

at the previous regular session. It has been four months in the making. It was modified just hours before Wednesday night's work session.

It was discussed briefly by the board members, many of whom said they had little time to review the revised plan.

The Strategic Plan is aimed at seeking community engagement. Its objectives are to increase student achievement, creating a positive culture and eliminating disparities.

It calls for the community to join forces with the school board to increase literacy rates, produce ready graduates and minimize the effects of poverty, mental health and addiction of the county's nearly 61,000 students.

The Strategic Plan has been a long time coming and was the one item Wednesday night that was addressed during the public forum.

Knox County resident Lance McCold spoke. He is one of several community members on multiple coalitions striving to improve education in the school district.



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Kimberly Longmire with her daughters, Katlin and Abby, with the car donated to them by Volunteer Rides and King Collision.

King Collision donates car to Powell teacher

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

For the third year King Collision turned a wreck into a wonderful gift for a very worthy person. Thursday the company, at 2707 Old Callahan Road, donated a 2016 Nissan Quest to Powell Elementary 4th grade teacher Kimberly Longmire. She's a mother of two girls, one of which suffers from Down's Syndrome and Cerebral Palsy.

Cindy McCoy and Kelly Long of King Collision sat down with

"When Bill King learned about the program he started the process," McCoy said. She explained that if a car is damaged in a wreck at 75% of the vehicle's value it is "totaled." The totaled car is then rebuilt and gifted to a special person. State Farm donated this year's car which was taken to King Collision where a total rebuild was begun.

"We get parts donated from local businesses and vendors and our employees donate their time to help with the rebuild."



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Representatives of several Knox County companies and