

January 16, 2020

The Board of Education of the County of Kanawha met in Regular Session on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at the Board of Education Building, Charleston, West Virginia. The meeting was called to order by Board President Pro Tem, Ric Cavender at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Ric Cavender, President Pro Tem
Jim J. Crawford, Sr. (via phone)
Becky J. Jordon
Tracy White
Ronald E. Duerring, Secretary

ABSENT

Ryan White, President

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
Lindsey McIntosh, General Counsel
Melanie Meadows, Treasurer, Budget & Finance
Melissa Ruddle, Asst. Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction
Chuck Smith, Executive Director, Facilities, Planning & Management
Kate Porter, Asst. Superintendent, Special Education & Student Support Services
Briana Warner, Communications Director
Leah Sparks, Executive Director, Technology
Mark Milam, Asst. Superintendent, Secondary & Career-Technical Education
Keith Vitioe, Executive Director, Safety & Security
Ryan Bremer, Director, Safety
Brette Fraley, Executive Director, Transportation

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Pro Tem Ric Cavender.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. December 2, 2019 - Special Session
- B. December 9, 2019 - Special Session
- C. December 19, 2019 - Regular Session

REPORTS

- A. Kanawha County Travel Reimbursement for December, 2019 (Enclosure 76)
- B. Monthly Financial Report (Enclosure 77)
- C. Safety Report

Ryan Bremar-The Emod rate for this year is .88. Next year's estimate comes out in February or March. The number of claims this year is a little higher but the cost is significantly lower. This year we are running about \$184,000 for worker's comp through December. Last year was \$302,000 so we are \$120,000 less currently. Claims by the year is still trending in the right direction. The number of lost work day claims is still down. We are trying to reduce slips, trips and falls and increase playground safety. We received a \$100,000 grant to add 4 entrance cameras and a digital server to all of the middle schools and bring them up to the standard we currently have at the high schools. We received \$351,528 from the Safe Schools Fund to upgrade safety and security at the school systems. Some of those costs will go to the special needs classrooms per Senate Bill 632. Along with the help of Terry Sauvageot and Terry Hollandsworth we were able to install jellybean rubber mulch at Shoals Elementary with plans to install this at several more. It has a 20 year warranty. Mrs. White-How many cameras are we installing in special needs classrooms? Ryan Bremar-Right now we were directed to put everything on hold. Dr. Duerring-That came from the State. Mrs. White-My understanding was that we only had to do it if a parent requested it. Dr. Duerring-There's a lot of confusion right now. I think they are just looking at it. Ryan Bremar-The State contacted us and told us not to do anything. Mrs. White-Their definition of a special education classroom was self-contained and our definition is also gifted, resource, etc. I don't think they took that into consideration.

REPORTS (continued)

D. Legal Report

None

E. Board Reports

PERSONNEL

A. Personnel Agenda for January 16, 2020 (Enclosure 78)

Mrs. Becky J. Jordon moved: The Board approve the Revised Personnel Agenda as included in Enclosure 78. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Tracy White.

Mrs. White-This is hard for all of us. I would like to say publicly that I was a parent for a long time and Dr. Duerring got my parent side many times. I'm thankful for the voters of Kanawha County who put me here to allow me to work alongside you for the past two years and get to know you and see how you operate and how efficiently you run our schools. I understand why you are leaving but this is a hard vote for all of us. I'm also going on record in saying I want to call dibs on the retirement party planning.

Mr. Cavender-I will briefly say that I was a student of Kanawha County while you were Superintendent and now being in this position it has been quite an honor. We have you until June 30th so that is good. I really appreciate your service. It's really inspiring to watch how you interact with all of your staff and the relationships you have with them and how much you care about the students. Thank you.

