

September 3, 2020

The Board of Education of the County of Kanawha met in Special Session on Thursday, September 3, 2020 at the Board of Education Building, Charleston, West Virginia. The meeting was called to order by Board President Becky J. Jordon at 12:00 Noon.

PRESENT

Becky J. Jordon, President (via phone)

Tracy White, President Pro Tem

Ric Cavender

Jim J. Crawford, Sr. (via phone)

Ryan White

Thomas E. Williams, Secretary

Debra J. Lewis, Recording Secretary

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Mark Milam, Deputy Superintendent

Paula Potter, Asst. Superintendent, High Schools, Technical & Adult Education

Amon Gilliam, Asst. Superintendent, Middle & Alternative Schools

Mellow Lee, Asst. Superintendent, Elementary

Melissa Ruddle, Asst. Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction

Kate Porter, Asst. Superintendent, Special Education & Student Support Services

Carol Hamric, Executive Director, Human Resources

Briana Warner, Communications Director

Leah Sparks, Executive Director, Technology

Melanie Meadows, Treasurer, Budget & Finance

Alicia Warden, Health Services

Alan Cummings, Executive Director, Purchasing & Supply Management

Diane Miller, Executive Director, Office of Child Nutrition

PERSONNEL

A. Personnel Agenda for September 3, 2020 (Enclosure 19)

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the Revised Personnel Agenda as included in Enclosure 19. Motion was seconded by Mr. Ric Cavender and unanimously carried.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

Mr. White-We are going to be orange on Saturday we are at 14 today. Do all of the kids have their iPads? Dr. Williams-We are getting those out as quickly as possible. Leah Sparks-We've been taking hundreds of calls and emails every day. We've done several hundred each day out of our office for exchanges or new enrollees that don't have devices. All students grade 3-5 have devices set up and at the schools. The schools are making arrangements for pickup days and times and they will communicate that to parents. K-2 Virtual students we are finishing setup on those today. They are having a deployment for them tomorrow here at the Board Office. The rest of the K-2 we are over half way done with the elementary just in case we end up orange. We are setting those up out of the classroom shared devices so they will be ready to go home with students who reported that they didn't have anything to use.

Mr. Cavender-Yesterday I attended an orientation at Chamberlain and they went through everything with us. What is that looking like for teachers that signed up for in-person? Will there be time to do that? Dr. Williams-If we are orange the first few days devices will be going out. Teachers will be understanding. There are videos on our website to explain how to use Schoology. The schools will be working with the parents and kids.

Mr. White-I think there is some confusion about the whole orange and what happens if we are orange Saturday. I think we should push that we are going to be all eLearning next week. We need to instruct people to be ready for eLearning on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week. Dr. Williams-That went out in an email to all the teachers yesterday. When we speak to the media afterwards that's the point we can really bring home. We will put that on our site as well.

Mrs. Jordon-Do the teachers report if we are orange? Dr. Williams-They report unless the Governor issues a stay-at-home order.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS (continued)

Mr. White-When we are orange next week and if we would make it to yellow the following week are we going to stay with the schedule where we go balanced for the first two weeks? Dr. Williams-We will go back the first two weeks with the blended learning which is split by the alphabet. We won't do staggered. They will be in school 2 days. A-L will go Monday and Tuesday, Wednesday will be a cleaning day and M-Z will go on Thursday and Friday.

Mr. White-Have we done improvements to the ventilation systems? Dr. Williams-I don't know what improvements we have done. The coils have been cleaned, the filters have been changed. That's just about all we can do with the equipment that we have. We do have several schools that are scheduled for new equipment through the levy and that will help. Mr. White-Weren't we talking about doing something to make cleaner air? Dr. Williams-We had talked about that initially and that was \$300,000 and we were looking for the money to do that but thus far that hasn't happened. Mr. White-Should we ask the State since the Superintendent said if we had any needs to ask? Dr. Williams-That's a good question, I can ask.

Mr. White-As far as our classrooms if we do get back to yellow, I've asked for a breakdown of all the schools and are you are going to provide that on a per pupil per classroom basis? Dr. Williams-You had asked for the average square footage of each school and the number of people in the school that would be in attendance. Mr. White-I would like that but the average per pupil per classroom as well. Dr. Williams-The average per school? Mr. White-Yes. You sent us a list of the all of the HVAC issues, given we will probably have another week is it fair to say that we will have most completed by the end of next week? Dr. Williams-We have 16 on the list I gave you and more are added each day. There will be some taken off and some added on I'm sure. Some of the ones will be levy replacement. We've put spot chillers in some areas. I hate to spend \$20,000 on something and in a year it's replaced.

