

December 6, 2021

The Board of Education of the County of Kanawha met in Special Session on Monday, December 6, 2021 at Riverside High School Belle, West Virginia. The meeting was called to order by Board President Becky J. Jordon at 5:00 p.m.

**PRESENT**

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

Debra J. Lewis, Recording Secretary

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Paula Potter, Deputy Superintendent  
Melissa Ruddle, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction  
Briana Warner, Communications Director  
Melissa Wilfong, Title I Director  
George Aulenbacher, Assistant Superintendent, High Schools, Technical & Adult Education

## LSIC REPORT

Jane Kennedy- We welcome you to Riverside High School. As you saw coming into the building, the construction of the new HVAC and roof continues. There are two hallways within our building and our music suite which have been tied into the new HVAC system and they are continuing to replace our roof as well. We are very thankful for that. Our Title I Funds have been used for an in-school suspension teacher. It's also been used for a 2<sup>nd</sup> graduation coach who helps with credit recovery. Also, to help with the learning loss and the lack of social skills that some of our students seem to be having coming into the school year, we have a class now for our students who are struggling with attendance, behavior or curriculum. We have 5 teachers and each teacher has 8-10 students that they keep track of their grades, their attendance or any kind of behavior. They are kind of like that school parent. We have seen increased attendance so far and decreased behavior problems and we have also seen an increase in completing assignments and turning them into the teacher. Those two aspects have really helped our students. Our counselor and support services are vital for our students' success. Along with planning our advisory sessions, our counselors have planned orientation for our freshman. At the beginning of the school year the seniors will have their 3<sup>rd</sup> FAFSA session. They have scheduled a time for our students to go and visit Carver for our sophomores. This allows them to see what they are interested in and will they be able to take that during their junior year. They also help organize Christmas gifts for our students. They are always quick to help. We have a family engagement grant and we are trying to help with the social/emotional well-being of our students. This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> year of implementing it. Again, that was part of the freshman orientation. We have given you a shirt that is part of this grant. Every student and every adult in this building has a shirt that allows them to show off their Warrior Pride. They have helped streamline the Warrior Wardrobe. We also have an area where students can go if they need to calm down. Maybe they just need a few calm minutes. Ms. Legg has been vital in doing that. In my opinion, I believe we have the best students. I am amazed at their resiliency and their willingness to help one another. Last year, even though it was a COVID year, our students increased their scores by 4%. That's usually phenomenal in any year, but to do it in a COVID year we were very pleased with our students. Our archery team ended up 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation. They went to Myrtle Beach this summer to compete. Our JROTC continues to go above and beyond in everything that they have done too. One of the biggest things that we are now seeing is being able to bring back some our traditions. Student council planned homecoming week and I would have to say that it was the most fun this year. I would like to introduce Kaley, our Student Body President.

## LSIC REPORT (continued)

Kaley Huffman-I am your Student Body President here at Riverside High School. Student Council has had a great year here so far. Due to COVID we have had to put some of our favorite traditions on the back burner so our focus this year has been on bringing those back. Homecoming was a great success. At the request of the student body there will be a holiday dress up week for finals next week. We are also doing a wish week where we have students write down wishes on pieces of paper and we make a big deal out of granting some of those. We are looking forward to the spring semester and putting emphasis on student input and where they would like to go next. Thank you for your time.

Jane Kennedy-One of the other things that we are extremely proud of is our community service. Mrs. Workman is our community service teacher and she works with students. They become teacher's aides and they help with beautification on the campus, but one of the biggest projects is that they are part of the student-run food bank. We would like to thank you, because today the Maintenance Department brought us over 700 pieces of food for our food pantry. These two young ladies do everything with the food pantry. They are seniors.

