

Board Approves Employee Pay Raises



▲ PHOTO | METCALFE COUNTY SCHOOLS
Retirees (L-R): Kim Coleman, Lynn Hawkins, Bryant Stockton, Patty Bunch, and Herby Bunch. Not pictured is Scott Roach.

By **Torrie Osbon**
Communications Director

The Metcalfe County Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, June 10.

On the agenda, the Board approved the 2025-2026 salary schedule, which includes across-the-board pay raises for all district staff. Classified employees will receive an additional \$1.50 per hour pay increase, while certified employees will receive a salary increase of \$1,500 to \$2,000 per year.

“We are pleased and excited that the Board approved another significant raise for our Metcalfe County School team,” Superintendent Josh Hurt said. “This year, the Board took an innovative approach and moved salaries forward in lump sums rather than percentages. As superintendent, I am excited to see our school system continue

to move forward in terms of compensation and benefits for our employees.”

Also on the agenda, the Board approved Superintendent Josh Hurt’s evaluation, which included two exemplary ratings and five accomplished. The Board approved a new strategic plan, which will be implemented over the next five years. The Board also approved board meeting dates for the next six months, which include the addition of two working sessions:

- Tuesday, July 15 – 6pm
- Thursday, August 7 – 4pm (working session/no action)
- Tuesday, August 12 – 6pm
- Tuesday, September 9 – 6pm
- Tuesday, October 14 – 6pm
- Thursday, November 13 – 6pm
- Thursday, December 4 – 4pm (working session/no action)

session/no action)
• Tuesday, December 9 – 6pm

The Board recognized the retirements of six employees who dedicated many years to serving the students of Metcalfe County.

- Herby Bunch – Transportation Director
 - Patty Bunch – Family Resource Center Director
 - Kim Coleman – MCES Guidance Counselor
 - Lynn Hawkins – MCHS Ag and English Teacher
 - Scott Roach – MCHS Science Teacher
 - Bryant Stockton – MCHS English Teacher
- Board recognitions are sponsored by RBS Design Group, Glass & Thompson Insurance, and American Fidelity.

The next board meeting is Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

Metcalfe Idol Winners



▲ PHOTO | KIM HARWOOD
Jackson Devore and Brody Hurt stepped up to the mic to MC the 2025 Metcalfe Idol event.

By **Kim Harwood**
Chamber Executive Director

The Edmonton – Metcalfe Chamber of Commerce hosted the 3rd annual Metcalfe Idol competition at Summerfest on June 7th for the youth and adult categories.



▲ PHOTO | KIM HARWOOD
Metcalfe Idol Adult: 1st place – Emma Petranek Song choice - “Stick Season” Emma is the 16-year-old daughter of Sarah Petranek. Emma enjoys the performing arts, music, and singing.



▲ PHOTO | KIM HARWOOD
Metcalfe Idol Youth: 1st place – Tymber Garrett Song choice - “Country Gold” Tymber is the 11-year-old daughter of Daniel and Laurel Garrett. Tymber enjoys basketball, dancing, singing, and reading.



▲ PHOTO | KIM HARWOOD
2nd place – Caycee Harris Song choice - “Wildflowers and Wild Horses.” Caycee is the 12-year-old daughter of Haley Kelsay. Caycee loves to sing, play sports, dance, and spend time with her family.

Dairy Show

By **Amy Branstetter**
Metcalfe Co. 4-H Agent

The Metcalfe County Fair Dairy show was held on Saturday, June 7th at the fairgrounds. There were 97 head of dairy cattle from all seven breeds.



▲ PHOTO | AMY BRANSTETTER
Retirees (L-R): Kim Coleman, Lynn Hawkins, Bryant Stockton, Patty Bunch, and Herby Bunch. Not pictured is Scott Roach.



▲ PHOTO | AMY BRANSTETTER
Colton Huffman won Junior Champion Milking Shorthorn and Supreme Junior Champion of the youth show.



▲ PHOTO | AMY BRANSTETTER
Caden McIntyre won Supreme Champion Cow of the youth show. Picture with Caden are Hart and Slone Branstetter.



▲ PHOTO | AMY BRANSTETTER
Cade Huffman won Red and White Junior Champion.



▲ PHOTO | AMY BRANSTETTER
Ezra Jones won Jersey Junior Champion.



▲ PHOTO | AMY BRANSTETTER
Ryne Atkins won Holstein Junior Champion Heifer. Pictured with Ryne is Caitlin George Metcalfe County FFA.



▲ PHOTO | AMY BRANSTETTER
Colton Huffman won Junior Champion Guernsey Heifer.

JUNE IS NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH

One 8-ounce Glass of MILK contains as much CALCIUM as each of these options:

- 4.5 servings of broccoli
- 16 servings of spinach
- 5.8 servings of whole-wheat bread

Source: American Dairy Association Midwest