Mr. Cavender-What are we hearing from teachers? Are they feeling comfortable with the class sizes? Dr. Williams-We have done the best we can thus far. It depends on the teacher you speak to. Some are ready and some are worried. I've asked in the Faculty Senate Meetings today for the Principals to talk to teachers about what do they need and to send those to the Assistants and try to get those things there between now and Tuesday.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS (continued)

Mr. Cavender-Are the students' schedules ready for high school? Dr. Williams-Most are there and they assured us all will be before Tuesday. Mr. Cavender-How many responses are we short from folks who never let us know what path of learning they wanted to take? Dr. Williams-Each school has contacted almost everyone. I don't have a number. Mr. Cavender-What happens if they show up on site? Will they go in-person? Dr. Williams-Yes. Mr. Cavender-Has it been explored to make eLearning a first option so we aren't overloading the classrooms? Dr. Williams-That could be a possibility. The question will be asked. We also have to remember that we have class limits on eLearning as well. At least in the lower grades we are dictated by statute on how many we can have. In the upper grades we always try to limit the numbers in the classrooms the best we can.

Mrs. White-I am hearing a lot that we don't have consistency as far as eLearning itself. Some still feel they need to be logged on all day, some are hearing schedules, is this a school by school basis? Dr. Williams-Each school is different, each school community is different. They have worked out what is best for them. I think some of the issues are that things change so quickly. Mrs. White-The biggest question I have is the disinfectant. What is our disinfectant rule as of now? Dr. Williams-Right now its 10 minutes. We have alcohol wipes for them. Almost 4,000 have been delivered to schools. Alan Cummings-We have another 4,000 coming in today, 9,000 on Tuesday and a tractor trailer load on Friday. Dr. Williams-These are to be used between classes. The last thing of the day will be spraying the desks and letting them dry overnight.

Mrs. Jordon-Back to Schoology, I think all the schools should be doing the same thing. Dr. Williams-We've asked for them to have about 3 hours. Mellow Lee-All the elementary principals have been told they need to have 60 minutes of reading, 60 minutes of math and they can fill in with small group time, mental health activities, etc. Each schedule is a little bit different because lunches are different, etc. for the kids that are there for face to face.

Mrs. White-I know that high school start times have changed dramatically. Can we make sure principals are putting that out? Dr. Williams-Yes. Mrs. White-I am getting a lot of anxious parents. Can we have our schools reach out to parents? Dr. Williams-When they give the schedules out that is something they will be doing through the weekend. Mrs. White-One of the biggest concerns that I am getting is classroom sizes. Can we get a list of the classrooms that have over 20 before the meeting on Tuesday? Dr. Williams-At Tuesday's meeting the numbers will be much closer to being correct so I will have that information for you. Mrs. White-Will we have re-entry on the agenda? Dr. Williams-Yes.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS (continued)

Mrs. White-Virtual students believe that if they don't participate after 14 days they are booted out. Is that still the rule? Dr. Williams-Yes. Mrs. White-Will they go on eLearning first? Dr. Williams-Yes. If they aren't successful on either of those, they may go in person.

Mrs. White-Is there a way for students to check in on attendance and say I'm here? Dr. Williams-Attendance is going to be taken many different ways. Some classes will have an exit note when they leave and turn in an assignment, some will do a number of assignments. We have some older students who are babysitting for their younger siblings and can't log on at specific times so we have to be aware of that.

Mrs. White-I heard that are lots of political masks being worn in school. Dr. Williams-Basically if it's not appropriate for a t-shirt then it's not appropriate for a mask.

Mrs. White-Have bus schedules changed? Dr. Williams-Some of the high school bus schedules have changed. There is a place on our website for parents to see what the schedule is. Mrs. White-Will we have face masks on the bus if they don't have one? Dr. Williams-Yes.

Mrs. White-I know the Health Department put out guidelines that we have to make an announcement when we have a positive case. Dr. Williams-We will identify the school. Mr. White-Can we say where it was caught at the school or outside the school? Dr. Williams-I don't know how we would know where they got the case. Mr. White-I think we need to figure out where the person caught it and announce that as well.

Mrs. White-I was contacted a few times today by 3 separate schools that said in staff meetings they were being told not to discuss issues with Board Members. I am hoping that that is not the case. That's the only way we can take something to you for you to take to them to fix the issue. Dr. Williams-That's exactly right.

Mrs. White-Thank you to our team. I know everyone is exhausted. It is noticed and very much appreciated.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATES

- A. Thursday, September 3, 2020, 12:00 Noon-Special Session
- B. Tuesday, September 8, 2020, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- C. Thursday, September 17, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- D. Monday, October 5, 2020, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- E. Thursday, October 15, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- F. Monday, November 2, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Special Session at Riverside High
- G. Thursday, November 19, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- H. Monday, December 7, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Special Session at Mary C. Snow West Side Elementary
- I. Thursday, December 17, 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

Mrs. Tracy White moved: That the Special Session of the Board be adjourned. Motion was seconded by Mr. Ryan White and unanimously carried. The Special Session was declared adjourned by Board President Becky J. Jordon at 12:32 p.m.

President

Secretary

djl
9/14/2020