Bailea Huddleston-Currently we serve about 85 families each month and they each get a food box. In November we served 94 families. We also have it free to anyone that needs a box during school hours and they can come and request a box for students or families. Kara Snodgrass-We get all of our food from donations from churches, schools or organizations. Most recently the Boy Scouts donated a large amount of food. Bailea Huddleston-We also recently got noticed by the Kanawha County Commission for the work that we do. We also promote the food pantry on social media platforms to try and get as many donations as possible. Kara Snodgrass-Working in the food pantry allows us to see first-hand the struggle with living in this low-income area and it is truly a blessing to help those in need. We are grateful for your support and we thank you for your time.

Dr. Williams-I just want to add that your all's food pantry is known far and wide. School is about academics, but there's so much more and what you all are getting out of this with the food pantry and helping your community, that's an education far above anything we could ever give you. You are to be commended and I'm very proud of you.

Jane Kennedy-Thank you for being here. I could tell you about all of the different AP classes and the college classes, but like Dr. Williams said it is about academics, but we would like to think that we are making those social/emotional connections with our students so they can strive and do what they need to do academically as well.

## **LSIC REPORT (continued)**

Dr. Williams-You all had a large percentage of your students to take the PSAT this year and you all did better than you have done in the past with your scores and that's very impressive.

Mr. White-What's your enrollment? Jane Kennedy-I believe in October it was 1,278. Mr. White-Is that higher or lower than previous years? Jane Kennedy-It's been pretty steady for the past three years. Mr. White-Are we still getting a good amount of kids from Fayette County? Jane Kennedy-Yes, we are probably getting 30-50 kids. Mr. White-Are they pretty happy? Jane Kennedy-Yes. The first year when it was kind of forced upon them, those kids were disappointed that their school was closed, but now when you walk down the hall you have no idea what middle school they went to. They are a Riverside Warrior. That's one of the reasons that we wanted to get these t-shirts. You appreciate what you came from and thank them but now you are a Riverside Warrior.

Mrs. White-What kind of services do we have in place for our staff members as far as emotional support? Jane Kennedy-I know that we have the Employee Assistance Program and we do have the Cabin Creek Clinic. They do see our adults as well as our students. If a teacher calls and says they need a moment, I will be glad to watch the class and give them that time. Mrs. White-Are you seeing that a lot? Coming off of 2020 do you see your morale lower this year? Jane Kennedy-I feel like this year has been very demanding. It's not so much a learning loss but a socialization loss. I think that is what teachers are fighting against is that they have forgot to sit in their seat or go and get their lab equipment and bring it back. We had to go back through and reteach all of that. I think that now that we have gone through all of this that we are starting to see progress. Students are starting to trust us. A lot of these kids didn't know us. It think it has been a difficult year but it's also been very rewarding.

## **PERSONNEL**

A. Personnel Agenda for December 6, 2021 (Enclosure 69)

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the revised Personnel Agenda as included in Enclosure 69. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and unanimously carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### A. Out of State Travel Requests (Enclosure 72)

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the Out of State Travel Requests as contained in Enclosure 72. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and unanimously carried.

### B. WV American Water Company Mainline Extension (Enclosure 70)

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the Mainline Extension Agreement with West Virginia American Water Company in the amount of \$275,000.00 for utility installation for the new Clendenin Elementary School as shown in Enclosure 70. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and unanimously carried.

### C. AEP Easement (Enclosure 71)

Mrs. Tracy White moved: The Board approve the AEP Easement to allow utility installation for the new Clendenin Elementary School as shown in Enclosure 71. Motion was seconded by Mr. Jim J. Crawford and unanimously carried.

## **QUESTIONS/ANSWERS**

None

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATES**

A. Monday, December 6, 2021, 5:00 p.m.-Special Session at Riverside High School

B. Thursday, December 16, 2021, 5:00 p.m.-Regular Session

C. Monday, January 3, 2022, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session

D. Thursday, January 20, 2022, 5:00 p.m.-Regular Session

E. Monday, February 7, 2022, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session

F. Thursday, February 17, 2022, 5:00 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 5:20 p.m.

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President

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Secretary

djl

12/17/2021