

Caverna Board Of Education

By **Hailey England**
Freelance Reporter

The Caverna Board of Education met in regular session on March 13, 2025.

In attendance were Board Members Gina Lyon, Allison Dennison, Wayne Hatcher, Jennifer Briggs, and Jennifer Ballard, as well as Superintendent Amanda Abell.

Jennifer Briggs opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and reading the district's vision & mission statements.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by 4th graders of Caverna Elementary.

Right before prayer, which was led by board member Gina Lyon, the public joined together for a moment of silence honoring Caverna High School student Elijah Heacock, who unexpectedly lost his life on February 28, 2025.

Student and Staff Recognitions
Superintendent Amanda Abell recognized student Mariangel Lopez as Caverna Elementary's student of the month.

"Mariangel is an extremely sweet student," said Abell. "She's a hard worker who works hard to meet Caverna's pride expectations. She's a giver who is always willing to help her classmates. Mariangel is a leader in the classroom, always demonstrating appropriate classroom behaviors. Her teachers can always count on her to do the right thing."

Abell recognized Jaylynn Maxey as Caverna Middle School's Student of the Month.

"Jaylynn has a positive attitude and displays great leadership skills within the halls of Caverna Middle School," read Abell.

Jaylin Craine (Athlete of the Month) and Allie Poynter (Caverna High School Student of the Month) were unable to attend the meeting,



▲ PHOTO | HAILEY ENGLAND
Mariangel Lopez was the Caverna Elementary School Student of the Month for March.



▲ PHOTO | HAILEY ENGLAND
Caverna Middle School Student of the Month for March was Jaylynn Maxey.



▲ PHOTO | HAILEY ENGLAND
Ms. Christina Page was recognized as February's Certified Employee recipient for the Core Value Award.



▲ PHOTO | HAILEY ENGLAND
Ms. Amy Neagle was recognized as the Certified March Employee for the Core Value Award.

but were recognized the following day by Caverna High School Principal Frank Beauchamp.

Four employees (two for February and two for March) were recognized with Core Value Awards.

Ms. Christina Page was recognized as February's Certified Employee recipient for the Core Value Award, and Ms. Lori Barlow (absent) was recognized as February's Classified Employee recipient of the Core Value Award.

Ms. Amy Neagle was recognized as the Certified March Employee for the Core

Value Award, and Ms. Amy Kilmon (absent) was recognized as the Classified March Employee Core Value Award.

"We are so blessed to have such an amazing staff," said Abell.

The Board approved the second reading of School Calendar FY '25-26.

The official date of graduation was set as Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 7 p.m. in the Caverna High School gymnasium.

The Board also accepted a bid from Tennis Technology Inc. to rebuild the tennis courts at Caverna High School.

•UPDATE

Continued from page four

safety and registration requirements while restricting travel distances and prohibited highways.

SB 58 ensures special needs trusts can receive public pension benefits without affecting government assistance, protecting beneficiaries' financial security.

SB 68 reforms public school standards by emphasizing critical thinking, reducing administrative burdens, expanding career and technical education, and increasing budget transparency.

SB 93 requires insurers, Medicaid, and state health plans to cover children's hearing aids, mandating a minimum of \$2,500 per device, effective Jan. 1, 2026.

SB 130 strengthens consumer protections by criminalizing gift

card fraud, making it a felony to tamper with, steal, or misuse gift cards.

SB 144 mandates the destruction of firearms used in homicides within 90 days of a court order and allows KSP to destroy unsafe or defaced firearms instead of reselling them.

SB 153 strengthens Medicaid oversight by setting prepayment claims review standards to prevent fraud and improper payments.

SB 162 increases unemployment fraud prevention by mandating swift reporting, disqualifying fraudulent recipients from benefits, and tightening eligibility rules.

SB 181 establishes traceable communication systems for school staff and volunteers

when interacting with students electronically, with parental consent options and mandatory reporting for violations.

SB 183 ensures pension fund investments prioritize financial returns by requiring proxy advisers to justify decisions that go against company board recommendations.

SB 190 expands charitable gaming by allowing nonprofits to hold more bingo sessions and extend gaming hours, increasing fundraising opportunities.

As always, it's a privilege to serve you in Frankfort. If you have questions or ideas, feel free to contact my office at (502)-564-8100 or email me at David.Givens@kylegislature.gov.

