



(l-r); Kindergarten Teacher Yvonne Morgan, Reading Intervention Teacher Angela Phillips, 3rd Grade Teacher Hannah Parmley, 2nd Grade Teacher Kristen Phillips, and 1st Grade Teacher Caitlin Parmley were recognized for their support of new Reading Initiatives.

Wayne County Board of Education appreciates elementary teachers delivering new reading initiatives

Reading initiatives were the main focus of Thursday night's Wayne County Board of Education meeting. Five Wayne County elementary teachers were recognized during the monthly meeting. They had been favorably featured in a recent front-page article in the Louisville Courier Journal, the state's largest newspaper, in regard to an investigative series of articles focused on how children learn to read.

Wayne County Schools Elementary Curriculum Coach Amanda Beck kicked off a presentation by the teachers to illustrate the importance of how reading is taught. She explained the district's push to provide research-based reading instruction using a mixture of programs specially selected by the administrators. The headline of the story about Wayne County was "Phonics alone can't solve reading crisis", and the teachers demonstrated how well more rigorous methods are providing students with more knowledge.

Kindergarten Teacher Yvonne Morgan (Walker Early Learning Center), First Grade Teacher Caitlin Parmley (Bell Elementary), Second Grade Teacher Kristen Phillips (Bell Elementary), Third Grade Teacher Hannah Parmley (Monticello Elementary), and Reading Intervention

Teacher Angela Phillips (Monticello Elementary) illustrated how they are approaching the “Science of Reading” using knowledge rich curriculum. They all were appreciative that the board of education has invested in these programs to help implement this style of reading instruction.

The board also recognized the district technology department and the digital coaches at each school building. They each received the Stilwell Award/Meritorious Service medal, which was commissioned for presentation to critical Education Technology staff in all KY school districts. The coin signified the educational technical support throughout the 24-month core of the pandemic. Their service provided THE connection with students and families to their schools for the continuation of learning and student health supports.

Wayne County Schools Technology Director Valerie Hutchinson praised her team’s efforts and provided information about the amazing number of services they offer the district. The current IT Department includes: Jeremy Massengale, Nathan Foster, Kevin Tuggle, Doug Smith, and Allison Rice. Digital Learning Coaches which are primarily teachers that assist their peers or students in their buildings are: DeShay Dishman, Sasha Chaplin, Rachael Durbin, Jennifer Sexton, McKayla Creech (now GT Coordinator), Cyndi Neal, Jadyn Kramp (new this year), Juliet Perkins, Braxton Shearer, Marsha Bertram and Kelly Brown.

In other business during the meeting:

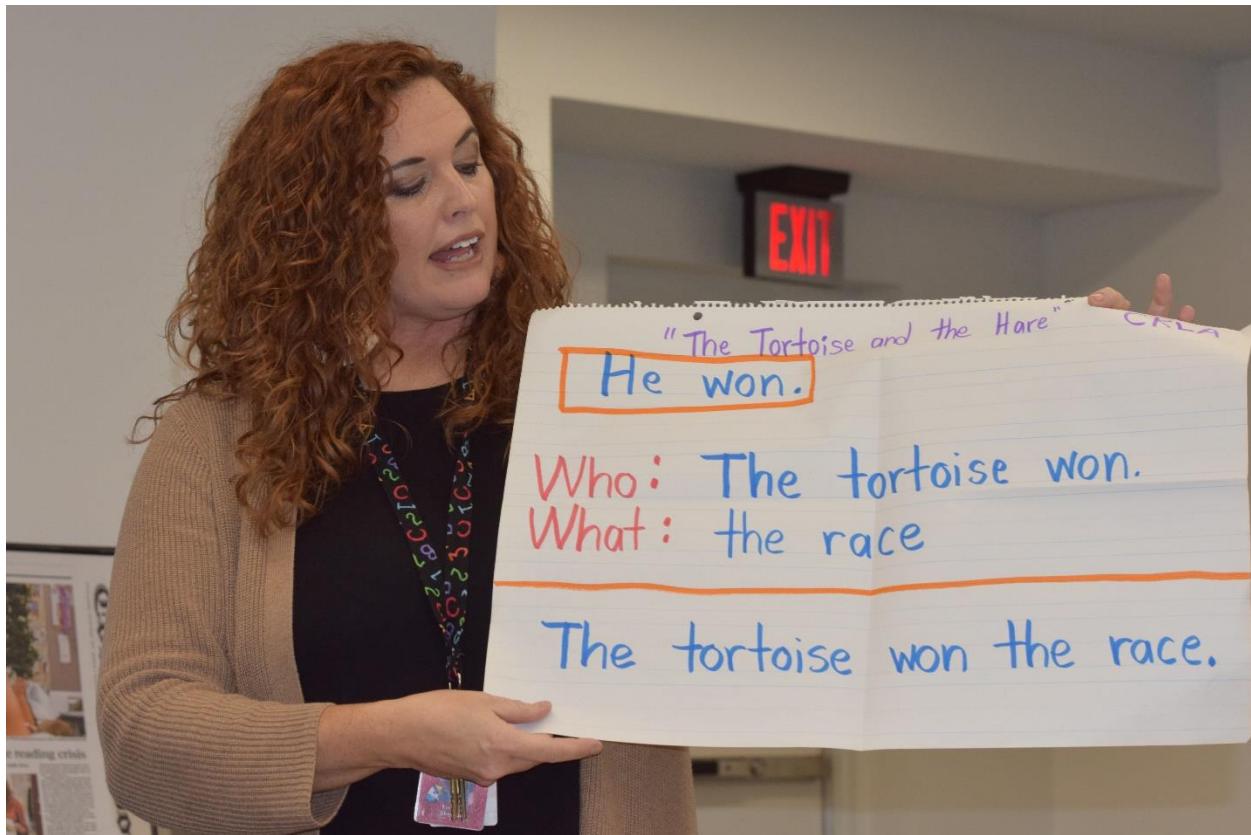
*Approved the 2021-22 financial audit report which showed a healthy ending balance of \$3,629,944 in the general fund at the end of June 2022. White & Associates, PSC determined the district’s financial standing had a rating of an “unmodified report” which is the highest available. There were no deficiencies and no noncompliance issues reported.

*Approved a bond sale and resolution of the board authorizing an agreement between the Kentucky Interlocal School Transportation Association and the board providing for the acquisition of four new International school buses at a total cost of \$460,378. One 52-passenger bus and three 72-passenger buses will be added to the fleet.

*Approved the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program, which provides free meals to students.



Elementary Curriculum Coach Amanda Beck presented Reading Initiatives to the Board.



Kindergarten Teacher Yvonne Morgan showed how her students' learn to write sentences.



1st Grade Teacher Caitlin Parmley shared how reading is being taught in her classroom.



2nd Grade Teacher Kristen Phillips explained how she brings reading alive in the classroom by using props.



3rd Grade Teacher Hannah Parmley shared how impressed she is with new knowledge based reading methods.



Reading Intervention Teacher Angela Phillips discussed how far the district's reading strategies have come in the past 20 years.



(l-r) Bell Elementary Educators Sara Harris, Rachael Durbin, Kristen Phillips, Caitlin Parmley, and Derrick Harris



Technology Director Valerie Hutchinson shared services her department provides.



Technology Staff and Digital Coaches included (l-r) Jeremy Massengale, Nathen Foster, Kevin Tuggle, Valerie Hutchinson, Juliet Perkins, Rachael Durbin, Sasha Chaplin, Braxton Shearer, and Jennifer Sexton all received the Stilwell Award along with others.