

WYOMING COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, October 8, 2019

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

COUNTY OF WYOMING, TO-WIT:

A call for a special meeting of the Wyoming County Board of Education was held on Tuesday, October 8, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. at the Wyoming County Board of Education Central Office, Conference Room. Those in attendance were Michael R. Prichard, President; Allan R. Stiltner, Vice President; Morgan K. "Mike" Davis and Betty F. England, Members. Douglas E. Lester, Member, attended by phone. Deirdre A. Cline, Superintendent, was also in attendance. The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

1. Expulsion Hearings
2. Items for Future Agendas and Announcements

Mr. Prichard called the meeting to order, and asked Ms. Rebecca Cooke, Assistant Superintendent of 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.

Expulsion Hearings: Mr. Prichard stated the Expulsion Hearing would be recorded, as a matter of record. He asked Mrs. Cline to present information regarding the Expulsion Hearing scheduled for 10:00 a.m.

Mrs. Cline introduced the Board Members, Assistant Superintendents, Mr. Keith Stewart, Principal of Westside High School, Mrs. Rhonda Thomas, Assistant Principal of Westside High School, and Deputy Bill Toler, Prevention Resource Officer for Westside High School.

Mr. Prichard asked the student, #980021146, and step-mother to introduce themselves.

Mr. Prichard asked the step-mother if she would like for the hearing to be open or closed. He explained a closed hearing would only allow those directly involved with the expulsion to be present.

The step-mother said she would like an open hearing.

Mrs. Cline said the Board Members also have a packet of information regarding the expulsion of student #980021146. She asked Mr. Stewart and Mrs. Thomas to provide the Board with information regarding the request for expulsion.

Mr. Stewart asked Mrs. Thomas to address the Board, as he was out of the school at the time of the incident.

Mrs. Thomas provided the Board with a thorough account of the events leading to the expulsion request.

Mr. Prichard asked student #980021146 if he agreed to the allegations presented by Mrs. Thomas.

Student #980021146 stated he agreed with the allegations.

Mr. Prichard asked student #980021146 if he understood prior to the incident that there was a Zero Tolerance Policy regarding vaping and vaping paraphernalia, and that it would result in expulsion.

Student #980021146 stated he was aware of the Zero Tolerance Policy prior to the incident.

The step-mother and student were both provided time to ask questions and address the Board.

There was a thorough discussion regarding the expulsion of student #980021146.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stiltner, to approve the expulsion of student #980021146 for 365 days, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present information regarding the Expulsion Hearing scheduled for 10:30 a.m. He stated the Expulsion Hearing would be recorded, as a matter of record.

Mrs. Cline introduced the Board Members, Assistant Superintendents, Mrs. Shanda Lester, Principal of Oceana Middle School, and Deputy Bill Toler, Prevention Resource Officer for Westside High School. She said the parent was not able to attend due to an illness.

Mr. Prichard said it would be an open hearing.

Mrs. Cline said the Board Members also have a packet of information regarding the expulsion of student #980017539. She asked Mrs. Lester to provide the Board with information regarding the request for expulsion.

Mrs. Lester provided the Board with a thorough account of the events leading to the expulsion request.

There was a thorough discussion regarding the expulsion of student #980017539.

Mrs. England made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lester, to approve the expulsion of student #980017539 for 365 days, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

Items for Future Agendas and Announcements: Mr. Prichard asked if there were any Items for Future Agendas and Announcements.

Mr. Prichard reminded Board Members of the next scheduled Board Meeting on Thursday, October 17, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., at Mullens Middle School.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lester, to adjourn. Passed with a 5-0 vote.