

The Pocahontas County Board of Education met on Tuesday, October 27, 2020, for the MES Local School Improvement Council immediately followed by a Regular Board Meeting at Marlinton Elementary School, Marlinton, West Virginia, with the following members present:

Sue E. Hollandsworth, President

John Burns)
H. Samuel Gibson) Members
Jarrett McLaughlin*)
Morgan McComb)

*under Zoom capabilities

Call to Order.

IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE COVID-19 SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES, AND THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, YOU MAY LISTEN TO THE BOE MEETING BY JOINING THE SCHEDULED ZOOM MEETING OCTOBER 27, 2020, AT 3:30 PM. IN-PERSON PUBLIC ATTENDANCE WILL BE PERMITTED.

(the audio link will also be provided on County Website at <http://pocahontas-k12.wvnet.edu/boe/>)

Audio link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88608508836?pwd=enhuQmJDMmJjSXVUSWUwVWtZUEIVUT09>

Meeting ID: 886 0850 8836 Password: 8n004x

Open with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MES Local School Improvement Council presentation followed by a meeting with staff.

MINUTES...

On the motion of Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the Board of Education meeting held on September 22, 2020.

MINUTES...

On the motion of Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the Board of Education meeting held on October 13, 2020.

AGENDA...

On the motion of Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the agenda with the following changes: Andy Cocina, Wendle Representative will not be presenting, Ashley Wilt, Tabeatha McCoy, and Roger Irvine will fill the blanks under the personnel. An Executive Session will be held after Matters of the Board to discuss a student disciplinary matter.

DELEGATIONS...

No delegations were requested.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT & SPECIAL RECOGNITION...

Superintendent Beam honored the principals for their hard work and dedication to the student body during National Principals' Week. He will be taking them out to lunch Wednesday, October 28, 2020.

Mr. Beam informed the Board that the two aide positions on the agenda (one at Hillsboro and one at Green Bank) were necessary to fill the needs of the special education students. With the budget cuts and

financial strain, it is imperative that we carefully study the position. As individuals retire or resign, principals are aware that the current position may not be immediately posted.

Lastly, Mr. Beam updated the Board on a legal matter. In 2016, Board entered verbal agreement with Henry Wood, attorney from Charleston. He was hired to recoup the misappropriated/ shorted State funds to the tune of a little over one million dollars. Attorney Wood filed a discovery document in which that State has not responded though they have filed a motion to continue due to COVID-19. The State has been granted one continuance due to the pandemic. It appears the Department of Education is delaying the process due to budgeting conflicts. Attorney Wood filed a mediation to force a response to the discovery document. Mr. Beam will keep the Board updated on the findings.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/CENTRAL OFFICE UPDATES...

- a. Jacob Kinnison, Student Representative— “What isn’t happening at the high school?” Student Representative Kinnison enthusiastically responded. It is Spirit Week. It is Homecoming. Hallways are decorated, students are dressing up and the morale seems upbeat. Students are even accepting the three lunch shifts—one starting at 10:30 AM.

To promote Anti-Drug Week, the Guidance Office gave three kisses in a bag to encourage “Kiss Drugs Away.” Thirty-five seniors sat for the SATs.

Both boys’ and girls’ soccer teams competed at the regional level. The Pocahontas County High School Golf Team placed 4th in the State.

- b. ~~Andy Cocina, Wendle Representative~~

APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF VENDOR LISTING...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved to authorize payment of vendor listing of claims in the amount of \$251,338.84.

APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF VENDOR LISTING OF CLAIMS (LOCAL GOVERNMENT PURCHASING CARD)...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved to authorize payment of vendor listing of claims (Local Government Purchasing Card) in the amount of \$135,084.33.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the following employee payroll:

October 19, 2020 – \$244,833.63

APPROVAL OF BANK RECONCILIATION...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the Bank Reconciliation for the month of August 2020.

APPROVAL OF BURLINGTON UNITED METHODIST FAMILY SERVICES MOU...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Pocahontas County Board of Education and Burlington United Methodist Family Services, Inc. to provide comprehensive services and support to meet the educational needs of foster children in the county.

REVIEW OF RE-ENTRY PLAN...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McComb, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board entered a Review of Re-Entry Plan (action to be taken, if necessary) with possible recommendations and/or revisions. Re-Entry Plan revisions include:

On the motion of Mr. Gibson and seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved mandatory 4 day-a -week instruction inside the school buildings starting November 5, 2020 for all remote students.

On the motion of Mr. Gibson and seconded Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved to allow elementary students to use the cafeteria while eating if adequate social distancing cannot be maintained.

