

The Pocahontas County Board of Education met on Tuesday, March 30, 2021, beginning with a GBEMS Local School Improvement Council immediately followed by the Regular Board Meeting at Green Bank Elementary-Middle School, Green Bank, WV, with the following members present:

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, INCREASE IN ACTIVE CASES, AND THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, YOU MAY ALSO LISTEN TO THE BOE MEETING BY JOINING THE SCHEDULED ZOOM MEETING MARCH 30, 2021, AT 4:30 PM. IN-PERSON PUBLIC ATTENDANCE WILL BE LIMITED.

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

Audio link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83388375732?pwd=WUNFcmFISTJmVENHTXFGY3A5OUeWdz09>

Meeting ID: 833 8837 5732 Password: 8x071q

Open with the Pledge of Allegiance.

GBEMS LSIC...

The Board of Education met with the Green Bank Elementary-Middle School Local School Improvement Council followed by a meeting with staff.

MINUTES...

On the motion of Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the Board of Education meeting held on February 16, 2021.

MINUTES...

On the motion of Mr. McLaughlin and seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the Board of Education meeting held on March 09, 2021.

AGENDA...

On the motion of Mr. Burns and seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the agenda.

DELEGATIONS...

No delegations were requested.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT & SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Superintendent Beam recognized the following nominees for Service Person of the Year and Teacher of the Year. Winners will be selected from a panel of directors later this week. Mr. Beam agreed with Tom Boothe's tenure recognition suggestion. Mr. Beam and Mrs. Radcliff are studying the possibility of Pocahontas County Schools insignia pins to honor specific years of service. Said dedication merits recognition.

Service Employee of the Year Nominees

Sabrina Jordan	Cook	MES
Sarah Cover	Aide	GBEMS
Don McNeel	Bus driver	HES
Melissa Ervine	Secretary-BOE	PCHS
Felicia Smith	Aide	MMS

Teacher of the Year Nominees

Sarah Brown	MES
Melissa Taylor	GBEMS
Nicole Rose-Taylor	HES
Justin Kerr	PCHS
Stephanie Burns	MMS

Mr. Beam reminded the Board that Summer School positions have been posted this week for both teachers and service personnel. We have received less applications than the results of the summer school survey depicted interest. A reconfiguration of classes may deem necessary in order to utilize available staff. Summer School Coordinator, once filled, will begin working closely with Mrs. Bostic, Mrs. Bland, and Mrs. Doolittle to plan summer school activities.

Additionally, with the help of Ms. Cara Rose, Executive Director of Pocahontas County Convention and Visitors Bureau, we are designing an incentive program for student attendance. Summer School begins June 8, 2021 through July 1, 2021, with no instruction on Fridays and June 21, 2021, observance of West Virginia Day.

Mr. Beam informed the Board of the recent conference call with Attorney Henry Wood. It was a productive discussion about recouping the 1.2M plus interest in state aid formula funds. Mr. Beam and Mrs. Radcliff will attend the Zoom mediation conference on April 14, 2021 with Mr. Don O'Dell interceding as the mediator. Hopefully, the results will be to our favor.

Mr. Beam presented information from Susan Collins, Superintendents' liaison, describing Senate Bill 711. If passed and approved, it would reduce our 1,400 student funding to 1,200 students, equaling a \$180,000 loss in funds to the county. Similar bills have failed in the past and we will advocate for Senate Bill 711 to do the same. (Update: per Amy Willard, WVDE Executive Director, if passed Senate Bill 711 will not affect Pocahontas County. Proposed bill will bring enrollment to a minimum of 1,200 students for smaller counties' enrollment.)

Lastly, Mr. Beam updated the Board on the direction of the multicultural curriculum. He, Mrs. Bostic and Mrs. Bland have been designing an avenue to include the motivation behind multicultural education backed by two state policies (policy 2510 and policy 2417) and four local policies. Deadline of April 9, 2021 was given for a committee to be in place for the designing of multicultural plan for curriculum and delivery of instruction. Committee will also include classroom teachers for each grade level and members of the local community. Interested parties should contact said directors.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/CENTRAL OFFICE UPDATES...

