McCracken County Board of Education meeting
June 18, 2026 (5:30 PM)
Meeting Recap

**Recognitions**
The Board recognized the McCracken County High School Theatre Department for earning seven Kentucky Performing Arts Bradley Awards for its production of Oklahoma!, including Best Overall Musical Production. The Board also recognized Jack Nelson for being named Best Actor in a Leading Role and advancing to the National High School Musical Theatre Awards. Congratulations to the students, directors, and theatre program on this outstanding achievement.

Monthly Reports to the Board:

**Financial Report**
Mrs. DeJarnett presented the May 31 financial report focused on General Fund receipts and expenditures. She also reviewed the payroll schedule for the 2026-2027 school year, including a revision to the pay distribution schedule for employees with contracts of 220 days or more. Previously, only employees with 241-day contracts received payroll payments beginning in July. Under the revised schedule, employees with 220 or more contract days will receive a payroll payment in July and one payment each month thereafter, with a single payment in June at the end of the contract year. This update for employees with 220 or more contract days will begin in July 2026.

**Attendance**
Board members were provided the Month 10 attendance report, which included Average Daily Membership (ADM), attendance percentages for each school and the district overall, and enrollment trends. Month 10 comparisons and year-to-date attendance percentages for Months 1–10 of the current school year were compared to the same period last year, showing a positive trend. Enrollment trends for the past three months were also reviewed and indicate continued growth compared to the corresponding timeframe last school year. Finally, the district-wide winners for MCPS High Attendance Day were recognized. The elementary winner for May was Hendron-Lone Oak Elementary, and the secondary winner was Heath Middle School.

**Instruction**
The instructional team provided an update on several key initiatives and professional learning opportunities that are being offered during the summer in preparation for the 2026-27 school year. Some things shared with the board include staff members participated in High-Quality Instructional Resource (HQIR) training after receiving instructional materials, with professional learning sessions beginning in June. District representatives also attended the Kentucky Reads to Succeed Summer Conference, where they received updates on academic standards, guidance related to HMH

resources, and ongoing professional development opportunities. The instructional team also gave an update on the Nuclear Energy Education Workforce Grant, with descriptions of how teachers engaged in training and planning around high-quality science units focused on energy concepts for students in grades 2, 4, and 7. Additional professional learning to come includes special education legal updates presented by Teresa Combs and participation in the Access to Algebra initiative designed to strengthen mathematics instruction and student access to advanced coursework.
The Board was also informed of the district's initial work surrounding the Meaningful Diploma initiative. As planning began, district leaders focused on three essential questions: how a Meaningful Diploma distinguishes McCracken County students from others, how the district will implement the Meaningful Diploma framework, and how successful implementation will be measured and assessed over time. These questions will continue to guide future discussions and planning efforts.
In addition, the instructional team reported on several ongoing projects and priorities for the 2026-27 school year. Work will be completed through the district leadership retreat, and continued efforts will be made to develop both the Special Education District Umbrella and the Instructional Umbrella to provide greater coherence and alignment across district initiatives. The team also discussed how they are refining the district walkthrough document, monitoring legislative and accountability updates, reviewing curriculum and assessment practices, and developing plans for ongoing professional development to support teachers and leaders throughout the upcoming school year.

Consent Agenda and Action Items:

• The Board approved the submission of the New Horizons Pilot Travel Center "Miles of Good" Grant on behalf of the McCracken County Public Schools Preschool Program. If awarded, the grant will provide funding for sensory materials to support the developmental needs of preschool students and help ensure consistency across preschool classrooms throughout the district.

• The Board approved the acceptance of a $49,805 Law Enforcement Protection Program Grant awarded to McCracken County Public Schools Campus Safety. The grant will fund safety equipment, including officer weapons and ammunition, for the district's School Resource Officers to support school safety and security efforts.