On the motion of Mr. McComb and seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved to allow employees to bring their children into their workplace outside regular work hours when they need to wait for transportation.

MINUTES...

On the motion of Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the Special Board meeting, public hearing on the 2020-2030 Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan held on October 06, 2020.

APPROVAL OF FINAL 2020-2030 CEFP...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board approved the Final 2020-2030 Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan at a 4-1 vote, with Mr. Gibson casting the only descending vote.

PERSONNEL...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved Approval of Service and Professional Personnel.

Marlinton Elementary School:

UNPAID MEDICAL
LEAVE:

SAMANTHA J. FEATHER, as Teacher of Multi-Subjects at Marlinton Elementary School, retroactive to October 22, 2020, (or upon exhaustion of personal leave) returning to the classroom November 30, 2020.

Pocahontas County High School:

UNPAID MEDICAL
LEAVE:

JANET L. COLE, as Itinerant Special Education Classroom Aide/Bus Aide for Pocahontas County Schools, retroactive to October 21, 2020 (or upon exhaustion of personal leave) for a period of up to 12 weeks.

Pocahontas County Schools:

CHANGE IN MENTOR:

Due to the change in teaching locations and mutual consent of all parties, the mentorship for TESSA M. HIMELRICK will be adjusted from DARLENE D. ARBOGAST to ANNE M. SMITH, effective for the 2020-2021 school year, at \$22.00 per hour, not to exceed 50 hours or \$1,100.00.

EMPLOYMENT:

ASHLEY WILT-SMITH, as Itinerant Supervisory Special Education Classroom Aide/Bus Aide for Pocahontas County Schools,

assignment: Green Bank Elementary-Middle School, at state minimum salary, effective October 29, 2020 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, term of employment is 147 days, shift being 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM (Monday – Friday). Note: Term of employment shall be 200 days each year thereafter.

EMPLOYMENT:

TABEATHA MCCOY, as Itinerant Supervisory Special Education Classroom Aide/Bus Aide for Pocahontas County Schools, assignment: Hillsboro Elementary School, at state minimum salary, effective October 29, 2020 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, term of employment is 147 days, shift being 8:15 AM – 4:15 PM (Monday – Friday). Note: Term of employment shall be 200 days each year thereafter.

EMPLOYMENT:

ROGER IRVINE, as Evening Custodian III, extracurricular, at Marlinton Elementary School, at \$14.00 per hour, one day per week (Friday), 3.5 hours per day (3:30 PM – 7:00 PM), effective October 30, 2020. Note—This is an as needed, extracurricular position and contingent upon continued COVID-19 restrictions. Should all virtual or remote learning be enforced, this position will be delayed until students are present inside the school environment with face-to-face instruction. Paid Holidays are not part of this contract. Wages are contingent upon actually working the Evening Custodian III, extracurricular shift.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD...

Mr. McLaughlin voiced no concerns for Matters of the Board at the present time. The General Work Session November 02, 2020 will include property updates.

Mr. Morgan expressed his gratitude to all staff as they perform their duties above and beyond expectation.

Mr. Gibson would like to readdress obtaining completers. How can we encourage students to complete the CTE classes? Can we help with scheduling conflicts? Can Mrs. Dille's computer classes be incorporated in the program? Mr. Beam and Mr. Riley are working on a platform to assist the CTE coursework. It will be revealed soon.

Mr. Gibson addressed several technology concerns. Mrs. Bland informed the staff that should the Technology Request Form, found on the county website, be completed, Mr. Beverage and Mr. Chaney will address the difficulties immediately. Daily assistance is available for staff and students alike.

Mr. Burns and Dr. Hollandsworth voiced no concerns for Matters of the Board at the present time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ON STUDENT DISCIPLINARY MATTER...

On the motion of Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the call for Executive Session to discuss, with possible action, a student disciplinary matter. The Board went into Executive Session at 6:08 PM, and at the conclusion of the Executive Session, on the motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously agreed to return to the agenda at 6:20 PM.

EXPLUSION—MARLINTON MIDDLE SCHOOL MALE STUDENT

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the expulsion of a Marlinton Middle School male student for up to 365 days, with consideration by superintendent, pursuant to W. Va. Code 6-9A-4.

NEXT BOARD MEETING...

General Work Session on November 02, 2020 beginning at 8:00 AM at the Pocahontas County Conference Room, Buckeye, WV.

Next Local School Improvement Council/Board of Education Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 beginning at 3:00 PM at Marlinton Middle School, Buckeye, WV.

ADIJOURN...

On the motion of Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.


Secretary


President