- a. Dana A. Cutlip, PCS Social Worker—Ms. Cutlip updated the Board with the roles of her position, assisting students and staff with mental health concerns. Though this has been a challenging year, it is imperative to build good relationships with administrators, directors, local and state organizations in order to provide resources to bridge the gap for students and families in our school system. Ms. Cutlip appreciates the continued Board support as she enthusiastically enjoys working with the youth of Pocahontas County, empowering them with tools for a better tomorrow.

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 **\$94,532.12**.

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

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 (Local Government Purchasing Card) in the amount of **\$78,682.72**.

APPROVAL OF GRANT AWARDS...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, 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:

March 16, 2021 – \$239,042.87

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 March 2021, in the amount of **\$9,343.82**.

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.

APPROVAL OF REVISED PCS PERSONNEL ACCEPTABLE USE FORM...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the revised Pocahontas County Schools' Personnel Acceptable Use Form (Policy 7540.03).

APPROVAL OF REVISED NEOLA POLICIES WITH MINOR ADJUSTMENTS...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board approved the following revised Neola policies with minor adjustments and/or technical changes:

po0164	Notice of Meetings
po0168	Minutes
po1220	Employment of the Superintendent
po1613	Student Supervision and Welfare
po1617	Weapons
po2261.03	District and School Report Card
po3139.01	Suspension
po3141	Termination
po3213	Student Supervision and Welfare by Professional Staff
po3242	Professional Learning for Educators
po4130	Assignment and Transfer of Service Personnel
po4139.01	Suspension
po4140	Termination for Cause and Resignation
po4213	Student Supervision and Welfare by Service Personnel
po4220	Staff Evaluation
po5530	Substance Abuse Prevention
po5540	The Schools and Community Agencies
po5610	Exclusion from Classroom or School Bus, Suspension and Expulsion of Students
po6114	Cost Principles – Spending Federal Funds
po6325	Procurement – Federal Grants/Funds
po7440.01	Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring
po7510	Use of District Facilities
po8120	Volunteers
po8452	Automated External Defibrillators (AED)
po8600.04	Bus Operator Certification
po8800	Religious/Patriotic Ceremonies and Observance

APPROVAL OF REVISED NEOLA POLICIES...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the following revised Neola policies:

po2120.01	Local School Improvement Council
po2230	Program of Study Early Learning Programs Grades Pre-K-5
po2230.01	Program of Study Middle School Education
po2230.02	Program of Study High School Program (Grades 9-12)
po2260.03	Programs of Study for English Learners
po2270	Religion in the Curriculum
po2414	Drug Prevention and Violence Reduction Education Program
po2430.02	Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities
po2431	Interscholastic Athletics
po4160.02	Physical Examination for School Bus Operators
po5350	Student Suicide
po5611	Discipline- Student Due Process Rights
po9270	Home Instruction

APPROVAL OF NEW NEOLA POLICIES...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the following new Neola Policies:

- po2230.04 West Virginia Remembers Program
- po2230.05 Instruction on the Bible
- po3220.05 Teacher and Leader Induction Program

RE-ENTRY PLAN...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the Re-Entry Plan with the only change being the removal of colored map directions as Governor Justice eliminated the map.

PERSONNEL...

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

Pocahontas County Schools:

UNPAID MEDICAL
LEAVE:

L. BROOKE NOTTINGHAM, as Itinerant Teacher of Special Education (Multi-categorical)/Autism for Pocahontas County Schools (assignment: Green Bank Elementary-Middle School), effective April 06, 2021 (or upon exhaustion of personal leave) for a period of up to 9 weeks, as needed.

REQUESTED
TRANSFER:

EVAN E. ROSE, as School Bus Operator for Pocahontas County Schools from his current run to run as follows:

Morning Run: Beginning at Pocahontas County High School and traveling to Seebert for the first pick up, coming back to the Seebert Lane Road going onto Rose Road and Puffenbarger Road and then coming back out Seebert Lane to Hillsboro Elementary School and from Hillsboro Elementary School traveling Route 219 North to Old Buckeye Road, back to 219 North, to Marlinton Middle School, transferring students, then traveling back to Route 219 North, to Route 39 to Route 28 and ending at Pocahontas County High School where it will be parked during the school day.

Evening Run: Reverse of morning run.