Kentucky Center for Leadership names Training Facility the Houchens Industries Leadership Center

In honor of a recent gift from Houchens Industries Inc., the Kentucky Center for Leadership has named its training facility, located at WKU Innovation campus, the Houchens Industries Leadership Center.

The Kentucky Center for Leadership is a non-profit organization driven by a laser-like focus on facilitating leadership experiences through in-person workshops and virtual webinars, quarterly executive luncheons and leadership conferences.

"We often use the metaphor of a 'Moonshot' when describing our mission of serving as a catalyst for leadership in south

central and western Kentucky. With future plans to expand state-wide, Houchens Industries' financial support in equipping our training facility with the most advanced technology is no doubt the 'rocket fuel' that we need to achieve that mission," said Kentucky Center for Leadership President & Chief Experience Officer Greg Coker.

"Houchens Industries is pleased to partner with the Kentucky Center for Leadership on its expansion to the WKU Innovation Campus into space to be named the

Houchens Industries Leadership Center.

It is our desire that the Houchens Industries Leadership Center will serve as a catalyst for the Kentucky Center for Leadership to become the preeminent source for leadership training in our region," said Dion Houchins, Houchens Industries Inc. Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board.

To learn more about the Kentucky Center for Leadership, please visit the non-profit organization's website at www.KC4L.org.

YOUR LEADING REGIONAL NEWS SOURCE
sckentucky.com
The Jobe Newspaper Network

A Word from the Hart County Shelter Administration:
61 Stray Puppies and Counting: Hart County, We Have a Problem.

So far this year, the Hart County Animal Shelter has taken in 61 stray puppies, tiny, helpless lives left to fend for themselves. That number doesn't even include owner surrenders.

These puppies should have been loved and cared for, but instead, they were discarded like trash- left on backroads, in ditches, or in a box at the laundromat. Some are barely weaned, still needing their mother's warmth. Others are sick, covered in fleas, or suffering from exposure. None of this is their fault. The shelter is doing everything it can, but resources are stretched



thin. Staff and volunteers work tirelessly to help these animals, but the constant influx is overwhelming. Shelters are meant to be a refuge, not a dumping ground.

A major contributor to this crisis is the failure to spay and neuter pets. Uncontrolled breeding leads to unwanted litters, and too often, instead of taking responsibility, owners abandon these animals. The Hart County Animal Shelter is pleading with the community- please, spay and neuter your pets. This simple act can prevent so much unnecessary suffering. If cost is a concern, ARK for Hart offers low-cost spay/neuter vouchers, available at <https://www.ark4hart.org/shop>. ARK also hosts events to sell these vouchers, making it easier for pet



owners to afford this essential procedure.

What can you do? Ensure your pets are spayed or neutered. If you suspect someone of dumping animals, report it. And if you have room in your heart and home, consider adopting. These puppies didn't choose to be abandoned, but you can choose to give them a second chance.

The 61 stray puppies at the Hart County Animal Shelter are just the beginning. If we don't act now, that number will continue to rise. The question is, will we turn a blind eye, or will we stand up and fight for these innocent lives? (If you want to help us save these precious lives, please consider fostering, adopting, or donating. Pedigree Dry Dog Food is especially needed.)

RIDE A HOG – SAVE A DOG!



Open Road Leather
Motorcycle Gear and Accessories
1108 Main Street, Munfordville
(270) 421-0787



Calypso's Coffee Shop
1108 Main Street
Munfordville
(719) 761-3632



Animal Rescue Kare
2190 S Dixie Hwy
Munfordville
(270) 524-1692

NEED FUEL? WE DELIVER!

As family farm owners, we know the work never stops. Let us bring the fuel to you to keep things rolling. Get a head start and schedule your regular deliveries with us now!

Proudly serving the counties of:

- Allen
- Hart
- Barren
- Larue
- Edmonson
- Metcalfe
- Grayson
- Monroe
- Green
- Warren



FARM & ROAD FUELS: DIESEL, GASOLINE & KEROSENE

TRI-COUNTY AUTO & OIL

GUARANTEED QUALITY!
CALL (270) 786-2158

126 E. MAIN STREET • HORSE CAVE, KY

FUEL • OIL • TIRES

• We Also Do Oil Changes • Minor Auto Repairs • Tire Repairs •