

WYOMING COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, October 5, 2020

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, October 5, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Wyoming County Board of Education Central Office, 155 Park Street, Pineville, West Virginia. Those in attendance were Michael R. Prichard, President; Allan R. Stiltner, Vice President; and Morgan K. "Mike" Davis, Douglas E. Lester, and Richard A. "Richie" Walker, Members. Deirdre A. Cline, Superintendent, was also in attendance. The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

1. Individuals or Groups of the Community at Large Wishing to Address the Board
2. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes, Board of Education Meeting: September 28, 2020
 - B. Extracurricular, Special, Fundraising and Bus Requests
 - C. Budget Supplements and Transfers
3. 2019-2020 Annual Financial Statement
4. School Safety and Security
5. Consideration of Proposed NEOLA Policy Changes
 - A. Policy 2266: Title IX - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities
6. Consideration of Request for Bids: Oceana Middle School Gymnasium Roof
7. Consideration of Request for Bids: Filter Service
8. Wyoming County Schools COVID-19/Coronavirus Plan of Action/Update
9. Personnel List
10. Items for Future Agendas and Announcements

Mr. Prichard called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Walker 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.

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.

Mrs. Cline said there were several in attendance that have expressed the desire to address the Board.

Ms. Brandy Massey, parent, said she was in attendance in regards to Josh Kelly, Football Coach at Oceana Middle School. She shared a letter of support for Mr. Kelly that she wrote. She said she also had a petition, with 906 signatures, signed by members of the public. She presented the petition, along with public comments to Mr. Prichard

Mr. Prichard asked Mr. Kelly to address the Board regarding the situation at hand.

Mr. Kelly said the situation started with the closure of Baileysville Elementary and Middle School due to a positive COVID-19 case. He said he contacted Mrs. Cline, Superintendent, and the principal, regarding 2 students that attend Baileysville Elementary and Middle School and play on the football team at Oceana Middle School. He said he wanted to make sure the students would get to play while Baileysville was closed. Mr. Kelly shared his account of events that had taken place. He provided the Board Members with a time line of events. He said he was trying to do what was best for kids by making sure everything was done for them to play. He said he realizes that we are in a pandemic and precautions have to be made, but there must be a way for the students to play football. Mr. Kelly said he did hang up the phone on Mrs. Shanda Lester, Principal of Oceana Middle School, due to his frustration over the incident, while caring for his one year old child. He said he had also made a post on social media out of frustration of the situation. Mr. Kelly said he will continue to fight for kids.

Mr. Davis reviewed the policy regarding the Open Meetings Act, and how the Board Members must respond, or not, when an individual or group addresses the Board about a topic not on the agenda. He said clearly the employee Code of Conduct has been violated. He said he also disagrees with Mr. Kelly in his belief that there must be a way to play football during a pandemic. He said while he does support sports and sees the

benefits for students, these are unprecedented times, and football is not the main concern. Mr. Davis asked Mrs. Cline if this topic should be placed on a future agenda.

Mrs. Cline said she sees no need for this situation to be placed on a future agenda. She asked Mr. Kelly if she could discuss all aspects of the situation openly with the Board Members and all in attendance.

Mr. Kelly agreed to discuss the situation openly.

Mrs. Cline introduced herself to those in attendance and thanked them for coming. She said Mrs. Lester has been doing what is right for students for years. She said Mrs. Lester restarted the football team at Oceana Middle School. She said she also made the decision to do what is best for kids by signing a contract with the WVSSAC to allow students from Baileysville Elementary and Middle School to play on the football team at Oceana Middle School. Mrs. Cline said the Health Department is the agency making the decisions regarding closures and what is allowed as far as sports. She shared the sequence of events provided by Mrs. Lester. She said Mr. Kelly's actions were a true definition of insubordination. Mrs. Cline said she and Mr. John Henry, Director of Student Services and Attendance, were already working on the situation when Mr. Kelly acted the way he did. She said the 2 players that attend Baileysville were cleared to play by 5:00 p.m. the next day, which was relatively quick considering that Baileysville didn't close until 12:00 p.m. the day before. Mrs. Cline said Mrs. Lester, in trying to communicate with Mr. Kelly, called him, again. She said Mr. Kelly hung up on Mrs. Lester a second time. She said Mrs. Lester called him a third and fourth time, but Mr. Kelly did not answer.

