

August 15, 2019

The Board of Education of the County of Kanawha met in Regular Session on Thursday, August 15, 2019 at the Board of Education Building, 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. (via phone)
Becky J. Jordon
Tracy White
Ronald E. Duerring, Secretary

Debra J. Lewis, Recording Secretary

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Tom Williams, Deputy Superintendent
Paula Potter, Assistant Superintendent, Middle & Alternative Schools
Carol Hamric, Executive Director, Human Resources
Terry Hollandsworth, Executive Director, Maintenance & Energy Management
Briana Warner, Communications Director
Lindsey McIntosh, General Counsel
Leah Sparks, Executive Director
Lisa Wilcox, Treasurer, Budget & Finance
Melanie Meadows, Director, Accounting, Reporting & Compliance
Melissa Ruddle, Asst. Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction
Bob Calhoun, Asst. Superintendent, Elementary
Chuck Smith, Executive Director, Facilities, Planning & Management
Brette Fraley, Executive Director, Transportation
Mark Milam, Asst. Superintendent, Secondary & Career-Technical Education
Bobbi Lewis, Director, Title I
Kate Porter, Asst. Superintendent, Special Education & Student Support Services
Laura Pauley, Director, Accounting, Compliance & Reporting

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Ryan White.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. June 13, 2019 - Regular Session
- B. July 8, 2019 - Special Session
- C. July 18, 2019 - Regular Session
- D. July 29, 2019 - Special Session

PRESENTATION

- A. 2019 Gilder Lehrman History Teacher of the Year-Matthew Cox

Dr. Duerring-Mr. Cox has a BA in History, a BA in Interdepartmental Studies and a minor in Spanish from WVU. He is President Emeritus of the WV Council for Social Studies and currently serves on the WV Commission for Professional Teaching Standards. He has also served on the state and county textbook adoption committees. He has been teaching at Capital High for 9 years and currently teaches AP European History, AP U.S. History and Honors U.S. Studies. He sponsors several clubs and recruits over 100 students annually for the SCORES Academic Competition at Marshall University.

REPORTS

- A. Kanawha County Travel Reimbursement for July, 2019 (Enclosure 15)
- B. Monthly Financial Report (Enclosure 16)

Lisa Wilcox-This is the last time I will be able to report to the Board. I would like to thank the Board for the privilege of serving the students and working with a fiscally responsible Board, a very cooperative Management Team and the best Superintendent. The July financial report is in order and consistent with the prior year.

Mr. White-We would like to thank you for your service to Kanawha County Schools and elsewhere in the state.

REPORTS (continued)

C. Attendance Report

Carol Hamric-There were no significant changes in the April through June quarterly attendance report.

D. Legal Report

None

E. Board Reports

Mrs. Jordon-I have been attending the regular meetings of Head Start and Pre-K and things are going very well.

Mrs. White-I have run an Adopt-A-Teacher Program for the past 3 years and with the help of thousands of community members, former teachers and students and business partners and we actually adopted almost 1,200 teachers, nurses and counselors this year. If you average that out with what everyone is spending that's about \$80,000 in school supplies that our community stepped up and helped our folks out with in the classroom. Mrs. Jordon-Thank you for all of your work.

PERSONNEL

A. Personnel Agenda for August 15, 2019 (Enclosure 17)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the Revised Personnel Agenda as included in Enclosure 17. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried.

DELEGATIONS

Dinah Adkins-I would like to take a few minutes to ask you to continue your opportunity to build trust in the community. There is money coming from block grants from the legislative action and money from the levy. I am asking you to put forth the extra effort that the public and the employees understand where that money is going and that's its being used exactly as it was designed to be used. Transparency is the #1 goal. Dr. Duerring-We have uploaded what we are doing with the money. It is on our website now.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the following CONSENT Items A-C. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried.

A. Approval of Bills for July 2019 (Enclosure 18)

Approval of the payment of bills for the month of July 2019 in the amounts of \$13,798,561.66 for the Current Expense Fund and the Special Revenue Fund; \$63,951.50 for the KCS Public Library Excess Levy Fund; \$248,571.31 for the Permanent Improvement Fund; \$364,560.43 for the Public Library Fund as reflected in Enclosure 18.

