



Minutes

June 8, 2025

Welcome –Debbie Clary, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 1PM.

****Notification of the board meeting was advertised on the Pinnacle Classical Academy website and the front doors of the school building were open.**

In attendance:

Attending: Board Members - Debbie Clary, Pauline Cahill, Wes Westmoreland, Ken Mooney and Jeremy Boone attended in person.

Administration - Shelly Shope, Jeff Ziegler, Laura Beth Richardson, Angela Brooks, and Wendy Clary

Conflict of Interest Statement In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict. If any board member has any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the board today, please identify the conflict or appearance of conflict at this time, and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

Adoption of Agenda Motion made by Pauline Cahill and seconded by Jeremy Boone, all Approved.

Approval of Minutes Wes Westmoreland made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 2025 Meeting, Ken Mooney seconded the motion, all approved.

Public Comments Persons wishing to appear before the Board during this portion of the meeting should register their name and the subject they wish to address with the Secretary prior to the beginning of the meeting. Each presentation will be limited to three (3) minutes. The Board is interested in hearing your concerns, yet speakers should not expect comment, action, or deliberation on subject matter brought up during the public comment segment. Topics requiring further investigation will be referred to the appropriate board committee.

No members of the public were present.

Administration Reports -

Dean of Elementary Education Report to the Board of Directors Presented by Mrs. Wendy Clary

Action Items:

- None

Personnel Retention

- Employees of the Month:
 - **August - Beverly Simpson**-2nd grade teacher
 - **September - Kaitlin Renfro**-Kindergarten teacher assistant
 - **October - Abigail Shirey**-2nd grade teacher

- **November - Brittany Griffin**-1st grade teacher assistant
- **December - Kellie Burton**-3rd grade teacher
- **January - Kristina Grigg**-2nd grade teacher assistant
- **February-Alenia Scism**-3rd grade teacher
- **March-Amy Horton**-TA/Interim 1st grade teacher/PEAK President
- **April-Mariah Bumgardner**-Part-time custodian

Parent/Community Involvement

- 2nd Grade hosted a Charlotte's Web Reader's Theater on May 21st and a Block Party on May 22nd.
- 3rd Grade Cookout was on May 21st in celebration of the students moving up to the 4-12 Campus and the completion of testing.
- Mrs. Wright hosted a Publishing Party on May 22nd for her students to celebrate their class book.
- Kara Hudson "traveled to" Speech Beach to celebrate with her speech students on May 19th. ● Erika Warthen EC students released butterflies on May 22nd.

Enrollment

- Information was mailed to new families. There was a letter from Dr. Shope, the 2025-2026 school calendar, and Edu Kit information included in the correspondence.

PEAK

- PEAK held the last meeting of the year on May 15th at the K-3 campus. ● Kara Powell and dedicated volunteers helped present student artwork for grades K-5. Parents were encouraged to stay and check out the amazing clay sculptures. Judges chose

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners for each grade level.

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Personnel

- End of Year Summative Evaluations were conducted in May with staff.
- Pay-out information was sent for staff who did not use the 6 days given at the beginning of the year.

Summer Programming

- Reading and math summer programs will serve about 45 students this year. These students were identified by their classroom teacher. The goal of both reading and math camps is to help prevent "summer slide" or regression and to help students who are close to being on grade level who need an extra push.

The camps will be held as follows:

Reading Camp - Week 1 - June 9-12

Week 2 - June 16-19

Math Camp - Week 1 - July 21-24

Week 2 - July 28-31

K-3 Retentions

- There are a total of 17 students recommended for retention.
 - K-4 students
 - 1st-4 students

- 2nd-3 students
- 3rd-6 students

Testing/Data

- 3rd Grade Overall % and Growth in Reading for the 2024-2025 year:
 - BOG=26%
 - EOG=61%
 - +35%

Reading

Teacher	BOG 2024-2025	EOG 2024-2025	Growth
Bowen	36%	79%	43%
Burton	16%	46%	30%
Hastings	27%	58%	31%
Scism	27%	60%	33%

