

The Pocahontas County Board of Education met on Tuesday, June 01, 2021, for a Regular Board Meeting at the Board of Education Conference Room, Buckeye, WV, with the following members present:

Sue E. Hollandsworth, President

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

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 APRIL 20, 2021, AT 8:00 AM. 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/86745842563?pwd=WGtxQW8yZHBbTE5ubEs3eVNYYi9DQT09>
Meeting ID: 867 4584 2563 Password: 7t873u

Call to Order.

Open with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 May 11, 2021.

AGENDA...

On the motion of Mr. McLaughlin and seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved the agenda with the following changes: pulling the resignation of the Green Bank teacher and inserting the name, Julia A. Shiflet, in the blank as Assistant Principal/Assistant Career and Technical Education Director at Pocahontas County High School.

DELEGATIONS...

No delegations were requested.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT & SPECIAL RECOGNITION...

Superintendent Beam updated the Board with some of the new laws and regulations that passed legislation, effective July 1, 2021. High school, homeschooled students are now permitted to attend vocational classes. They cannot be charged additional fees associated with said enrollment than any other traditional high school student assessment.

The school system, principal and teacher no longer have the prerogative to delay kindergarten enrollment for struggling students. Only parents are permitted to determine if the student is not ready for kindergarten.

Mr. Beam explained the difficulty finding employees to fill various positions. Middle school was cancelled for summer school due to lack of staffing. Summer Sole will commence June 7, 2021 with roughly 30 attendees. Food Director, Mrs. Doolittle, may need to limit the Summer Feeding Program Distribution to one site for two weeks due to lack of filling a Cook III position. Additional areas of concern are Principal, ELA Teacher, Music Teacher, Multi-Subject Teachers, Academic Interventionists, After School Teachers, Custodians, Aides, and Substitutes. In order to alleviate substitute service shortages, we are accepting applications in all service fields now instead of waiting until August to post.

Mr. Beam requested to end the Zoom option on the Board Meetings as the general public may now attend in person. Therefore, this will be the last Zoom meeting until further notice.

It is with great honor that Mr. Beam announced Nurse Jenny Friel as receiving the High Mark Foundation Award. This is a private charitable organization prevailing health care needs throughout the community. As recipient of the 7th annual school nurse award, Nurse Jenny Friel received \$1,500.00 to be used for professional development. She will use her award to purchase clinical supplies for all the schools. Congratulations, Nurse Jenny!

Another congratulations goes to our PCHS seniors, crossing the stage without rain. It was a beautiful, outdoor ceremony, one to be remembered in years to come.

The new Student Board of Education Representatives for the upcoming school year have been selected. Kyle Wayne will represent during the first semester, while Rachel Burns will represent the second semester.

Lastly, Mr. Beam wanted to publically thank our employees. He was particularly impressed to see that the educational instruction continued up until the final days. Teachers kept students on task and working, utilizing every opportunity to instruct young minds. Mr. Beam commended all staff and students for their accomplishments. It is an honor to be part of Pocahontas County Schools!

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS/CENTRAL OFFICE UPDATES...

- a. Alan Gibson, Student Representative, appreciated the opportunity to serve as a representative to the Board of Education. His last report included honoring the graduating seniors as it was a challenging year. Spring sports are coming to a close and the Regional Track Meet is scheduled for June 2, 2021. Hopefully, PCHS will succeed and head to States.
- b. Andy Cocina, Wendel Representative, updated the Board on the Energy Savings Contract and the ESSERF Contract. The PowerPoint presentation discussed the process to utilize our existing energy costs to pay for school building improvements in a much more efficient manner.
- c. Tracey Valach enthusiastically delivered Adventure Pocahontas, Nature's Mountain Classroom to the Board. Her program goal promotes cultivating our mountain community and strengthening the mountain culture through fostering a love of Pocahontas County West Virginia through outdoor recreation and experiential learning opportunities. The four-year elementary school program is designed to enhance physical and mental health, bring awareness of recreational opportunities in the county and where to find them, promote new life long physical activities, and provide project based learning opportunities. Through in-kind donations from Snowshoe Mountain Resort and other local businesses, skiing, hiking, freshwater snorkeling and biking are some of the Nature's Mountain Classroom projects.

