

January 6, 2020

The Board of Education of the County of Kanawha met in Special Session on Monday, January 6, 2020 at Piedmont Elementary, Charleston, West Virginia. The meeting was called to order by Board President Ryan White at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Ryan White, President

Ric Cavender, President Pro Tem

Jim J. Crawford, Sr.

Becky J. Jordon

Tracy White

Ronald E. Duerring, Secretary

Debra J. Lewis, Recording Secretary

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Tom Williams, Deputy Superintendent

Paula Potter, Asst. Superintendent, Middle & Alternative Schools

Carol Hamric, Executive Director, Human Resources

Bob Calhoun, Asst. Superintendent, Elementary

Lindsey McIntosh, General Counsel

Melissa Ruddle, Asst. Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction

Mark Milam, Asst. Superintendent, Secondary & Career-Technical Education

Briana Warner, Communications Director

Leah Sparks, Executive Director, Technology

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

LSIC REPORT

Ashley Grogg-This is my 3rd year here as Principal. If you look at our data from previous years, you can see that we grew some but didn't grow everywhere. If you look at the Math growth 3rd grade grew 15%, 4th grade grew 4% and 5th grade grew 7%. In ELA only 4th grade grew 11%. We have growth from 3rd to 4th in Math at 1% and growth from 4th to 5th grade at 4% and growth in Reading from 4th to 5th at 7%. There are three areas that we as a staff are focusing on. The first one is rigorous curriculum and instruction, the second one is staff expectations and support and the last is PBIS and Trauma. We are also have having bi-weekly collaborations with our Title I teachers. We have 8 Title I Teachers. We have a Reading and Math Curriculum Specialist that comes in. We also have a Transformation Specialist Karen Davies who comes in and helps with professional development and doing walk-throughs on teachers. We have a lot of things that have been put in place with the help of Title I and the CSI money. I think we have been very cognizant of how we have spent that money to get the best we can out of it. We have 2 new teachers that we are using as transitional teachers. One is doing an in-school suspension intervention. We are doing a lot of team building and monitoring the data. We also dove into some trauma training. The last thing that we are working on is PBIS which is Positive Behavior Intervention Support. This is something that we have been working on with Marshall University. We've done a book study on trauma. We utilize Hannah Cooper who was hired as a trauma specialist. We also had training for the staff on self-care and compassion fatigue. Mr. White-Are these tests required by the State? Ashley Grogg-No but they are required by our county. We use Dibels in primary grades. It's a phonemic awareness program. It measures phonics not just sight-reading. The CBA tests them on what they should know by the end of the year. If you look from the CBA to the CIA we have gone up from 24% proficient to 32% proficient so that's an 8% growth from the beginning of the year to the middle of the year in Reading. Typical growth that we like to aim for is 3-5% for the year. We have set our goal for 10%. We know that Math in 5th grade is one of the points that we are struggling with. At the end of 4th grade we were 26% proficient and at the beginning of this year we were 13% proficient. From the beginning of the year until the middle of the year they have made a 1% growth. We've made growth everywhere but this is the lowest one and we are working on it. Fourth grade ELA at the end of last year they were 25% proficient and from the beginning of this year they were 16%. At the middle of this year they are 27% so from the beginning to the middle we have made 11% growth which is huge. We had 8% in

LSIC REPORT (continued)

Reading at the beginning of the year and at the middle of year they grew 9% so they are at 17%. In 3rd grade math we were at 3% at the beginning and now they are at 18% in just a semester. The average number of kids in Kindergarten knew 22.8 letters and the goal was 20. In the middle of the year they should know 52 and our average was 41 letters. Mr. White-How many students came in August? Ashley Grogg-We've grown 10-15 kids since school started. Dr. Duerring-How many transferred out? Ashley Grogg-For every 2 or 3 that come in we have 1 that goes out. A lot of the housing projects are very transient. Mr. White-Do you have a lot more Kindergartners this year? Ashley Grogg-Yes we do. We are busting at the seams. We also have 2 full preschools that are here in the building. Our enrollment has fluctuated between 290-320. We actually have gotten several kids from home school and private schools this year. In 1st grade we targeted nonsense word fluency where they have to sound out the word and then be able to read it. At the beginning of the year the goal was 27 and our average was 29.8. At the middle of the year we were at 43% and we grew to 51%. Second grade is only tested on fluency and accuracy. At the beginning of the year it was 52 and our students scored 44. At the middle of the year it was 72 and we were at 64.6. Their accuracy at the beginning of the year was 76 and it went up to 87. It should be at 96. I'm going to have Caitlyn Lastoria come up and help me talk about attendance. The first 9 weeks we were at about 22.5% with chronic absences. That's missing more than 10% of the school days. We have dropped to 17% now. That's a huge drop in one 9 weeks.

