

Executive Summary

West Virginia Department of Education Office of School Operations & Finance – School Facilities

Introduction: Michele Blatt, State Superintendent of Schools, in her acting capacity as the Board of Education in Logan County, respectfully requests approval to close Verdunville Elementary School and merge it into Omar Elementary School. This closure is not contingent on any other actions and is proposed to occur at the end of the 2025-2026 school year.

Action: The Logan County Board of Education requests approval of the following:

- The closure of Verdunville Elementary School and the merger of it into Omar Elementary School. This closure is not contingent on any other actions and is proposed to occur at the end of the 2025-2026 school year. In consideration of this closure, applicable West Virginia State Board of Education policies were reviewed and followed, and documents were available for public inspection for the required period. Separate hearings were held for Verdunville Elementary School and Omar Elementary School on November 18, 2025. Michele Blatt, State Superintendent of Schools, in her acting capacity as the Board of Education in Logan County, approved this closure as an agenda item on the Logan County Board of Education's December 2, 2025, board agenda.
- A waiver of WVBE Policy 4336 for creating bus routes that will exceed the recommended duration of transportation time for elementary students.

Board of Education

Anthony Dean, President
Deborah Mendez, Vice-President
Mark Keyser, Member
Ralph Rodighiero, Member
Dr. Pat White, Member



Administration

Dr. Sonya White, Superintendent

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An Equal Opportunity Employer

December 3, 2025

Ms. Michele L. Blatt, State Superintendent
West Virginia Department of Education
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East,
Building 6 Suite 600
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Superintendent Blatt,

Please accept this letter as my formal request for the consideration of the closure of Verdunville Elementary School and the consolidation of their students into Omar Elementary School at the conclusion of the 2025 – 26 school year.

Logan County Schools has completed all required steps for the final closure of Verdunville with the with your approval in your acting capacity as the Board of Education for Logan County Schools during the meeting held Tuesday, December 2, 2025. All required documentation is contained within the completed closure document and has been uploaded into the County Approved Document Upload Form provided by the WVDE Office of School Facilities.

Logan County Schools further requests approval of an amendment to its Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP) to align with the December 2, 2025, closure decision. In addition, Logan County Schools requests approval for the necessary transportation waivers under the provisions of WV 126CSR92 and West Virginia Board of Education Policy 4336.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you need additional information, feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sonya J. White".

Sonya J. White, Ed. D.
Superintendent
Logan County Schools

IMPACT STATEMENT AND SUPPORTING DATA

For The

**Merger of
Verdunville Elementary School into
Omar Elementary School**

Logan County Board of Education

Prepared Pursuant to

**W. Va. Codes §18-5-13 and §18-5-13a and
WVBE Policies 6200 and 6204.**

**Logan County Schools
Under the direction and authority of
The West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE)**

**Public Hearing Date(s): November 18, 2025
County Board Approval Date: November 19, 2025**

This template (revised 12/06/23) is provided by the WVDE as a technical assistance tool for county boards to use in the preparation of their supporting documents for a proposed school closure or consolidation. This template does not reduce or eliminate the requirements found in WV State Code or WVBE Policy 6204 as they relate to school closures or consolidations. This document does not replace or supplant legal assistance provided by counsel engaged to represent the county.

Table of Contents

3.1. County Procedures	2
3.2. Executive Summary and Impact Statements	4
3.2.a Student Enrollment	5
3.2.b. Facilities	9
3.2.c. Finance	11
3.2.d. Personnel	17
3.2.e. Student Transportation	19
3.2.f. Student Educational Program	20
3.2.g. Community	22
3.3. & 3.4. Public Notices and Hearings	19
3.6. County Board Actions	25
3.6. Superintendent Verification of Board Actions	27
Appendix of Supporting Data	28

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3.1. County Procedures

WVDE Application for school closure and/or consolidation

3.1. County Procedures

WVDE Application for school closure and/or consolidation

Logan County

Merger of Verdunville Elementary into Omar Elementary

Scheduled Date of Hearings: November 18, 2025

Scheduled Date of County Board Vote: November 19, 2025

County Procedures

This template shall be used to accumulate and present the data that is requested in Policy 6204 and W.Va. Code 18-5-13a to support the closure or consolidation of a WV public school.

The county shall prepare and submit an impact statement and supporting data concerning proposed school closings or consolidations to the WVBE for approval in accordance with this policy and W. Va. Code §18-5-13a. The impact statement and supporting data shall:

be available for public inspection in the office of the county superintendent during the 30 days preceding the date of the public hearing; and

Be delivered in duplicate to the:

principal of a school that is proposed to be closed or consolidated, and of any school which the county designates to receive the students who are relocated as a result of the closure or consolidation; and

chair of the local school improvement council (LSIC) representing a school that is proposed to be closed or consolidated, and any school that the county designates to receive the students who are relocated as a result of the closure or consolidation.

A copy of the notice shall be posted at all schools, bus garages, and maintenance areas in the county in conspicuous working areas, for all professional and service personnel to observe.

Sonya J. White, Ed.D.



Superintendent

12/3/2025
Date:

3.2. Executive Summary and Impact Statements

County Procedures

Over the past decade, Logan County Schools has experienced a significant decline in student enrollment. From the 2014–2015 school year to the 2023–2024 school year, total enrollment has decreased by **23%**, representing a loss of **1,398 students**.

In addition to this county-wide trend, **Verdunville Elementary School** faced unique and urgent safety concerns. The school is located just **twenty feet from a rock cliff**, and in **April 2025**, a **rockfall/slip** occurred directly behind the building. This geological event prompted the **temporary closure** of the school due to immediate safety risks to students and staff.

Following the incident, **Phase I slip repair** was completed, allowing students and staff to return to Verdunville for the remainder of the 2024–2025 school year. However, without completing **Phase II** of the recommended mitigation plan—estimated to cost **\$580,000**—the site remains vulnerable to future geological hazards. The proximity to unstable terrain continues to pose a serious risk, making the location unsuitable for long-term educational operations.

Verdunville Elementary has also experienced a steady decline in enrollment, further compounding the challenges of maintaining the facility. The combination of environmental danger and reduced student numbers led to the decision to close the school and relocate students to safer, more sustainable facilities.

To ensure equitable access to quality education for all students in Logan County, the **Logan County Board of Education** proposes merging services. This approach would not only reduce operating expenses but also allow the county to offer a broader and more consistent educational curriculum to all students.

The Board proposes **merging Verdunville Elementary into Omar Elementary**, effectively closing Verdunville Elementary. This merger would provide the following benefits:

- Alignment with **Economy of Scale** guidelines from the School Building Authority (SBA) and the West Virginia Department of Education.
- Improved **transportation efficiency**, ensuring compliance with recommended bus ride durations.
- Increased **operational efficiency** across school facilities.
- Enhanced **per-pupil spending**, allowing for better resource allocation and educational opportunities.

Enrollment 3.2.a. (Starting on Page #)

From 2015 to 2025, Logan County Schools' enrollment declined from 6,063 to 4,665 students — a decrease of 1,398 students over 10 years.

At Verdunville Elementary, enrollment has decreased by 42 students over the past decade. With the current annual trend of -2.2% , it is projected to decline by an additional 21 students over the next 10 years.

Omar Elementary has experienced an average annual enrollment decline of -3.9% , resulting in a loss of 30 students over the last 10 years. Based on current trends, Omar is projected to lose another 43 students over the next decade.

A merger of Verdunville and Omar Elementary Schools would benefit both student populations by reducing operating expenses and enhancing the learning environment.

Facilities 3.2.b. (Starting on Page #)

Verdunville Elementary is 9 miles away from Omar Elementary. Verdunville has a maximum capacity of 177 students, and at the time of its emergency closure in July 2025, it was operating at 62% capacity with 110 students. Omar Elementary originally opened as a Junior High School but was later converted to an elementary school. At the end of the 2024-25 school year, Omar was only utilizing 38% of its facility. Due to the excess classrooms available at Omar, Verdunville students could merge permanently into the same building without any modifications being made to the facility.

