

Williamstown BOE holds April meeting

BY BETSY SMITH
EDITOR

The Williamstown Board of Education met April 17 and, along with other business, discussed investing a portion of the carry forward funds.

The meeting began with a board focus presented by Karen Grubb, deputy superintendent. She updated the board on the Lau plan, which lays out how English language instruction and support will be provided to students identified as English learners as well as the Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) plan and Professional Development (PF) plan. She also provided progress notes on the Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) and Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP).

Student Board Representative Harper Mann

reported Senior Exit Projects have been presented; prom would be April 19; and college signing day will be May 15. The Class Night theme will be “Seniors Got Talent.”

Superintendent John Slone noted that the alumni group had met about the upcoming Alumni Open House. He announced that Roy Osborne will be recognized as this year’s Distinguished Alumnus.

APPROVALS

- Bid for fuel to Valor Oil for 2025-2026 school year
- Bid for towing to Complete Towing for 2025-2026 school year
- Labor and material bid for bus maintenance/repair service awarded to Grant County Schools for 2025-2026 school year
- Bus inspection bid awarded to Grant County Schools for 2025-2026

school year

- Second official offer of assistance for Fiscal Year 2025 from the School Facilities Construction Commission for KETS Education Technology funding for \$6,618
- “Change order #2 to replace existing pumps for the newly installed boilers in the amount of \$12,542.” This was not figured into the original budget.
- 2024-2025 CDIP and CSIP progress notes, the 2025-2026 Phase IV PD plan, NTI plan and Lau plan
- “Teachtown as a K-12 Special Education curriculum resource in the amount of \$44,573.76”
- “Coverage of onboarding fees excluding the Child Abuse & Neglect Background Checks for all staff members who require a contract. If the employee does not fulfill their

contract, the fees will be deducted from their final check.”

- Purchase of Apptegy as the “primary communication tool” for the district
- “MOA between the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Kentucky Department of Education, and Williamstown Independent Schools establishing an agreement for one Educational Recovery Leader position from July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026”
- Certified and classified salary schedules

for the 2025-2026 school year.

- 2025-2026 Extended Service and Extra Service Salary Schedule
- Certified and Classified staff allocation guidelines for the 2025-2026- school year per KAR 3:346

The board discussed the possibility of investing part of the carry forward funds with a financial institution. Director of District Operations Dean Faulkner provided information on interest rates from local institutions.

He said the current rate of return on the district’s funds at Forcht Bank is 3.75%. They offered a locked in rate of 4.25% for five months for the school’s proposed investment.

The board asked Faulkner to approach the bank to see if they would increase the rate if the investment was upped to \$1 million.

The next meeting of the Williamstown Board of Education will be Tuesday, May 13 at 6 p.m., 300 Helton Road, Williamstown.

Grant Board of Education preps for 2025-2026

BY DEBORAH LUCAS ANGEL
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

With the school year waning, the Grant County Board of Education met on April 17. All members were present as the board discussed updates to construction projects, bidding awards, 2025-2026 school year items, as well as had student recognitions.

STUDENT RECOGNITIONS

As Public Information Officer and Community Education Director Danielle Haley read the names and awards, Board Chair Lisa Smith presented awards to students who excelled at HOSA (originally titled Health Occupations Students of America, now titled HOSA-Future Health Professionals), Skills USA, and TSA-HS/MS (Technology Student Association-High School/Middle School) as well as to winter student athletes.

APPROVALS

For the 2025-2026 school year the following were approved:

- NTI (Non-traditional Instruction) days
- PD (Professional Development)
- KISTA for bus purchasing (KISTA, Kentucky Interlocal School Transportation Association according to their webpage is a “not-for-profit association of Kentucky school districts that provides a financing tool for purchasing school buses.”
- Bids for CDL physical, employ-

ee physicals, custodial supplies, maintenance supplies, motor vehicle fuel (unleaded), pest control, propane fuel, student athlete and bus/van driver/monitor drug testing, transportation supplies and waste pickup/disposal

- Changing job title from “Food Service Delivery Driver” to “Food Service Maintenance” and increasing salary \$1.00/hour
- Contract with Frontline (education recruiting and hiring software platform)

MISCELLANEOUS

- 2025 Graduation is set for May 28, which is also the final day of school for students
- Attendance has been 92% with some days as high as 94%.
- The board discussed cell phone policy updates and Kindergarten Reading.
- The board adjourned into Executive Session as per KRS (Kentucky Revised Statute) 61.810 (1)(f) “discussion or hearings which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee, member, or student without restricting that employee’s, member’s or student’s right to a public hearing if required.”

The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, May 8 at 6 p.m. at the Board Offices; 820 Arnie Risen Boulevard, Williamstown. For more information, call (859) 824-3323.

WILLIAMSTOWN ALUMNI OPEN HOUSE

Dust off those yearbooks and dig out the letter jackets! Williamstown alumni are invited to return to their alma mater May 17. The Williamstown Alumni Open House will be from 2-4 p.m. with a recognition ceremony at 3 p.m.

Classes being recognized are 1940, 1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015 and 2020.

There will be a recognition for the All “A” regional 1990 boys championship team, coached by David Miller and assisted by Ed Gabbert; the 1994 boys team, coached by Kirk Hamsley and assistant coaches Scott Chalk, Tim Mefford and Matt O’Neill; and the 1996 girls team, coached by Ed Gabbert and assistant coaches Darryl Cummins and Shawn West.

There will also be a

recognition of cheerleaders and coaches, with an exhibition of skills to follow the program.

Entertainment will be provided by the Williamstown Alumni Band under the direction of David Poer and Chris Hedges.

Don’t miss this opportunity to reconnect with old friends and rehash the glorious days of high school!

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Quarterly Compliance Results

January - March 2025

Tobacco Compliance

No data available from the Food & Drug Administration

Alcohol Compliance

Data provided by Ky Alcoholic Beverage Control via Open Records Request

Crittenden: 100% (1 out of 1 passed)
Congratulations Family Dollar #26461 for passing!

Dry Ridge: 100% (3 out of 3 passed)
Congratulations Grant County Food Mart LLC, Speedway #8608, and Dollar General #18820 for passing!

Williamstown: no checks conducted

Corinth: no checks conducted