

# AGENDA

## WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

Capitol Building 6, Suite 600  
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East  
Charleston, West Virginia  
August 13, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.

I. **Welcome - Pledge of Allegiance - Introductions – Call-to-Order**  
L. Paul Hardesty, President

II. **Approval of Agenda - (Action)**  
L. Paul Hardesty

III. **Delegation(s) - (Information)**  
Christy Day

IV. **West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (WVSDB) Update**  
Superintendent W. Clayton Burch

[Attachment A](#)

V. **West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) Reports**  
Superintendent Michele L. Blatt

VI. **Consent Agenda - (Action)**

A. **Approval of Minutes - (Action)**

[Attachment B](#)

It is recommended that the **minutes of the July 2, 2025, July 9, 2025, and July 14, 2025, meetings of the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE)** be approved.

B. **Routine Business**

1. **Employment of Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage - (Action)**  
Kelli Talbott

[Attachment C](#)

It is recommended that the **Employment of Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage policies for Braxton, Cabell, Fayette, Hampshire, Jackson, Logan, Pleasants, Ritchie, and Taylor counties** be approved.

2. **Employment of Retired Bus Operators as Substitutes in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage - (Action)**  
Kelli Talbott

[Attachment D](#)

It is recommended that the **Employment of Retired Bus Operators as Substitutes in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage policies for Braxton, Fayette, and Taylor counties** be approved.

3. **West Virginia Licensure Testing Directory Approval - (Action)**  
Robert Hagerman

[Attachment E](#)

The WVBE-required licensure exams for educator certification and completion of WVBE-approved programs leading to West Virginia licensure are maintained on

the WVDE website. Additional tests, scores, or exceptions have been modified to reflect updates in policy and exams.

It is recommended that **the West Virginia Licensure Testing Directory be approved.**

**4. Appointments to the West Virginia Commission for Professional Teaching Standards (WVCPTS)– (Action)**  
**Robert Hagerman**

The mission of the WVCPTS is to ensure that every student is served by competent educators who meet rigorous preparation and licensure standards. The WVCPTS recommends standards and practices for the development and approval of preparation programs, licensures, and continuing development of educational personnel. The current vacancies are for a county superintendent and a layperson. The WVDE recommends Pocahontas County Superintendent Leatha Williams and Katie Morris be appointed to serve a term on the WVCPTS.

It is recommended that **Pocahontas County Superintendent Leatha Williams and Katie Morris be appointed to serve a term on the WVCPTS.**

**5. Bethany College educator preparation program cessation of national accreditation by the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP) - (Information)**  
**Traci Gregory**

The WVDE Office of Educator Preparation is notifying the WVBE that Bethany College's educator preparation program is no longer operational, following the cessation of national accreditation by AAQEP. In collaboration with the WVDE, Bethany College leadership determined in fall 2024 to close the program, with the final cohort completing residency by spring 2025.

**VII. New Business**

**A. Annual Appointment of WVBE Statutory Units/Liaisons - (Action)**  
**L. Paul Hardesty**

A motion is requested to **appoint Cathy L. C. Justice to the West Virginia Educational Broadcasting Authority; Gregory F. Wooten to the School Building Authority of West Virginia; Christopher A. Stansbury to the School Building Authority of West Virginia (unexpired term of L. Paul Hardesty); Robert W. Dunley to the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission Board of Directors; F. Scott Rotruck to the Commission on Holocaust Education; and Nancy J. White to The Education Alliance.**

**B. Pocahontas County Schools Update – (Action)**  
**Alexandra Criner**

[Attachment F](#)

The WVBE declared a State of Emergency in Pocahontas County Schools in February 2025. A six-month progress update and a summary of additional focus areas will be provided to the board for consideration of possible action.

*Discussion of this report may involve an Executive Session as provided in W. Va. Code §6-9A-4(b)(2)(A) [personnel exception] and/or §6-9A-4(b)(6), [privacy exception]. The Board*

*majority must vote to have an Executive Session (no action will be taken during the Executive Session).*

Motions, if any, will be determined at the meeting.

**C. Logan County Schools Update – (Action)**

Jeffrey Kelley

An update on the progress of the Logan County Schools intervention will be provided.

*Discussion of this report may involve an Executive Session as provided in W. Va. Code §6-9A-4(b)(2)(A) [personnel exception] and/or §6-9A-4(b)(6), [privacy exception]. The Board majority must vote to have an Executive Session (no action will be taken during the Executive Session).*

Motions, if any, will be determined at the meeting.

**D. Upshur County Schools Update – (Action)**

Jeffrey Kelley

An update on the progress of the Upshur County Schools intervention will be provided.

*Discussion of this report may involve an Executive Session as provided in W. Va. Code §6-9A-4(b)(2)(A) [personnel exception] and/or §6-9A-4(b)(6), [privacy exception]. The Board majority must vote to have an Executive Session (no action will be taken during the Executive Session).*

Motions, if any, will be determined at the meeting.

**E. Roane County Schools Update – (Action)**

Alexandra Criner and Superintendent Michelle Stellato

The WVBE declared a State of Emergency in Roane County Schools in July 2025. The Roane County Schools superintendent will provide an update on the progress in correcting the identified deficiencies.

*Discussion of this report may involve an Executive Session as provided in W. Va. Code §6-9A-4(b)(2)(A) [personnel exception] and/or §6-9A-4(b)(6), [privacy exception]. The Board majority must vote to have an Executive Session (no action will be taken during the Executive Session).*

Motions, if any, will be determined at the meeting.

**F. Discussion of Legal Matters – House Bill No. 2755 (To provide that the West Virginia Board of Education may promulgate rules or policies to be submitted to the Legislature for review); Civil Action No. CC-41-2025-C-230, Miranda Guzman v. West Virginia Board of Education, et. al.; and, Discussion of Religious Exemptions from Compulsory School Vaccination Requirements – (Information and/or Action)**

*Discussion of legal matters may involve an Executive Session as provided in W. Va. Code §6-9A-4 [matters involving attorney-client privilege per Peters v. County Commission, 205 W. Va. 481 (1999)]. The Board majority must vote to have an Executive Session (no action will be taken during the Executive Session).*

Motions, if any, will be determined at the meeting.

**G. WVBE and WVDE Personnel Matters – (Action)**

*Discussion of WVBE and/or WVDE personnel may involve an Executive Session as provided in W. Va. Code §6-9A-4(b)(2)(A) [personnel exception] and/or §6-9A-4(b)(6), [privacy exception]. The Board majority must vote to have an Executive Session (no action will be taken during the Executive Session).*

It is recommended that the **WVBE personnel matters included in the attachment be approved.**

[Attachment G](#)

It is recommended that the **WVDE personnel matters included in the attachment be approved.**

[Attachment H](#)

**VIII. WVBE Member Updates and Requests for Information - (Information)**

**L. Paul Hardesty**

**IX. Future Meetings - (Information)**

**L. Paul Hardesty**

A motion is requested to **approve the WVBE’s meeting schedule (September 2025 through August 2026) as established in the attachment.**

[Attachment I](#)

The next regular meeting will be held on September 10, 2025, in Charleston, West Virginia.

**X. Adjournment - (Action)**