In May of 2025, an architectural/engineering recommendation was submitted to Logan County Schools recommending a slip repair that would cost \$580,000 before the school should be occupied by students.

During the summer of 2025, the existing facilities were evaluated, and it was determined that it would cost 8.4 million dollars to bring the building up to modern standards.

Finance 3.2.c.

In an effort to provide high-quality and equitable education to every student in Logan County, the Board of Education proposes the merger of Omar Elementary and Verdunville Elementary. This consolidation is projected to save the Board approximately \$861,504.02 annually in operational costs. In addition to these annual savings, the merger allows the Board to avoid a \$580,000 expenditure for Phase II of rockfall and slip mitigation at Verdunville Elementary. It also eliminates the need for an estimated \$8.5 million of funding that would be required to upgrade the Verdunville facility to meet modern public-school standards.

The consolidation will result in further savings by reducing maintenance and operational expenses associated with aging buildings that the district currently lacks the financial resources to properly maintain. These efficiencies will enable the Board to better allocate resources toward instructional quality, student support, and facility improvements at consolidated sites.

Personnel 3.2.d.

The Logan County Board of Education has attempted to reduce staff due to a loss of enrollment over the past ten years to meet the formula for professional and service personnel. This merger would result in a reduction of 5 Professional positions and 10.5 Service Personnel positions. Logan County Schools will continue to follow the WVDE recommended guidelines on the number of employees but will maintain the number of staff required to deliver the education

programs made available to its students. Some staff may be reduced due to the duplication of positions after the merger.

Student Transportation 3.2.e.

Due to the emergency closure of Verdunville Elementary in August 2025, students were granted transportation to transfer to any Logan County school. In order to meet the needs of students, a bus route was established to provide transportation for students transferring to Logan Elementary. This adjustment has resulted in increased travel times for some students.

The following bus route will exceed the recommended transportation time outlined in WVDE Policy 6200 and will require a permanent transportation waiver:

- Dingess Mountain – 50 minutes

These extended travel times are a direct result of extenuating circumstances and are necessary to ensure continued access to education for affected students.

Student Educational Program 3.2.f.

Logan County Schools is committed to providing an engaging environment for all learners—both students and adults—by focusing on 21st-century teaching and learning. Our mission is to build a high-performing educational system that ensures success for everyone. The proposed merger will increase the number of students and teachers from Omar Elementary, strengthening professional learning communities through enhanced teacher collaboration and shared instructional practices.

Community 3.2.g

Verdunville Elementary is located in a small, close-knit rural community off Mud Fork Road on Mustang Hill Road in Verdunville, West Virginia. The surrounding area is characterized by its strong community ties and modest local infrastructure, which includes several area churches, a post office, a thrift shop, and a hair salon.

It is not anticipated that the proposed closure of Verdunville Elementary will result in any significant economic impact on the Verdunville community. The local economy is not heavily dependent on the school's operations, and essential services and businesses are expected to continue functioning without disruption.

County Procedures

3.2.a Student Enrollment

Enrollment and Population Table

Trends in student population growth or decline in the county for the previous 10 years.

Year	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Total	6,063	5,846	5,798	5,563	5,438	5188	5131	5116	4804	4665

Enrollment Table 1

Data Sources: WV Department of Health, Bureau for Public Health, Health Statistics Center & <http://www.census.gov>

Trends in student population growth or decline in the attendance area of the school targeted for closure or consolidation for the previous 10 years.

Verdunville Elementary

Year	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Total	152	140	138	131	118	112	119	120	110	110

Enrollment Table 2

Data Source: ZOOMWW

Trends in student population growth or decline in attendance area of the school or schools which the county designates to receive the students affected for the previous 10 years.

Omar Elementary

Year	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Total	171	176	173	181	176	160	153	146	145	141

Enrollment Table 3

Data Source: ZOOMWW

Population data and characteristics for the county. At a minimum, the data shall include the total population, number of births, number of deaths, and age composition of the county for the previous ten years. The requisite information shall be cited and may be obtained from local, state, and national agencies for health and statistics.

Logan County Birth and Death Rates

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Population	34,707	33,700	32,925	32,607	32,019	32,516	31,852	31,251	30,910	30,560
Births	353	358	367	336	360	289	311	329	323	316
Deaths	572	539	572	555	548	603	617	629	521	492

Enrollment Table 4

Data Source: WV Department of Health, Bureau for Public Health, Health Statistics Center & <http://www.data.census.gov>

*Please note this is the most current and accurate data available

Logan County Age Composition Data

Year	<5	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85>	Total
2015	2,131	3,766	3,797	3,843	4,746	4,509	5,649	3,812	1,886	568	34,707
2016	1,880	3,802	3,622	3,741	4,553	4,381	5,356	3,927	1,863	575	33,700
2017	1,787	3,738	3,509	3,660	4,291	4,338	5,074	4,108	1,755	665	32,925
2018	1,760	3,719	3,516	3,650	4,191	4,323	4,847	4,193	1,826	582	32,607
2019	1,720	3,699	3,388	3,635	4,032	4,178	4,627	4,311	1,805	624	32,019
2020	1,658	3,697	3,370	3,598	3,876	4,151	4,486	4,369	1,857	626	31,688
2021	1,814	3,808	3,496	3,617	4,231	4,312	4,683	4,238	1,896	691	32,786
2022	1,631	3,777	3,658	3,591	4,017	4,281	4,414	4,331	2,116	534	32,350
2023	1,597	3,786	3,502	3,606	3,856	4,229	4,237	4,425	2,038	550	31,826

Enrollment Table 5

Data Source: WV Department of Health, Bureau for Public Health, Health Statistics Center & www.data.census.gov

*Please note this is the most current and accurate data available

Projections of enrollment, by grade and school, in the affected attendance area, for the next ten years.

Verdunville Elementary

Year	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031	2031-2032	2033-2034	2034-2035
Pre-K	16	15	15	15	15	14	14	14	13	13
K	15	14	14	14	13	13	13	12	12	12
First	21	20	19	19	19	18	18	18	17	17
Second	21	20	19	19	18	18	18	17	17	17
Third	16	16	16	15	15	15	14	14	14	13
Fourth	21	20	20	19	19	19	18	18	18	17
Total	110	105	103	101	99	97	95	93	91	89

Enrollment Table 6

Omar Elementary

Year	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	2030-2031	2031-2032	2033-2034	2034-2035
Pre-K	17	16	15	14	14	13	12	12	11	11

K	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	22
First	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	15	15	14
Second	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23
Third	15	14	13	13	12	12	11	10	10	9
Fourth	26	25	25	24	23	22	22	21	20	19
Total	141	135	130	125	120	115	110	106	102	98

Sources for data: West Virginia Department of Education ZOOMWW Enrollment Table

Projection Method

Explanation of the projection method utilized addressing the relationship between the most recent Certified October Enrollment, the Certified October Enrollment for the previous three years, and the most recent census data for the county.

Logan County Schools used the average change of data collection for the enrollment projection. The source of the enrollment data for all schools is taken from the second month report that is submitted to the West Virginia Department of Education. Enrollment data is kept in the reporting for the past ten years and it assists in making future projections. Resident live births and computation of survival ratios are factors also considered for enrollment projection.

