

January 21, 2021

The Board of Education of the County of Kanawha met in Regular Session on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at the Board of Education Building, Charleston, West Virginia. The meeting was called to order by Board President Becky J. Jordon at 6:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Becky J. Jordon, President  
Tracy White, President Pro Tem  
Ric Cavender  
Jim J. Crawford, Sr.  
Ryan White  
Thomas E. Williams, Jr., Secretary

Debra J. Lewis, Recording Secretary

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Carol Hamric, Executive Director, Human Resources  
Lindsey McIntosh, General Counsel  
Leah Sparks, Executive Director, Technology  
Chuck Smith, Executive Director, Facilities, Planning & Management  
Mellow Lee, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary  
George Aulenbacher, Assistant Superintendent, High Schools, Technical & Adult Education  
Melanie Meadows, Treasurer, Budget & Finance  
Carol Lane, Director, Preschool

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Becky J. Jordon.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. November 19, 2020 - Regular Session
- B. December 2, 2020 - Special Session
- C. December 7, 2020 - Special Session
- D. December 17, 2020 - Regular Session
- E. January 4, 2021 - Special Session
- F. January 5, 2021 - Special Session

## **REPORTS**

- A. Kanawha County Travel Reimbursement for December, 2020 (Enclosure 64)
- B. Monthly Financial Report (Enclosure 65)
- C. Legal Reports  
None
- D. Board Reports  
None

## **PERSONNEL**

- A. Personnel Agenda for January 21, 2021 (Enclosure 66)

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the Revised Personnel Agenda as included in Enclosure 66. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and unanimously carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **CONSENT**

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the following CONSENT Items A-B. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and unanimously carried.

#### A. Approval of Bills for December, 2020 (Enclosure 67)

Approval of the payment of bills for the month of December, 2020 in the amounts of \$32,414,207.69 for the Current Expense Fund and the Special Revenue Fund; \$110,207.41 for the KCS Public Library Excess Levy Fund; \$2,670,533.73 for the Permanent Improvement Fund; and \$444,524.45 for the Public Library Fund as reflected in Enclosure 67.

#### B. Budget Supplements & Transfers (Enclosure 68)

Approval of budget supplements and transfers as reflected in Enclosure 68.

## **OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

#### A. Head Start/Preschool Continuation Grant Proposal 2021-22 (Enclosure 69)

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the Kanawha County Schools Head Start/Preschool Continuation Grant as shown in Enclosure 69. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford.

Mr. White-Are we changing our program at all to help with difficulties that may have occurred because of COVID? Carol Lane-No, we are not. We are following what Dr. Williams has put in place and it has worked beautifully.

The above motion unanimously carried.

#### B. AEP Easement (Enclosure 70)

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the AEP Easement to allow utility installation for the new Clendenin Elementary School as shown in Enclosure 70. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford.

## **OTHER NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

Chuck Smith-This is the start of the process for Clendenin Elementary. It allows us to give temporary power and start the permanent power location at the bottom of the hill and work our way up to the school.

The above motion unanimously carried.

### C. Cedar Grove Elementary CEF (Enclosure 71)

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the submission of Cedar Grove Elementary as the priority project on the CEF Needs list, FY 2021, to the School Building Authority. The project would include renovation and additions to the Cedar Grove facility to better accommodate the elementary students as shown in Enclosure 71. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford.

Mr. Crawford-How many students are there at Cedar Grove Middle School? Chuck Smith-I believe it's 165.

Dr. Williams-This is for renovations to the elementary school. If you all decide to close Cedar Grove Middle we would have to have a hearing and then we would renovate the center part of the building. Basically it will be gutted like we did St. Albans High School, then we would rebuild and make it structurally sound. They will have a STEM Lab and their classrooms will be more suited for elementary school. The kids from Cedar Grove Middle School will go to DuPont without any additions needed at DuPont.

Mrs. Jordon-How many kids are in Cedar Grove Elementary? Dr. Williams-I think it is about 275-300. Mr. Crawford-In order to meet the economy of scale, we have to have 350 kids in a school correct? Dr. Williams-It depends on whether it is an elementary, middle or high school. Mr. Crawford-I'm talking about the middle school. They have 165 kids so that should have been closed a long time ago. Mrs. Jordon-It's been talked about for many years and we need to move on that. Mr. Crawford-There are two other schools on the other side of the river, Marmet and Chesapeake, that need to be consolidated that we may look at in a future time because neither one of them come close to meeting the economy of scale. Chuck Smith-Those are on the current CEF that we have in place now.

