

The Pocahontas County Board of Education met on Tuesday, August 31, 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	)	

\*6:08 pm.

Call Meeting to Order.

Open with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES...**

On the motion of Mr. McLaughlin and seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the Board of Education meeting held on July 20, 2021.

**MINUTES...**

On the motion of Mr. McLaughlin and seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes from the Board of Education meeting held on August 10, 2021.

**AGENDA...**

On the motion of Mr. McLaughlin and seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the agenda with the following personnel additions: Devan E. Gum as an After School Teacher and the resignation of Cailey D. Moore. Tracey Valach and Dr. Hollandsworth will both be added to Informational Reports/Central Office Updates.

**DELEGATIONS ...**

- a. Mr. Dane Sizemore, Vaccine Mandate. Mr. Sizemore asked the Board to consider mandating the vaccine for all students and staff eligible for the inoculation. Should that be against legal obligations, Mr. Sizemore asked the Board to write a letter to West Virginia Department of Education and/or legislation supporting the vaccine mandate for Pocahontas County Schools.
- b. Erica Marks, Masks Mandate. (letter read by Dr. Hollandsworth) Mrs. Marks asked the Board to consider implementing the CDC guidelines and mandate masks for students and staff of Pocahontas County Schools.

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

- a. Kyle Wayne, Student Representative. The Board welcomed Mr. Wayne to his first regular meeting. Mr. Wayne updated the Board on high school sports, expressing the Football team won 34:14 against Tucker. The Golf team has been winning some matches. Unfortunately, both soccer teams lost their games. Mr. Wayne asked the Board to clarify the mask regulations with vaccinations, contract tracing, and quarantine. Nurse Jenny addressed the concerns.
- b. M. Erin Baldwin, Fundraising—New fundraiser. Mrs. Baldwin described a new fundraiser for her sixth grade students. They are reading A Long Walk to Water and would like to raise money to help sponsor a well with a walk-a-thon. The fundraiser encourages global interest.

- c. Tracey Valach—Adventure Pocahontas. Mrs. Valach enthusiastically updated the Board about her outside classroom program. Sixty-nine 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be heading to Watoga Thursday to kick off Adventure Pocahontas. With the help of the CVC and Snowshoe, transportation is fully funded. Staff and students are excited to learn kayaking skills and be involved in the aquatic classroom.
- d. Dr. Hollandsworth, WVSBA report. Dr. Hollandsworth expressed that 55 people attended the WVSBA conference. She warned that legislators are bombarding Board meetings, requesting an opportunity to speak. Remember, though we welcome their attendance, the delegation process must follow proper procedures.

Governor will call special meeting in September about how to spend COVID monies. Updates for the Fall Conference include the reconfiguring of School Boards. They did praise Region 4 and Region 1 on the SESC, proximity learning, software packages, and Bus Driver Training. The final topic conferred was hiring of a new director because Howard Hull is retiring. He will be missed.

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

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 in the amount of **\$117,906.90.**

**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 **\$40,313.66.**

**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:

August 18, 2021 - \$227,261.13

**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 August 2021, in the amount of **\$6,692.32.**

**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 July 2021.

**APPROVAL OF SCHOOL SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS FOR FUNDRAISERS...**

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the School Support Organizations for Fundraisers and School Based Fundraisers for 2021-2022.

**APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DAYS CHILD CARE, LLC. MOU...**

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the WV Pre-K Agreement between Pocahontas County Board of Education and School Days Child Care, LLC, students attending August 25, 2021 through May 27, 2022, wherein the parties will collaborate to provide pre-school services to up to 20 children, at a contract amount of nine (9) equal installments of \$8,333.33, not to exceed \$75,000. Meals will be reimbursed to SDCC, LLC at the rate of \$2.46 for each breakfast served and \$4.32 for each lunch served, contract retroactive to August 17, 2021.

**APPROVAL OF NORTH CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY ACTION ASSOCIATION, INC.—HEAD START PROGRAM MOU...**

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board unanimously approved the Memorandum of Understanding between Pocahontas County Board of Education and North Central West Virginia Community Action Association, Inc. – Head Start Program, (NCWCAA HS), retroactive to July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

**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:

- po1530 Evaluation of Central Office Personnel
- po1530.01 Evaluation of School Leaders
- po2240 Controversial Issues
- po2370 Alternative Delivery of Educational Programs
- po2600 Educational Program
- po3120.11 Athletic Trainer
- po3220 Staff Evaluation
- po5113.02 School Choice Options
- po5200 Attendance
- po5611 Discipline—Student Due Process Rights
- po7450 Property Inventory
- po7455 Accounting System for Capital Assets

**RE-ENTRY PLAN...**

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mr. McComb, the Board unanimously approved the discussion of the Review of Re-Entry Plan with possible recommendations and/or revisions. State required changes include “recommended” instead of “required” on page 4 dealing with the quarantine obligations, page 11 states Preschoolers at Hillsboro Elementary School will be eating in the cafeteria with Plexiglass separating each student, and page 19 discusses the plan for COVID-19 School Closures that must be submitted to the state in the event of a classroom or school closure.

After lengthy discussion, Mr. Gibson made a motion that we adopt masking as part of our COVID-19 mitigation plan. Motion dies due to lack of a second.

Mr. McComb made a motion to allow the required changes by the state appear in the Re-Entry Plan. Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the revised 8-31-2021 Re-Entry Plan.