3.2.b. Facilities

County Procedures

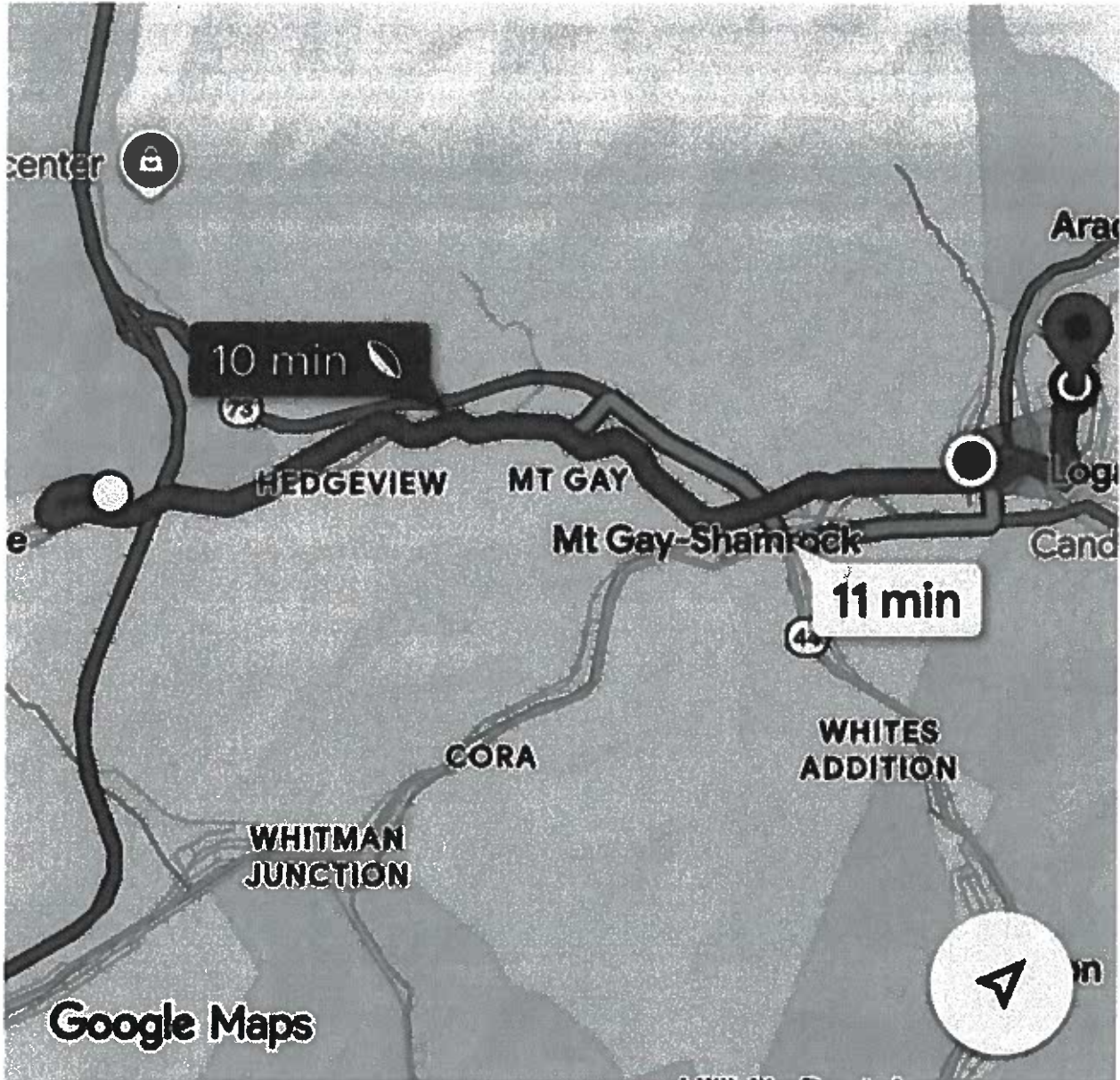
Descriptive Maps

General Reference Maps showing prominent natural and manmade features where the location of school(s) targeted for closure or consolidation and the school(s) that the county designates to receive the students are highlighted.

Charts shall be provided indicating the grade configuration, student enrollment, utilization percentage, and mileage between each school on the map.



Map A Verdunville Elementary to Omar Elementary 9.7 miles
*Please note the 16 min range above is travel by car, not bus.



Map B Omar Elementary to Logan Elementary 3.9 miles
*Please note the 16 min range above is travel by car, not bus.

School	Grade Config.	Enrollment Before/After Action	Utilization Before/After Action	Distance to School A	Distance to School B	Distance to New or Receiving School C
Closing School A (Verdunville)	Kindergarten-Fourth Grade	108	44%	n/a	n/a	9.7 Miles
New or Receiving School C (Omar)	Kindergarten-Fourth Grade	135	26.6%	9.9 miles	n/a	n/a

Facilities Table 1

Written Facility Condition Description

Written description of the physical condition of the school targeted for closure or consolidation and the school or schools which the county designates to receive the students. This description shall include age, number of buildings, general condition, and adequacy of structural, electrical, and mechanical systems to provide a safe and healthy environment.

Verdunville Elementary School is a single-story, brick and masonry building located at 251 Mustang Hill Road, Verdunville, West Virginia. To reach the school, visitors must drive up a narrow road to the top of a hill. The school itself sits at the base of a cut slope, which makes it susceptible to rockslides due to its geographic positioning.

The facility spans 23,562 square feet, was constructed in 1955, and has a maximum capacity of 155 students. It has not undergone any structural renovations or expansions in the past 70 years.

Verdunville Elementary is currently listed on our Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP) for upgraded electrical, new fire alarm/detection system, and new HVAC systems.

Omar Elementary is a single-story, brick and masonry school located at 7061 Jerry West Highway in Omar, West Virginia. Omar was originally constructed as a Junior High in 1964 but was later converted into an elementary school in 2010. Omar Elementary has two instructional wings, two gymnasiums, and 51,044 square feet.

Omar Elementary is currently listed on our Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP) for updated fire alarm/detection system, new roof, upgraded electrical, new HVAC systems, and updated plumbing.

Educational Programs and Related Student Services

Evaluation of the school targeted for closure or consolidation and the school or schools that the county designates to receive the students in regard to the school(s) adaptability to the present and proposed educational programs, and the provisions of related student services.

Logan County Schools utilized Policy 6200 guidelines in the planning and implementation of the closure of Verdunville Elementary School. Moving forward, the latest Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP) will guide all planning and development of facility improvements at Omar Elementary, the receiving school.

Since the emergency closure of Verdunville Elementary in August 2025 due to a slip/rockfall behind the building, Omar Elementary has successfully housed Verdunville's students and staff. Originally constructed as a junior high school, Omar Elementary offers ample space to accommodate both general education and special needs programs.

Throughout the 2025–26 school year, no space-related concerns have been reported. The building features two main instructional wings and two gymnasiums, which have comfortably supported the increased student population. Traffic flow for buses and cars has been smooth, thanks to a road that encircles the entire campus.

Facility upgrades identified for Omar Elementary include:

- Updated fire alarm and detection systems
- Electrical system upgrades
- New roofing
- Plumbing improvements
- HVAC system replacement

Omar Elementary serves students in Pre-K through fourth grade and integrates daily use of technology into instruction. The school is fully equipped with wireless internet, and student support teams and staff are in place to meet the academic and social-emotional needs of all learners.

School Enrollments, Capacities, and Utilizations

<i>School</i>	<i>Enrollment</i>	<i>Building Capacity</i>	<i>Utilization %</i>
Closing School A (Verdunville)	110	177	44%
New or Receiving School (Projected #) (Omar)	252	370	26%

Facilities Table 2

Utilization Calculation Sheet

The supporting School Building Authority of West Virginia's (SBA) Worksheet on Building Program Utilization.

School Building Authority (SBA) utilization worksheets are included in the appendix.

Required Services and Barrier-free Environments

individuals with disabilities. Due to the age of the facilities, they are grandfathered under existing ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) guidelines, meaning they meet compliance standards

applicable at the time of construction and are not currently required to meet newer ADA specifications unless major renovations are undertaken.

Grade Configurations and Educational Programs

The Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP) will be amended as part of the proposed closure of Verdunville Elementary. There will not be any change to the grade configuration of Omar Elementary. The merger would allow for more efficient and increased dispersion of resources to areas of need.

Construction Work Required for the Proposed Action

Omar Elementary currently has the required square footage, classroom space, and common areas to fully accommodate the students from Verdunville Elementary. Omar Elementary does have facility needs that are outlined on the Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan and will be addressed on a priority basis within Logan County Schools.

The Future of Closed Facilities

Property will be disposed of through auction or donation according to law and policy.

School Building Authority of WV (SBA)

The closing of Verdunville Elementary is not contingent upon SBA funding. The current Verdunville students would be absorbed into Omar Elementary School.

SBA Facility Condition Documentation

Attachment of the most recent SBA facility evaluation form for each school affected and an updated form if the most recent SBA facility evaluation form is five years old or older.

