

Bracken Co. Board of Education Honors May Students of the Month



Shown left to right are Olivia Buchanan, Sanae Takata and Carson Keith.

The Bracken County School District Board of Education recognized May students of the month and art students of the month during their monthly meeting on Monday, May 11, 2026.

Taylor Elementary Students of the Month are James Williamson and Brian Copley. Art Student of the Month is Olivia Buchanan. BCMS Students of the Month are Carson Keith and Shelby Baker. BCMS Art Student of the Month is Dawson Bravard. BCHS students of the Month are Amelia Carter and Sanae Takata. BCHS Art Student of the Month is Kenna Williams.

The Bracken County School District Board of Education congratulates these deserving students.

Eighth Graders Give Defense of Learning Presentations



Pictured left to right are Piper Scroggins, Colt Whitener and Tyler Takata.

Several years ago the Bracken County School District implemented "Portrait of a Learner" competencies in schools. They are a community-informed vision that outlines the essential skills, knowledge, and dispositions every student needs to thrive in an ever-changing world. Each facet - Resourceful Problem Solver, Self-Directed Learner, Responsible

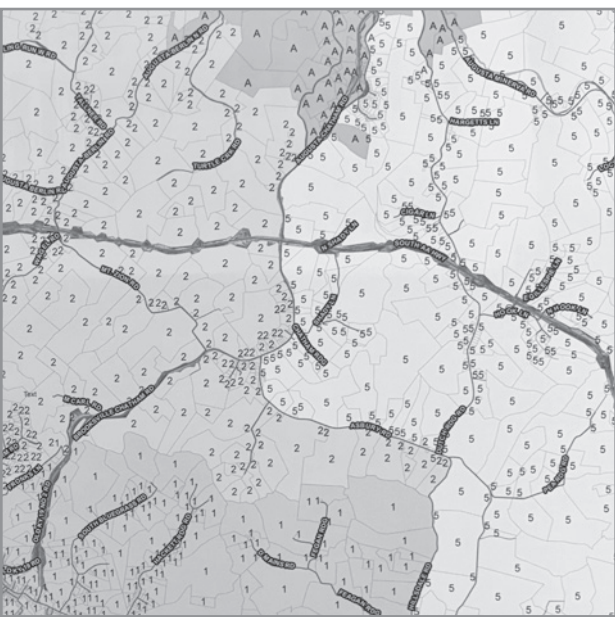
Citizen, Effective Communicator and Productive Collaborator - prepares students to be successful citizens, employees, and people.

On Monday, May 11, three 8th grade students spoke about instances when they used "Portrait of a Learner" skills to help them make decisions, build an electric-powered model car with a group and effectively present research

to other students. The poised young people also responded to questions from the Board and audience.

By centering learning around these five traits, Bracken County Schools are ensuring that all students leave school with the skills and confidence to lead fulfilling lives, contribute to their communities, and adapt in a rapidly evolving world.

Bracken County School Board Approves District Reapportionment



The Bracken County Board of Education approved the reapportionment of District 2 and District 5 at the May 11, 2026 board meeting. All land parcels to the west of Dutch Ridge Road will become District 2 (Chatham district) - they were formerly in District 5 (Germanantown).

This reapportionment was completed due to a large discrepancy in population found between Chatham and all other districts.

If you have any questions or would like to view the maps showing these districts and changes, please contact the Bracken County Clerk's Office after the effective date of 5/26/26.

Insko Named to SNHU President's List

Elena Insko of Augusta has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's Spring 2026 President's List. The spring terms run from January to May.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Bracken Board of Education

May 11, 2026

Present: Board Members: Josh Jones, Melissa Takata, Tracy Florer, and Samantha Jones; Superintendent: Clayton King; Treasurer: Brittany Mullikin; Staff and guests: Brad Riley, Chris Yelton, Kevin Courtney, Karlie Sudlow, Vanessa Ferrell, Leah Whitener, Mike Whitener, Case Whitener, Colt Whitener, Elizabeth Jones, Jennifer Smith, Bailey Scroggins, Piper Scroggins, Riley Scroggins, Marilyn Moore, Ronald Keith, Rebecca Keith, Carson Keith, Stacey Schneller, Brittany Moore, Kinsley Moore, Cheyanne Gray, Tyler Takata, Hester Kern, April Vater, Kaleigh Appleman, Olivia Buchanan, Alex Buchanan, Tricia Rogers, Kyle Takata, Ren Takata, Reiko Takata, and Sanae Takata.

The May 11, 2026 Bracken County Board of Education Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Joshua Jones.

