

Schools gain flexibility to purchase local farm products

Change applies to Kentucky-grown agricultural products

BY PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

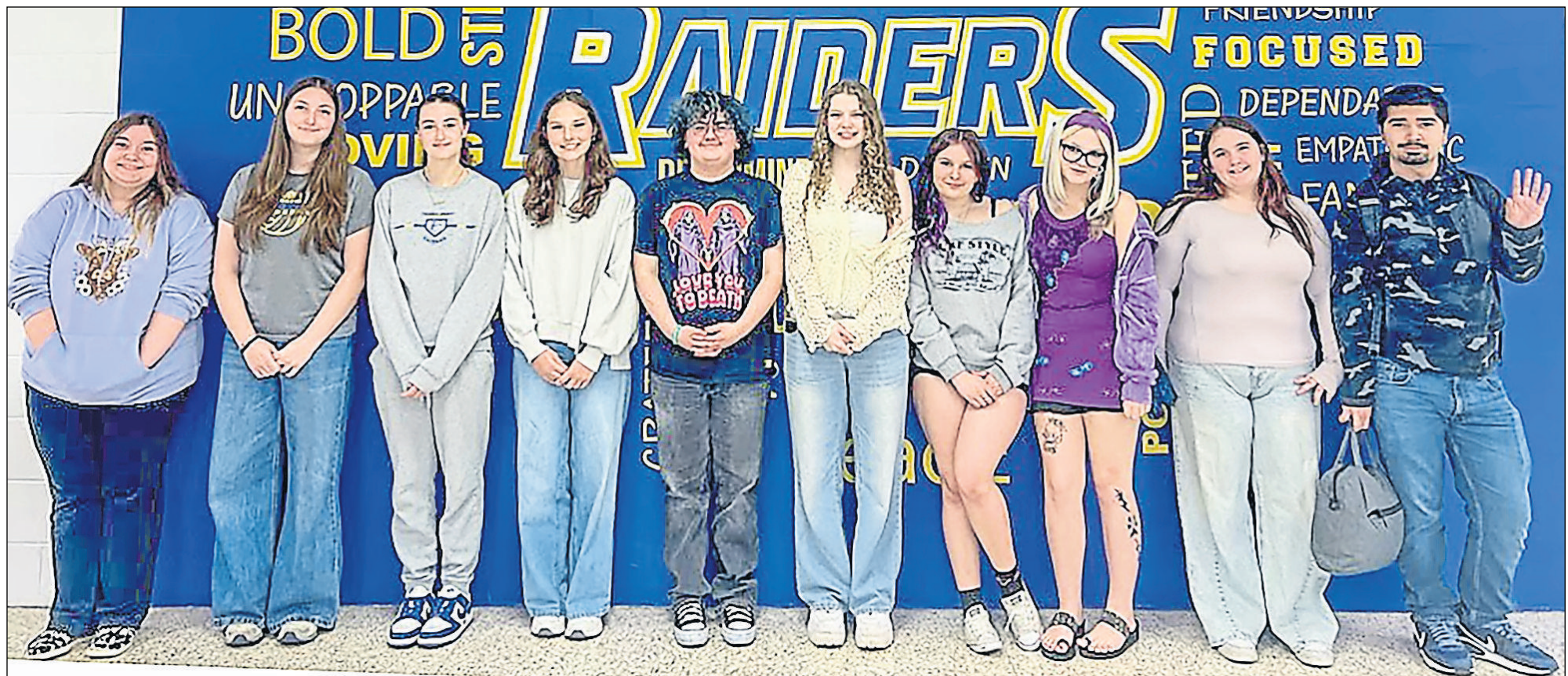
FRANKFORT — Kentucky schools now have an easier path to include local farm products into their meals after the passage of Senate Bill 5 (SB5), Agriculture Commissioner Jonathan Shell

announced. “Studies show farm produce from a local source has more nutrients than those that have to be shipped longer distances,” Shell said. “Healthier, more nutrient dense meals make for a child that is more focused, alert, and ready to learn. This bill helps achieve this by decreasing some of the challenges and barriers in prior procurements of local farm fresh foods.” One of the primary goals of

