

December 2, 2019

The Board of Education of the County of Kanawha met in Special Session on Monday, December 2, 2019 at Mary C. Snow West Side Elementary, Charleston, West Virginia. The meeting was called to order by Board President Ryan White at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Ryan White, President

Ric Cavender, President Pro Tem

Jim J. Crawford, Sr.

Becky J. Jordon

Tracy White

Ronald E. Duerring, Secretary

Debra J. Lewis, Recording Secretary

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Paula Potter, Asst. Superintendent, Middle & Alternative Schools

Carol Hamric, Executive Director, Human Resources

Bob Calhoun, Asst. Superintendent, Elementary

Lindsey McIntosh, General Counsel

Melissa Ruddle, Asst. Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction

Mark Milam, Asst. Superintendent, Secondary & Career-Technical Education

Briana Warner, Communications Director

Tom Williams, Deputy Superintendent

LSIC REPORT

Cathryn Carena—The main areas that we want to focus on this year are climate and culture, behavior, safety and academics. Under climate and culture we have done quite a bit. We have focused on The Leader in Me and we had the training over the summer. We funded that through the Title I Funds. We also use those funds for our interventionist. We say the West Side is the best side. That's what we focus on and making them leaders. There is a song that they created. They wrote the music and the words. They played it at one of our Family Nights. I told them they have to show it in their behavior and their scores that the West Side is the best side. Communication was an issue. We do a lot of communication through Remind. We start at 6:30 in the morning. We have a staff meeting at 6:55 every day and everyone is expected to attend from the custodians to the cooks. We have that quick 5 minute meeting and we give our shout outs of the positive things that are going on. We also communicate with parents. We have seen an increase in attendance and our after school events and I think part of that is because they get the notifications. At our last Family Night I was telling them that the staff is going to go Christmas caroling through the West Side. The parents and the kids were really excited about that. We want this to be a little place of peace and hope for the kids. We also worked on school-wide procedures. We all want to be on the same page and that's what we are working towards. We have community involvement as well, WVSU student greeters, a health and dental clinic, we have an artist in residence, Keep the Faith Corporation, etc. We appreciate it all. We have a PTO as well now and that is very exciting. We've had so many donations. Everyone in the school has donated water bottles and our PTO is fundraising to purchase one of those water fountains where you can fill the bottles. We are working with our kids on how to deal with traumatic events so we are having a Mind Up Week where the kids are learning about the brain and how trauma effects the brain. We are also having yoga classes in PE. If we can get the climate and culture right and if the children believe they can do it then they can do it. These kids are smart and all we need is for them to have the right space to be able to show it. When we get that part right I think the academics will fall in place. The math data shows that they have got it.

Destiny Spencer-Based off of our previous years' suspensions we created interventionist positions so the children weren't taken out of school. If they are disruptive in the classroom they can go to the interventionist room and still have

LSIC REPORT (continued)

a place to learn and the students in the classroom can still learn. We decreased out of school suspensions as well. We have guided reading and we have 40 minute rotations and we have four Title I reading teachers that go into the classrooms and we are tracking those levels. We have seen growth in our Star Reading and Star Math. The kids enjoy it.

Dr. Duerring-You are doing wonderful things here. Talk about the academic piece and let the Board know a few wonderful things that you are doing in that area as well. Cathryn Carena-We have monthly meetings where we look at the data. We have weekly flex meetings but once a month we look specifically at the math data and specifically at the reading data. Our goal is to be the best school in the State. We came in 1st in the robotics team out of 28 teams in the county. We just started the robotics this year. If we give them the opportunity they will make a difference. It just takes believing in them. We are looking at how we can help teachers with classroom management strategies.

Mr. White-What percentage of kids have either no parents or zero parent interaction? Cathryn Carena-I don't know that statistic but I can tell you these parents love their kids. I see it every single morning. Destiny Spencer-I do the discipline and there's only a handful we can't get a hold of. I've always been supported. We have really good parents. Cathryn Carena-We had so many people at our Open House and 250 showed up at our first Family Night. It's like any other school but we also have some traumatic things that happen and that's challenging.

Mr. Crawford-Are you in the classrooms every day? Cathryn Carena-Absolutely. Mr. Crawford-I think that's wonderful. I commend you for the work you are doing.

Mr. White-What is your biggest challenge? Cathryn Carena-Having a place where the students who are traumatized can go within our school because there are some students that it's really difficult for them to be in a classroom setting. They need an alternative setting and the people in that setting need to have the training to deal with it. There's only 4% of children who have difficulty but they take up 100% of your day. That is the biggest challenge. Dr. Duerring-Unfortunately you are not the only school with that problem. We piloted the therapy bus and we are hoping to do that in other areas. One of the things we

LSIC REPORT (continued)

are looking at is online therapy where they can go online and see the same therapist and it's at no cost because they will bill Medicaid. They will also take non-Medicaid students too. It's fairly new out and we are working to move in that direction. There's a lot of discussion to do with it yet and working it out.

Darrell Miller-I'm with the Keep the Faith Corporation and we work in this community doing community gardens. It's a place where a child can come and talk with a therapist that's on staff. We created the gardens for special education classes and it's grown since then. I took a Junior Master Gardener class at State. We are interested in helping out in that area.

Mr. White-It was a very good presentation. I think we should do whatever we can to help you along.

PERSONNEL

A. Personnel Agenda for December 2, 2019 (Enclosure 62)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the Revised Personnel Agenda as included in Enclosure 62. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Out of State Travel Requests (Enclosure 63)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the Out of State Travel Requests as included in Enclosure 63. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried.

B. Kanawha County Public Library Board of Directors

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the appointment of Mr. Thomas J. Hurney as a Director of the Kanawha County Public Library for a six-year term, with such six-year term to end June 30, 2025. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried.

DELEGATIONS

None

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

None

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATES

- A. Monday, December 2, 2019, 6:00 p.m.-Special Session at Mary C. Snow West Side Elementary
- B. Thursday, December 19, 2019, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- C. Monday, January 6, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Special Session at Piedmont Elementary
- D. Thursday, January 16, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- E. Monday, February 3, 2020, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- F. Thursday, February 20, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session

NOTE: The above meetings of the Kanawha County Board of Education, unless otherwise indicated, will be held in the Board of Education Building, 200 Elizabeth Street, Charleston, WV.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: That the Special Session of the Board be adjourned. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried. The Special Session was declared adjourned by Board President Ryan White at 6:42 p.m.

President

Secretary

djl

12/16/2019