Caitlin Lastoria-The majority of the chronic absences are excused because of illness or a death in the family. It's not looking at excused versus unexcused. Legal notices and chronic absence letters are sent out weekly. I schedule a parent meeting to check in with them and see why they have been missing. I think we have about 25 homeless right now. We also do incentives daily where they get their names announced on the morning news. The students are able to come to the office where they can put a bead in and keep track of which class is in the running and that class gets a reward every month. We also have a 9 week incentive. Some of our concerns that have hindered us is that state law doesn't define the amount of parent notes that are allowed. Our magistrate looks at it that if they have a parent note it's excused but Kanawha County says only 5 parent notes are allowed. I think for the most part we have seen a positive turnaround for attendance.

LSIC REPORT (continued)

Ashley Grogg-Thank you for your support. We were able to get the man trap installed. We have a lot of foot traffic around our building and this is much safer for our kids. We were also able to put swipe pads at the top of our steps where if anybody would get in they can't get in if those doors are shut. We are also working on getting our 1st grade, which is now wide open, to fill in those open spaces and put some doors up. I want to recognize my staff. They do a wonderful job. I think we are finally stable.

Mrs. White-How many resource teachers do you have? Ashley Grogg-We have 2 full time resource teachers now and we are qualifying kids left and right. We just added a second position that started today. Mrs. White-What is your average class size? Ashley Grogg-3rd and 4th are the largest and they are around 24-25. Mrs. White-Do you know the percentage of your special education students? Ashley Grogg-It's over 40 kids. Mr. White-Since you are downtown are you experiencing a lot of issues with the homeless? Ashley Grogg-The biggest part is the playground. We keep it locked up as much as possible. It's always being trashed. Mrs. Jordon-Are you allowed to lock up Celebration Station? Dr. Duerring-There's nothing preventing us from doing that. Ashley Grogg-They sleep out there. Locking it is not a bad idea.

Dr. Duerring-I would like to say on behalf of you and your staff your data tracking is amazing. You have a stable staff. You have a lot of resources in place for your kids. You have spent your CSI money wisely and we are seeing progress.

Kate White-I am the President of the PTO. I like to call us the small but mighty PTO. We have 10-15 members but we have a list of over 100 parents that get emails and text messages about what's going on and they help when we have events and things. We love Piedmont. We have wonderful teachers and staff. We have a Strings program for the symphony for the first time ever. We have about 12 students who participate. We also have been able to host on the weekend events at WV Power where we can interact and get to know families more. We try to do stuff for the staff on a monthly basis. We have a concern for safety and the playground and we'd like to be a part of the discussion about improvements and replacing equipment. We will help fundraise to move that forward.

LSIC REPORT (continued)

Sarah Brown-I want to talk to you about the parental support we have here for our balanced calendar. We all as a community really like it and we see academic benefits. We don't see as much loss in learning. We also have intercession where kids can catch up during those 3 week breaks. We see social and emotional benefits and we also see benefits for our families. We also get that September travel opportunity.

Rebecca Roth-I'm the secretary of the PTO this year. Our main concerns are the year-round calendar and Celebration Station. There are additional reasons to support these priorities and tweak policies that support Piedmont students. Piedmont recently gained the Harmony Room which allows for some in-school counseling. If students' mental health needs are not taken care of fully they are not able to reach their full potential. We don't want the school penalized for standing appointments that students have for mental health.

Misty Mayfield-I want to talk about screen time for elementary use. My son is on the iPad most of the day and that concerns me. At school consistent limits need to be placed on media. While developing tech skills it's important to aim for balance in creative and laid back time. We appreciate all of the staff here for everything they do for our children's future.

