

**WYOMING COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, March 25, 2019**

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA**

**COUNTY OF WYOMING, TO-WIT:**

A call for a regular meeting of the Wyoming County Board of Education was held on Monday, March 25, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. at Wyoming East High School. Those in attendance were Michael R. Prichard, President; Allan R. Stiltner, Vice President; Betty F. England and Morgan K. "Mike" Davis, Members. Douglas E. Lester, Member, participated by phone. Deirdre A. Cline, Superintendent, was also in attendance. The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

1. Local School Improvement Council: Wyoming East High School
2. Individuals or Groups of the Community at Large Wishing to Address the Board
3. Consent Agenda
  - A. Minutes, Board of Education Meeting, March 14, 2019
  - B. Extracurricular, Special, Fundraising, and Bus Requests
  - C. Budget Supplements and Transfers
4. 2019-2020 Proposed Levy Rates
5. Consideration of 2019-2020 School Calendar
6. Consideration of Change in Payroll Dates
7. School Safety and Security
8. SBA Projects Update
  - A. Wyoming East High School
  - B. Wyoming County Career and Technical Center
9. Consideration of Revisions to Policies:
  - A. Policy 5512: Use of Tobacco by Students
  - B. Policy 5530: Substance Abuse Prevention
10. West Virginia *math4life* Update and Consideration of *math4life* Pledge
11. Personnel List
12. Superintendent's Report
13. Items for Future Agendas and Announcements

Mr. Prichard called the meeting to order. He asked Ms. Rebecca Cooke, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary and Middle Schools, to give the invocation.

The Board, along with those in attendance, then recited the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Ms. Robin Hall, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Schools.

**Local School Improvement Council: Wyoming East High School:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding Local School Improvement Council (LSIC): Wyoming East High School.

Mrs. Cline introduced Mrs. Amanda Hylton, Principal of Wyoming East High School, and asked her to address the Board.

Mrs. Hylton said she is thankful for the family atmosphere at Wyoming East High School and thanked the Board members for coming to the school. She introduced the LSIC members to the Board. She asked student, Bryce Weaver, to address the Board.

Mr. Weaver said he is thankful for the principals and staff at Wyoming East High School. He said he started down the wrong path when a freshman and ended up in alternative school. He said without the support of the staff he would not be where he is today. He said he loves being a Warrior and is thankful for his time at the school.

Mrs. Hylton asked Mr. Herbert Eanes, English teacher, to address the Board.

Mr. Eanes said the school is experiencing a season of revitalization and the effects are evident in the English department. He said the school has had participants in the Young Writers' Contest, Poetry Out Loud, and are preparing for the County's Public Speaking Contest. He said new curriculum strategies have been implemented, as well. He reviewed the changes and additions that have occurred in the English department at Wyoming East High School this school year to help students be more prepared for the SAT, as well as becoming college and career ready. He thanked the Board and Central Office staff for all they do to help make Wyoming East High School a wonderful place to learn and teach.

Mrs. Hylton asked Mrs. Brook Bailey, math teacher, to address the Board.

Mrs. Bailey said all juniors have taken a practice test this year, which simulated the math portion on the SAT. She said additional tests and benchmarks have been given to

students to track progress throughout the year. She said she has seen growth in students throughout the year, and is hopeful that the increased rigor will reflect on the SAT School Day Test results.

Mrs. Hylton asked Ms. Mallory Walker, Social Studies teacher, to address the Board.

Ms. Walker said science and social studies do not have technical portions on the tests, but social studies teachers are collaborating with the math and reading teachers with skill sets which can be used in social studies and science for additional practice. She said she also takes her students to the computer lab, periodically, to work on Khan and Testive.

Mrs. Hylton asked Mrs. Brenda Willingham, Assistant Principal, to address the Board.

Mrs. Willingham said the credit recovery program has been very successful over the last few years. She said in years past, the school had between 25 to 30 seniors lacking the credits needed to graduate. She said this year, there are 7 seniors that do not have enough credits, and are utilizing credit recovery in working toward obtaining their diploma at the end of the school year.

Mrs. Hylton asked Mr. Michael Kodak, Digital Resources teacher, to address the Board.