B. Budget Supplements & Transfers (Enclosure 19)

Approval of budget supplements and transfers as reflected in Enclosure 19.

C. Out of State Travel Requests (Enclosure 20)

Approval of the Out of State Travel Requests as contained in Enclosure 20.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

A. Appointment of Treasurer

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: Pursuant to the provisions of West Virginia Code 18-9-6, I move the Board approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint Melanie Meadows as the Treasurer for the Board for the 2019-20 school year effective September 1, 2019. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried.

Mrs. Jordon-How long have you been with Kanawha County Schools? Melanie Meadows-I've been with Kanawha County for two years but I have been in school finance in Kanawha County since 2000.

B. N and D/Trauma Specialist Job Description (Enclosure 21)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the N and D/Trauma Specialist Job Description as shown in Enclosure 21. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS (continued)

Bobbi Lewis-The salary is paid from Title I part D which is for neglected and delinquent students. With this position we would be able to support students who not only transition from shelters back to their home schools but also an expert for those schools that are experiencing trauma. Mr. White-Will this help with the foster students? Bobbi Lewis-Absolutely, those in foster homes, homeless and in shelters. Mr. White-This is needed especially because of the problems that the opioid crisis is causing.

The above motion unanimously carried.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

Mrs. Jordon-Have you received very many complaints about the online emergency cards? Dr. Duerring-No. Mrs. Jordon-Well I have. They are not accessible by their iPhones. Many parents don't even have a computer and that's an issue. Dr. Duerring-I will look into that. Mrs. Jordon-Maybe you can tell us next month what the percentage is that we are getting back online. Dr. Duerring-If they can't do it online they can do it on a paper form. Mrs. Jordon-Are they sending paper ones just in case? Dr. Duerring-A lot sent out paper forms too. I will get with Zach on that. Give us a while and we will get you a percentage.

Mrs. White-Where are we on the bus driver shortage this year? Brette Fraley-Currently we are 15 short. We spent \$200,000 in training last year. \$91,000 was paid through the ESC and we are reimbursed at 90%. We have 4 that are going to test this week, we had one that failed last week. If we throw in the absentee rate that puts us at 31 short on any given day.

Mrs. Jordon-If they don't pass the drug test can they retake that test? Brette Fraley-If they don't pass the drug test they are done they can't ever come back. Money is the only thing that will fix it. This is a conversation that we will continue to have. We have a 20% turnover in the transportation department which for us is 32 drivers a year. Fifty-one percent of our drivers have less than 5 years of experience which is concerning.

Mrs. White-Are the bus schedules getting better? Brette Fraley-They are getting better but here's the problem. The State of West Virginia requires a handwritten bus schedule in the bus by the end of the first month. Edulog pulls from WVEIS so until we get everybody's cards turned in to the system and they are entered into WVEIS then Edulog can't pull them. That's how come the county doesn't finalize their bus schedules until October.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS (continued)

Mr. White-Are we getting it worked out for the buses that have been missing stops at Capital? Brette Fraley-Yes that driver was actually running early and the kids were missing the bus. Mr. White-He was a brand new bus driver right? Brette Fraley-He has driven for a year but the problem is they are allowed to bid. It's a new face, new kids and the whole process starts over.

Mr. Cavender-So you know there has been a lot of talk over the past few weeks regarding some of the perceived issues with Laidley Field and the Capital High Football Team. I want to ask Mr. Smith to provide a timeline for the construction at Laidley Field.