Items Approved by the Board were: •Minutes of April 13, 2026 regular board meeting and April 29, 2026 special called board meeting; •April 2026 Treasurer's Report; •April 2026 Monthly Financial Report; •Payment of all Bills and Claims; •Superintendent Travel - will submit in June to close out fiscal year; •Acknowledge Bracken

County Board of Education Scholarship for \$750 - each board member donates 1 per diem; •Employee Dishonesty Bond and Treasurer's Bond renewal for 26-27; •FCCLA to Washington DC 7/6-7/10 for National Competition using Amtrak as common carrier; •FBLA to San Antonio, TX 6/29-7/3 for National Competition using Delta as common carrier; •Reapportionment of all land tracts to the west of Dutch Ridge Road to be District 2 (Chatham) instead of District 5 (Germanantown). This affects approximately 303 residents; •Surplus - 20 MS Football Helmets, HS Basketball Uniforms from 14-15 and 17-18, Glow Forge Laser Printer/Engraver; •2026-2027 School bids; •PT Contract with A Step Ahead; •OT Contract with Robertson County Schools; •School Nurse contract with Bracken County Health Department; •Tentative Budget; •First National Bank as Bond of Depository/Pledge of Collateral for board funds; •Reclassification of Curriculum Specialist position to be District Wide Virtual Instructor; •New Teacher Orientation Stipend Position.

Items Reviewed by the Board with No Action Taken were: •Students of the Month - James Williamson, Brian Copley, Carson Keith, Shelby Baker, Amelia Carter, and Sanae Takata; •Related Art Student of the Month -

Olivia Buchanan, Dawson Bravard, and Kenna Williams; •Defenses of Learning Student Presentations - Tyler Takata, Colt Whitener, and Piper Scroggins; •SBDM Report - Mrs. Sudlow for BCHS; •Attendance Report.

Personnel: The following individuals were hired pending meeting all board requirements: **Hired** - Dilena Quinlin (MS Head Custodian 6 hr position), Tracey Hillerich (HS Cook), Aaron Rigdon (Varsity Basketball Coach), Michelle Murphy (Certified Sub), Meranda Parson (Certified Sub), Aaron Rigdon (DW Alternative Teacher), Farran Walsh (Certified Sub), Tanner Yelton (Certified Sub); **Separations/Resignation/Retirements** - Kevin Courtney (Retirement 6/30/26), Kendra Scott (Retirement 6/30/26), Russ Tarter (HS Football Coach), Amanda Gerhard (Retirement 6/30/26), Eric Boyd (Band Teacher).

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) and Superintendent Evaluation KRS 156.557 (6)(c) - Superintendent Evaluation was approved with an overall rating of Satisfactory and 5% raise to contract salary.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Forest Service Announces Additional Fee-Free Day on June 6

The U.S. Forest Service announced an additional 2026 recreation fee-free day on June 6 in celebration of National Trails Day, providing no cost use of all standard amenity recreation sites on national forests and grasslands. National Trails Day was established by the American Hiking Society in 1993 and occurs annually on the first Saturday in June. It brings together federal land managers, partners, and volunteers to celebrate trails and accomplish trail stewardship projects to ensure they are safe, well-maintained, easy-to-follow and accessible.

The Forest Service waives recreation fees at most day-use sites on lands managed by the agency. Participation by concession-operated sites may vary. Future fee-free dates are:

•National Get Outdoors Day: June 13,



2026
•Independence Day: July 4, 2026
•Constitution Day: September 17, 2026
•National Public Lands Day: September 26, 2026
•Theodore Roosevelt's Birthday: October 27, 2026
•Veterans Day: November 11, 2026

The Forest Service is also encouraging all visitors to Take the #NationalTrailsDay Pledge and commit to leaving the trails better than you found them. The Forest Service-managed

trail system, at more than 165,000 miles, is the largest public trails system in the U.S. with trailheads in nearly every state making recreation opportunities accessible to hike, bike, ATV, ride horseback, snowmobile, snowshoe, etc. In 2025, volunteers and partners accounted for more than 60 percent of all trail maintenance accomplishments, or nearly 26,000 miles.

For all 2026 fee free days on National Forest System lands, please visit www.fs.usda.gov/visit/passes-permits.

submitted

Don't miss an issue. Make sure we know about any address changes!
606-735-2198

APPELMAN'S DUTCH RIDGE ROOFING
Steel Siding & Roofing
217-1101 756-2340

S.A.M.E. Excavation
Land Clearing
Yard Grading
Trenching
Dirt Moving
Septic System Installation
Basement/Pond Digging
STEVEN BISHOP 859-322-0573

RECENT PROJECTS SUPPLIED BY **MILLER LUMBER CO., INC.**
Bracken, Brown, Campbell, Clermont, Harrison Mason and Pendleton Counties

MAKE YOURS NEXT!

201 Seminary Ave., Augusta, KY 41002
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 AM - 5PM;
Sat. 8AM - 12 Noon
(606) 756-2151 or Toll Free (800) 643-4426
www.millerlumberco.com