Mr. Kodak said the school is currently in the process of getting wireless internet to the outlying facilities on the property. He said that would allow the telephone system to be used in those areas. He said cell phones are currently being used in case of an emergency. Mr. Kodak said he has been working with Brand Journey to promote the Town of Pineville. He said he wanted the students to be very involved in that process, because if the students are vested in the community, they are more likely to stay here. He said the filming of the commercial has given the school a new sense of school pride that has not

been experienced at Wyoming East High School in several years. He said he is very encouraged by the students' enthusiasm and hopes the school pride only continues to grow. He shared the video which included footage from the Wyoming East High School versus Westside High School boys' basketball game.

Mrs. Hylton said she has also witnessed a growth in school spirit. She said her three main goals when she was hired as principal were to promote a family atmosphere, to increase school pride and spirit, and to increase community involvement. She said she feels there have been improvements made in all three areas, although community involvement seems to be the most difficult. She said the pep club has grown tremendously and has received several awards this year. Mrs. Hylton reviewed the student successes including the science bowl, band honors, and other accomplishments. Mrs. Hylton said she was pleased with this year's Local School Improvement Council meeting. She said there were parents, community members, and business representatives from the area in attendance, and the meeting was very encouraging. She said there is a large number of clubs and organizations for the students of Wyoming East High School, but she wants to see all of the clubs and organizations grow to involve more students.

Mrs. Cline said Wyoming East High School has a strong, goal oriented staff. She thanked Mr. Weaver for sharing his story with the Board and said it was a true testament to what the school is achieving. She said Mrs. Hylton is doing a great job uniting the staff and students at the school to produce a family atmosphere.

Mrs. Hylton thanked the Board Members for the opportunity to showcase Wyoming East High School. She said she appreciates all of the support she receives from them and the Central Office staff. She said it is a true team effort at the school and she is thankful for the staff.

Mr. Prichard thanked Mrs. Hylton for hosting the Board and for her hard work and

dedication to Wyoming East High School and its students.

**Individuals or Groups of the Community at Large Wishing to Address the Board:** Mr. Prichard asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board. There were no Individuals or Groups of the Community at Large Wishing to Address the Board.

**Consent Agenda: A. Minutes, Board of Education Meeting, March 14, 2019:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding Consent Agenda: A. Minutes, Board of Education Meeting, March 14, 2019.

Mrs. Cline said the Minutes from the Board of Education Meeting, March 14, 2019, are not yet complete. She said they will be recommended for approval at the next Board meeting.

**B. Extracurricular, Special, and Bus Requests:** Mrs. Cline, Superintendent, said she recommended the Extracurricular, Special, and Bus Requests as follows:

1) A bus request from Baileysville Elementary and Middle School to take 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to Marshall University in Huntington for college and career exploration on April 15, 2019, with funding from the Education Alliance College mini grant to cover the cost;

2) A bus request from Baileysville Elementary and Middle School to take 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College in Logan for college and career exploration on April 1, 2019, with funding from the Education Alliance College mini grant to cover the cost;

3) A bus request from Baileysville Elementary and Middle School to take 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to Concord University in Athens for college and career exploration on April 3, 2019, with funding from extracurricular funds to cover the cost;

4) A request from Rachael Bailey for a professional day on May 10, 2019, to attend the WV Young Writers Day at the University of Charleston;

5) A request from Deborah Snuffer for a professional day on April 5, 2019, to attend

the West Virginia School Nutrition Association Cooks' Conference;

6) A request from Debra Clay for a professional day on March 22, 2019, to attend the Battle of the Books competition with Glen Fork Elementary and Middle School students;

7) A request from Megan Walker for her daughter to attend school out of district, transferring from Oceana Middle School to Glen Fork Elementary and Middle School, for the 2018-2019 school year;

8) A fundraising request from Glen Fork Elementary and Middle School to have spring pictures to raise funds for the school;

9) A fundraising request from Glen Fork Elementary and Middle School to sell yearbooks to raise funds for the school;

10) A bus request from Huff Consolidated Elementary and Middle School to take 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls to the STEM Activity Engineering Day for Girls at WVU Tech in Beckley on March 20, 2019, with funding from extracurricular funds to cover the cost;

11) A bus request from Huff Consolidated Elementary and Middle School to take 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to Souther West Virginia Community and Technical College in Logan for a college tour, with funding from extracurricular funds to cover the cost;

12) A bus request from Mullens Elementary School to take 1<sup>st</sup> grade students to Lost World Caverns in Lewisburg on May 13, 2019, with funding from extracurricular and school funds to cover the cost;