See Appendix for this Documentation

Supporting Photographs and other Documentation

Due to security concerns, floor plans should only be included when necessary, in the impact statement book. If floor plans are deemed valuable to the closure reasoning, consider only including them in the officially printed book that is available at the required physical locations and not in publicly available formats.

See Appendix for this Documentation

3.2.c. Finance

County Procedures

Itemization of Anticipated Cost and Savings

Itemization of the anticipated cost or savings the county will experience in all areas as a result of the proposed school closure or consolidation. Such itemization shall be in the form of a table indicating the following:

Closing School(s) Annual Current Cost

The current annual cost at the school(s) to be closed for:

Verdunville Elementary School

Item	Amount
Utilities	\$70,020.83
Personnel	\$1,341,638.68
Maintenance	\$18,196.62
Transportation	\$111,920.92
Other	\$1,611.74
Total	\$1,543,388.79

Finance Table 1

Receiving School(s) Annual Current Cost

The current annual cost at the school(s) to be receiving for:

Omar Elementary School

Item	Amount
Utilities	\$106,327.65
Personnel	\$1,565,695.00
Maintenance	\$6,188.17
Transportation	\$216,151.52
Other	\$1,732.80
Total	\$1,896,095.14

Finance Table 2

The current annual cost at both schools:

Total Expenses

Item	Amount
Utilities	\$176,348.48
Personnel	\$2,907,378.68
Maintenance	\$24,384.79
Transportation	\$328,072.44
Other	\$3,344.54
Total	\$3,439,483.93

Finance Table 2

Anticipated Annual Cost after Action

The anticipated annual cost at the school(s) to be receiving for:

Omar Elementary School (Merged)

Item	Amount
------	--------

<i>Utilities</i>	\$108,454.20
<i>Personnel</i>	\$2,254,889.98
<i>Maintenance</i>	\$6,188.17
<i>Transportation</i>	\$331,052.28
<i>Other</i>	\$1,732.80
Total	\$2,702,317.43

Finance Table 3

Net Cost or Savings

the net cost or savings of the school(s) to be closed and the school(s) designated by the county to be receiving students for:

Net Savings

<i>Item</i>	<i>Cost or Savings</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Utilities</i>	Savings	(\$67,894.28)
<i>Personnel</i>	Savings	(\$652,443.70)
<i>Maintenance</i>	Savings	(\$18,196.62)
<i>Transportation</i>	Cost	\$2,979.84
<i>Other</i>	Savings	(\$1,611.74)
Total	Savings	(\$737,166.50)

Finance Table 4

Omar Elementary

In August 2025, the students and staff of Verdunville Elementary were relocated to Omar Elementary School following an emergency closure caused by a slip/rockfall directly behind the Verdunville building. The proximity of the rockfall—just twenty feet from the school—posed a significant safety risk.

Since the relocation, Omar Elementary has successfully accommodated the Verdunville community without incurring any of the anticipated additional costs. The school has effectively operated as a merged campus, maintaining educational continuity and community support.

A formal merger of Verdunville Elementary into Omar Elementary would result in substantial financial savings for Logan County Schools. Specifically, it would eliminate the need for approximately **\$9 million** in expenditures required to complete Phase II of the slip/rockfall mitigation project and to upgrade the Verdunville facility to meet modern educational standards.

County Expense Fund History

Five-year history of the county's unrestricted general current expense fund balance and that balance as a percentage of the county's approved levy estimate.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Unrestricted General Current Expense Fund Balance</i>	<i>Approved Levy Estimate</i>	<i>Percentage of Approved Levy Estimate</i>
2025	\$25,854,392.00	\$64,672,857.00	39.98%
2024	\$29,569,192.00	\$64,330,112.00	45.96%
2023	\$24,394,654.00	\$57,917,242.00	42.12%

2022	\$23,711,355.00	\$58,323,521.00	40.65%
2021	\$24,465,612.00	\$60,949,282.00	40.14%

Finance Table 5

3.2.d. Personnel

County Procedures

Analysis of Anticipated Personnel Changes

An analysis of the effect the proposed school closure or consolidation will have on professional and service personnel. The analysis shall include, at a minimum, the following data regarding the anticipated increases or decreases in employment as a result of this proposed closure or consolidation:

Verdunville Elementary – Current School Personnel Data Chart				
Professional Personnel	Administration	Teachers	Counselor	Nurse
<i>number professional personnel currently employed at the affected school(s);</i>	1	9	.5	.5
Service Personnel	Cooks	Aides	Custodians	Secretary
<i>number service personnel currently employed at the affected school(s);</i>	1.5	6	2	1

Personnel Table 1

Omar Elementary – Current Before Proposed Action				
Professional Personnel	Administration	Teachers	Counselor	Nurse
<i>number professional personnel currently employed at the affected school(s);</i>	1	11.5	.5	.5
Service Personnel	Cooks	Aides	Custodians	Secretary
<i>number service personnel currently employed at the affected school(s);</i>	2	8	2.5	1

Personnel Table 2

Omar Elementary & Verdunville Elementary Schools Total – Before Proposed Action				
Professional Personnel	Administration	Teachers	Counselor	Nurse
<i>total number of professional personnel currently employed at all affected schools;</i>	2	20.5	1	1
Service Personnel	Cooks	Aides	Custodians	Secretary
<i>total number of service personnel currently employed at all affected schools;</i>	3.5	14	4.5	2

Personnel Table 3

Verdunville Elementary – Anticipated After Proposed Action				
Professional Personnel	Administration	Teachers	Counselor	Nurse

<i>total number of professional personnel who are anticipated to be employed at the affected school(s) upon the completion of the closure or consolidation;</i>	-1	-3.5	-5	-5
Service Personnel	Cooks	Aides	Custodians	Secretary
<i>total number of service personnel who are anticipated to be employed at the affected school(s) upon the completion of the closure or consolidation;</i>	-1.5	-5	-2	-1

Personnel Table 4

Omar Elementary School – Anticipated After Proposed Action				
Professional Personnel	Administration	Teachers	Counselor	Nurse
<i>the anticipated net change in professional personnel due to the proposed closure or consolidation</i>	1	17.0	.5	.5
Service Personnel	Cooks	Aides	Custodians	Secretary
<i>the anticipated net change in service personnel due to the proposed closure or consolidation</i>	2	9	2	1

Personnel Table 5

Verdunville – Attrition and Reduction in Force Summary - Professional				
Professional Personnel	Administration	Teachers	Counselor	Nurse
<i>decrease that will occur through attrition</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>decrease that will occur through a reduction in force</i>	-1	-3	.5	-.5
Service Personnel	Cooks	Aides	Custodians	Secretary
<i>decrease that will occur through attrition</i>	0	0	0	0
<i>decrease that will occur through reduction in force</i>	-1.5	-5	-2.5	-1

Personnel Table 6

3.2.e. Student Transportation

County Procedures

Analysis of Anticipated Transportation Time Changes

Explain any variances of W. Va. 126CSR92, Policy 4336, West Virginia School Bus Transportation Regulations, Procedures, and Specifications for the Design and Equipment of School Buses (Policy 4336), section 15, Guidelines for Bus Routing, and the effects the variances may have on transportation. Provide the following bus route data and travel times:

Students picked up on Dingess Mountain who ride Bus 15-1 will experience a net increase of 24 minutes in their bus ride. Because this route exceeds the 45-minute threshold, it will require a state transportation waiver to remain in compliance with transportation guidelines.