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 **\$186,704.03**.

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 **\$10,379.73**.

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. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved the following employee payroll:

May 19, 2021 – \$247,920.08

APPROVAL OF EXTRA DUTY PAY...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the Extra Duty Pay for the month of May 2021, in the amount of **\$29,739.79**.

APPROVAL OF BANK RECONCILIATION...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the Bank Reconciliation for the month of April 2021.

APPROVAL OF THE POCAHONTAS COUNTY SCHOOLS SUMMARY OF SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the Pocahontas County Schools Summary of Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures on a Cash Basis for the month ended April 2021.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS...

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

APPROVAL TO MAKE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS PRIOR TO BOARD APPROVAL...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the Director of Finance/Treasurer to make budget adjustments prior to Board approval effective June 02, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICES PRIOR TO BOARD APPROVAL...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the Director of Finance/Treasurer to pay invoices prior to Board approval effective June 02, 2021 through July 06, 2021 for the 2020-2021 school year.

APPROVAL OF INDEPENDENT CONTRACT WITH JEFF WAYNE...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved to enter into an independent contract with Jeff Wayne as Water Operator at Green Bank Elementary-Middle School at \$50.00 per hour, one hour per week, or as needed, effective June 02, 2021 until June 30, 2022.

APPROVAL OF LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH COUNTRY ROADS LEASING, LLC...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved to enter in the Project Fund Agreement, including Master Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement with Country Roads Leasing, LLC for the energy savings project, including first invoice of \$57,000.00 to Country Roads Leasing, LLC.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION WITH ENERGY PERFORMANCE CONTRACT...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the resolution to move forward with Energy Performance Contract.

APPROVAL OF ESSERF III FUNDING...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the discussion and approval of ESSERF III Funding for Facility Improvements.

APPROVAL OF ADVENTURE POCAHONTAS, NATURE'S MOUNTAIN CLASSROOM...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved to incorporate Adventure Pocahontas, Nature's Mountain Classroom into the county curriculum for the 2021-2022 school year.

APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD WITH SALE OF SLAVEN PROPERTY...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board entered a discussion with possible action on the decision of putting the Green Bank (Slaven) Property up for public bid. On the motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously agreed to move forward with the process of public auction of the Green Bank (Slaven) Property.

APPROVAL TO DEED 2.2 ACRES TO POCAHONTAS COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved to deed 2.2-acre tract, more or less, from the Green Bank (Slaven) Property to Pocahontas County Solid Waste Authority for the site of the green boxes, at no cost. All fees pertaining to land transfer will be the responsibility of Pocahontas County Solid Waste Authority.

RE-ENTRY PLAN...

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. Burns, the Board unanimously approved the Re-Entry Plan with no additional changes at the present time.

PERSONNEL...

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

Green Bank Elementary-Middle School:

RESIGNATION: ~~D. JULIAN RITTENHOUSE, due to retirement, as Teacher of Alternative Education at Green Bank Elementary-Middle School, effective June 30, 2021.~~

Marlinton Elementary School:

REQUESTED TRANSFER: VICKIE L. VRABLE, as Custodian III at Pocahontas County High School to Custodian III at Marlinton Elementary School, state minimum, effective for the 2021-2022 school year, shift being 2:00 PM – 10:00 PM (Monday-Friday), term of employment shall be 220 days.

Marlinton Middle School:

RESIGNATION: PEGGY M. OWENS, as Itinerant Teacher of Art/Gifted for Pocahontas County Schools (assignment: Marlinton Middle School), effective June 30, 2021.

Pocahontas County High School:

EMPLOYMENT: JULIA A. SHIFLET, as Assistant Principal/Assistant Career and Technical Education Director at Pocahontas County High School, at state minimum salary plus degree and experience, in accordance with Pocahontas County Administrative Salary Schedule, plus \$6,000.00 supplement, effective for the 2021-2022 school year, term of employment being 220 days.

EMPLOYMENT: KATHY L. MASON, as Athletic Director, at Pocahontas County High School, extra-curricular position, supplement being \$5,000.00, effective for the 2021-2022 school year,

RESIGNATION: ROBERT J. MANN, as Teacher of Music at Pocahontas County High School, effective July 1, 2021.

