Floyd County Board of Education Regular Meeting

October 26, 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 as is 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

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. 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. Action or Special Reports - Student Support

5.A. Receive Utility Report for Floyd Central High School

Order # 3 - Motion Passed: Receive Utility Report for Floyd Central High School 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

5.B. Receive Report of Superintendent

Order # 4 - Motion Passed: Receive Report of Superintendent 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

5.C. Accept Notification of Personnel Matters

Order # 5 - Motion Passed: 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

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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 advertising for competitive bids for the Prestonsburg High School Parking Lot and Flood Wall Project

Order # 6 - Motion Passed: Approval of advertising for competitive bids for the Prestonsburg High School Parking Lot and Flood Wall Project 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

5.E. Consider/Approve the Revised BG-1 for the purchase of property located at 1009 N. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, to reflect a change in the funding source and the proceeds from the sales of bonds

Order # 7 - Motion Passed: Approval of the Revised BG-1 for the purchase of property located at 1009 N. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, Kentucky, to reflect a change in the funding source and the proceeds from the sales of bonds 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

5.F. Consider/Approve the BG-4 for the Prestonsburg High School Turf Replacement Project

Order # 8 - Motion Passed: Approval of the BG-4 for the Prestonsburg High School Turf Replacement Project 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

5.G. Consider/Approve awarding the Special Inspections and Construction Materials Testing services for the Floyd Central High Baseball/Softball Field Project to Solid Ground for a lump sum fee of $39,500.00

Order # 9 - Motion Passed: Consider/Approve awarding the Special Inspections and Construction Materials Testing services for the Floyd Central High Baseball/Softball Field Project to Solid Ground for a lump sum fee of $39,500.00 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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5.H. Consider/Approve the selection of an Architect/Engineer (A/E) firm to provide professional design services for the HAVC replacement project at Prestonsburg High School

Order # 10 - Motion Passed: Approval of the selection of an Architect/Engineer (A/E) firm to provide professional design services for the HAVC replacement project at Prestonsburg High School 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

5.I. Consider/Approve Change Order 001 for the Floyd Central High School Athletic Turf Replacement Project

Order # 11 - Motion Passed: Approval of Change Order 001 for the Floyd Central High School Athletic Turf Replacement Project 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

5.J. **Consider/Approve Change Order #06-11 with Elliott Contracting in the amount of $37,500.00 to provide and install blown-in fiberglass insulation in approximately 250,000 square feet of attic space at Duff-Allen Central Elementary School

Order # 12 - Motion Passed: **Approval for Change Order #06-11 with Elliott Contracting in the amount of $37,500.00 to provide and install blown-in fiberglass insulation in approximately 250,000 square feet of attic space at Duff-Allen Central Elementary School 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

5.K. **Consider/Approve the BG-4 for the James D Adams Re-Roof and HVAC Replacement Project

Order # 13 - Motion Passed: **Approval for the BG-4 for the James D Adams Re-Roof and HVAC Replacement Project 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

6. Action by Consent

Order # 14 - Motion Passed: Motion to approve all consent items as presented 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

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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 purchase of 3 new school buses

6.D. Consider/Approve the Bob Evans Direct Bill Application and terms of agreement for direct billing

6.E. Consider/Retroactive Approve the use of the facility located at 1009 N. Lake Drive, Prestonsburg, KY on Saturday October 10, 2026. The City of Prestonsburg is requesting usage of the parking lot for the Jenny Wiley Festival Parade

6.F. Consider/Retroactive Approval for "What's Next EKY" to utilize two of our school buses for a tour/learning journey of Floyd County on Thursday, October 15, 2026

6.G. Consider/Approve Site Supervisor Agreement for UNITE Service Corps (USC), an AmeriCorps program of Operation UNITE to establish the responsibilities, expectations, and mutual commitments of the assigned Site Supervisor, Principal, and UNITE Service Corps in supporting the successful service of an AmeriCorps Volunteer

6.H. Consider/Approve of an out-of-state trip for 9-12 grade Gifted and Talented students and any honor students with no disciplinary referrals to tour Boston, Massachusetts. The proposed date is June 8, 2027-June 13, 2027. We will travel by charter bus through Educational Tours, Inc. An agenda is attached

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

6.J. *Consider/Approve the use of Prestonsburg High School Facility when approved by the administration, by the Floyd County Youth Wrestling from October 1, 2026 to April 1, 2027. If the facility at Prestonsburg High School is not available then other facilities within the district can be used

6.K. Consider/Approve Purchase added software training through Brightly for Bus Parts Inventory

6.L. Consider/Approve out-of-state travel for South Floyd Elementary School Honor Club Trip to Cedar Point and Cedar Point Shores in Sandusky, Ohio, June 13-16, 2027

6.M. **Consider/Retroactive Approve authorizing litigation against social media companies. The litigation involves claims against Meta, TikTok, Snap, Google/YouTube, and related companies concerning the alleged impact of their platforms on young people and the resulting costs incurred by school districts for counseling, behavioral interventions, staffing, and other student-support services

6.N. **Consider/Approve entering an Agreement for the Assignment of Personnel between Kentucky Educational Development Corporation (KEDC) and Floyd County Schools for Project THRIVE

6.O. **Consider/Approve Toshiba, INC for district-wide copier services

6.P. **Consider/Approve the second reading of a BOE policy requiring parent or guardian authorization for all students, regardless of age, to check out during the school day. Additionally, the policy requires an attempt to be made to contact the parent/guardian of an eighteen-year-old before he/she can check out during the school day. This requirement will remain in effect until the student is officially withdrawn from the district, emancipated by court order, or has graduated

6.Q. **Consider/Approve the renewal of the expiring lease for the Technology Department's current Ford Escape and authorize its replacement with one (1) 2027 Chrysler Pacifica AWD

6.R. **Consider/Approve the creation of a Floyd County Early Childhood Center Pilot (Universal Pre-K Classroom) for four-year-old students who meet district criteria

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

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Order # 15 - Motion Passed: Motion to go into executive session to discuss (general nature of the business), (the reason for the closed session) per KRS 61.810 (specific provision ____), the time being 6:17 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 # 16 - Motion Passed: Motion to come out of executive session, the time being 6:55 passed with a motion by Mr. William Newsome 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

8. Adjournment

Order # 17 - Motion Passed: Motion to adjourn, the time being 6:57 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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Secretary

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Board Chair