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Math

Teacher	EOG 2024-2025
Bowen	63%
Burton	75%
Hastings	58%
Scism	80%

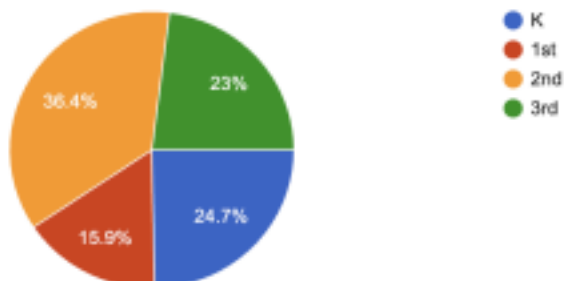
Behavior and Discipline Breakdown for 2024-2025

- 239 Office Referrals (+48 from 2023-2024)
 - **Female** = 38.4% of all referrals
 - **Male** = 61.1% of all referrals
 - **Classroom/Hallway/Recess** were 84.1% of referred behavioral locations
 - March had the highest volume of referrals (34 submitted)
 - 4 students accrued 5 regular incidents of OSS.
- Of those referrals
 - K carried over 24%

- Grade 1 carried over 15%
- Grade 2 carried over 36%
- Grade 3 carried 23%

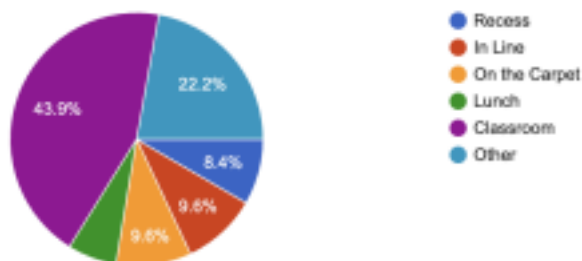
Grade

239 responses



Where/When Did the Incident Take Place

239 responses



Upcoming Dates:

June 9th-12th- First week of Reading Camp

June 16th-19th-Second week of Reading Camp

4-8 Report to the Board of Directors

Presented by

Mrs. Laura Beth Richardson

June 2025

Curriculum/Academics/Data

2024-2025 EOG Scores

The following data will be used to inform and direct our next steps as we plan for the 2025-26 school year. A special thank you to our testing coordinator, Ms. Frazier, for all of her planning, organization, flexibility, and prompt feedback throughout the end of year testing season.

	EOG Proficiency
4th Grade Math	64%

5th Grade Math	61%
6th Grade Math	79%
7th Grade Math	56%
8th Grade Math	48%

	EOG Proficiency
4th Grade Reading	64%
5th Grade Reading	53%
6th Grade Reading	72%
7th Grade Reading	72%
8th Grade Reading	75%

5th Grade Science	Available in Fall 2025
8th Grade Science	Available in Fall 2025

- Areas of Celebration
 - 6th grade reading and math scores have increased from 2024.
 - Students who have not passed EOGs in previous years passed for the first time this school year. Many of our EC students showed a tremendous amount of growth despite not meeting proficiency.
- Opportunities for Growth
 - While many of our intermediate students have shown a great deal of growth this school year, we are making plans to increase proficiency levels in all intermediate grades and subjects. For example, our 5th grade team will begin team teaching next school year instead of remaining compartmentalized by subject. Plans are also in place to incentivize the use of our research based programs, iReady and Reflex Math.

Discipline

- At the end of the 2023-24 school year, middle school was responsible for 58% of the office referrals for the year. This data was one of the reasons the administrative team used Harry Wong's book, *The First Days of School*, as a focus this year.
 - At the end of April, middle school was responsible for 38.1% of all referrals at the 4-12 campus- a 19.9 point difference from last year. This data demonstrates the effectiveness of the strategies our teachers used in their classroom!
 - A special thank you to Mrs. Barnes for her work in addressing each of these referrals while building relationships with our students and their families. As always, her goal in addressing behavior is to identify the root cause and set the student up for success moving forward. Final percentages for the year (that will include the month of May) will be shared in the July report.

Beginning Teacher/New Hires:

- A total of 7 teachers exiting the BT program this fall! For the past 3 years they have worked closely with a mentor to gain a clearer understanding of day to day tasks, planning, behavior management, parent communication, curriculum, etc. A special thanks to all of our seasoned teachers who serve as mentors each year. The guidance, support, and encouragement they provide to our beginning teachers has not gone unnoticed.

Hiring/Personnel

- Congratulations to Mrs. Waldrep on her retirement! Her 30+ years of dedication to educating students is a tremendous accomplishment. We are thankful to have had her as part of the PCA family during her final years in the classroom and wish her all the best on her future endeavors!

