

The Pocahontas County Board of Education met on Tuesday, December 01, 2020, for a regular Board Meeting at the Board of Education Conference Room, Buckeye, WV, with the following members present under Zoom capabilities:

Sue E. Hollandsworth, President

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

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 DECEMBER 01, 2020, AT 6:00 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/85463051745?pwd=bjVTYTJJSK2JRaWx6WUxqaFpiQTJrUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 6305 1745      Password: 7v380y

Open with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES...**

On the motion of Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. Gibson, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the Board of Education meeting held on November 17, 2020.

**AGENDA...**

On the motion of Mr. McLaughlin and seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved the agenda, including the removal of the Service and Professional Personnel item this time.

**DELEGATIONS...**

No delegations were requested.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT & SPECIAL RECOGNITION...**

Superintendent Beam praised the Pocahontas County Schools' Nursing Staff and the County Health Department for keeping him totally informed, updated, and maintaining an accurate account of the nature of the landscape around us.

Mr. Beam also applauded Sarah Riley as she has spear-headed the Thursday Task Force, a large group of stakeholders in Pocahontas County, that meet weekly to discuss the effects of the pandemic on our county.

Mr. Beam reported that as additional positive cases pop-up throughout the county, the State Education Map may depict Pocahontas County remaining in the orange range, Remote Learning will continue. The map will be updated every Saturday at 5:00 pm.

Nurse Jenny Friel informed the Board that 17 students are currently in quarantine due to direct contact with a positive Covid-19 case. Each of our five schools are effected, with Hillsboro Elementary School having 9 students isolated. Three staff members tested positive and 8 staff members are quarantined due to direct contact of a positive. She anticipates numbers may rise as additional testing results are pending.

#### **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/CENTRAL OFFICE UPDATES...**

- a. Jacob Kinnison, Student Representative, thanked Mrs. Lori Doolittle for providing additional snacks to the students due to the early lunch shift. Though in-person attendance has been limited, Mr. Kinnison reported Remote Learning was going well and rolling along at Pocahontas County High School. Students seem to be able to connect with their teachers and submit their assignments.
- b. Mr. Mann, Mr. McLaughlin, and Mr. Morgan, PCS Band Directors, discussed the difficulties associated with band and social distancing, masks, and remote learning. Most concerts have been either postponed or canceled. As Teachers of the Performing Arts, they deliberated the main factor in what motivates the band students is performance.

In order to help alleviate these difficulties and maintain band efficiency, five high-tech video recorders/cameras and tripods were purchased—one for each school. The bell covers have been ordered and are expected to arrive shortly. Mr. Mann, Mr. McLaughlin, and Mr. Morgan were much appreciative of the support to their music program.

#### **APPROVAL TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF VENDOR LISTING...**

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved to authorize payment of vendor listing of claims in the amount of **\$61,580.26**.

#### **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. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved to authorize payment of vendor listing of claims (Local Government Purchasing Card) in the amount of **\$13,819.84**.

#### **APPROVAL OF GRANT AWARDS...**

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the grant awards.

#### **APPROVAL OF PAYROLL...**

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

November 17, 2020 – \$261,278.07

#### **APPROVAL OF EXTRA DUTY PAY...**

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved the Extra Duty Pay for the month of November 2020, in the amount of **\$28,756.04**.

**APPROVAL OF BANK RECONCILIATION...**

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

**APPROVAL OF BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS...**

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved the Budget Adjustments.

**REVIEW OF RE-ENTRY PLAN...**

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved Review of Re-Entry Plan (action to be taken, if necessary) with no revisions at the present time.

**APPROVAL OF SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL...**

Marlinton Elementary School:

**EMPLOYMENT:**

\_\_\_\_\_, Teacher of Multi-Subjects at Marlinton Elementary School, at state basic salary based on degree and experience, effective December 03, 2020 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, term of employment is 126 days, (in addition to the days already worked)  
NOTE: Term of employment shall be 200 days each year thereafter.

**MATTERS OF THE BOARD...**

Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. McComb voiced no concerns for Matters of the Board at the present time.

Mr. Gibson articulated that he is following through with the LSIC concerns at Marlinton Middle School. He also expressed much gratitude towards the staff. Though Remote Learning may deem stressful, all seem to be handling the tough situation quite well.

Mr. Burns voiced no concerns for Matters of the Board at the present time, only commending all county employees, especially the teachers for their diligence. Additional prayers for the Snyder family are appreciated.

Dr. Hollandsworth added her appreciation to all of the staff. Cooks and custodians are going over and above. Bus drivers are performing additional cleaning duties on top of their routine schedules. Teachers prepare lessons for both in-person and remote learning, waiting the Saturday Education Map outcome. In this time of uncertainty, Dr. Hollandsworth appreciates the perseverance of our county education system.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING...**

Next Board of Education Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, beginning at 6:00 PM at the Board of Education Conference Room, Buckeye, WV, under Zoom capabilities.

**ADJOURN...**

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

  
Secretary

  
President