Mr. Cavender-I do have a statement from Mr. White that I will read. "I would like to thank Dr. Duerring for his long history of exemplary service to Kanawha County Schools. His service for 45 years has been valuable to our school system. Dr. Duerring's role as teacher, principal, Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent has shaped countless numbers of children that truly have been better off because of the effort he put forth. His passion has always been the children and you can truly see that in the way he works. Our school system is the largest system in the state and it takes a true leader to be able to lead such a big system for 22 years as he has. Dr. Duerring has positioned Kanawha County Schools to be able to adapt to the changing landscape of our world and more particular education in general. He has been able to keep our school system fiscally solvent at a time of decreasing revenue and has managed to increase student achievement. It truly has been a pleasure to work with Dr. Duerring during this time. I have served on the Board and I'm grateful that he has chosen to devote a life of service

PERSONNEL (continued)

here in Kanawha County, West Virginia. Kanawha County Schools will desperately miss his service and I wish Dr. Duerring well in his retirement and hope that he enjoys the extra time with his family.”

Mr. Crawford-I’d like to say that over the past 20 years I have come to know Dr. Duerring very well. In fact we’ve been many places together and I’ve always thought that he was an outstanding administrator and his strong suits was his ability to work with curriculum and improve that, as well as keeping our finances in order and keep our system in the black and we will certainly miss him when he is gone.

Mr. Cavender-Before we take the official vote I would like to say once again thank you and let’s give him a round of applause.

Dr. Duerring-Thank you.

The above motion carried 4-0.

DELEGATIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT

Mrs. Becky J. Jordon moved: The Board approve the following CONSENT Items A-C. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Tracy White and carried 4-0.

A. Approval of Bills for December , 2019 (Enclosure 79)

Approval of the payment of bills for the month of December, 2019 in the amounts of \$23,096,308.53 for the Current Expense Fund and the Special Revenue Fund; \$89,000.88 for the KCS Public Library Excess Levy Fund; \$1,011,782.82 for the Permanent Improvement Fund; and \$526,334.56 for the Public Library Fund as reflected in Enclosure 79.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT (continued)

B. Budget Supplements & Transfers (Enclosure 80)

Approval of budget supplements and transfers as reflected in Enclosure 80.

C. Out of State Travel Requests (Enclosure 81)

Approval of the Out of State Travel Requests as contained in Enclosure 81.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

A. Central Office Electrical Upgrade (Enclosure 82)

Mrs. Becky J. Jordon moved: The Board approve a contract to provide electrical upgrades to the Central Board Offices in the amount of \$136,847.00, to the lowest responsible bidder, Valley Electric Inc., per bid #20-120 as shown in Enclosure 82. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Tracy White and carried 4-0.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

Mrs. White-Just a reminder that the groundbreaking ceremony Hoover will be on the 22nd at Noon.

Mr. Cavender-I'll totally understand if we can't discuss anything that happened this morning from a personnel standpoint, but I do want to ask if you or Mr. Fraley will be able to provide some general information regarding our policies and procedures when it comes to our bus drivers and what they go through during the hiring process.

Brette Fraley-Everyone is finger printed, they have a background check, and they are pre-employment drug tested. They go through a class, they are put through a driving program, they take an online test, they have 12 hours behind the wheel and they have to be certified with a trainer driving the kids in the morning and afternoon routes. Throughout the year our drivers are subject to random drug testing as required by the federal government since they are commercial motor vehicle drivers and over the course of the year our county spends \$16,000 in transportation alone to pay for that. We do post-accident testing also.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATES

- A. Thursday, January 16, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- B. Monday, February 3, 2020, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- C. Thursday, February 20, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- D. Monday, March 2, 2020, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- E. Monday, March 16, 2020, 3:00 p.m. & 3:05 Budget Workshop-Statutory Session (Presentation of Schedule of Proposed Levy Rates) (Budget Workshop to Follow)
- F. Tuesday, March 17, 2020, 12:00 Noon-Statutory Session (Approval of the Schedule of Proposed Levy Rates)
- G. Thursday, March 19, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- H. Monday, April 6, 2020, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- I. Thursday, April 16, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- J. Tuesday, April 21, 2020, 12:00 Noon-Statutory Session (Reconvening of March 17, 2020, Meeting to Enter all Levies)
- K. Monday, April 27, 2020, 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

Mrs. Becky J. Jordon moved: That the Regular Session of the Board be adjourned. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Tracy White and carried 4-0. The Regular Session was declared adjourned by Board President Pro Tem Ric Cavender at 6:17 p.m.

President

Secretary

djl
1/23/2020