

February 18, 2021

The Board of Education of the County of Kanawha met in Regular Session on Thursday, February 18, 2021 via Zoom Conference. The meeting was called to order by Board President Becky J. Jordon at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

Tracy White, President Pro Tem

Debra J. Lewis, Recording Secretary

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Paula Potter, Deputy Superintendent
Carol Hamric, Executive Director, Human Resources
Lindsey McIntosh, General Counsel
Leah Sparks, Executive Director, Technology
Chuck Smith, Executive Director, Facilities, Planning & Management
Melanie Meadows, Treasurer, Budget & Finance
Briana Warner, Communications Director
Missy Ruddle, Asst. Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. January 13, 2021 - Special Session
- B. January 21, 2021 - Regular Session

REPORTS

A. Kanawha County Travel Reimbursement for January, 2021 (Enclosure 73)

B. Monthly Financial Report (Enclosure 74)

C. Legal Reports

None

D. Board Reports

None

PERSONNEL

A. Personnel Agenda for February 18, 2021 (Enclosure 75)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the Revised Personnel Agenda as included in Enclosure 75. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the following CONSENT Items A-B. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and carried 4-0.

A. Approval of Bills for January, 2021 (Enclosure 76)

Approval of the payment of bills for the month of January, 2021 in the amounts of \$28,203,851.99 for the Current Expense Fund and the Special Revenue Fund; \$67,044.63 for the KCS Public Library Excess Levy Fund; \$4,704,926.82 for the Permanent Improvement Fund; and \$702,808.73 for the Public Library Fund as reflected in Enclosure 76.

B. Budget Supplements & Transfers (Enclosure 77)

Approval of budget supplements and transfers as reflected in Enclosure 77.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

A. AEP Easement (Enclosure 78)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the AEP Easement to allow utility installation for the new Herbert Hoover High School as shown in Enclosure 78. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and carried 4-0.

B. Mountaineer Gas Easement (Enclosure 79)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the Mountaineer Gas Easement to allow utility installation for the new Clendenin Elementary School as shown in Enclosure 79. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim Crawford and carried 4-0.

C. Herbert Hoover High School Interior and Exterior Scoreboard Packages (Enclosure 82)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve Work Package #7 Furnishings and Equipment, Proposal 7-3 Interior and Exterior Scoreboards the amount \$258,305.00 for a new Herbert Hoover High School to Daktronics, Inc. per bid 21-102 as shown in Enclosure 82. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford.

Mr. White-Where are we on these two projects? Are we still on schedule? Chuck Smith-Yes. The site package at Herbert Hoover is proceeding nicely. The footings are in the process of installation. On Clendenin, we have started the bulk excavation.

Dr. Williams-Would the Board Members like to take a tour? Mr. White-Yes. Dr. Williams-Once the weather breaks, maybe in the next two to three weeks, I will schedule something.

The above motion carried 4-0.

D. Herbert Hoover High School Equipment Packages (Enclosure 83)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve Package #7 Furnishings and Equipment, Proposals 7-4, Stage Equipment, in the amount of \$43,117.00 to Pittsburgh Stage and Proposals 7-17, Weight Room Equipment, in the amount of \$250,836.00 to Capitol Business Interiors for a new Herbert Hoover High School as per bid 21-122. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and carried 4-0.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS (continued)

E. iPad Purchase (Enclosure 84)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve a purchase agreement with Apple, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$2,278,773.00 for 5400 iPads with 3 years of Apple Care Service per Apple Quote: 2206991677 as shown in Enclosure 84. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford.

Mr. White-How much total will our lease payments be? Leah Sparks-This is not a lease, we are using ESSERF money to purchase these so we can provide an updated iPad to all students K-12. Mr. White-So this is a little different than what we've been doing right? Leah Sparks-That's correct. In the past we have done a lease, which is good because it keeps us on the refresh cycle, but because we had to get a device in the hand of every student due to the pandemic, we had to use some of our older devices and we wanted to make sure that every student had an updated device and that's what this purchase will do. Dr. Williams-So when the lease expires in three years we will lease for everyone and it will all be the same. Everyone will have the same device and we will be able to stay on that schedule from then on out. This ESSERF money is helping us do that. Mr. White-So the ones we are purchasing will only be good for three years? Leah Sparks-No, what we do is analyze the market value of the device at the time to see if it makes sense to trade it in. If we get to the three year mark when we are ready to lease and we feel like these are still good enough to make it another three years we can assess that at the time. Our hope is because their value will still be so good we can trade them all in and get everyone wrapped up in the lease so that we are never trying to fill these holes and gaps of outdated devices for students.