SNOW ROUTE: The bus will only travel Route 219 and will meet students at the intersection of the above mentioned roads/lanes or at Hillsboro Elementary School. May pick up students that other buses cannot. Afternoon Run: Reverse of morning run.

Effective April 06, 2021 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, at state basic pay, term of employment is 45 days, (in addition to the days already worked). Note: Term of employment shall be 200 days each year thereafter.

RESIGNATION:

DIANE L. ARBOGAST, as Custodian III, Extracurricular, for Pocahontas County Schools, at Hillsboro Elementary School, one day a week (Wednesday), retroactive to March 10, 2021.

EMPLOYMENT:

CALEB J. BARKLEY, as Custodian III, Extracurricular, for Pocahontas County Schools, at Hillsboro Elementary School, effective April 07,

2021, as needed, for only the 2020-2021 instructional school year, at \$14.00 per hour, one day a week (Wednesday), two hours per day, shift being 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. 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, upon acceptance of the resignation of Diane L. Arbogast.

EMPLOYMENT: DEVAN E. SIMMONS, assistant coach, for the Pocahontas County High School Boys' and Girls' Track and Field Teams for the 2020-2021 season, as needed, supplement being \$281.25 per team, total supplement being \$562.50.

EMPLOYMENT: AARON L. PUGH, assistant coach, for the Pocahontas County High School Boys' and Girls' Track and Field Teams for the 2020-2021 season, as needed, supplement being \$281.25 per team, total supplement being \$562.50.

RESIGNATION: MATTHEW BUZZARD, as Assistant Football Coach for Pocahontas High School, retroactive to March 16, 2021.

RESIGNATION: JUSTIN KERR, as 7th and 8th Grade Head Football Coach for Pocahontas County Schools, retroactive to March 18, 2021.

RESIGNATION: JUSTIN KERR, as Head Softball Coach for Pocahontas County High School, effective the end of the 2020-2021 season.

RESIGNATION: SHAWN M. SMITH, as substitute aide for Pocahontas County Schools, per her request, retroactive to March 08, 2021.

RESIGNATION: SHAWN M. SMITH, as substitute custodian for Pocahontas County Schools, per her request, retroactive to March 08, 2021.

ABOLISHMENT OF POSITION: Custodian III/Truck Driver/Groundsman/General Maintenance/Sanitation Plant Operator/Heating and Air Conditioning Mechanic II (assignment: Central Office), effective March 11, 2021.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD...

Dr. Hollandsworth reminded the Board of Attorney Jason Long's advice to eliminate Matters of the Board. If not, Mr. Long cautioned discussion to be limited to previous matters on previous agendas. Under no circumstances should new items be introduced.

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

Mr. McLaughlin inquired about a property update. Mr. Barr has not yet completed the survey.

Mr. Gibson had a few concerns. He questioned the results of the Needs Application to which Mr. Beam responded we would have an answer later next month. Mr. Gibson then asked about the stimulus funding and additional grant applications. Mrs. Radcliff said the state has released some funding and April 30, 2021

is the target deadline on said grant documents. Roughly \$800,000 is to be used for learning loss and about \$42,000 for after-school programs and an additional \$42,000 for summer school.

Mr. Gibson mentioned that ventilation issues are still a major concern. Electrical upgrades must occur first before ventilation can be considered. Unfortunately, the amount of money is insufficient for all five schools as the values are set in stone. Mrs. Radcliff will send Mr. Gibson link to what has been provided. Budgets will be cut in the federal programs this year. Lastly, Mr. Gibson encouraged writing a letter or sending an email, expressing much disapproval for the Senate Bill 711. If passed it could greatly affect our budget.


Dr. Hollandsworth reminded the Board to review the superintendent's goals for the upcoming evaluation at the next meeting. Bring ideas as new goals will be suggested for the upcoming year. Additionally, she would like to meet with Mr. Beam, Mrs. Bostic, Mrs. Bland and Mrs. Radcliff to clarify findings from the Green Bank Elementary-Middle School LSIC meeting.


NEXT BOARD MEETING...

Next Board of Education Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021, reconvening of the March 09, 2021 Proposed Levy Rates, beginning at 8:00 AM at the Board of Education Conference Room, Buckeye, WV.

ADJOURN...

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


Secretary


President