**PERSONNEL...**

On the recommendation of the superintendent and motion of Mr. Burns, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the Board approved personnel at a 4-0 vote, with Mr. McComb recusing himself due to conflict of interest.

**Marlinton Elementary School:**

**EMPLOYMENT:**

JAY V. MILLER, as Academic Tutor (Mathematics) at Marlinton Elementary School at \$22.00 per hour – 3 ½ hours per day, up to 5 days per week – not to exceed \$12,000.00, effective September 7, 2021 through May 13, 2022. (Holidays are not part of this contract.)

**Pocahontas County Schools:**

**EMPLOYMENT:**

JESSICA L. McLAUGHLIN, as Site Coordinator of the “Community in Schools” Program at Marlinton Middle School, at state minimum salary based on degree and experience, effective September 7, 2021 for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year, term of employment is 182 days, in addition to the days already worked. NOTE: Term of employment shall be 200 days each year thereafter, provided grant funding. (Salary to be paid for by the CIS grant.)

**EMPLOYMENT:**

Of the following as After School Teachers for Pocahontas County Schools (at location indicated) at \$22.00 per hour, 4 days a week, 2 hours per day, 32 weeks, not to exceed \$5,632.00, effective August 30, 2021 to May 6, 2022 (additional hours granted for planning meetings before program begins)

Jennifer L. McCarty – Marlinton Elementary School  
Dondi S. Stemple – Marlinton Elementary School  
Devan E. Gum – Pocahontas County High School

**EMPLOYMENT:**

Of the following as After School Teachers for Pocahontas County Schools, assignment being Marlinton Middle School, at \$22.00 per hour, 4 days a week, 2 hours per day, 32 weeks, not to exceed \$5,632.00, effective August 30, 2021 to May 6, 2022 (additional hours granted for planning meetings before program begins) This is now a shared position per agreement of Mrs. Teresa Rhea and Mrs. Jeanette Wagner who were hired May 11, 2021.

Jennifer L. McCarty  
Rachel E. McComb  
Denise W. Sharp  
Charlie M. Hughes (substitute only)

**EMPLOYMENT:**

JEANETTE D. WAGNER, as Teacher of Homebound Instruction for Pocahontas County Schools, at \$22.00 per hour, effective for the 2021-2022 school year, as needed.

**EMPLOYMENT:**

Of the following as Substitute Teachers for Pocahontas County Schools, at state basic pay, based on degree and experience, for the 2021-2022 school year, as needed.

Berry IV, P. Erwin  
Heinemann, Patricia

- EMPLOYMENT: MATTHEW A. BUZZARD, as Assistant Varsity Football Coach at Pocahontas County High School for the 2021-2022 season, supplement being \$750.00.
- EMPLOYMENT: BRADLEY S. CARPENTER, as 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Head Football Coach at Pocahontas County High School, for the 2021-2022 season, supplement being \$1,125.00.
- RESIGNATION: REBECCA L. PETEETE, as Volunteer Head Cheer Coach for the 2021-2022 season, retroactive to August 19, 2021.
- RESIGNATION: CAILEY D. MOORE, as Itinerant Teacher of Special Education/Autism assignment being Marlinton Elementary School, retroactive to August 17, 2021.
- SENIORITY PLACEMENT: Official Drawing of the Names for seniority placement of Teacher of Multi-Subjects hired during the summer months are as follows:
1. Melissa Walker (July 6, 2021 Board Meeting)
  2. Michelle Murphy (July 20, 2021 Board Meeting)
- SENIORITY PLACEMENT: Official Drawing of the Names for the seniority placement of Itinerant Special Education Classroom Aides/Bus Aides hired during the summer months are as follows:
1. Cynthia J. Landis (July 6, 2021 Board Meeting)
  2. Katie L. Broce (August 10, 2021 Board Meeting)
  3. Tomma J. Johnson (July 6, 2021 Board Meeting)
- SENIORITY PLACEMENT: Official Drawing of the Names for the seniority placement of Custodian III hired during the summer months are as follows:
1. Michael D. Sharp (July 6, 2021 Board Meeting)
  2. Joseph P. Rose (July 6, 2021 Board Meeting)
  3. Loretta L. Irvine (July 6, 2021 Board Meeting)

### **MATTERS OF THE BOARD...**

Mr. Burns, Mr. McLaughlin, and Mr. McComb had no additional concerns for Matters of the Board at the present time.

Mr. Gibson addressed a few concerns. Mr. Gibson would like Mr. Hall to update him on the field lights at the athletic field. Are they part of the energy savings program for the lighting with Wendel? The temperature policy is still out on the 30-day comment period. As soon as that is available, Mr. Gibson would like an update.

Additionally, Mr. Gibson asked Mrs. Bland if the Golf Team could use the Forestry Bus. The Observatory purchased the Forestry Bus for the Forestry Class. Federal regulations require a 15- passenger bus to be operated by a certified, licensed school bus driver.

Lastly, Mr. Gibson wanted to thank the teachers and staff for keeping the kids in school.

Dr. Hollandsworth attended three of the five Open Houses. The turn-out was amazing. Since we are promoting parental choice, Dr. Hollandsworth asked the schools to consider holding a class of masked students and a class of unmasked students in order to accommodate both sides of the spectrum. Please consider exploring alternative options to incorporate masked classes.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING...**

Next Local School Improvement Council/Board of Education Meeting will be held on Monday, September 20, 2021, beginning at 3:00 PM at Pocahontas County High School, Dunmore, WV.

**ADJOURN ...**

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

  
Secretary

  
President