Mr. Kelly said he did hang up on Mrs. Lester and had called Mrs. Cline to be able to have the 2 students play. He said he acted out of frustration, but he was trying to help students. He said again there had to be a way for the students to play ball.

Mr. Davis said he wants to make it clear that Mr. Kelly said repeatedly that there has to be a way for the kids to play, and that is simply not true. He said that football does not have to go on during a pandemic. He said time has to be allowed for contact tracing when a positive case is identified. He said Mr. Kelly acted poorly in his handling of the situation.

Mr. Kelly said he agrees that he was wrong, but he feels that Mrs. Lester was in the wrong, as well, in the way she handled the situation.

Mr. Lester said that he has always been a fan of Mr. Kelly, both personally and professionally, however, he is very disappointed with his actions. He said he doesn't want to see Mr. Kelly terminated, but if one of his employees had acted in the same manner as Mr. Kelly, they would have been terminated, as well.

Mr. Davis thanked the students, as well as the parents, for coming. He said there are lessons to be learned from this situation.

Mr. Stiltner thanked the players for coming. He said he knows that Mr. Kelly is very pleased that the students came to support him.

Mrs. Brittany Miller, parent, said she knows both Mr. Kelly and Mrs. Lester, personally. She said understands that consequences are to be expected when an employee doesn't follow the direction of their supervisors. She said she is asking for a second chance for Mr. Kelly. Mrs. Miller said the children on the football team have been distraught since Mr. Kelly's administrative leave. She said there have been many tears shed. She said Mr. Kelly takes care of the students and is a positive role model for them, as well. Mrs. Miller said she is not saying that Mr. Kelly has acted appropriately, because he has not. She said it is her hope that he gets a second chance once he meets with Mrs. Lester and Mrs. Cline.

Mr. Davis said there have been a lot of truths spoken this evening. He said he hears the positives of Mr. Kelly, but also the negative that have recently occurred.

Mr. Prichard said a meeting between Mrs. Lester, Mrs. Cline, and Mr. Kelly would be scheduled, with no guaranteed outcome. He said the Board would take a 5 minute recess.

Consent Agenda A. Minutes, Board of Education Meeting: September 28, 2020: Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding Consent Agenda: A. Minutes, Board of Education Meeting: September 28, 2020.

Mrs. Cline recommended the Minutes, Board of Education Meeting: September 28, 2020, as presented.

B. Extracurricular, Special, Fundraising and Bus Requests: Mrs. Cline recommended the Extracurricular, Special, Fundraising and Bus Requests, as follows:

- 1) A fundraising request from Pineville Elementary School to sell items on schoolstore.net to raise funds for the school's general fund;
- 2) A fundraising request from Road Branch Elementary and Middle School to sell Road Branch items to raise funds for the school's general fund; and,
- 3) A fundraising request from Road Branch Elementary and Middle School to sell yearbooks and ads to raise funds for the school's general fund.

C. Budget Supplements and Transfers: Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to address the Board regarding Consent Agenda: C. Budget Supplements and Transfers.

Mrs. Cline asked Mrs. Kim Cook, Chief School Business Official, to address the Board.

Mrs. Cook said additional Budget Supplements and Transfers have been added to the Board packet. She reviewed the Budget Supplements and Transfers with the Board.

There was a brief discussion regarding Budget Supplements and Transfers.

After a thorough discussion regarding the Consent Agenda, Mr. Lester made a motion, seconded by Mr. Walker, to approve the Consent Agenda, Items A., B., and C., as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

2019-2020 Annual Financial Statement: Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to address the Board regarding 2019-2020 Annual Financial Statement.

Mrs. Cline asked Mrs. Cook to present regarding 2019-2020 Annual Financial Statement.