RESIGNATION: ROBERT J. MANN, as Pocahontas County High School Band Director, extra-curricular, effective July 1, 2021.

RESIGNATION: SAMARA A. MANN, as Teacher of English/Language Arts at Pocahontas County High School, effective August 1, 2021.

Pocahontas County Schools:

EMPLOYMENT: JOSEPH J. JUDY, as General Maintenance/Truck Driver/ Groundsman/ Sanitation Plant Operator/Heating and Air Conditioning/Mechanic II, assignment: Central Office, state basic salary per licensure requirements, effective July 01, 2021 for the 2021-2022 school year,

shift being 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM (Monday – Friday), term of employment shall be 261 days.

EMPLOYMENT: SHERRI L HOWE, as Cafeteria Manager – Energy Express Program at Marlinton Elementary School, at state minimum salary, effective June 22, 2021 through August 02, 2021 (Monday – Friday, excluding July 5, 2021), shift being 7:30 AM – 2:30 PM. Wages are contingent upon actually working the Energy Express Program. Paid holidays are not part of this contract.

EMPLOYMENT: Of the following as Cafeteria Manager for the Summer Feeding Program for Pocahontas County Schools, at state minimum salary, 2 days a week (Tuesday and Wednesday), with an additional day (Thursday), as needed, per County Food Director, effective June 15, 2021 through August 05, 2021, seven hours per day (7:30 AM – 2:30 PM). Wages are contingent upon actually working the Summer Feeding Program. Paid holidays are not part of this contract

Lora Sue Miller—Marlinton Middle School
Janessa K. Bell—Green Bank Elementary-Middle School

EMPLOYMENT: Of the following as Cook III for the Summer Feeding Program for Pocahontas County Schools, at state minimum salary, 2 days a week (Tuesday and Wednesday), with an additional day (Thursday), as needed, per County Food Director, effective June 15, 2021 through August 05, 2021, seven hours per day (7:30 AM – 2:30 PM). Wages are contingent upon actually working the Summer Feeding Program. Paid holidays are not part of this contract.

Goldie Greene—Marlinton Middle School

EMPLOYMENT: LORA SUE MILLER, as Cafeteria Manager for Ordering Food and Products for Summer Food Service Programs, extracurricular, assignment: Central Office, state minimum salary, up to 3.5 hours per week, for 8 weeks, effective June 07, 2021 until July 30, 2021, shift being Tuesday, 2:30 PM-4:30 PM, Wednesday, 2:30 PM- 4:00 PM, (shift subject to change dependent upon vendor schedules). Wages are contingent upon actually working the position for the Summer Food Service Program. Paid holidays are not part of this contract.

RESIGNATION: KAYLEA N. KELLEY, as Academic Interventionist for Pocahontas County Schools, assignment being Marlinton Elementary School, for the 2021-2022 school year, retroactive to May 12, 2021.

RESIGNATION: EARNEST RAY HENDRICK, as 7th and 8th Grade Assistant Football Coach, retroactive to May 8, 2021.

RESIGNATION: DONNA F. GRAGG, as substitute aide for Pocahontas County Schools, effective June 3, 2021.

PERMISSION: For the superintendent to post and fill positions prior to Board approval, effective June 2, 2021 through October 1, 2021.

MATTERS OF THE BOARD...

Mr. McComb is concerned that we are having difficulty finding employees. It is a shame there is a lack of interest in the Board of Education positions. It was not like that thirty-some years ago when Mr. McComb was hired at the Middle School.

Mr. McLaughlin congratulated the seniors. Mr. Burns also acknowledged the seniors. The graduation ceremony was pleasant in spite of the fear of inclement weather.

Mr. Gibson commended the employees for their diligence and positive impact on the students during a trying year. He is looking forward to the end of Covid season.

Dr. Hollandsworth reiterated graduation blessings, expressing the ceremony was well organized. She also agreed with Mr. Gibson. It will be nice to move past Covid and thanked all staff for their extra efforts in the process.

NEXT BOARD MEETING...

Next Board of Education Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 06, 2021, beginning at 6:00 PM at the Board of Education Conference Room, Buckeye, WV.

ADJOURN...

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


Secretary


President