Current and Differences of Travel Times

List the current travel time by bus route for students in the communities of the schools planned for closure or consolidation and the estimated increase or decrease in travel time as a result of the closure; and

Verdunville

Route	Community	Current Travel Time	Estimated Time after Closure or Consolidation	Net Increase or Decrease
L-9 (Bus 15-1)	Dingess Mountain	26 Minutes	50 Min	+24 Minutes
	Harts Mountain Rd	19 Minutes	45 Min	+26 Minutes
	Rock House	10 Minutes	35 Min	+25 Minutes
	Main Road to Verdunville Elementary	5 Minutes	20 Min	+15 Minutes

Transportation Table 1

Route	Community	Current Travel Time	Estimated Time after Closure or Consolidation	Net Increase or Decrease
L-8 (Bus 21-2)	Coal Branch	25 Min	35 Min	+24 Minutes
	Cherry Tree	20 Min	25 Min	+26 Minutes
	Chalet Village	18 Min	30 Min	+25 Minutes
	Dempsey Branch	12 Min	35 Min	+23 Minutes
	London's Carry Out	14 Min	30 Min	+16 Minutes

Transportation Table 2

Anticipated Routes and Waiver Requests

List all anticipated bus routes after the proposed closure or consolidation with the estimated total one-way travel time for each route. Clearly identify any bus routes that exceed the recommended travel times and any routes which will require a waiver of Policy 4336.

Verdunville Elementary

<i>Route</i>	<i>Community</i>	<i>One-way Travel Time</i>	<i>Amount Exceeding Recommended Travel Times</i>	<i>Is a Waiver of W. Va. 126CSR92, Policy 4336 Required (Yes / No)*</i>
L9 (Bus 15-1), L-8 (Bus 21-2), L-6 (18-6)	Dingess Mtn	50 Min	20 Min	Yes
	Head of Harts Creek Rd	45 Min	15 Min	No
	Rock House (Wolf Pen)	35 Min	5 Min	No
	Coach Branch for Logan Elem Students	5 Min	5 Min	No
	Coal Branch for Omar Elementary Students	35 Min	5 Min	No
	Head of Dempsey Branch	35 Min	5 Min	No

Transportation Table 2

*A waiver of WVBE Policy 4336 is only required for elementary school routes that have a one-way transportation time greater than 45 minutes.

Travel Time to Neighboring County Public School

Identify and provide the travel time to any neighboring county public schools that could serve the population of the closing school(s) where travel time to the identified out-of-county school is less than or equal to the school(s) designated by the county to receive students.

There are no elementary schools located in counties bordering Logan County that would offer a shorter commute for students previously attending Verdunville Elementary. Logan County Schools maintains a transfer policy that allows students to transfer to another school within the county, provided that space is available. This policy has enabled families affected by the emergency closure of Verdunville Elementary to seek enrollment at other schools within the district without increasing travel burdens beyond what is already required.

3.2.f. Student Educational Program

County Procedures

Analysis and Assurance of Consideration

Affected School Name(s)

Verdunville Elementary School and Omar Elementary School

Analysis and Assurance of Consideration

Affected School Name(s)

Verdunville Elementary School and Omar Elementary School

In the preparation of the documents regarding the closure and/or consolidation of the above referenced school, the following codes and policies have been considered:

Please check each item that was considered.

- W. Va. 126CSR16, Policy 2419, Regulations for the Education of Students with Exceptionalities,*
- W. Va. 126CSR42, Policy 2510, Assuring the Quality of Education: Regulations for Education Programs,*
- W. Va. 126CSR44 et al., Policy 2520, Content Standards and Objectives for West Virginia Schools,*
- W. Va. 126CSR172 Policy 6200- Handbook on Planning School Facilities,*
- Policy 6204-School Closings or Consolidations*



Superintendent
Dr. Sonya J. White

12/3/2025
Date:

3.2.g. Community

An impact statement regarding the effect the proposed school closure or consolidation will have on the affected communities and their students. Where schools and their respective communities are all defined by their own unique relationships, each proposed action will result in varying types and degrees of community impact. To better understand this diverse relational dynamic, the impact statement shall describe:

1. *The known relationships that exist among the affected schools and their communities.*

Identify School(s): Verdunville Elementary School

Verdunville Elementary School, located in the rural hills of Logan County, West Virginia, was a small, close-knit educational community serving approximately 110 students in grades Pre-K through 4. Despite its nearly 70-year legacy, the school faced ongoing challenges, including declining enrollment and significant safety concerns. In April 2025, a rockslide occurred just twenty feet behind the building, prompting an emergency closure and leading to the school's indefinite shutdown in August 2025.

Following the closure, students were relocated to **Omar Elementary School**, situated about 9.7 miles away, with additional transfer options made available to families. Verdunville Elementary was nestled along Mustang Hill Road, just off Mud Fork Road, in a tight-knit rural community known for its strong local ties and modest infrastructure. The surrounding area includes several churches, a post office, a thrift shop, and a hair salon—reflecting the community's resilience and close connection to its neighborhood institutions.

Identify School(s): Omar Elementary School

Omar Elementary School, located in the town of Omar, West Virginia, serves students in grades Pre-K through 4 and occupies a spacious building that formerly housed a junior high school. This gives the school access to facilities uncommon in elementary settings, including **two gymnasiums** and ample classroom space. Despite experiencing **declining enrollment** in recent years, the school remains a vital part of the community and is well-equipped to accommodate additional students, including those relocated from nearby Verdunville Elementary.

2. *How the existing known relationships could be impacted by the proposed action.*

The **Verdunville Elementary community** is small and close-knit, with a strong tradition of parental involvement in school activities such as Open House and Parent-Teacher Conferences. Families have consistently shown support for their local school, especially during the emergency closure of Verdunville Elementary and in subsequent local board meetings. This engagement reflects the community's deep-rooted commitment to education and the well-being of its children.

The **Omar Elementary School community** in Omar, West Virginia, has shown remarkable flexibility and hospitality in response to the relocation of students from Verdunville Elementary. Housed in a former junior high school building with ample space and facilities—including two gymnasiums—Omar Elementary has reorganized its classrooms and operations to effectively accommodate two school communities under one roof. Despite declining enrollment, the school

remains a welcoming and adaptable environment, well-equipped to support additional students and maintain a strong educational foundation.

3. The potential for new relationships that could be developed under the proposed action.

The proposed merger of Verdunville Elementary and Omar Elementary offers significant benefits to students, staff, and the surrounding community. By increasing overall enrollment, the merger strengthens Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), enabling grade-level teams to collaborate more effectively on curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

With two teachers at each grade level, upper grades will have the opportunity to departmentalize instruction, helping students transition more smoothly to middle school. Additionally, the presence of more parents in the school community will create new opportunities for business partnerships and volunteer engagement, further enriching the educational environment and strengthening ties between the school and local stakeholders.

3.3. & 3.4. Public Notices and Hearings

County Procedures

Notice of Public Hearing(s)

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOLS
W.Va. Board of Education Policy 6204**

DATE: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Sign in between 4:00 and 4:45 PM to speak. The regular Logan County Schools Board Meeting will begin at 5:00 PM, the Omar Elementary meeting will begin at 5:45 PM, and the Verdunville Meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

ALTERNATIVE DATE AND TIMES: If, in the event of inclement weather or other factors beyond the control of the board, the hearing cannot take place at the date and time set forth above, the hearings will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 5:00 PM, 5:30 PM, and 6:00 PM.

PLACE: Chief Logan Conference Center, 1000 Conference Center Drive, Logan, WV 25601. The hearing location is subject to change, if at the time the meeting is called to order, it is determined that the meeting location is of insufficient size to accommodate those wishing to attend.

The hearings may not continue beyond 9:00 PM. In the event the hearing is not concluded by 9:00 PM, the hearing may recess, to continue the designated dates designated and announced by the board just prior to the hearing recess, to be continued day-to-day until concluded.

Proposed Action of the Board of Education of the County of Logan, West Virginia:

Verdunville Elementary: Close and transfer of students to Omar Elementary.

3.3. & 3.4. Public Notices and Hearings

County Procedures

A representative of Logan County Schools will present an oral summary outlining the reasons and supporting data related to the proposed action by the Board.

Beginning 45 minutes prior to the start of the public hearing, individuals may sign a register to indicate their intent to speak. Those wishing to comment on the proposed closure of Verdunville Elementary and its merger into Omar Elementary, as well as members of the general public, will be recognized in the order in which they signed the register.

Each speaker will be allotted five minutes to present their remarks. If ten or more individuals sign up to speak, the time per speaker will be reduced to three minutes to accommodate all participants.

Written statements will be accepted in lieu of oral presentations but will not be accepted after the meeting has ended.