Mrs. Cook presented the 2019-2020 Annual Financial Statement. She said in analyzing the Annual Financial Statement, the most pertinent information can be found in the Management Discussion and Analysis (MDA), which is an overview of the financial picture of the Wyoming County Board of Education. She said in the most recent fiscal year, the Board's net assets exceeded liabilities by \$68,254,601 of which \$10,577,858 is the unrestricted net position which may be used to meet the Board's ongoing obligations. Mrs. Cook said the Board's net position increased by \$8,070,030 over the prior year. She said at the end of the fiscal year, the assigned and unassigned fund balances for the general fund was \$8,428,691 which is 22 % of the total expenditures. She said the amount recommended by the State are a minimum of 5%. Mrs. Cook said the largest portion of the Board's net position is made up of capital assets which include land, buildings, equipment, and vehicles, totaling \$52,679,080. She said current and other liabilities increased by \$2,996,261, mainly due to the addition of a long term capital lease in the amount of \$4,033,074. Mrs. Cook

addressed the long term obligations of the Board which include a Q-ZAB payment of \$53,000 which will pay out in 2022, \$258,644 yearly on a capital lease payment until 2028, another Q-ZAB payment of \$66,133 until 2032 and the new capital lease payment of \$318,291 payable until 2034. She said this amounts to \$696,068 (net of interest) payable per year. She stated that these payments need to always be budgeted as a priority. Mrs. Cook cautioned that even though the Board is very good financial shape at the current moment, this can change rapidly due to loss of enrollment, both normal and abnormal, as this year's loss due to students going off on home school attributed to COVID. She also addressed the current political change that can occur in November and the impact that it could have in West Virginia and discussed the additional burdens being placed upon school systems to provide PPE equipment and supplies in addressing the COVID health crisis. Mrs. Cook stressed that we have continued to address staff at each of our schools and strive to keep in line with the computations. She said the Board has cut several positions in recent years and are close to not being able to cut additional personnel to meet the student needs.

After a thorough discussion, Mr. Walker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, to approve the 2019-2020 Annual Financial Statement, 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, was unable to attend. She said the second round of COVID supplies, including cleaning supplies and PPE, has been delivered to all schools. She said if a school is in need of supplies, they should notify Mr. Hylton or Mr. Donald Clay, Director of Operations and Facilities, immediately. She said needed supplies will be delivered promptly.

There was a brief discussion of School Safety and Security.

Consideration of Proposed NEOLA Policy Changes: A. Policy 2266: Title IX

- Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities: Mr.

Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to address the Board regarding Consideration of Proposed NEOLA Policy Changes.

Mrs. Cline said Policy 2266: Title IX - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex Education Programs or Activities was presented to the Board for review at a previous meeting. She said no additional changes have been made.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stiltner, to approve the Proposed NEOLA Policy Changes: A. Policy 2266: Title IX – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex Education Programs or Activities, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

Consideration of Request of Bids: Oceana Middle School Gymnasium Roof:

Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding Consideration of Request of Bids: Oceana Middle School Gymnasium Roof.

Mrs. Cline asked Mr. Donald Clay, Director of Operations and Facilities, to address the Board.

Mr. Clay said the gymnasium roof at Oceana Middle School is needing replaced. He said so far it has not caused major issues, but if the roof is not replaced soon, there will be problems. He reviewed the specifications of the proposed project with the Board.

After a thorough discussion, Mr. Stiltner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Walker, to approve the Request for Bids: Oceana Middle School Gymnasium Roof, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

Consideration of Request of Bids: Filter Service: Mr. Prichard asked Mrs.

Cline to address the Board regarding Consideration of Request of Bids: Filter Service.

Mrs. Cline asked Mr. Clay to present to the Board.

Mr. Clay said this service has been provided by the current company for 3 years. He said the bid is for once monthly filter service at each school. He said Mrs. Cline is having all filters changed twice monthly currently, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He said this Request for Bids, once awarded would be for one year, with the possibility to continue for two additional years if the services are going well.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Lester made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stiltner, to approve the Request for Bids: Filter Service, as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

Wyoming County Schools COVID-19/Coronavirus Plan of Action/Update:

Mr. Prichard asked Mrs. Cline to present regarding Wyoming County Schools COVID-19/Coronavirus Plan of Action/Update.

Mrs. Cline said Mr. John Henry, Director of Student Services and Attendance, continues to do a tremendous job communicating and working with the Wyoming County Health Department. She asked Mr. Henry to address the Board.