Extracurricular Activities:

- 4th, 5th, and Middle School Awards Ceremonies
 - We had a strong finish to the school year that included impressive amounts of parent support and student achievement! The 4-12 gym housed all 4th-8th grade students, families, and staff (at their designated times). Awards included A honor roll, A B

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honor roll, highest average, most growth, etc. Special awards such as the Citizenship Award were also presented. Mrs. Dayvault, Mrs. Campbell, and Mrs. Boone spent a great deal of time planning and organizing the middle school awards ceremony. Using our new gym made each ceremony more special!

- Band Results at Solo and Ensemble Festival on Saturday, May 10
 - 4 band students participated in the South-Central District of North Carolina's Music Educator Association's Solo and Ensemble Festival.
 - **Hal Irvin** - 7th grade, first year band student - received an **Excellent Rating** for his saxophone solo
 - **Stella Navey** - 8th grade - first year band student - received an **Excellent Rating** for her clarinet solo.
 - **Aerieanna Dyer (10th grade) and Rachael Dodge Jones (11th grade)** performed a duet (trumpet and snare drum, respectively) and received a **Superior Rating**.
 - Our music, band, and chorus teacher, Mrs. Owens goes above and beyond to expand our music department! We sincerely appreciate all of her hard work.

9-12 Report to the Board of Directors
Presented by
Mrs. Angela Brooks
June 8, 2025

Curriculum and Academics:

- We had 40 seniors graduate on May 31st, 2025 at Pinnacle Classical Academy's Lyceum. That is 100% of the Class of 2025. There was a very good turnout for both Senior Awards Night and the Graduation ceremonies. We are very proud of our Pinnacle graduates and are excited to see what the future holds for each of them.
- Testing for the 2024-2025 school year has concluded. We are using this data to reflect on our instructional methods for the 2024-2025 school year and will use this to help focus and drive instruction.

2024-2025 EOC Scores

	Goal based on EVAAS	2024-25	% Difference
Biology	62%	n/a	n/a
Math III	75%	68%	-7
English II	81%	80%	-1

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	
Biology	57%	53%	67%	71%	n/a	n/a
Math III	52%	70%	81%	72%	68%	-4
English II	90%	83%	80%	82%	80%	-2

○ Areas for Improvement:

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- Math III is going to be the focus for the 2025-26 school year.

- We have several camps that will be going on this summer to help students in several different areas. For rising seniors we held a Summer Essay Workshop May 28th-30th. This gave our rising seniors a chance to work on and complete their college essays. In addition it taught them strategies about applying for college, the best way to send scores, etc. The camp has been very well attended and had

over 12 participants.

- Band Camp will begin on July 28th and last through August 1st. This will be led by Mrs. Owens is a great opportunity for our students to learn a few more musical techniques. I am sure that our scholars will have a wonderful time.

Extracurricular Activities:

- **Academic Awards Ceremony:**

- We have had a wonderful 2024-2025 school year and had a wonderful award ceremony to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of our students. The Awards Ceremony was held at the Lyceum on Thursday, May 22nd at 1:00. Many parents and family members were able to attend this special event. We appreciate the work that Mrs. Ledbetter and Ms. Hassani did in planning this special celebration.

Special Awards and Recognitions:

- Macie Styers, rising senior, has been selected to participate in Youth Legislature as the clerk for the Senate. We are very proud of Macie and this honor she has been selected for.
- Connor Susigan, alumni, received a \$1,000.00 scholarship through Making It Work. His scholarship was sponsored by Steffes. This is a wonderful opportunity for Connor as he is going to attend Western Carolina and we are excited to be able to celebrate with him.

Senior Activities:

- The Class of 2025 received over \$6.2 million dollars in scholarships and awards. We are very proud of the Class of 2025 and wish them all the best!

