

MINUTES OF THE LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, January 13, 2020

Date: January 13, 2020

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Kind of Meeting: Regular

Where Held: Administration Building

Presiding Officer: James Flesher, President

Members Present: Mike Holden, Vice President, Paul Derico, Phyllis Hinterer, Connie S. Riffle

Dr. Robin Lewis, Superintendent

Regular Meeting Attendance: Rebecca Young, Tammy Bess, Adam Burkhammer, Sherri Marple, Shelia Mills, Brian McClain, Steve Weaver, Rick Smith, Renee Smith; Staff Members: Monika Weldon, Gerald Paugh, Kristina Benedum, Terry L. Sprouse, Melissa Riley, Patricia Weaver, Julie Radcliff, Douglas Davisson, Robert Smith, Jason Benedum, Joe Shackelford, Sharon Jerden, Christina Herrod, Denise Sprouse, Connie Bailey, Ezra Cutright, Bob Stewart, Tommy Gettings, John Whiston, Rita Barnette, Becky Markley, Lisa Arnold, Samuel West, Garry Alderman, Rex Helmick, Carol Williams, Kris Daniels, Joe Taylor, Evan Sears, Tom Foster

The board on motion duly seconded, and unanimously approved, unless otherwise noted, the following action was taken and business transacted.

The regular meeting was called to order by James Flesher, Board President

The pledge of allegiance was led by Kris Daniels, Bus Operator.

The following agenda adjustments were made:

Dr. Lewis, Superintendent asked that the following agenda item be struck from the agenda: X. Policies:

A. Review:

1. Chapter 8.2.6 – Driver’s pay for Extracurricular Runs

Board President, James Flesher informed the board and individuals present as per West Virginia Code 6-9A-4 that it would be necessary for the board to go into executive session to “conduct a student expulsion hearing for Student (19-20NB)”, and on motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Mike Holden, the board went into executive session at 6:02 p.m., with a 5-0 vote.

Those in attendance for the student expulsion hearing for Student (19-20NG): James Flesher, Board President, Paul Derico, Board Member, Phyllis Hinterer, Board Member, Mike

Holden, Board Member, Connie S. Riffle, Board Member, Dr. Robin Lewis, Superintendent and Mrs. Julie Radcliff, Principal, Robert L. Bland Middle School.

On motion by Mike Holden and seconded by Paul Derico, the board adjourned the executive session at 6:22 p.m., with a 5-0 vote.

No action was taken in the executive session.

On motion by Mike Holden and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, with Phyllis Hinterer abstaining, the board upheld the Superintendent's recommendation to expel Student (19-20NG) for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Student (19-20NG) will not be permitted on school property, only to attend the Lewis County transitional school at Robert L. Bland Middle School. The Superintendent can review and adjust the length of the expulsion upon review of student's progress. The motion carried with a 4-0 vote.

John Whiston recognized the Student Nutrition Council that sampled multiple new food items and gave their feedback.

After requesting and making corrections to the minutes of the meetings held on November 12, 2019, December 9, 2019, December 13, 2019 and December 16, 2019, on motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the minutes were approved as corrected, with a 5-0 vote.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board approved the following consent agenda item, with a 5-0 vote:

A. Use of Buildings and Grounds:

1. Rebecca Young, Weston Democrat, County Spelling Bee, Lewis County High School auditorium and cafeteria, January 25, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, with Paul Derico abstaining, Mike Holden and Connie S. Riffle voting in the negative, the following consent agenda item died due to a lack of a majority vote, with a 2-2 vote:

B. Out of State Meeting Request:

1. Christopher Derico, Legislative Conference, School Nutrition Association, Washington, D.C., March 7-9, 2020.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Paul Derico, with Mike Holden voting in the negative, the board approved the following consent agenda item, with a 4-1 vote:

B. Out of State Meeting Request:

2. Monika Weldon, SASBO Conference, Marriott, Louisville, K.Y., April 20-24, 2020.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board approved the following consent agenda item, with a 5-0 vote:

C. Out of County Student Transfer Requests:

1. Jodi Steadman, requesting that her preschool child be released from Lewis County Schools to attend Gilmer County Schools for the remaining 2019-2020 school year, pending acceptance to Gilmer County Schools.
2. Lindsay Short, requesting that her preschool child be released from Lewis County Schools to attend Harrison County Schools for the 2020-2021 school year, pending acceptance to Harrison County Schools.

Robert Smith appeared before the board and individuals present as a delegation to discuss concerns of Dr. Lewis, Superintendent, being at the transportation department, while Terry Cogar, Transportation Supervisor has been off on leave. Also, after committee policy meeting, he has been getting harassed and bullied by the superintendent.

Gerald Paugh appeared before the board and individuals present as a delegation to discuss paystubs and the policy committee meeting.

Terry Sprouse appeared before the board and individuals present as a delegation to discuss weighted average of pay for bus operators.

Mike Holden discussed the purchase of Fuel Tanks with the board.

