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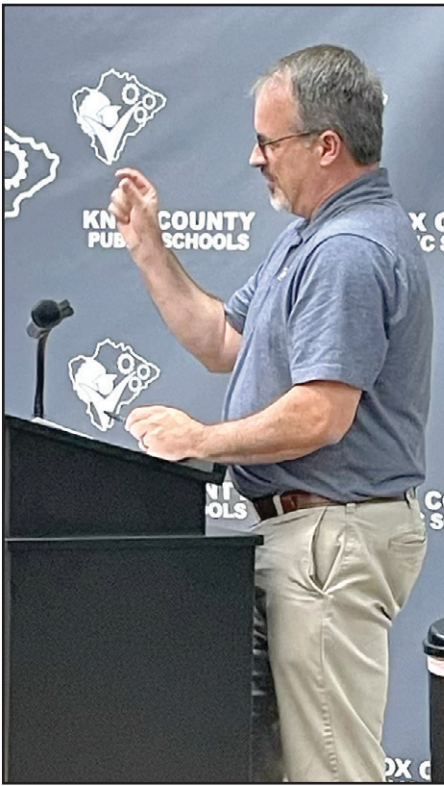
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## Knox County Schools Push Back Start Date to August 11



The Knox County Board of Education met in regular session on July 17. At right, Scott Noel with Summit Engineering discusses HVAC upgrades at area schools. The board voted to delay the start date for students until August 11. Photos Submitted



BY CHARLES MYRICK  
editor@mountainadvocate.com

Students in Knox County will return to school a few days later than expected this year, following a decision by the Knox County Board of Education last week to delay the start of classes to ensure HVAC systems in several buildings are

fully operational. At its July 17 meeting, the Knox County Board of Education approved moving the first day of school to Monday, Aug. 11, citing the need for additional time to test and run new climate control systems over the weekend before students arrive. The

decision came after an update from Scott Noel of Summit Engineering, who reported that while the installations would be completed on time, extra operational days were needed to ensure buildings are properly cooled. In addition to the calendar adjustment, board members approved

a comprehensive slate of agreements and contracts to support instruction, student services, and school operations for the 2025-2026 academic year. Among the most notable were interagency agreements supporting the district's day treatment programs. These include a Memorandum

of Agreement with the Department of Juvenile Justice, an interagency agreement with Appalachian Children's Home, and a continued partnership with Eastern Kentucky University through the Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children (KECSAC).

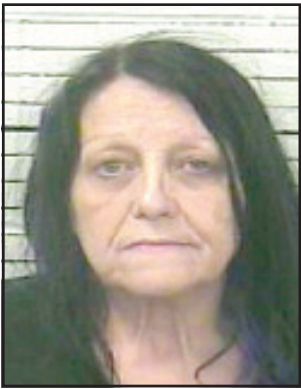
Operational approvals ranged from financial measures to technology upgrades. The board adopted the 2025-2026 Indirect Cost Non-Restricted Rate of 13.27% for food service staff expenditures and renewed software agreements

SEE KCPS, PAGE A2

## Felon Busted for Drug Trafficking, Firearms Possession Near Corbin Middle School

BY BRYLEIGH MIDDLETON  
bmiddletonr@mountainadvocate.com

A Corbin woman was arrested earlier this month and charged with multiple drug offenses, including a charge of trafficking controlled substances within 1,000 feet of a school. On Thursday, July 3, 2025, officers within the Corbin Police Department responded to an anonymous drug tip of marijuana cultivation on 101 Livingston Street in Corbin, less than 1,000 feet from Corbin Middle School. Upon arrival, officers were quick to observe a marijuana plant that was being grown in a flower pot, which was easily seen from the roadway. The marijuana plant measured 28 and a half inches tall and was seized by officers at the scene. The officers then received a following complaint at the same address that Vickie Rose, 58, a convicted felon who cannot possess any handguns due to a prior charge for trafficking methamphetamine, had allegedly threatened a family member with a handgun. Accompanied by Knox County Probation and Parole, officers with the Corbin Police Department were granted consent by Rose



Vickie Rose, 58

to conduct a search in her residence where she forewarned them they would find multiple guns inside of a locked safe in her bedroom. Officers discovered a Derringer handgun in Rose's purse, a bag with a white crystal substance, believed to be methamphetamine, multiple pipes, digital scales, and marijuana plant seeds. A search warrant was sought and executed for a further search of Rose's property where officers discovered two 12-gauge shotguns, four handguns, and a black powder rifle. Rose was arrested and charged with trafficking in controlled substances, 1st degree, trafficking controlled substances within 1,000ft of school, cultivate in marijuana (5 plants or less), 1st offense, drug paraphernalia - buy/possess, wanton endangerment, 1st degree, possession of firearm by convicted felon, possession of handgun by convicted felon. Rose was lodged in the Knox County Detention Center where she remains as of press time Tuesday, July 22, held on a \$25,000 cash bond. She is scheduled for an appearance in Knox Circuit Court on August 22.

## State health officials share concerns after latest measles case in Jefferson County

BY MELISSA PATRICK  
Kentucky Health News

Another case of measles has been confirmed in Kentucky, bringing the state's total number of cases this year to 13. The most recent case is in Jefferson County in a child "who recently traveled internationally to an area with ongoing measles transmissions," according to Louisville's health department. "It's unknown if the child was vaccinated against measles, said Connie Mendel, Louisville's chief health strategist," Kentucky Lantern reports. Eleven of the state's other 12 cases are in people unvaccinated against measles, and the 12th is in a person who got only one of the recommended two-dose vaccine. Kentucky's 13 cases add to the largest outbreak of measles in the U.S. since measles was declared eliminated in the country in 2000. Nationally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports 1,309 confirmed cases in 2025.

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