31st even though we do not know what vacancies there will be. Teachers turn in a “just in case” transfer request to meet the January 31st deadline creating a paper shuffle. We would like to do away with the January 31st deadline. We will be looking at the final cutoff date for transfers, possibly moving that date to July 1st.

Becky Sagan – Because this is a change in policy, if it passes, will we make sure teachers are aware of this change?

Stu Silberman – Melodee Parker has a communications plan in place to let everyone know of the change.

M. Oral Communications

1. Public Comments

2. Board Requests – None

3. Other Business

a. Board

Discussion of Board Work

b. Staff

N. Motion Making Agenda Part of the Official Board Minutes

A motion was made by Melissa Bacon seconded by Amanda Ferguson, to make the agenda dated December 17, 2007, 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 John Price and seconded by Becky Sagan, to go into closed session at 7:53 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 John Price and seconded by Becky Sagan, 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 Becky Sagan to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. The motion carried with a vote of 5 to 0.

CHAIR

SECRETARY