

Augusta Board of Education

Augusta Independent Board of Education met July 10, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. Board Members Present: Laura Bach, Chasity Saunders, Bob Snapp, and Mike Taylor.

The Board Meeting was called to order.

Items Approved by the Board were: •Approved Agenda; •Approved to Enter Executive Session; •Approved to Exit Executive Session; •Approved Appointment of New Board Member, Matthew McCane; •Approved Adjournment.

Augusta Independent Board of Education met July 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Board Members Present: Laura Bach, Chasity Saunders, Bob Snapp, and Mike Taylor.

The Board Meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Items Reviewed by the Board with No Ac-

tion Taken were: •Principal’s Report; •Personnel; •Citizens; •Board Members.

Items Approved by the Board were: •Approved Agenda; •Approved Monthly Budget Report; •Approved District Funding Assurance FY26; •Approved District’s Traceable Communication Systems; •Approved Two Certified Emergency Certifications; •Approved School Administrative Restructuring to PS-8th Principal and 9th-12th Principal; •Approved 2025-2026 Amended Classified and Extra Duty & Substitute Salary Schedules; •Approved Second Reading of Amended Board Policy 08.2211 Academic Honors; •Approved Second Reading of the 2025 Board Policy Updates; •Approved Monthly Facilities Report; •Approved Business and Consent Items: Previous Meeting Minutes, Acceptance of Donations, Bills, and Treasurer’s Report; •Approved Adjournment.



Health Department SERVICES

Conquer the Cravings to Become Tobacco Free

During the month of August, Our Healthy Kentucky Home focuses on treating tobacco use. Quitting tobacco can be a long, hard process. You will likely have strong cravings. But there are things you can do to help yourself stay quit.

Create new habits and a tobacco-free environment around you. Eat small meals during the day. Drink water, get enough sleep and exercise in short bursts. Practice self-care and positive self talk. Call a friend or family member, use a mobile app that connects you with others, or a telephone Quitline when you need extra help or support.

To replace physical habits hold something else like a pencil, paper

clip, coin, or marble. Keep substitutes handy that you can suck or chew on. Wear a rubber band around your wrist. When you think about smoking or chewing, snap it against your wrist.

If you have a lot of pent-up energy, do yardwork or housework. Get involved in a new sport or hobby.

Cravings are real. It’s not just your imagination. Take one day at a time. Remember that quitting is a learning process. Be patient with yourself.

For more help controlling cravings, contact the Bracken County Health Department at 606-735-2157, visit Nicotine Anonymous, or call 1-800-QUIT NOW.

Deaths

MR. HAMILTON

Marvin “Bobby” Eugene Hamilton, 93, died Saturday, August 16, 2025 at his home. He was born in Bracken Co., KY on January 8, 1932 to the late Grant Elmo and Dora Haley Hamilton. He was retired from Carlisle Construction, where he was a heavy equipment operator for many years, and was a lifelong farmer. He was a member of Bracken County Cattlemen’s Association, and received a Certificate of Life Membership from the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 18. He was also a very generous donor to various charitable organizations.

He is survived by numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Alberta Fay Workman Hamilton; and his sib-



lings, Helen Hamilton, Emma White, Chester Hamilton, Jessie Hamilton, Cecil Hamilton and Jimmy Hamilton.

Funeral service is at 1 pm on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at Moore and Parker Funeral Home in Brooksville, KY. Burial is at Hamilton Cemetery. Visitation is 11 am-1 pm Wednesday at the funeral home.

Memorials are suggested to charity of choice. Condolences may be sent to www.MooreAndParkerFH.com.

Living in the Doghouse

by Vanessa Ferrell



Living in a Silent World

If you are hard of hearing, you can sympathize with Oskar Meyer. He is still the head dog, but the world has changed around him. The rumble of the dishwasher that used to frighten him has disappeared. But he only knows about delivery men when the other dogs are in motion and his people startle him when he takes naps.

Cars have become more quiet too. He used to be able to hear the hum of their motors, but now he is taken by surprise when he’s told to get on the grass.

Luckily, his eyes still can see the sneaky cats that lurk downstairs and his nose keeps him updated on the wild animals and neighboring dogs when he goes for a walk.

His people are considerate, detouring around him when he is reclining on the floor. The few times they do accidentally bump him, they give him treats, to say they’re sorry.

Do not be sad for Oskar. He may have lost his sense of hearing, but when we pet him there is an unspoken language that needs no words. Oskar still has four senses left, and they stand in to give him a full life.

Note: I’ve signed up for the Baker-Bird 5K Run/Walk this Saturday, and I plan to bring Rose with me. Look for us!

Bracken Board of Education

August 11, 2025
Present: Board Members: Josh Jones, Angie Crawford, Tracy Florer, TJ Burton, and Melissa Takata; Superintendent: Clayton King; Treasurer: Brittany Mullikin; Staff and guest: Chris Yelton, Kevin Courtney, Samantha Wilson, Brad Riley, and Emily Bonnell.

The August 11, 2025 Bracken County Board of Education Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Joshua Jones.

Items Approved by the Board at its August 11, 2025 Meeting were: •Minutes of July 14, 2025 regular board meeting; •July 2025 Treasurer’s Report; •July 2025 Monthly Financial Report; •Payment of all Bills and Claims; •Superintendent Travel; •Cyber Security Plan; •Certified Evaluation Plan; •HS Golf team to Manchester, OH on 7/27/25 for tournament (Mr. King pre-approved); •Colin Jarrell to use the HS for the State Highway

dedication ceremony for Stephanie Hamilton on 7/26/25 in case of rain – this request was not needed; •Gateway Headstart MOA; •Section 504 and ARC; •2024-2025 Unaudited Annual Financial Report; •2025-2026 Property/Franchise tax rates; •2025-2026 Motor Vehicle Tax Rate; •2025-2026 Discipline Code; •Surplus; •Administrative Mentor Position; •Emergency Certification HS Language Arts Teacher.