SB 5, sponsored by Sen. Jason Howell, R-Murray, was to put more locally grown produce into schools to benefit students' nutrition. During a Senate Agriculture Committee meeting this year, Commissioner Shell testified the legislation would start the process of decentralizing the current procurement system in schools so that farmers' access to school markets can be bolstered. The bill allows Kentucky school districts participating in USDA

Child Nutrition programs greater flexibility in directly purchasing Kentucky-grown agricultural products without being subject to certain state competitive bidding laws — while still complying with all federal requirements. In some cases, the flexibility allows local farmers to compete with large conglomerates by allowing school food purchases to award contracts when the district considers the price reasonable based on prior experience, purchase history,

or other relevant information. Under SB5, the competitive bid requirement could be lifted for districts seeking to award food purchases below \$350,000. The change only applies to Kentucky-grown agricultural products — products grown, raised, or produced in Kentucky — and when the schools are participating in USDA Child Nutrition Programs. But it doesn't exempt districts from other federal or local procurement rules.



Karly Code

Students from Trimble County Jr/Sr who participated in the Mandarin Language Festival or submitted artwork (from left): Kaeli Wooten, Kendra Lawson, Ellianna Pennix, Lilly Bass, Mars Melvin, Lariah Lafferty, Danica Martin, Emma Newby, Erysa Hager, Ivan Galvan.

Trimble students place high at Mandarin Festival

BY KARLY CODE THE TRIMBLE BANNER

Three Bedford Elementary students, more than 10 Trimble County Jr/Sr students, and members of the Trimble band performed at the 3rd Annual Mandarin Language Festival, hosted by BG Education Management Solutions (BGEMS), in Lexington on Saturday, March 28.

Students from Trimble

participated in at least one of three categories — song, speech, or talent — with several earning awards for their efforts.

Bedford first grader Rylan Pennington and second grader Kaitlyn Code won silver for their song in the Elementary Division.

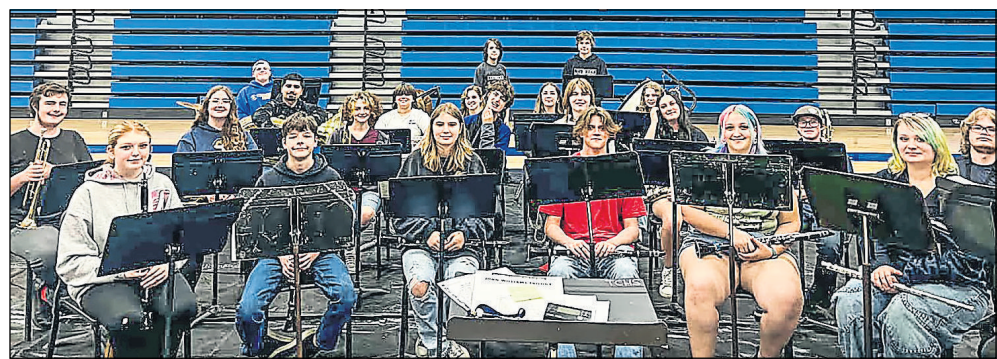
Eighth grader Danica Martin won bronze and eighth grader Erysa Hager won silver for their songs in the Middle School Division.

Senior Emma Newby won silver in both the high school song and talent competitions.

The Trimble County Jr/Sr students were named recipients of the Outstanding Group award.

The annual festival aims to advance language education.

“Language is more than vocabulary. Language is connection. Language is identity. Language is bridge building,” said BGEMS President Terrill Martin.



Karly Code

Members of the Trimble County band performed "Dragon Dance," directed by Shelby Ross.



Karly Code

Bedford students (from left) Rylan Pennington and Kaitlyn Code performed "Head, shoulders, knees and toes" in Mandarin and second grader Kinslee Franklin performed a fan dance.



Karly Code

Trimble County middle school students Danica Martin and Erysa Hager with their awards for the singing competition.




Karly Code

The Outstanding Group award Trimble County Jr/Sr students received for their efforts as a team.



Karly Code

Trimble County High School student Emma Newby and her silver awards for the song and talent competitions.