Ezra D. Cutright, Custodian/Maintenance Classification, Connie Bailey, Secretary Classification, Rita Barnette, Aide Classification, Robert Stewart, Bus Operator Classification and Christina Herrod, Accountant Classification spoke to the board about their policy committee recommendations. They asked to be given a little more time, except for the transportation department.

The board did not act on the following agenda item:

- IX. Consider and accept the policy committee's recommendation to put policy out for public comment.

Board President, James Flesher informed the board and individuals present as per West Virginia Code 6-9A-4 that it would be necessary for the board to go into executive session to “conduct a personnel matter”, and on motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, the board went into executive session at 7:28 p.m., with a 5-0 vote.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board adjourned the executive session at 9:05 p.m., with a 5-0 vote.

No action was taken in the executive session.

The following personnel have the recommendation of the Superintendent.

On motion by Mike Holden and seconded by Paul Derico, the board accepted the following retirements/resignation, with a 5-0 vote:

- a. **Dr. Carol Williams**, Retirement, Director of Special Services/Preschool, Lewis County Schools, effective June 30, 2020.
- b. **Theresa McAbee**, Retirement, Social Studies Teacher, Lewis County High School, effective June 30, 2020.
- c. **Kira Stalnaker**, Resignation, Cook, Peterson-Central Elementary School, effective January 7, 2020.

On motion by Mike Holden and seconded by Connie S. Riffle, the board approved the following requests, with a 5-0 vote:

- a. **Allison McWhorter**, Approve request for unpaid medical leave of absence, January 8 – April 1, 2020, and donated sick days.
- b. **Rachel Smith**, Approve request for unpaid medical leave of absence, November 19-22, 2019, and donated sick days.
- c. **Janice Collins**, Approve request for donated sick days.
- d. Permission to post Part-time Special Education Interventionist, Leading Creek Elementary School.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board employed the following professional personnel, with a 5-0 vote:

- g. **Jennifer Eiler**, Grade 4 Classroom Teacher, Roanoke Elementary School, effective January 15, 2020.
- h. **Anissa Cox**, Grade 2 Classroom Teacher, Roanoke Elementary School, effective January 15, 2020.
- i. **Lanai Jennings**, School Psychologist – Part-Time, pending background check.

- o. **Laura Davis**, Special Education Teacher, Severe and Profound, Lewis County High School, pending certification.
- p. **Bonnie Krum**, Preschool – Special Needs Teacher, Roanoke Elementary School, effective January 15, 2020.
- q. **Theresa McAbee**, Substitute Teacher, effective 2020-2021 school year.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Phyllis Hinterer, the board employed the following extracurricular professional personnel, with a 5-0 vote:

- b. **Brian Fisher**, After School Alternative Education Facilitator, Lewis County High School, effective 2019-2020 school year.
- e. **Yvonne Tannous**, After School Detention Hall Monitor, Lewis County High School, effective 2019-2020 school year.

On motion by Paul Derico and seconded by Mike Holden, the board approved the following list of parent volunteers for the 2019-2020 school year, with a 5-0 vote:

Jane Lew Elem. School: Carrie B. Grilli, Elizabeth Lamb, Carla Rinehart, Cody Rinehart

Lewis County High School: Jessica A. Gum, Dixie R. Hull

Peterson-Central Elem. School: Kevin Freeman, Carla Rinehart, Kaylen Lephew

Roanoke Elem. School: Dixie R. Hull

Robert L. Bland Middle School: Kevin Freeman, Jessica A. Gum, Carla Rinehart, Cody Rinehart

The board received approved meeting requests.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by James Flesher, the board approved the payroll/payment of bills - \$2,754,292.77, with a 5-0 vote.

On motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Paul Derico, the board monthly financial report for October and November, 2019, with a 5-0 vote.

On motion by Phyllis Hinterer and seconded by Paul Derico, the board approved the budget revision supplements 1006-1014 and transfers 2000-2004, with a 5-0 vote.

Melissa Riley gave a construction report on the roofing project at Lewis County High School.

The board reviewed Neola Policy Templates for Processing po0100-po0152.

Phyllis Hinterer, Board Member, stressed that the board needs to review the Neola Policy Templates at each meeting in order to get through all of them in a timely manner.

Connie S. Riffle, Board Member, attended the opioid crisis presentation and noted that it was very informative.

Mike Holden, Board Member, discussed the possibility of purchasing a drug dog for Lewis County Schools, Bullying and Tri-County.

James Flesher, Board Member, again thanked the retirees of Lewis County Schools for their dedication to the students of Lewis County.

The board received the following board information:

- a. Shuttle Bus Run Report
- b. 2019-2020 Out of School Suspension Report.
- c. WVDE Grant Awards: \$280,000.00, \$30,567.66

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Administration Building.

On motion by Connie S. Riffle and seconded by Paul Derico, the board adjourned at 10:52 p.m., with a 5-0 vote.