Items Reviewed by the Board at its August 11, 2025 Meeting with No Action Taken were: •Open records distribution – tabled until September; •SBDM Reports; •KCSI Update.

Personnel: The following individuals were hired pending meeting all board requirements: Hired – Maria Castle (Certified Sub), Haley Figgins (Certified Sub), Mason McClanahan (8th Grade Boys Basketball Assistant Coach – will split stipend with Wesley Wentworth), Russ Tartter (Freshman Football Coach), Madison Rice (HS English), Macken-

zie Moford (MS Science Teacher), Tera Reed (TE LBD Special Education Teacher), Dana Bailey (TE MSD Special Education Teacher); Resignation/Retirements/Separations – Brooklyn Sumner (MS Aide); Other – 2 requests.

The Board opened the floor for public comment – No comment.

The Board went into and out of executive session to discuss Potential Litigation KRS 61.810(1)(c) with no action taken.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

August 14, 2025
Present: Board Members: Josh Jones, Angie Crawford, Tracy Florer, and TJ Burton; Superintendent: Clayton King; Treasurer: Brittany Mullikin.

The August 14, 2025 Special Called Bracken County Board of Education Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Joshua Jones.

Items Approved by the Board at its August 14, 2025 Meeting were: •2025-2026 Property/Franchise tax rates; •Emergency Certification MS Science Teacher position.

The Board opened the floor for public comment – No comment.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.



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MRS. STAPLETON

Jo Ann Rouse Stapleton, affectionately known as Mom, Gran, and Grandma J, of Germantown, Kentucky, passed away peacefully at her residence on Wednesday, August 13, 2025. She was born in Lewis County on June 23, 1941, to the late Warren G. Rouse and Beatrice Prater Rouse, and was their only child.

Jo Ann held a lifelong love for her hometown and remained deeply proud of her Lewis County roots. She often spoke fondly of growing up there, sharing heartfelt stories about the home she was raised in and the memories that shaped her.

On May 10, 1961, Jo Ann united in marriage with Charles Herman Stapleton. Together, they built a life in Germantown, Kentucky, grounded in love, tobacco, cattle, hard work, and family. Mr. Stapleton preceded her in death on January 15, 2015.

A determined, accomplished, and highly competitive businesswoman, Jo Ann was the owner of Independent Tobacco Warehouse and Independent Realty Inc., where she also served as a broker. Her leadership and vision in land development - particularly in the Beaumont Estates project - earned her a Kentucky Associated Press award, an enduring testament to her dedication and drive.

Jo Ann was a longtime member of Highland Christian Church. In later years, she felt



called to join St. Patrick Church, where she lived out her faith.

She is survived by her son, Charles W. “Chuck” Stapleton, (Maureen) of Lexington, KY; her grandsons, Charles Taylor Stapleton of Paris, KY, Christopher Todd Stapleton (Hannah) of Independence, KY, and Andrew Frazee Stapleton of Lexington, KY; and three great-grandsons. She was preceded in death by her son, Todd Frazee Stapleton. Although she had no daughters or granddaughters, Jo Ann considered Martha Pawsat, Lesley Asbury, Grace Pawsat, and Harper Asbury as her own. She held them close to her heart, offering them the same love and support she gave her family.

Remembered for her beauty and elegance, Jo Ann was admired not only for her grace, but for her generosity and commitment to helping others. She supported many causes quietly and humbly and was always willing to share her time and encouragement.

After her husband’s passing, Jo Ann found comfort and companionship in her special friend,

Johnny Doyle. His loyalty and care brought her joy and peace.

In her final chapter, Jo Ann was blessed with many kind and capable hands who cared for her, but there was a devoted circle who remained by her side from the very beginning with unwavering loyalty, love, and compassion. This extraordinary group included Bonnie Mora, Hadley Hemminger, Janet Sticklen, Marilyn Jefferson, Mike Adams, Teresa Tolle, and Rita Lang. Their steadfast presence brought comfort, dignity, and deep companionship during her final days, and their care will always be remembered with heartfelt gratitude.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, August 16 at Palmer Funeral Home in Germantown, Kentucky. Burial was at Maple Grove Cemetery. The service was officiated by Bro. John A. Hampton.

Pallbearers were: Chase Stapleton, Chris Stapleton, Drew Stapleton, Lesley Asbury, Grace Pawsat, Mike Adams, Jeff Hinson, and Chris Lowe.

Honorary pallbearers were: Jack Prater, Corky Prater, John Harmon Henderson, and David Griffith.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Hope or St. Patrick Church.

Jo Ann had a heart that carried a deep thoughtfulness, and was a gift to everyone who knew her. Her kindness and enduring love will live on in the hearts of all who were touched by her.

Tri State Land Company

Walton, KY

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3 acre - Johnsville area
Mostly pasture, view, 4 miles off AA Highway, city water along road. **\$24,900.00.**
\$1,000 Down - \$210 per month

63.5 acre - Adams Co. Ohio
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1.5 acre - Bracken Co., Perkins Ridge Rd.
Pasture, mobiles welcome, city water & electric available. **\$18,900.00.** \$1,500 Down

Owner Financing Available

Military Discounts



Chris Cummins

Moore & Parker Funeral Homes & Cremation Service

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