Mrs. White-Is the topic of the year-round calendar coming up since everyone talked about it? Dr. Duerring-No.

PERSONNEL

A. Personnel Agenda for January 6, 2020 (Enclosure 73)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the Personnel Agenda as included in Enclosure 73. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Out of State Travel Requests (Enclosure 74)

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the Out of State Travel Requests as included in Enclosure 74. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried.

B. Kanawha County Public Library Board of Directors

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: The Board approve the appointment of Mr. Don Wilson as a Director of the Kanawha County Public Library to fill an expired term, with such term to end June 30, 2022. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried.

DELEGATIONS

None

FIRST READING

A. Student Transfers Policy (Enclosure 75)

Lindsey McIntosh-This policy puts us in compliance with House Bill 206 where we had to deal with the open enrollment, meaning students from other counties could come into this county without having to make these agreements that they were previously required to make under the law. What it essentially does is combine policy J03 with J32. The entirely new portion of this policy is where we outline the purpose and the definitions sections because previously homeschool, high school choice program, intercountry transfers and out of county transfers were kind of used together in some places. We wanted to have those defined separately so you could distinguish between those. I wanted to separate the policy from the procedure so that we have a policy as to why we do something and then we have a way about doing it. The reason why the policy was updated was because of the intercountry transfers. What this essentially will do is combine 2 policies and on page 8 you can see where the new portion has been added that was required by House Bill 206 and the portion from J03. If this passes after the 30 day comment period it would repeal J03. Everything is pretty

FIRST READING (continued)

much staying the same. It has just been moved around to make more sense. It needs to be a very readable policy for community members. We are doing this now to meet the April 1st deadline.

Mrs. White-My concern is the exceptional students taking out the homeschool portion and putting in appropriate school. My concern would be us balancing kids in the self-contained rooms all over the county to fill in spots as opposed to keeping them in their home schools and providing staff which is what our policy says now. Lindsey McIntosh-This wouldn't supersede trying to keep kids in their home school, I could put homeschool back. Dr. Duerring-Perhaps we can word that to say in all possibilities try to keep children in their home school and if we can't we would look at other placement.

Mr. White-I have a question about section 32.14. There is language in there that if you are out of county you are responsible in getting your student to the closest bus stop to their residence. Is that new language? Lindsey McIntosh-Yes that is new language. Mr. White-Is that in code or in policy? Lindsey McIntosh-That is in code. Mr. White-So basically the code says that the parent is responsible for getting them to the closest bus stop. Lindsey McIntosh-We have that discretion to make that a policy. Ryan White-Why wouldn't we allow them to go to any bus stop they want? Dr. Duerring-What that is essentially saying is that if you have a kid from another county that is transferring in and they live in the other end of another county we aren't sending a bus all the way through Kanawha, so this is saying whatever school they enroll in that they can get to the closest bus stop to get them to that school. Lindsey McIntosh-We can put and or whichever bus stop. Ryan White-I was just worried that by doing this that they may have a bus stop that is close to their residence but from a driving distance it may be inconvenient. I think we should give them the ability to give them the option to choose any bus stop. Lindsey McIntosh-What we are trying to do is get them in the county. We could say closest bus stop in the county going to the school that you are going to. I can make that change.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

None

ESTABLISHMENT OF MEETING DATES

- A. Monday, January 6, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Special Session at Piedmont Elementary
- B. Thursday, January 16, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- C. Monday, February 3, 2020, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- D. Thursday, February 20, 2020, 6:00 p.m.-Regular Session
- E. Monday, March 2, 2020, 4:00 p.m.-Special Session
- F. 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)
- G. Tuesday, March 17, 2020, 12:00 Noon-Statutory Session (Approval of the Schedule
of Proposed Levy Rates)
- H. Thursday, March 19, 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

Mr. Ric Cavender moved: That the Special Session of the Board be adjourned. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Becky J. Jordon and unanimously carried. The Special Session was declared adjourned by Board President Ryan White at 7:10 p.m.

President

Secretary

djl

1/13/2020