LEGAL NOTICE

ALL FIREFIGHTERS OF THE GHENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT will please take notice that the District will conduct an election at the Firehouse at 200 Ladder Lane, Carrollton, Kentucky, on Saturday, June 27, 2026, between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to elect one member firefighter to the Board of Trustees of the District. Only member firefighters of the District may vote in this election.

The term of the Trustee so elected shall expire on January 2, 2031.

Any member firefighter wishing to be considered for election as Trustee of the Ghent Fire Protection District shall present to the Board of Trustees of the District at the regular meeting on May 8, 2026, a Petition bearing the signatures of at least ten (10) other member firefighters of the District who support his candidacy for nomination as Trustee. Any member firefighter who presents a proper Petition shall be placed on the ballot for the election to be conducted on June 27, 2026. No member firefighter may sign more than one (1) Petition, and any signature which appears on more than one (1) Petition shall be struck from all Petitions on which it appears.

Form Petitions may be picked up at the office of Attorney Jake A. Thompson, 523 Highland Avenue, Carrollton, Kentucky 41008, counsel for the Ghent Fire Protection District.

Anyone having any questions regarding any aspect of the election should contact Attorney Jake A. Thompson, 523 Highland Avenue, Carrollton, Kentucky 41008, 502-732-6688, counsel for the Ghent Fire Protection District.

RETIREMENT AUCTION

Jack Webster

Having retired from farming, I have listed the following for Public Auction to be held at:
10390 Hwy 421, Milton, Kentucky 40045
SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026 • 10:00 AM
Sale conducted by: Smith & Colen Auctions

TRACTORS & SELF-PROPELLED EQUIPMENT: John Deere 4250, 16-speed, 2,635 hrs.; John Deere 4840, 8-speed, w/weights, 8,663 hrs., 42" tires, duals & 3 sets of remotes; Massey 399 w/cab, 4,044 hrs., 2 sets of remotes; Massey 245, 2 sets of remotes; Farmall C w/cultivators; John Deere 6000 Highboy; John Deere 9510 Combine Maximizer

GRAIN TRUCKS: 2000 Navistar Semi, tandem duals w/wet kit; International S1900 Grain Truck w/16' Ohman Standard Bed & Shurlock Roll Top; 1991 GMC Topkick Single Axle Dump Truck, 67,194 miles; 1978 GMC Siera 6000 w/14' grain bed, 4-speed, new Jasper 350 engine

TRAILERS: 30' Trail Mobil Aluminum Dump Trailer; 20,000 lb. Flatbed Trailer w/Pendleton

FARM EQUIPMENT: EZ Trail 680 Head Cart; JD 1560 Drill; 496 24' Disk; 1,000-gal. Field Sprayer; Gravity Wagon w/Auger; JD 444 4-Row Corn Head; JD 920 Grain Table; JD 7000 4-Row Corn Planter; Brandt 1060 Auger; Wilmer 5-ton Fertilizer Spreader; 4 Flatbed Wagons; Land Pride 5' Finish Mower; JD Semi-Mount Plows; NH 273 Hayliner Sq. Baler; JD 660 Bar Rake w/Dolly Wheels; Yale Forklift; Farmking 855 Auger; Grain Cleaner; Bobcat 7250 Skid Steer w/New Tracks; Jeep Cherokee (Parts/ Salvage)

TERMS: Cash or Check with valid state-issued ID required. All property is the responsibility of the buyer once sold. All items sell as-is, where-is.

Kentucky sales tax of 6% will apply to all items. Dealers wishing to be tax exempt must submit a copy of their resale certificate prior to payment. Kentucky farmers must provide a valid Kentucky Agriculture Exemption Number prior to payment to be tax exempt. All out-of-state buyers must have a Kentucky Agriculture Exemption Number to be tax exempt, per Kentucky law effective January 1, 2023.

LIABILITY: All persons attending this sale do so at their own risk. Neither Jack Webster nor Smith & Colen Auctions assume any liability, legal or otherwise, for any accidents that may occur. Announcements made day of sale take precedence over all printed material.

For full listing visit auctionzip.com, Auctioneer ID 48878

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