Mr. Cavender-Do you mind explaining really quickly the ESSERF funds and how that differs from the General Budget. Dr. Williams-The ESSERF Funds are from the Federal Government. It's also been called CARES Funding. It's for the pandemic. These are the second round of funds that we are getting. There's another bill in Congress that could give us more money but that remains to be seen. Mr. Cavender-Is that earmarked for technology? Dr. Williams-There are several different things that it can be earmarked for and they are very specific. We have to do a grant proposal for the State and we tell them what we want to spend the money on.

The above motion carried 4-0.

FIRST READING

A. Employee Discipline Policy (Enclosure 80)

Lindsey McIntosh-Back in 2019, the Omnibus Bill put forth a couple more reasons why an employee can be suspended or terminated so we are updating our policy to make sure that it directly corresponds to what the law says. Mr. White-So the only changes were those required by the statutory? Lindsey McIntosh-Yes. There were three extra reasons and those were added.

B. Homeschool Policy (Enclosure 81)

Lindsey McIntosh-This is an updated version of our current policy. We wanted it to look like the model policy from the State Department.

Missy Ruddle-We were required this year to update our homeschool and private school policy. They wanted us to be more specific as to what we are doing with our homeschool students. This gave us an opportunity to clarify some things we've had in the past. We get a lot of students that want to transfer in once they hit high school. Another thing is they come in from private schools and some of those private schools are not accredited by the State Department. We were able to add the wording that we will accept credits from private schools that are on the WVDE list of accredited schools. The other issue that we run into are students that come back from home school and they don't have credits that come with them. We do not accept credits from home school. We just clarified that a little bit more in our policy.

Mr. White-With regard to students that are homeschooled, what kinds of things can we do to make sure they are getting a solid education? Missy Ruddle-There really isn't a lot we can do. The way that it's written is students are required in certain grade levels to take a standardized test and they are supposed to turn their scores into us but there's not much we can do about that. We don't have the ability to approve what curriculum they use with homeschool. Mr. White-If we see a student is not scoring well can we intervene and say you need to provide better instruction. Missy Ruddle-No.

Lindsey McIntosh-They are supposed to take the tests annually, however the law only requires them to report the scores to us during certain years. Even though they are doing it annually they are not turning them annually. Missy Ruddle-We do give them the opportunity to come and test at our schools. We also give them the opportunity to participate in the Spelling Bee and Golden Horseshoe, etc.

FIRST READING (continued)

Mr. White-So there is some legislation going through that would pay money to parents to homeschool their children. If a parent just wants to get paid and doesn't have interest in educating their kids, can we do anything to ensure that that student is actually getting some sort of education through their homeschool? Dr. Williams-They are supposed to turn in their scores but there's not a whole lot we can do. If they would write in the law that there are specific things you have to do in order to get the money that would put some teeth in it at least and we could check to make sure they are receiving an education.

Mrs. Jordon-Do we have Howard O'Cull or someone working on this with the legislature? Mr. White-Yes, the Scholl Board Association is monitoring it but it's not like they can hire some high-powered lobbyist to make some big changes in any legislation.

Missy Ruddle-I think right now whoever is home schooling their child only has to have a high school education or the equivalent. Mrs. Jordon-Can we not make it stricter ourselves that the person educating these children have to have more of an education? Lindsey McIntosh- No.

DELEGATIONS

Dr. Williams-We did have one delegation, Mr. Alex Urban, from the WVSSPA that called in but he agreed to go on the next agenda. He is sending information to me and Ms. McIntosh and we will put that in the Friday Packet to you all. He will be at the March 1st meeting to present.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

None

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATES

- A. Thursday, February 18, 2021, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- B. Monday, March 1, 2021, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- C. 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)

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATES (continued)

- D. Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 12:00 Noon-Statutory Session (Approval of the Schedule of Proposed Levy Rates)
- E. Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 6:00 p.m.-Special Session (Closure Hearing for Cedar Grove Middle School at Cedar Grove Middle School)
- F. Thursday, March 18, 2021, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- G. Monday, April 5, 2021, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- H. Thursday, April 15, 2021, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- I. Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 12:00 Noon-Statutory Session (Reconvening of March 16, 2021, Meeting to Enter all Levies)
- J. Monday, April 26, 2021, 6:00 p.m.-Statutory Session (Public Hearing on Proposed Budget)

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 Mr. Jim J. Crawford and carried 4-0. The Regular Session was declared adjourned by Board President Becky J. Jordon at 6:26 p.m.

President

Secretary

djl

2/23/2021