13) A request from Brooke Wolf for a professional day on March 22, 2019, to attend the Battle of the Books competition with Mullens Middle School students;

14) A bus request from Pineville Middle School to take 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on the Battle of the Books team to the competition at Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College in Saulsville on March 22, 2019, with funding from Title IV to cover the cost;

15) A fundraising request from Pineville Middle School to sell doughnuts to raise funds for the golf team;

16) A bus request from Road Branch Elementary and Middle School to take 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, without discipline referrals for the year, to Lost World Caverns in Lewisburg for a positive behavior reward on May 30, 2019, with funding from extracurricular and the school's general fund to cover the cost;

17) A bus request from Road Branch Elementary and Middle School to take 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to the WV Capitol on April 16, 2019, with funding from County funds to cover the cost;

18) A bus request from Westside High School to take 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students participating in Youth in Government to Charleston on Friday April 26, 2019, and return on Sunday April 28, 2019, with funding from Youth in Government and extracurricular funds to cover the cost;

19) A bus request from Westside High School to take 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students on a forensics trip to WVU Tech in Beckley on March 27, 2019, with funding from extracurricular funds to cover the cost;

20) A bus request from Westside High School to take 11<sup>th</sup> grade students to the Student Voice Event at Tamarack in Beckley on April 11, 2019, with funding from GEAR UP to cover the cost;

21) A bus request from Westside High School to take 11<sup>th</sup> grade students to Concord University to visit the college on April 15, 2019, with funding from GEAR UP to cover the cost;

22) A bus request from Westside High School to take 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade band students to the WV Ratings Festival at the Chuck Mathena Center in Princeton on March 28, 2019, with funding from County funds to cover the cost;

23) A request from Anthony Dunn for a professional day on April 26, 2019, to chaperone students in Hi-Y attending Youth in Government activities in Charleston;

24) A request from Anthony Foltz for a professional day on March 27, 2019, to chaperone students on a college visit to the WVU Tech in Beckley;

25) A request from Sherry Younce for a professional day on April 30, 2019, to attend the Fashion Focus Hair Show in Nashville, TN;

26) A fundraising request from Herndon Consolidated Elementary and Middle School to sell Little Caesar's Pizza to raise funds for the school;

27) A fundraising request from Oceana Middle School to sell school apparel and t-shirts to raise funds for the softball team;

28) A bus request from Pineville Elementary School to take 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> grade students to the Larry Joe Harless Community Center in Gilbert on May 30, 2019, with funding from the school's general fund to cover the cost;

29) A request from Robbie Hodges for her son to attend school out of district, transferring from Oceana Middle School to Pineville Middle School, for the 2018-2019 school year;

30) A request from Robbie Hodges for her daughter to attend school out of district, transferring from Oceana Middle School to Pineville Middle School, for the 2018-2019 school year;

31) A bus request from Road Branch Elementary and Middle School to take 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College in Saulsville and WVU Tech in Beckley for college exploration on April 18, 2019, with funding from extracurricular and the school's general fund to cover the cost;

32) A request from Alesha Toler-Lester for a professional day on March 27, 2019, to chaperone student on the forensic lab trip to Beckley; and



33) A fundraising request from Wyoming East High School to sell Krispy Kreme doughnuts to raise funds for the junior class.

**C. Budget Supplements and Transfers:** Mrs. Cline said Mrs. Kim Cook, Chief School Business Official, did not have Budget Supplements and Transfers to present to the Board at this time. She said Mrs. Cook will present the Budget Supplements and Transfers at a future Board meeting.

After a thorough discussion, Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stiltner, to approve Consent Agenda, Item B., as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

**2019-2020 Proposed Levy Rates:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding 2019-2020 Proposed Levy Rates.

Mrs. Cline asked Mrs. Kim Cook to address the Board.

Mrs. Cook referred the Board Members to the tax rate information in the Board packets. She presented the Proposed Levy Rates for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2020. Mrs. Cook explained that assessed valuation for 2019-2020 were \$789,503,462, an increase of \$60,901,248 over the prior year. Mrs. Cook said this will result in an increase of \$725,831.00 in taxes being levied. Mrs. Cook stated the schedule of proposed levy rates must be published in the local newspapers and made available in the central office for public comment. Mrs. Cook explained that Pinnacle Mining was included in the assessed values so while there was an increase in taxes levied, be mindful that those collections are tied up in bankruptcy court. She said this meeting should be adjourned until April 16, 2019, when the meeting will be reconvened and the levy rates would be set by the Board.