Graduation Data

Plans of graduates at time of Graduation

	Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Attending 4- year College or Universities	61%	63%	48%	58%	76%	65%
Attending 2- year College or Universities	18%	10%	28%	18%	10%	18%
Military	3%	10%	0%	3%	0	3%
Workforce	18%	17%	24%	21%	14%	14%

Scholarships Awarded

	Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Local Scholarships	\$4,500	\$14,500	\$22,700	\$23,300	\$28,700	\$64,950
University Scholarships	\$3,414,868	\$4,079,320	\$3,068,600	\$7,287,596	\$3,080,730	\$6,218,716
Total	\$3,419,368	\$4,093,820	\$3,091,300	\$7,310,896	\$3,109,430	\$6,283,666

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Crime and Violence at Local Schools
A Report to the Board of Directors of Pinnacle Classical Academy
June 8, 2025

Cleveland County Schools (High Schools)

Year	Reportable Crimes	High School Students	Reportable Crime Rate Per 1,000 Students
2023-24	77	4,429	17.39 (#42)
2022-23	116	4,384	26.46 (#26)
2021-22	96	4,237	22.66 (#11)
2020-21	13	4,210	3.1 (#17)
2019-20	57	4,295	13.3 (#12)
2018-19	78	4,371	17.8 (#15)
2017-18	105	4,544	23.11 (#7)
2016-17	103	4,612	22.33 (#7)

2015-16	71	4,708	15.08 (#28)
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During 2023-24, Pinnacle Classical Academy had zero reportable crimes for 228 high school students.

16 reportable offenses:

- Assault Resulting in Serious Personal Injury (AR)
- Assault Involving Use of a Weapon (AW)
- Assault on School Officials, Employees, and Volunteers (AP)
- Making Bomb Threats or Engaging in Bomb Hoaxes (BT)
- Willfully Burning a School Building (BS)
- Homicide (D)
- Kidnapping (K)
- Unlawful, underage sales, purchase, provision, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages (PA) • Possession of Controlled Substance in Violation of Law (PS)
- Possession of a Firearm (PF)
- Possession of a Weapon (PW)
- Rape (R)
- Robbery With a Dangerous Weapon (RW)
- Sexual Assault (not involving rape or sexual offense) (SA)
- Sexual Offense (SO)
- Taking Indecent Liberties With A Minor (IM)

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Total Number of Acts for Each Public School Unit

*The previous page offers an overview of high school data;
this page and the subsequent pages offer an overview of K-12 data.*

2023-24			
	Acts (K-12)	ADM	Acts Per 1,000 Students
Cleveland County Schools	122	13,835	8.818
Pinnacle Classical Academy	0	1,136	0.000
Lincoln Charter School	7	2,251	3.1110
Piedmont Community Charter School	8	1,907	4.195
Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy	2	1,339	1.440

Total Number of Acts for Each LEA or Charter School

See page 1 for explanation of codes.

	Acts (Grades K-12, 2023-24)															
	AR	A W	AP	BT	BS	D	K	PA	PS	PF	PW	R	RW	SA	SO	IM
CCS	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	1 2	90	0	16	0	0	0	0	0
PCA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LCS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PCCS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
TJCA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0

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Total Number of Acts for Each School, 2023-24

Bethware Elementary	0	498	0.000
Boiling Springs Elementary	2	531	3.766
Burns High	5	881	5.675
Burns Middle	11	753	14.608
Casar Elementary	0	265	0.000
Cleveland ECHS	0	210	0.000
Cleveland Innovation	0	164	0.000
Crest High	26	1,054	24.668
Crest Middle	15	829	18.094
Turning Point Academy	2	151	13.245
East Elementary	0	186	0.000

Elizabeth Elementary	0	473	0.000
Fallston Elementary	0	456	0.000
Grover Elementary	0	282	0.000
James Love Elementary	0	350	0.000
Jefferson Elementary	0	426	0.000
Kings Mountain High	20	1,261	15.860
Kings Mountain Intermediate	4	632	6.329
Kings Mountain Middle	4	659	6.070
North Elementary	0	267	0.000
North Shelby	0	77	0.000
Shelby High	25	769	32.510
Shelby Middle	6	595	10.084
Springmore Elementary	0	565	0.000
Township Three Elementary	2	499	4.008
Union Elementary	0	386	0.000

Washington Elementary	0	348	0.000
West Elementary	0	268	0.000

Acts at Each School, 2023-24[illegible]

Grove r Elemen tary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
James Love Elemen tary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeffers on Elemen tary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

ntary																
Kings Mount ain High	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kings Mount ain Inter media te	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Kings Mount ain Middl e	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
North Elemen tary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Shelby	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shelby High	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	20	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Shelby Middl e	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spring more Elemen tary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Towns hip Three Elemen tary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0

Union Elemen- tary	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o
Washi- ngton Elemen- tary	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o
West Elemen- tary	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o

Classical Foundations Program (CFP) Update
April 2024
(tabled, updated on May 30, 2024)

Classical Foundations Program (CFP) Update
June 2025

1. Hadley Heath Manning, a Shelby native, spoke at our graduation ceremony on May 31 and was subsequently interviewed for *Dare to Soar*.
2. The Classical Foundations Program advisory board will hold its summer meeting on Friday, August 1, at 4:00 PM.