Mr. Henry said there are currently 109 recovered cases and 19 active cases. He said Wyoming County is yellow for the week according to the West Virginia Department of Education's Color Coded Map. He reviewed the return dates for each school in the County that is currently closed due to a positive case of COVID-19. He said the Health Department makes the decisions regarding who must quarantine and who does not. Mr. Henry said school closures, and duration, are determined by how many people the positive person was in direct contact with in the days prior to the positive test result.

Mr. Prichard asked if everyone was wearing masks, as required.

Mrs. Cline said that masks are being worn very well. She said if any reports are received of masks not being worn when required, contact is made with the principal immediately.

There was a thorough discussion of Wyoming County Schools COVID-19/Coronavirus Plan of Action/Update.

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

Mrs. Cline recommended the Personnel List as presented.

PROFESSIONAL:

ELEMENTARY TEACHERS

A. Mutual Reassignment:

Lisa K. Workman, from Kindergarten Teacher, Baileysville Elementary and Middle School, to Elementary Education Teacher, Baileysville Elementary and Middle School, effective September 28, 2020

B. Retirement:

Sherry A. Woolum, Elementary Education Teacher, Oceana Middle School, effective October 30, 2020

MENTOR TEACHERS

A. Rescind Appointment:

Brooke Bailey, from Mentor Teacher, Special Education, Herndon Consolidated Elementary and Middle School, effective October 6, 2020

B. Recommended for Appointment:

Tammy Bailey, Mentor Teacher, Special Education, Herndon Consolidated Elementary and Middle School, effective October 6, 2020

EXTRA DUTIES

A. Recommended for Appointment:

Kimberly A. Brooks, 3rd - 5th Grade Cheer Coach, Glen Fork Elementary and Middle School, effective September 30, 2020

Kimberly A. Brooks, 6th - 8th Grade Cheer Coach, Glen Fork Elementary and Middle School, effective September 30, 2020

WYOMING COUNTY EXTRACURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS:

Virtual School Facilitators:

A. Recommended for Appointment:

Sharon L. Norman, Elementary (K-5) Virtual School Facilitator;
September 30, 2020 - January 25, 2021; Maximum of Thirty Days;
\$200 per Day Pending Certification, effective October 6, 2020

Ginny M. Shirley, Elementary (K-5) Virtual School Facilitator;
September 30, 2020 - January 25, 2021; Maximum of Thirty Days;
\$200 per Day Pending Certification, effective October 6, 2020

Robyn L. Stone, Elementary (K-5) Virtual School Facilitator;
September 30, 2020 - January 25, 2021; Maximum of Thirty Days;
\$200 per Day Pending Certification, effective October 6, 2020

Teresa K. Maynard, Middle School (6-8) Virtual School Facilitator;
September 30, 2020 - January 25, 2021; Maximum of Thirty Days;
\$200 per Day Pending Certification, effective October 6, 2020

Kathy L. Manning, High School (9-12) Virtual School Facilitator;
September 30, 2020 - January 25, 2021; Maximum of Thirty Days;
\$200 per Day Pending Certification, effective October 6, 2020

Amy L. Powell, High School (9-12) Virtual School Facilitator;
September 30, 2020 - January 25, 2021; Maximum of Thirty Days;
\$200 per Day Pending Certification, effective October 6, 2020

Donna L. Bradford, Special Education (K-12) Virtual School Facilitator;
September 30, 2020 - January 25, 2021; Maximum of Thirty Days;
\$200 per Day Pending Certification, effective October 6, 2020

SERVICE PERSONNEL:

SECRETARIES

A. Retirement:

Angela C. Mollette, Receptionist/Secretary, Central Office, effective
December 31, 2020

SUBSTITUTES:

Teachers

Andrea E. Ford
Jason L. Green

After a brief discussion, Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stiltner, to approve the Personnel List as presented and recommended by Mrs. Cline, Superintendent. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

Items for Future Agendas and Announcements: Mr. Prichard reminded the Board of the next regularly scheduled Board of Education Meeting set for Thursday, October 15, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., at Central Office.

Mr. Davis made a motion to go into Executive Session, WV Code 6-9A-4, to discuss a financial matter. Mr. Stiltner seconded the motion. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Stiltner, to return to Regular Session. Passed with a 5-0 vote.

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