After a thorough discussion, Mrs. England made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stiltner, to approve the Proposed Levy Rates to be advertised in the local newspapers and make

available for public comment until the April 16, 2019 Board meeting, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

**Consideration of 2019-2020 School Calendar:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding the 2019-2020 School Calendar.

Mrs. Cline said asked Ms. Rebecca Cooke to address the Board.

Ms. Cooke provided the Board with a list of votes received for all 3 calendars. She said it is important for people to see how close the vote was and the counts from each school and department. She said calendar #1 won by a very small margin. Ms. Cooke said the total number of votes were as follows: calendar #1 had 243, calendar #2 had 236, and calendar #3 had 38.

After a thorough discussion, Mr. Lester made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stiltner, to approve the 2019-2020 School Calendar, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

**Consideration in Change of Payroll Dates:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding the Consideration in Change of Payroll Dates.

Mrs. Cline said she had been very open with employees about the possibility of a delay in the first check of the new school year, if calendar #1 was approved. She said all employees were made aware of the possibilities of it effecting payroll, as a statement, in red, was placed on the sample calendars. She said Mrs. Cook and her team in the Business Office have worked diligently to find the best possible solution for the payroll issues regarding the upcoming school calendar. She asked Mrs. Kim Cook to address the Board.

Mrs. Cook said payroll is turned into the Business Office every 10 business days. She said with payroll coming in from approximately 20 locations, yielding 1,100 entries, there has to be ample time to put the entries into the payroll program. She said to make

payroll work more efficiently with the calendar for the next school year, she recommends a change in payroll dates. Mrs. Cline concurred with Mrs. Cook's recommendation.

After a thorough discussion, Mrs. England made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, to approve the Change in Payroll Dates, from the 15<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of each month to the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

**School Safety and Security:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding School Safety and Security.

Mrs. Cline said Mr. Jeffrey Hylton, Director of Safety and Transportation, asked her to remind the Board of the upcoming tabletop discussion in preparation for the Active Shooter training for Westside High School. The tabletop discussion will be held on May 2, 2019, at 5 p.m., at the Wyoming County 911 Center in Pineville. Mrs. Cline said Mr. Hylton is also working closely with Mrs. Terri Lea Smith, Principal of Mullens Middle School, to have a camera system installed at the school. She said she has also been contacted by Robbie Bailey with the Pineville Fire Department about the Knox Boxes. She said boxes are ready for installation. Mrs. Cline said a CPR class would be held on Friday, April 5, 2019, during the Professional Learning day for Wyoming County Schools.

There was a thorough discussion regarding School Safety and Security.

**SBA Projects Update: A. Wyoming East High School and B. Wyoming County Career and Technical Center:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding the SBA Projects Update: A. Wyoming East High School and B. Wyoming County Career and Technical Center.

Mrs. Cline asked Mr. Jeff Brewer, Clerk of the Works for both SBA projects, to address the Board.

Mr. Brewer provided the Board Members with a handout of information regarding

the SBA projects. He said the project at Wyoming East High School will allow each classroom to be on individual heating and cooling unit to control temperature when completed. He said the new systems will also improve air quality. He said having the roof replaced while replacing the air units was an added benefit. He provided the Board with pictures of the progress made at Wyoming East High School. He reviewed all of the companies providing services for the SBA project at Wyoming East High School.

Mr. Prichard asked when the Wyoming East High School project was expected to be completed.

Mr. Brewer said, currently, the completion date looks to be in August 2019.

Mr. Prichard asked if the renovations would increase energy costs.

Mr. Brewer said the energy costs are expected to decrease with the new units. He reviewed the work progress at the Wyoming County Career and Technical Center.

There was a thorough discussion regarding the current SBA projects.

**Consideration of Revisions to Policies: A. Policy 5512: Use of Tobacco by Students and B. Policy 5530: Substance Abuse Prevention:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding the Consideration of Revisions to Policies: A. Policy 5512: Use of Tobacco by Students and B. Policy 5530: Substance Abuse Prevention.

Mrs. Cline said as a result of several expulsions, the Board had requested changing policies concerning vaping. She said Mrs. Rebecca Tinder, Counsel for Bowles Rice, had suggested the revisions to Policy 5512 and 5530, as requested. She asked Ms. Hall to address the Board regarding the policies.