Chuck Smith-The contract was signed at the end of May. They mobilized on June 14th and they started removing the rubber surface on the track. They started removing 1 ½ inches of asphalt off of the track surface and at that point we realized there were issues under the track surface. There wasn't enough base there and also there were drainage issues as well. That's about the same time when the tornado hit. At that point we looked at the quickest and the most cost-effective options to best proceed. We needed to stabilize that area. To do that they bring in a large machine that tils the area up and then they add cement to it and that creates a very hard concrete base surface to put the asphalt on. The only trouble with that is there is only one guy in the state that does that work and he was actually working for the University of Charleston at that time. On that day we spoke he was on the phone with UC and said I need to know now am I going to stabilize your place or can I go to Laidley Field, so we had a little bit of a delay there. It pushed us back two weeks. If we hadn't hit that issue we would be done by now. That was out of our control. There are 18 inch drains that were put in in 1978 and they were gone. After we did the stabilization the asphalt base went down and there was a 2 week curing process. We couldn't access the track because that was the application start of the rubberized surface and that's a 14 day process. Once that starts you can't get on the track. It voids the warranty. Mr. White-There also was no way we could have known there was that issue without taking the track up correct? Chuck Smith-That's correct. Mr. White-And we couldn't take the track up because of the state track meet? Chuck Smith-That's correct and Special Olympics.

Mr. Cavender-This is something this Board discussed several months ago about needing the upgrades in order to keep the state track meet. Mrs. White-They will access the field on Monday the 19th correct? Chuck Smith-Yes. As far as the tornado they are reinstalling the goal posts that were custom ordered. They will be in by the 21st. The first game is on the 23rd. Dr. Duerring-We also just put a new scoreboard and all new lighting in over there.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS (continued)

Mr. Cavender-Back in October we had a conversation regarding the field. A request was brought to us that they would be on the field by 4:30 to practice. I spent 4 hours on phone with several different representatives of different venues trying to find an alternate location for the Capital football team to practice since there were some folks that were unhappy with them being bused to Dupont Middle. I called Trace Fork, Coonskin and several others and then I understand that after those calls were made that the request was made by the Coach that he wanted to be at Dupont Middle. Mr. White-He didn't want to practice until 5. Dr. Duerring-They were there by 5:20 and leaving by 7:45.

Mrs. White-Is the Mental Health Bus ready? Brett Fraley-The bus is one-half to three-fourths of the way finished. It's being done at the South Charleston bus garage. Mrs. White-We have an activities bus, can you explain what the use of that bus is for? Brette Fraley-It is like a charter bus for the schools. Most charter buses charge \$75-\$100 per student and last year the cost on our bus was \$17.98. A lot of schools are getting in tune with it. Belle Elementary booked it for today. Some of the schools have booked it into next year. The problem is the bigger schools need two buses. Our goal is to buy more buses but we have to get the money to do that. Now I would like to get a charter bus with a lift. We saved GW \$6,000 on a trip to DC at Spring Break. Mrs. Jordon-How long have we owned it? Brette Fraley-We bought it last year. Dr. Duerring-The mental health bus was the brainchild of Mr. Calhoun. He came up with the idea that we can't put people in every school but couldn't we go school to school for the more severe cases. Bob Calhoun-We approved a counselor and psychologist for the bus. Both of them have clinical therapy backgrounds so they are used to working with kids that are having issues. It's going to be 2 hours at each school 3 schools per day. We will leave Friday open in case a counselor would have to go to a SAT meeting at the school or we had some kind of emergency. Dr. Duerring-It's a pilot for the elementary schools right now.

Mr. White-So we purchased land for Herbert Hoover correct? Dr. Duerring we did. We just need final approval on the environmental assessment. Mrs. White-I know that our Maintenance Department worked Saturday and Sunday this week trying to make sure our schools were opened and particularly AJ was in some bad shape last week but our custodians were working not only in the dark but in 90 degrees without air conditioning and I just want to give a big shout out to our custodial teams and our maintenance dept. Dr. Duerring-Terry was there supervising and making sure they had everything they needed. Mr. White-Are we solid on HVAC? Dr. Duerring-I'll never say 100% ever but I think it's pretty good

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATES

- A. Thursday, August 15, 2019, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- B. Tuesday, September 3, 2019, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- C. Thursday, September 19, 2019, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- D. Monday, October 7, 2019, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- E. Thursday, October 17, 2019, 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 Regular Session of the Board be adjourned. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Tracy White and unanimously carried. The Regular Session was declared adjourned by Board President Ryan White at 6:38 p.m.

President

Secretary

djl

8/22/2019