Headmaster Report to the Board of Directors
Presented by Dr. Shelly Shope
June 2025

Action Items:

- Approval of the 2025-26 budget that was presented at the April Board of Directors Meeting

Curriculum and Academics:

● **Testing**

- The following teachers will receive a performance bonus based on their results. Each of these teachers will receive \$1000.
 - Scism - 3rd grade math - 80%
 - Inman - 6th grade math - 84%

- Waters - 6th grade math - 81%
- Hawkins - 6th grade reading - 81%
- Hicks - 7th grade reading - 81%
- Laughlin - ENG II - 88%

● Special Populations

- Based on state testing and EC data, several students will be exiting the program.
- Several of our English Language Learners students did well on their EOGs.
- We will have AP scores in July. We are planning for which courses will be offered next year based on student interest.

Policy and Procedures:

- Please see the attached approval of a submitted amendment to our charter.
- As you remember, last June, the Board approved our recommendation to utilize exclusion as a disciplinary consequence under our code of conduct. This year, the Office of Charter Schools, in response to many charters utilizing this same consequence, has decided to approve these requests, in bulk, and note the change as an amendment to each charter.

■ § 115C-218.60. Student discipline.

The school is subject to and shall comply with Article 27 of Chapter 155C of the General Statutes, except that a charter school may also exclude a student from the charter school and return that student to another school in the local administrative unit in accordance with the terms of its charter after due process.

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- The following is stated in our Parent / Student Handbook. It also notes the above statute

Consequences for violations include but are not limited to:

1. Verbal Warning to Student
2. Student/Teacher Conference
3. Parent Contact by Teacher or Administrator
4. In School Suspension / After School Detention
5. Out of School Suspension
 - a. 2 suspensions will result in athletes being removed from the team
 - b. 2 suspensions will result in student being ineligible to attend school field trips for the remainder of the school year
 - c. 2 physical altercations will result in student being removed from Pinnacle Classical Academy
 - d. 2 incidents of vandalism will result in student being removed from Pinnacle Classical Academy
 - e. 5 total OSS (of any other nature) will result in student being removed from Pinnacle Classical Academy. (Kindergarten will begin in January)
6. Long Term Suspension and/or Expulsion

Consequences for Dress Code Violations

1. Warning / violation notice send home
2. Third violation will result in Lunch Detention
3. Second lunch detention will result in ISS
4. Continual violations may result in OSS

● Discipline Data

- 4-12 Campus: Biggest Takeaways:

■ 908 Office Referrals

- **631 Behavior** (+181 from 2023-24 school year)
- **271 Uniform Violations**
 - HS = 156 uniform violations
 - Intermediate = 115 uniform violations
- **Female** = 32.3% of all referrals
- **Male** = 67.8% of all referrals
- **Classroom/Hallway & Bathroom** were 82.3% of referred behavioral locations

■ Of those referrals,

- Grade 4-5 carried 21.5%
- Grade 6-8 carried 37%
- Grade 9-12 carried over 41.5%
 - November (105), February (102), March (150) and April (109) had the highest volume of referrals

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○ K-3 Campus Takeaways:

■ **239 Office Referrals** (+48 from 2023-2024)

- **Female** = 38.4% of all referrals
- **Male** = 61.1% of all referrals
- **Classroom/Hallway/Recess** were 84.1% of referred behavioral locations

■ Of those referrals

- K carried over 24%
- Grade 1 carried over 15%
- Grade 2 carried over 36%
- Grade 3 carried 23%
 - March had the highest volume of referrals (34 submitted)

Finance:*

- Our anticipated Cash Position for the end of year is \$8,742,671.08
- Our percentage of revenue used should be at 92% of the budgeted amount. We are in great shape as we move into July.
- * We are asking for approval of our proposed budget for the 2025-2026 school year. ● We will be writing the Federal Grants for Title I, Title II, IDEA, and Safer Schools over the summer.