## **OTHER NEW BUSINESS (continued)**

Dr. Williams-The purpose of this motion is to allow me to go before the SBA and ask for the money for the elementary school. If you all decide you want to close the middle school that would be based on the SBA giving us the money to renovate the elementary school. This wouldn't start until the fall of 2022. Next year they would still be in their building.

Mr. White-If we don't get the money then none of this happens right? Dr. Williams-Correct. Mr. White-When will we know? Chuck Smith-April 19<sup>th</sup> is the SBA meeting for funding.

The above motion unanimously carried.

### **D. Kanawha County Public Library Board of Directors**

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the appointment of Dr. Shannon McGhee as a Director of the Kanawha County Public Library for a six-year term, with such six-year term to end June 30, 2026. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and unanimously carried.

Mr. White-Do we know where she lives? Dr. Williams-I don't know where she lives but she works at West Virginia State University. Mr. White-Mr. Crawford remember we were encouraged to approve people that were more diverse do you remember that conversation? Mr. Crawford Yes I do. Mr. White-Hopefully she lives in Institute. There was a complaint that there were too many board members that lived in Charleston.

The above motion unanimously carried.

## **DELEGATIONS**

Jerry Throckmorton-The main thing that I wanted to discuss is the blended model that we are currently in. One of the things that people suggested I talk about was the days that kids are in school. The Monday and Tuesday A-L and Thursday and Friday M-Z makes it hard to balance lessons out. You have 5 days when they are off the radar. They all suggested the better blended model would be A-L Monday and Thursday and M-Z Tuesday A-L and Friday. If you have kids that are off the radar you don't have a huge gap in when you can try and track them down. It will be a better plan from an academic standpoint. Think of how many times we've changed in mid-stream so if we went to

## **DELEGATIONS (continued)**

that model for Monday I don't see why we couldn't adjust to that system. I've had people ask about the rolling out of the shots. One of the questions that they are asking is what happens when we have kids in the building for the next round.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S PRESENTATION**

### A. Employee Discipline

This item was removed from the agenda.

## **QUESTIONS/ANSWERS**

Mrs. White-Has everyone that wanted the vaccine received it? Dr. Williams-I would never say yes. As far as our list and the people that responded, we made two phone calls and two emails to everyone that was on our list and then we called again to the people that didn't respond at all. As of this evening, if there is anyone left, it should be minimal and we will have to make a decision then. It won't be worth running another clinic but maybe a pharmacy will work with us and take appointments. We still have some subs who haven't subbed this year that haven't received it because we took the subs that subbed first and some coaches who are not employees because we took the coaches that were teachers first. Mrs. White-Will we be making arrangements for those folks or will they need to get it on their own? Dr. Williams-Probably, unless they can get more vaccine for us. Mrs. White-I will say that it was very smooth, in and out and no lines. Kudos to our folks for making that happen. Dr. Williams-Keith Vititoe, Ryan Bremar, Alicia Warden, Zach Hanshaw and Briana Warner have done an outstanding job. Mrs. Jordan-Are our school nurses allowed to give the shots? Dr. Williams-They are now. The first week they wouldn't allow it.

Mrs. White-I just have one comment. The weekend before Thanksgiving I lost someone very close to me and she was one of our teachers at Sissonville Middle School. I called Dr. Williams very late on a Saturday night and within hours he and Jon Duffy had counselors on staff, the principal had been called and several Board Members contacted me. I just wanted to thank you on behalf of her family and myself for everything that everyone did from Kanawha County Schools. There's a lot of times we really get it right and I want to thank everyone who took special care of her family.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATES**

- A. Thursday, January 21, 2021, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- B. Monday, February 1, 2021, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- C. Thursday, February 18, 2021, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- D. Monday, March 1, 2021, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- E. Monday, March 15, 2021, 3:00 p.m.-& 3:05 p.m. Budget Workshop-Statutory Session (Presentation of Schedule of Proposed Levy Rates) (Budget Workshop to Follow)
- F. Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 12:00 Noon-Statutory Session (Approval of the Schedule of Proposed Levy Rates)
- G. Thursday, March 18, 2021, 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 Regular Session of the Board be adjourned. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and unanimously carried. The Regular Session was declared adjourned by Board President Becky J. Jordon at 6:20 p.m.

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President

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Secretary

djl

1/29/2021