Written documentation outlining the reasons and supporting data related to the proposed action by the Board will be available for public inspection from Friday, October 17, 2025, through Monday, November 17, 2025, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM. These materials can be reviewed in the Office of the Superintendent of Logan County Schools, located in Room 2, 506 Holly Avenue, Logan, WV 25601.

Copies of the same documentation will also be available for inspection at Omar Elementary and Verdunville Elementary (Omar Campus).

Verdunville Elementary merger with Omar Elementary

First Run: October 15, 2025

Second Run: October 22, 2025

Third Run: October 25, 2025

Qualified Newspaper Name: Logan Banner

Proof of Public Hearing(s) Notice

A notarized letter from The Logan Banner, documenting the three dates on which the legal advertisement appeared in the newspaper, is included in the appendix of this document.

Public Hearing(s) Documentation and Formal Vote on the Closure(s) or Consolidation(s)

Provide documentation of all hearings, motions, written public comments, a synopsis or transcript of verbal public comments, and other actions concerning the proposed school closings and consolidations.

Will be included in the appendix after the public meeting and board decision.

3.6. County Board Actions

County Procedures

County Board Vote(s)

After the vote and following compliance with sections 3.4 and 3.5, and prior to the implementation of any school closure or consolidation and following compliance with all statutory and regulatory provisions, the county must file a request for school closure and/or consolidation with the WVBE for approval and this request must contain:

- *A letter from the county superintendent providing the date the action was taken by the county board.*
- *The signed assurance pages contained in this template.*
- *Justification as provided by the impact statement and supporting data in section 3.2.*
- *Documentation of all hearings, motions, written public comments, a synopsis or transcript of verbal public comments, and any other related actions.*
- *Proof of proper Class III legal advertisement*
- *Below CEFP statement*
- *Below SBA statement*

- *Documentation of all hearings, motions, written public comments, a synopsis or transcript of verbal public comments, and any other related actions.*
- *Proof of proper Class III legal advertisement*
- *Below CEFP statement*
- *Below SBA statement*

Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP)

County Statement

The CEFP will be updated and approved simultaneously with the proposed closure of Verdunville Elementary and merger into Omar Elementary.

School Building Authority of WV

County Statement

The Verdunville Elementary closure and merger into Omar Elementary is not contingent upon SBA funding.

3.6. Superintendent Verification of Board Actions

County Procedures

Date(s) of public hearings:

Omar Elementary: November 18, 2025, at 5:00 PM

Verdunville Elementary: November 18, 2025, at 6:00 PM

Date(s) of county board approval:

Due to Logan County currently being under state control, this approval will come from the State Superintendent of Schools at the West Virginia Department of Education.

Logan County requests the West Virginia Board of Education approve the following.

Briefly describe the closure action:

Closure and merger of Verdunville Elementary into Omar Elementary.

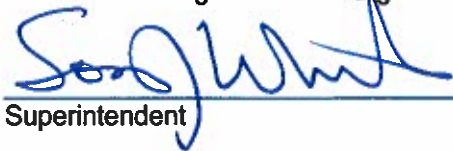
Checkmark each section and sign below:

- The county assures that the applicable sections of the W. Va. Codes §18-5-13 and §18-5-13a, and WVBE Policies 6200 and 6204 have been addressed.*
- This action is justified by the provided supplemental data and information pertinent to the following subjects: enrollment, facilities, finance, personnel, transportation, and educational programs.*
- Documentation of all hearings, motions, written public comments, a synopsis or transcript of verbal comments, and other actions concerning the proposed school closings and consolidations were provided in this document.*
- All hearings were properly advertised with a class III legal advertisement.*

Typed name of county superintendent:

Dr. Sonya J. White

Signature of county superintendent attesting to the completion of all requirements as stated in W. Va. Codes §18-5-13 and §18-5-13a and WVBE Policies 6200 and 6204.



Superintendent


Date:

School Building Authority of West Virginia
BUILDING PROGRAM UTILIZATION WORKSHEET
 Worksheet #3
 SBA FORM 301-C

NOTE: THIS FORM MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR A SIMILAR SBA-APPROVED DIGITAL INSTRUMENT

County: Logan

School: Verdunville Elementary Current Enrollment: 110

Classroom Types	Number Of Classroom Types	x	Maximum Pupils/ Class Capacity	=	Total Program Capacity
General Ed. Classrooms	10		25		250
Special Education/Title I	2		12		N/A
Elective Classrooms	2		25		N/A
TOTALS:					

Program Utilization (110 divided by 250) times 100 = 44%

Current Enrollment	Total Program Capacity	Program Utilization
--------------------	------------------------	---------------------

SCHOOLS PROGRAM UTILIZATION = 44% Desirable Program Capacity = 85%

SBA FORM 301-C

NOTE: THIS FORM MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR A SIMILAR SBA-APPROVED DIGITAL INSTRUMENT

County: Logan

School: Omar Elementary

Current Enrollment: 141

<i>Classroom Types</i>	<i>Number Of Classroom Types</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>Maximum Pupils/ Class Capacity</i>	<i>=</i>	<i>Total Program Capacity</i>
General Ed Classrooms	21		25		525
Special Education/Title I	2		12		N/A
Elective Classrooms	2		25		N/A
TOTALS:	25		62		525

Program Utilization (140 divided by 525) times 100 = 26.6%
 Current Enrollment Total Program Capacity Program Utilization

SCHOOLS PROGRAM UTILIZATION = 26.6% Desirable Program Capacity = 85%

Instructions for Calculating Building Program Utilization

Elementary School – Calculate the number and type of classrooms using the maximum program capacity for each self-contained regular classroom. Assume for example – that all students are seated in a first period block without pullout programs. Do not include library/media, cafeteria, itinerant spaces, resource rooms, or optional academic classrooms such as art, music and computer labs that act as pullout programs to support the core curriculum.

Secondary School – Middle/Junior High School programs where various schedules exist, calculate the number and type of classrooms using the maximum program capacity for each regular or special classroom. Assume for example, that all students are seated in a first period block and exclude library/media, commons or any space that cannot be used for other course offerings in the daily capacity of each facility. The maximum capacity for instructional spaces for specialty classrooms is counted once.

SBA 301-C

School Closing and Consolidation Timeline

Enrollment Overview

[Filter Data](#) | [\(045\) - Logan](#) | [Clear All Filters](#)

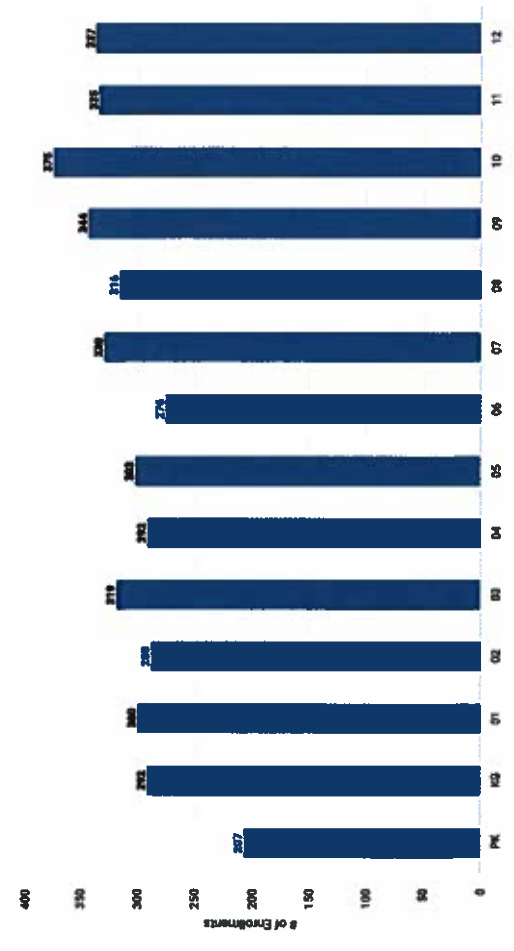
Enrollment Information

The current enrollment totals for each student demographic group.