Ms. Hall provided a copy of the original Policy 5512: Use of Tobacco by Students and B. Policy 5530: Substance Abuse Prevention, as well as a copy of the proposed policies with the revisions clearly marked. She said the revisions take vaping and vaping equipment out of the Use of Tobacco by Students policy and placing vaping and vaping

equipment in the Substance Abuse Prevention policy. Ms. Hall said if approved, the Revised Policies 5512 and 5530 will be widely publicized.

After a thorough discussion, Mr. Stiltner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lester, to repeal and replace, with revisions, Policy 5512: Use of Tobacco by Students, starting with the 2019-2020 school year, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

After a thorough discussion, Mr. Lester made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, to repeal and replace, with revisions, Policy 5530: Substance Abuse Prevention, beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

**West Virginia *math4life* Update and Consideration of *math4life* Pledge:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding West Virginia *math4life* Update and Consideration of *math4life* Pledge.

Mrs. Cline asked Mrs. Kara Halsey-Mitchell, Director of Academic Programs, to address the Board regarding *math4life*.

Mrs. Halsey-Mitchell said *math4life* is an initiative the West Virginia Department of Education is using to address the mathematics crisis throughout the State. She said the program is a state-wide effort to try to change the mind-set of the students, communities, parents, and leaders, regarding mathematics. She said math is a major hurdle and data analysis reflects that math is a concern for most counties in the State of West Virginia. She said this initiative encourages students to be excited about math and understand how they will use math for life. She said each county was challenged by the West Virginia Department of Education to launch the *math4life* campaign. After viewing the first two videos of the Wyoming County *math4life* campaign, she said she will provide the Board Members with a viewing of the videos for all schools very soon. Mrs. Halsey-Mitchell said

professional development is also available through this program for math teachers.

There was a thorough discussion regarding *math4life*.

After a brief discussion, Mrs. England made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stiltner, to take the *math4life* Pledge, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

**Personnel List:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present the Personnel List.

Mrs. Cline recommended the Personnel List as presented, with the exclusion of one substitute teacher. She said she will get more information on the prospective employee and verify identity prior to future recommendation.

### **SERVICE PERSONNEL:**

#### **BUS OPERATORS**

##### **A. Recommended for Approval:**

Amy J. Kirkendoll, Bus Operator, Tutoring/Activity Run, Westside High School, AS NEEDED, Tuesdays ONLY, Cyclone Area, Mouth of Main Huff, Logan County Line, effective March 18, 2019

Harriett Gibson, Bus Operator, Tutoring/Activity Run, Westside High School, AS NEEDED, Tuesdays ONLY, Baileysville, Mouth of Indian Creek, Brenton, Mouth of Mill Creek, effective March 18, 2019

Sandra D. Lusk, from Bus Operator, Mullens Area, to Bus Operator, Herndon/Basin, East Area, effective March 27, 2019

Will M. Peterson, Bus Operator, Preschool Extracurricular Run, AS NEEDED, Hanover Area, March 27, 2018

### **SUBSTITUTES:**

#### **Bus Operators**

Raymond Workman, effective March 15, 2019

After a thorough discussion, Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. England, to approve the Personnel List, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline,

Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

**Superintendent's Update:** Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding the Superintendent's Update.

Mrs. Cline provided the Board with handouts of upcoming events. She said she, along with Ms. Cooke and Ms. Hall, will be visiting schools to meet with all employees individually who will be impacted by transfers and terminations. She discussed the education forums that were taking place throughout the State. Mrs. Cline said the All-County Band and Chorus was wonderful. She said it was an exciting time for the County. She said the first Battle of the Books was a huge success and thanked Ms. Cooke for all of her hard work and dedication to the students in Wyoming County.

Mr. Prichard said the Board needs to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel discipline issue. Mr. Davis made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel discipline issue, WV Code §6-9A-4, at 12:37 p.m.. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stiltner. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stiltner, to return to regular session, at 12:43 p.m. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

**Items for Future Agendas and Announcements:** Mr. Prichard asked for any Items for Future Agendas and Announcements.

Mr. Prichard reminded members of the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting, which is to be held on Monday, April 1, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., at Wyoming County Career and Technical Center.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. England, to recess the meeting until April 16, 2019. Passed with a 5-0 vote.