Floyd County Board of Education Regular Meeting

September 21, 2026 06:00 PM ET (5:00 CT)
In Person and Video Teleconference
Floyd County Board of Education
Drs. Chandra and Mahendra Varia Media Center
Eastern, KY

DRAFT

Attendance Taken: 06:00 PM
Present Board Members:
Linda Gearheart
William Newsome
Steve Slone
Keith Smallwood
Absent Board Members:
Chandra Varia
Tonya Horne-Williams, Board Secretary and Board Attorney was in attendance.

1. Chair's Welcome/Call to Order

1.A. Roll Call/Welcome

1.B. Reminder for a Request to Speak

1.C. Pledge of Allegiance

1.D. The Adoption of Agenda

Order # 1 - Motion Passed: Motion to adopt the agenda, adding Item 6-AA (Memorandum of Agreement between Morehead State University and Floyd County Board of Education proposal of a duel credit program for the students at all Floyd County High Schools for the 26/27 academic year) passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. William Newsome.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

2. Special Reports and Spotlight

3. Community Comments to the Board of Education

3.A. Students

3.B. Parents, PTA/PTO

3.C. SBDM Councils

3.D. Classified Employees

3.E. Certified Employees/FCEA

3.F. Principals' Association

3.G. Members of the Board of Education

3.H. Public Comment

4. Action or Special Reports - Student Learning

4.A. Receive Attendance & Plans/Enrollment and Health Services Report

Order # 2 - Motion Passed: Received Attendance & Plans/Enrollment and Health Services Report passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

5. Action or Special Reports - Student Support

5.A. Receive Utility Report for Duff Allen Central Elementary School

Order # 3 - Motion Passed: Receive Utility Report for Duff Allen Central Elementary School passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. Keith Smallwood.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

5.B. Receive Report of Superintendent

Order # 4 - Motion Passed: Receive Report of Superintendent passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. Keith Smallwood.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes

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Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

5.C. Accept Notification of Personnel Matters

Order # 5 - Motion Passed: passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. Keith Smallwood.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

5.C.1. Actions Taken

5.C.2. Requests for Leaves of Absences

5.D. Consider/Approve Change Order #06-10 for the Duff Allen Central Elementary renovation project

Order # 6 - Motion Passed: Approval of Change Order #06-10 for the Duff Allen Central Elementary renovation project passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. Keith Smallwood.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

5.E. Consider/Approve advertising for architectural and engineering (A/E) services for the replacement of the HVAC system at Prestonsburg High School

5.F. Consider/Approve the Initial BG-1 for the Floyd County ATC Renovation Phase 1, pending KDE approval

Order # 7 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Initial BG-1 for the Floyd County ATC Renovation Phase 1, pending KDE approval passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. Keith Smallwood.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

5.G. Consider/Approve the Initial BG-1 for the Floyd County ATC Renovation Phase 2, pending KDE approval

Order # 8 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Initial BG-1 for the Floyd County ATC Renovation Phase 2, pending KDE approval passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. Keith Smallwood.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes

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Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

5.H. *Consider/Approve the Initial BG-1 for the Betsy Layne High School Softball Field Renovation Project, pending Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) approval

Order # 9 - Motion Passed: *Approval of the Initial BG-1 for the Betsy Layne High School Softball Field Renovation Project, pending Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) approval passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. Keith Smallwood.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

5.I. *Consider/Approve Change Order #6 with Rising Sun Developing for the BLES School Gym Renovation

Order # 10 - Motion Passed: Consider/Approve Change Order #6 with Rising Sun Developing for the BLES School Gym Renovation passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. Keith Smallwood.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

5.J. *Consider/Approve Change Order #2 for the Central Office Roof Replacement to provide additional work as outlined below

Order # 11 - Motion Passed: *Approval of Change Order #2 for the Central Office Roof Replacement to provide additional work as outlined below passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. Keith Smallwood.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

5.K. **Consider/Approve the Revised BG-1 for the Floyd C. Board Office Roof Replacement

Order # 12 - Motion Passed: **Approval for the Revised BG-1 for the Floyd C. Board Office Roof Replacement passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. Keith Smallwood.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

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6. Action by Consent

Order # 13 - Motion Passed: Motion to table (Item 6-X) bid for district-wide copier services until the board attorney can review the lease agreement passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

Order # 14 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve (Item 6-S) Motor Vehicle/Watercraft Property Tax Rate of 54.9 cents per $100 of assessed value for the Tax Year 2026-2027 passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. William Newsome.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

Order # 15 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve (Item 6-T) leaving the proposed tax rate unchanged (no increase/decrease in the tax rate) for the 2026-2027 Tax Year. Real Property (68.5 cents per $100 of assessed value) and the rate for Personal Property (68.5 cents per $100 of assessed value) for the 2026-2027 Tax Year passed with a motion by Mr. Steve Slone and a second by Mr. William Newsome.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

Order # 16 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve all consent items 6-A thru 6-AA as presented with the exception of the following items addressed earlier: 6-S, 6-T, and 6-X passed with a motion by Mr. William Newsome and a second by Mr. Steve Slone.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