Community Relations:

- Dr. Martin, Mrs. Brooks, and I attended a recent Chamber Member Luncheon. During the event, Casey Greene was recognized for receiving a scholarship—congratulations to Casey on this achievement! Looking ahead, I have a lunch meeting scheduled next week with Mrs. Champion from the Chamber.
- I was re-elected to the NC Coalition for Charter Schools Board for another 3-year term.

Legal / DPI:*

- **Submissions to DPI**

- All submissions to EpiCenter are up to date and approved

- April & May

- Nepotism Policy
- Grievance Policy
- Annual Fire Inspection

Athletics:

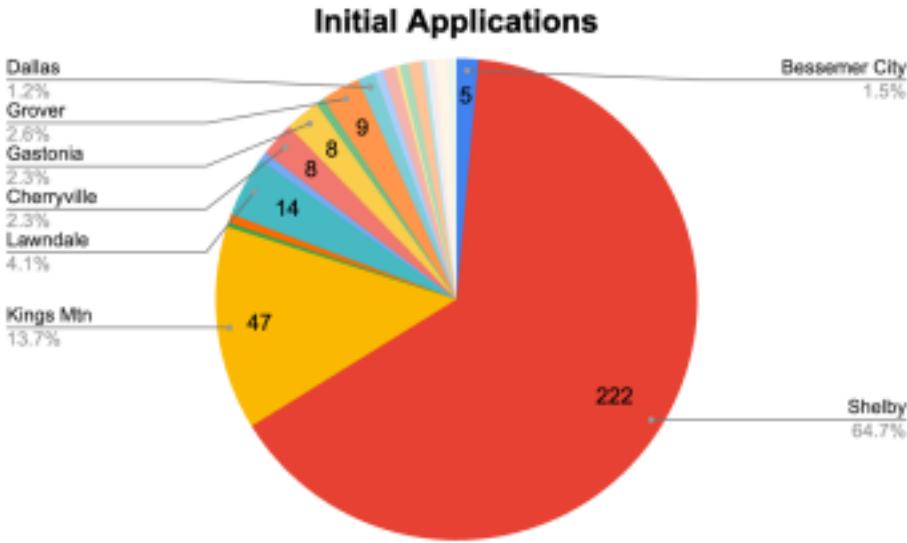
- Both Varsity Softball and Varsity Baseball won the conference championships. So very proud of them!

2025-26 Enrollment

- As of June 3, we have received 354 Initial Applications for the 2025-2026 school year.

			Final Apps	Withdrawn	Total #s for 25-26			
						Waitlist	# of Classes	Class Ave
6/3/25 K	0	126	126		126	1 - offer made	5	25.2
1	97	3	12	2	107	1 - offer made	5	21.4
2	94	10	10	3	101	10	4	25.25
3	92	11	10	0	102	8	4	25.5
4	95	10	13	0	108	4	4	27
5	93	8	10	0	103	1	4	25.75
6	100	10	13	1	112	15	4	28
7	101	9	9	1	109	6	4	27.25
8	88	12	11	1	98	2	4	24.5
9	101	1	2	3	100	12	4	25
10	93	1	1	1	93	9	4	23.25
11	83	0	0	1	82	7	4	20.5
12	65	1	1	1	65	1	3	21.67
	1102	202	218	14	1306	75	53	

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Action Items:

1. *A motion was made by Pauline Cahill and seconded by Jeremy Boone to approve the budget for the 2025-26 school year as presented in April at the board meeting. All approved.*
2. *A motion was made by Wes Westmoreland to allow the Finance Committee to move money from maturing CD to Carter Bank and either Commercial Bank or Bank OZK depending on who had higher interest rate. This will allow Pinnacle to have money at two institutions with the best rates. The motion was seconded by Pauline Cahill. All approved.*

Committee Updates:

1. *Finance: Discussion was had about maturing CD. A decision was made to allow the finance committee to negotiate the best rates and put the money into two banks depending on the best interest rate for the school.*

The Administrative team was also charged with looking into raising bonuses for proficiency.

2. *Facilities: Strickland Construction is working on the punch list for construction. Wes also presented the idea that he and Shelly as well as other board members who may be interested begin researching and developing a capital fundraising plan for Phase III construction.*

Adjournment *Jeremy Boone made a motion to adjourn and Wes Westmoreland seconded. Meeting was adjourned.*