• The Board approved the acceptance of a grant from the Kiwanis Club of Paducah on behalf of the McCracken County Public Schools Homeless Program. The funding will support the district's McKinney-Vento Homeless Program and assist with the Crockpot Summer Feed Program, helping provide resources and support for students and families experiencing homelessness.

• The Board approved the receipt of $790,000 in Kentucky Department of Education grant funding to support 21st Century before- and after-school programs at eight McCracken County Schools: Hendron-Lone Oak Elementary, Lone Oak Elementary, Lone Oak Middle, Heath Elementary, Reidland Elementary, Reidland Intermediate, Reidland Middle, and McCracken County High School. The funding will support programming from July 15, 2026, through September 30, 2027.

• The Board approved the salary schedule for the 2026-2027 school year which includes a 3% raise above the current year salary schedule. The salary schedule will be published on the district's finance website.

• The Board approved a package of commercial insurance coverage for the 2026-2027 school year

through Obsidian, including general liability, school leaders' errors and omissions, law enforcement errors and omissions, crime, property, inland marine, and auto/fleet coverage, along with workers' compensation coverage through KEMI. The combined cost of all policies is $1,623,925, representing a savings of more than $260,000 compared to current-year premiums. This reduction is achieved while maintaining equal or higher coverage limits and equal or lower deductibles. The pricing reflects increased competition in the commercial insurance market for public school districts, as well as stability in nation-wide losses that have impacted district insurance costs since 2024.

• The Board approved updates to the Student Code of Conduct for the 2026-2027 school year. Changes include implementing a building-wide approach in which five or more Level 1 offenses escalate to a Level 2 offense, elevating prohibited use of personal electronic/telecommunication devices to a Level 2 offense with a tiered system of consequences, elevating offenses involving alternative nicotine, tobacco, or nicotine vapor products to Level 4, adding hazing as a Level 4 offense, and incorporating attendance language related to House Bills 257 and 611 regarding chronic absenteeism and truancy reporting.

• The Board approved Change Orders #15 and #16 for the Concord Elementary School Addition and Renovation Project. The change orders provide for floor leveling and preparation work in the existing art and music classrooms, including a concrete floor topping and the removal of existing wall and floor tile.

• The Board approved Change Orders #10 and #11 for the Heath Elementary School Addition and Renovation Project. The change orders provide for the addition of a classroom soffit to accommodate sprinkler system routing and the associated painting work.

• The Board approved the BG-2 documents for the Heath Middle School Auditorium Renovation Project. The project will include a full renovation of the auditorium, stage and seating areas, lobby, restrooms, choir and band classrooms, as well as the replacement of exterior windows and doors.

• The Board approved the BG-3 documents for the Heath Middle School Auditorium Renovation Project. The BG-3 provides the statement of probable cost and an itemized breakdown of projected expenses for the two-phase renovation, which includes updates to the auditorium, stage and seating areas, lobby, restrooms, choir and band classrooms, and replacement of exterior windows and doors.

• The Board approved the construction documents and design for the Heath Middle School Auditorium Renovation Project. The documents will be submitted to the Division of Facilities Management and used for bidding and construction of the renovation, which includes updates to the auditorium, stage and seating areas, lobby, restrooms, choir and band classrooms, and replacement of exterior windows and doors.

• The Board approved revised BG-1 documents for the Heath Middle School Auditorium Renovation Project. The revisions reflect updated project costs following detailed assessments of the building's mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, which identified additional needs beyond the original project scope and budget.

• The Board approved permission to bid and accept proposals for the Heath Middle School Auditorium Renovation Project. The approximately $1.8 million project will include renovations to

the auditorium seating and stage areas, lobby, restrooms, choir and band classrooms, as well as replacement of exterior windows and doors.

• The Board approved AIA documents for architectural services related to the Heath Middle School Auditorium Renovation Project. The agreement authorizes architect Kevin Perry of archi-ology PLLC to complete the design and required project documents for submission to state agencies prior to construction.