6.A. Consider Approval of Minutes

6.B. Consider Payment of Bills and Claims

6.C. Consider/Approve the MOA between Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Ashland Community and Technical College and Floyd County Schools effective from the date of its execution through the end of the then-current fiscal year June 2027

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6.D. Consider/Approve the yearly Head Start Delegation Agreement. The agreement will begin November 1, 2026 running through October 31, 2027

6.E. Consider/Approve Kentucky Early Literacy Leadership Network (KyELLN) Assurances between Floyd County Schools and The Office of Teaching and learning (OTL) Kentucky Department of Education

6.F. Consider/Retroactive approve of John M Stumbo Elementary entering Partner Site Agreement with Hindman Settlement School and Americorps for the 2026-2027 school year to provide reading and math interventions

6.G. Consider/Approve the MOA between Commonwealth of Kentucky and the Floyd County Board of Education for the Kentucky Comprehensive Literacy Grant Year 3 (KyCL25)

6.H. *Consider/Approve Betsy Layne High School is requesting permission to travel to Philadelphia, PA via Amtrak from March 28-April 2, 2027. Students will ride a Floyd County Schools bus to Charleston, WV to board the train. On March 30, the students will ride the Amtrak into New York City to spend the day and see a Broadway play. Amended.

6.I. Consider/Approve agreement between Betsy Layne High School and Appalachian Arena to host prom 2026-2027 school year. Betsy Layne High prom date will be April 10, 2027

6.J. Consider/Approve for the Floyd Central High School Jaguars Band, Stage Band, and Stage Tech for out-of-state travel to attend a trip to Kings Island in Mason, Ohio on Oct 10, 2026 using school bus transportation

6.K. Consider/Approve out-of-state travel on Saturday, October 10th, 2026 to Kings Island in Mason, Ohio for Adams Middle School girl's basketball trip

6.L. Consider/Approve Memorandum of Understanding between Adams Middle School and Floyd County Health Department for the implementation of Teen Outreach Program (TOP)

6.M. Consider/Approve Second Reading of the Floyd County Technology Integration Handbook for school year 2026-2027

6.N. Consider/Approve the Second reading of Policy 03.2213. This policy is to manage the employer's retirement contributions, health-insurance reimbursements, and other expenses connected with the reemployment of retired classified employees, Policy 03.2213 sets restrictions on their employment. Passage of this policy would prevent the Board from having to pay additional personnel costs and still be in compliance with these requirements of the KPPA. Any exception would require prior written approval from the Superintendent

6.O. Consider/Approve the Agreement with PIMSER to provide OpenSciEd Lesson Internalization training to all middle and high school science teachers in district

6.P. Consider/Approve entering a MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE 2026 KENTUCKY INCENTIVES FOR PREVENTION (KIP) YOUTH SURVEY

6.Q. *Consider/Approve Prestonsburg High School's FBLA & HOSA to attend Marshall University in Huntington, WV in order to tour the campus and observe their business programs on October 9, 2026. Board approval is required due to trip being out-of-state

6.R. *Consider/Approve entering a MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH FLOYD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR IMPLEMNTATION OF THE TEEN CONNENCTION PROJECT (TCP) AT FLOYD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

6.S. *Consider/Approve Motor Vehicle/Watercraft Property Tax Rate of 54.9 cents per $100 of assessed value for Tax Year 2026-2027

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6.T. *Consider/Approve leaving the proposed tax rate unchanged (no increase/decrease in the tax rate) for the 2026-2027 tax year. Real Property (68.5 cents per $100 of assessed value); and the rate for Personal Property (68.5 cents per $100 of assessed value) for the 2026-2027 Tax Year

6.U. *Consider/Approve FY 2027 Working Budget

6.V. *Consider/Approve First Reading to approve the recommended draft for the Floyd County Student Handbook for the 2026/2027 School Year

6.W. **Consider/Approve Betsy Layne High School senior class is requesting permission to travel to Columbus, OH via FCS bus on May 15, 2027 (tentatively). Students will visit Columbus Zoo and Zoombezi Bay

6.X. *Consider/Approve bid for district-wide copier services

6.Y. **Consider/Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA), Northern Kentucky University Research Foundation, and the Floyd County Schools/Floyd Central High School

6.Z. ***Consider/Approve the Child Care Food Program Meal Service Agreement with Big Sandy Area CAP, Head Start

6.AA. *Consider/Approve Memorandum of Agreement: Morehead State University and Floyd County Board of Education proposal of a dual credit program for the students at all Floyd County High Schools for the 26/27 academic year

7. Executive Session to Discuss (Litigation, Property, Personnel, and Expulsions), KRS 61.810

8. Adjournment

Order # 17 - Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn, the time being 6:45 PM passed with a motion by Mr. Keith Smallwood and a second by Mr. William Newsome.

4 Yeas - 0 Nays

Ms. Linda Gearheart	Yes
Mr. William Newsome	Yes
Mr. Steve Slone	Yes
Mr. Keith Smallwood	Yes
Dr. Chandra Varia	Absent

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