

COMMUNITY



Photo by Bath County High School

The Bath County Mock Trial Red Team who went 4-0 at the UK Wildcat Invitational on Jan. 17 with a point differential of +57. Also congratulations to BCHS senior Karson Tolle who was named a Top 10 Attorney for the event. From left, Karson Tolle, Taelyn Johnson, Matthew Coyle, Hurley Short, Carly Bowling, Ashlyn Ratliff, Katie Pruitt, and Kylee Hodson. They will be competing in the upcoming Mock Trial State competition.

Bid opening for Bath County Middle School renovation project scheduled for March



Photos by Cecil Lawson
Owingsville Elementary School's Drama Club was featured in this month's Board of Education Student Spotlight. Students performed two songs from their upcoming Disney musical review, "Dare to Dream, Jr." The musical is scheduled for April 24 and 25.

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Bath County Board of Education members held a special-called meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 20, in lieu of their regular January meeting.

Board members got updates on the Bath County Middle School renovation project. Bob Barton, with construction management firm Packs + Walker, said his firm was reviewing final drawings for the project and would be finalizing the bid calendar. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for February 10 at 2 p.m. at the Board Office Annex, with a bid opening scheduled for March 3, at the Annex for March 3, same time.

Barton said he was pleased because there was "great interest" in the renovation project. If a bid is selected, he said, construction could begin as early as April 3.

Architect Jonathan Ruiz, with Ross Tarrant Associates, said his firm has recommended a company to provide an electric switchgear for the middle school renovation project. Of the three bids submitted, his company recommended Graybar Electric. Board members voted to accept that recommendation during the regular meeting.

January is School Board Recognition Month in Kentucky, and Sharpsburg Mayor Dorothy Clemons was invited to read and sign a proclamation for this recognition during the meeting.

Board members also approved the 2026-27 draft budget following a discussion by Finance Officer Brittany Combs during the work session. The draft budget is part of a district's budget-making cycle for the following fiscal year. Combs said the beginning balance for the draft budget is estimated at \$6.7 million, which is down from previous years, and the district is slated to receive \$10.5 million in state equalization funds (known as SEEK). SEEK

is based on average daily attendance (ADA) in the district, and Combs said while attendance is steady, enrollment in the district is down a few students (the district receives \$4500 per student in SEEK funding based on ADA). She also said the district's contingency in the draft budget is around \$1 million, or 3.85 percent (the Kentucky Department of Education requires a minimum 2 percent). Board members approved the 2025-26 draft budget.

Dr. Liz Watkins presented an amendment to the current school calendar. She said the district needed to increase its number of days from 158 to 162, and they can help do that by using President's Day and scheduled Planning Day for teachers in March as attendance days. Board members approved the amended calendar.

Dr. Sean Bailey conducted a brief presentation on the annual Comprehensive District Improvement Plan and individual Comprehensive School Improvement Plans, based on data from the previous year's school assessments. Board members approved the plans as presented.

Board members also enjoyed a performance of songs from the Owingsville Elementary School's Drama Club upcoming performances of a new musical, "Dare to Dream, Jr.," a musical review of Disney songs. They will perform on April 24 and 25.

Club sponsor Tonya Pratt said this will be the 18th performance by the Drama Club, which has previously included "Annie, Jr.," "The Lion King, Jr." and "Newsies, Jr."

In other matters, Board members also approved an annual offer of assistance from the state's School Facilities Construction Commission in the amount of \$17,775; and they set the regular meeting for 2026 for the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m., except for the months of May and December, when meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month.



Photos submitted
Things are quiet and calm at the Gladie Visitor Center in the Red River Gorge

PUBLIC NOTICE
Second reading of a proposed ordinance amending the Menifee County budget for fiscal year 2026, to include unanticipated receipts for the following funds: GENERAL, ROAD, TOURISM, and to include expenditure increases for the following funds: GENERAL, ROAD, TOURISM, which totals \$105,016.12 will be held on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026, at 8 a.m. at the Menifee County Courthouse. A copy of the ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the office of the county judge/executive during normal business hours.
Published in the Bath County News-Outlook 01.29.26

PUBLIC NOTICE
Second reading of a proposed ordinance amending the Menifee County budget for fiscal year 2026, to include unanticipated receipts for the following funds: GENERAL, ROAD, JAIL, PARKS, ABC, TOURISM, DLG PARK IMPROVEMENT, NURSING HOME SINKING FUND and to include expenditure increases for the following funds: GENERAL, ROAD, JAIL, PARKS, ABC, TOURISM, DLG PARK IMPROVEMENT, NURSING HOME SINKING FUND, which totals \$250,934.04 will be held on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2025, at 8 a.m. at the Menifee County Courthouse. A copy of the ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the office of the county judge/executive during normal business hours.
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Ad prices good
Jan. 28-Feb. 3

Farmington Bacon \$3.99 16 oz., Hickory Smoked or Applewood	Fresh Beef T-Bone Steaks Family Pack \$4.99/lb.
Fresh Boneless Beef Eye of Round Roast or Family Pack Steaks \$5.99/lb. 	Strawberries 2 for \$5 1 lb. package
Fresh Chicken Drumsticks \$1.09/lb. Family Pack	US #1 Yellow Onions \$1.49 ea. 
Fresh Boneless Pork Loin Chops \$1.99/lb. Family Pack	 Broccoli or Cauliflower \$2.79 each
6 Pack 16.9 oz. Pepsi Products 4/\$13.00	Crystal Falls Purified Drinking Water \$2.99 24 pack 16.9 fl. oz. bottles
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