STUDENT SUBGROUP	# STUDENTS
Total	4,314
Females	2,072
Males	2,242
American Indian or Alaska Nati	1
Asian	6
Black or African American	93
Hispanic or Latino	30
Multi-Racial	77
White	4,102

How many students are currently in each grade?

The number of students currently enrolled in each grade level.



How many students have changed schools?

Students grouped by the number of school changes they have had.

School Building Authority of West Virginia
SBA Form 134 Data Collection Form
School Improvement Cost Summary Sheet

LEA ID:	045221	Assessment Date:	07/09/19
County:	Logan	Total Gross Square Feet:	23560
Facility Name:	Verdunville Elementary School	Original Year of Construction:	1957
Design Capacity Enrollment:	390		

Please note, the current-year costs shown below are intended to provide a Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) estimate of costs. While they are appropriate for high-level capital forecasting, they should not be relied upon for determining specific project funding values. Actual project costs will likely deviate from the presented values due to a variety of factors including, but not limited to, hard and soft cost fluctuations and the actual date of construction for the intended project. Therefore, detailed cost estimates are recommended to validate funding requirements prior to obligating funds for facility replacement or renovation.

Improvement Item	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
1. Site Work					
Land Acquisition	Acres	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Excavation/Grade	CUB FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Drainage	LIN FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Walks (6 ft wide)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Parking	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Bus Loading	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Roads	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Playing Fields	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	

Sub-Total \$ -

Improvement Item	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
2. Renovations, Exterior					
Wall Structure	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Floor Structure	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Roof Structure	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Wall Facing	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Windows	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Doors/Frames	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Roofing	SQ FT	23,560	\$ 20.00	\$ 471,200.00	ROOF REPLACEMENT
Coping/Parapet	LIN FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Painting	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	

Sub-Total \$ 471,200.00

Improvement Item	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
3. Renovations, Interior					
Floor Covering	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Patch & Painting	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Ceiling Finish	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Plumbing	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Heating/Ventilating	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Air Conditioning	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Lighting	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Wiring	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Fire Alarm	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Communication System	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Technology		0	\$ -	\$ -	
Interior Doors	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	

Sub-Total \$ -

Improvement Item	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
4. Building Additions Including Furniture, Furnishings & Equipment					
Administration (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Student Services (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	

Kindergarten (ES)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Primary (ES)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Media Center (ES)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Basic (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Reading (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Health Education (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Computer Lab (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Inst. Mat. Center (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Home Economics (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Art (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Ind. Technology (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Music (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Physical Education (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Auditorium (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Special Education (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Multi-Purpose (ES)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Kitchen (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Dining (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Business Education (MS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Co-Op Education (MS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Drivers Education (MS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Staff/Faculty (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Toilets/Fixtures (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Storage General (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Storage Instructional (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Custodial (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Mechanical (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')	SQ FT	750	\$ 307.00	\$ 230,250.00	SECURED ENTRANCE
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Subtotal of Building Additions (SQ FT)		750			
Circulation	30%	225	\$ 307.00	\$ 69,075.00	
Sub-Total				\$ 299,325.00	

5. Special Construction	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
Elevator	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Sprinkler Systems	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Kitchen Equipment	ALL	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Waste Treatment	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Sub-Total				\$ -	

6. Other Special Costs	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
Sub-Total			\$ -	
Sub-Total of Items 1 through 6			\$ 770,525.00	

7. Architectural/Engineering Fees	%	Quantity	Item Cost	Remarks
New Construction	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	
Renovations	7.0%	\$770,525.00	\$ 53,936.75	
Sub-Total			\$ 53,936.75	

8. Miscellaneous	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
Survey	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Soil Inv.	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Sub-Total				\$ -	

9. Contingencies	%	Quantity	Item Cost	Remarks
New Construction	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	

Renovations

6.0% \$770,525.00

\$ 46,231.50

Sub-Total

\$ 46,231.50

Grand Total Project Cost

\$ 870,693.25

Worksheet Links:

[Campus Information](#)

[Building 1](#)

[Building 2](#)

[Building 3](#)

[Building 4](#)

[Building 5](#)

[Building 6](#)

[Building 7](#)

[Building 8](#)

[Building 9](#)

[Building 10](#)

[Site Evaluation](#)

[Facility General Information](#)

[Building Component Evaluation](#)

[Facility Spaces Evaluation / Utilization Analysis](#)

[School Improvement Cost Summary](#)

Reference Data from Prior Sheets (for WVDE Use Only):

Energy Utilization Index:	59,482
Current Enrollment:	131
Program Capacity:	390
Utilization Calculation:	34%
Building(s) in Floodplain/Floodway:	0

School Building Authority of West Virginia
SBA Form 134 Data Collection Form
School Improvement Cost Summary Sheet

LEA ID:	045101	Assessment Date:	07/08/19
County:	Logan	Total Gross Square Feet:	56400
Facility Name:	Omar Elementary	Original Year of Construction:	1964
Design Capacity Enrollment:	605		

Please note, the current-year costs shown below are intended to provide a Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) estimate of costs. While they are appropriate for high-level capital forecasting, they should not be relied upon for determining specific project funding values. Actual project costs will likely deviate from the presented values due to a variety of factors including, but not limited to, hard and soft cost fluctuations and the actual date of construction for the intended project. Therefore, detailed cost estimates are recommended to validate funding requirements prior to obligating funds for facility replacement or renovation.

Improvement Item

Improvement Item	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
1. Site Work					
Land Acquisition	Acres	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Excavation/Grade	CUB FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Drainage	LIN FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Walks (6 ft wide)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Parking	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Bus Loading	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Roads	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Playing Fields	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')		0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')		0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')		0	\$ -	\$ -	

Sub-Total

\$ -

2. Renovations, Exterior

Improvement Item	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
Wall Structure	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Floor Structure	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Roof Structure	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Wall Facing	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Windows	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Doors/Frames	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Roofing	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Coping/Parapet	LIN FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Painting	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')		0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')		0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')		0	\$ -	\$ -	

Sub-Total

\$ -

3. Renovations, Interior

Improvement Item	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
Floor Covering	SQ FT			\$ -	
Patch & Painting	SQ FT			\$ -	
Ceiling Finish	SQ FT			\$ -	
Plumbing	SQ FT			\$ -	
Heating/Ventilating	SQ FT	56,400	\$ 40.00	\$ 2,256,000.00	HVAC System
Air Conditioning	SQ FT			\$ -	
Lighting	SQ FT			\$ -	
Wiring	SQ FT			\$ -	
Fire Alarm	SQ FT			\$ -	
Communication System	SQ FT			\$ -	
Technology				\$ -	
Interior Doors	EACH			\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')	SQ FT	56,400	\$ 7.00	\$ 394,800.00	BUILDING CONTROL SYSTEM
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	

Sub-Total

\$ 2,650,800.00

4. Building Additions Including Furniture, Furnishings & Equipment

Improvement Item	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
Administration (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Student Services (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	

Kindergarten (ES)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Primary (ES)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Media Center (ES)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Basic (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Reading (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Health Education (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Computer Lab (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Inst. Mat. Center (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Home Economics (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Art (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Ind. Technology (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Music (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Physical Education (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Auditorium (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Special Education (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Multi-Purpose (ES)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Kitchen (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Dining (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Business Education (MS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Co-Op Education (MS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Drivers Education (MS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Staff/Faculty (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Toilets/Fixtures (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Storage General (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Storage Instructional (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Custodial (ES, MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Mechanical (MS, HS)	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Subtotal of Building Additions (SQ FT)		0			
Circulation	30%	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Sub-Total				\$ -	

5. Special Construction	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
Elevator	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Sprinkler Systems	SQ FT	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Kitchen Equipment	ALL	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Waste Treatment	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Sub-Total				\$ -	

6. Other Special Costs	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
Sub-Total			\$ -	
Sub-Total of Items 1 through 6			\$ 2,650,800.00	

7. Architectural/Engineering Fees	%	Quantity	Item Cost	Remarks
New Construction	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	
Renovations	7.0%	\$ 2,650,800.00	\$ 185,556.00	
Sub-Total			\$ 185,556.00	

8. Miscellaneous	Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Item Cost	Remarks
Survey	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Soil Inv.	EACH	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Other (Describe in 'Remarks')				\$ -	
Sub-Total				\$ -	

9. Contingencies	%	Quantity	Item Cost	Remarks
New Construction	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	

Renovations

6.0% \$ 2,650,800.00

\$ 159,048.00

Sub-Total

\$ 159,048.00

Grand Total Project Cost

\$ 2,995,404.00

Worksheet Links:

[Campus Information](#)

[Building 1](#)

[Building 2](#)

[Building 3](#)

[Building 4](#)

[Building 5](#)

[Building 6](#)

[Building 7](#)

[Building 8](#)

[Building 9](#)

[Building 10](#)

[Site Evaluation](#)

[Facility General Information](#)

[Building Component Evaluation](#)

[Facility Spaces Evaluation / Utilization Analysis](#)

[School Improvement Cost Summary](#)

Reference Data from Prior Sheets (for WVDE Use Only):

Energy Utilization Index:	56,203
Current Enrollment:	181
Program Capacity:	605
Utilization Calculation:	30%
Building(s) in Floodplain/Floodway:	2

AMERICAN GEOTECH, INC.

GEOTECHNICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND TESTING ENGINEERS

601 OHIO AVENUE
CHARLESTON, WV 25312
(304) 340-4277
Fax: 304-340-4272

April 11, 2025

Mr. Jason Shantie
Williamson Shriver Architects
717 Bigley Avenue
Charleston, WV 25302

**Re: Slip/Rockfall Observations and Risk Evaluation
Verdunville Elementary School
251 Mustang Hill Road
Verdunville, West Virginia**

Dear Mr. Shante:

At your request, American Geotech, Inc. (AGI) has completed a field visit and conducted observations of the slip/rockfall on the rear cut slope at Verdunville Elementary School in Verdunville, West Virginia. A meeting was also conducted with Mr. Steve Prichard of Logan County Board of Education to observe the existing cut slope conditions, discuss the history of the school and site development, potential immediate risks to the school building resulting from future slips/rockfalls, and to have a preliminary discussion of possible methods to correct the slope condition.

The site visit and meeting were conducted on April 10, 2025 during a light rain shower. The existing elementary school site occupies an elongated sidehill bench that has been constructed by cutting the rear northern slopes and placing fill over the downhill southern side of the bench. Mr. Prichard was not aware of any specifics related to the school construction, but stated that the property was originally obtained from Island Creek Coal Co. and the school was constructed in 1957. The existing school consists of a single-story masonry and brick structure that runs along the base of the northern cut slope. The slip behind the school is located at the point along the cut slope where the base of the slope is closest to the building. This upslope area appears to have originally been a lobed projection of the hillside that was cut steeply across the point with no benching until above the top of the rock portion of the cut slope. A water storage tank owned by the Logan County PSD is present roughly 100 feet further back upslope from the slip area.

The slip/rockfall occurred on April 8, 2025 from the upper shale formation near the point of the shear cut slope closest to the school building. The lower 25± feet of the cut slope consists of mixed-face bedrock comprised of alternating layers of weathered shale separated by a coal seam just below midway up the rock face. The slip/rockfall occurred from the top of the rock cut within a weathered gray and brown shale member. No obvious or apparent damage to the structure was noted aside from some mud splattering. The shale formation of the top half of the cut slope is relatively fissile by nature and contains common near vertical fractures that span the full thickness of the formation. These fractures allow avenues for the intrusion of tree roots and

infiltrating surface water. Over time, the tree roots expand the fractures and the root mats lubricate the slickensided fracture planes. Infiltrating surface water also lubricates the fracture surfaces and allows ice wedging in the winter freeze-thaw cycle that further forces apart the fractures. These forces work simultaneously to loosen blocks of the rock formation and promote rockfalls like at this site. The rockfall behind the school has left an unsupported wedge of overhanging soil at the top of the rock cut section that is presently held in place by the root systems of the small trees and woody brush that has colonized the cut slope. This overhang has the potential to collapse at any time until it is unloaded from the slope. Most of the trees and brush growing across the top of the rock cut are curved, leaning, and prone to topple down the slope.

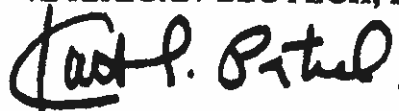
Based on our observations of the lower rock cut slope and upper slope area below the water tank, we did not observe evidence that a large failure is imminent on this slope. However, the overhanging soil mass that was left after the rockfall is unsupported and will collapse in the short term. Most of the potential damage to the building would come from tree impacts to the roof structure, soffits, or window breaks. Some immediate actions that the school board can take to mitigate the short-term risks are:

1. Cut all trees and brush from the lower cut slope and overburden slopes across the top of the rock cut while leaving the stumps in place for support of the overburden slopes. The root systems provide excellent support to slopes but when the trees become unstable and lean downhill they can promote instability.
2. Clean up the slip debris and mud from behind the school so if any future slips or rockfalls occur, the slip materials will not be kicked toward the building. The existing drainage ditch across the base of the cut slope shall also be opened up and kept free flowing.

It is our opinion that the school can be safely occupied by the kitchen staff, maintenance and administrative personnel. Students should not be permitted in the classrooms immediately adjoining the slip area until the above actions are completed. The most suitable and cost-effective correction for the cut slope at this site will likely be to lay back the existing upper half of the rock cut slope with the addition of a few benches above the slope to improve stability of the upper overburden portion. Once the trees and vegetation are cleared from the slope, the geotechnical engineer should evaluate the slope to determine the geometry for the final cut slope design.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to you. If you have any questions or require additional services, please call us at 304-340-4277.

Respectfully Submitted,
AMERICAN GEOTECH, INC.



Kanti S. Patel, P.E.
Principal Engineer

AMERICAN GEOTECH, INC.

GEOTECHNICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND TESTING ENGINEERS

601 OHIO AVENUE
CHARLESTON, WV 25302
(304) 340-4277
Fax (304) 340-4278

May 1, 2025

Mr. Jason Shantie
Williamson Shriver Architects
717 Bigley Avenue
Charleston, WV 25302

**Re: Report of Final Inspection of Phase I Slip/Rockfall Mitigation
Verdunville Elementary School
251 Mustang Hill Road
Verdunville, West Virginia**

Dear Mr. Shantie:

American Geotech, Inc. (AGI) completed the final inspection for the Phase I slip/rockfall mitigation procedures at Verdunville Elementary School on April 30, 2025. Our final inspection was performed in the midday hours following an overnight heavy rain storm.

Our final inspection revealed that Superior Pocahontas has completed all elements of the Phase I temporary slip mitigation procedures at the subject site. These temporary slip/rockfall mitigation procedures included (1) placement of 150 l.f. of concrete barriers along the back of the building in the critical zone, (2) placement of plywood over the school windows of the classroom below the slip area (we understand the contractor was asked to remove the plywood by the school board), (3) clearing of all trees and brush on the cut slope within the clearing limits staked by AGI, (4) removing all fallen slip materials, cut trees and brush from the site, (5) removing the overburden soil and overhanging vegetation from the overhang left by the slip/rockfall, (6) general reclamation of the work site by clearing the drainage ditch and spreading straw over disturbed ground.

With completion of the temporary Phase I mitigation procedures, it is our opinion that the school can safely be occupied by students and faculty for the remainder of this school year ending in June 2025. Following the completion of this school year, a long-term permanent fix (Phase II) to address the slips/rockfalls on the cut slope should be completed before occupying the building for the next school year. Additional study of the cut slope is necessary to develop the Phase II work scope and design the permanent fix. However, we expect that the cut slope can be stabilized by either laying the slope back to a less steep angle in unweathered durable rock or using rock anchors and a rockfall stabilization mesh product.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service on this project. If you have any questions or require additional services, please contact our office at 304-340-4277

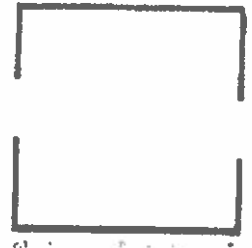
Respectfully Submitted,

AMERICAN GEOTECH, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kanti S. Patel". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Kanti S. Patel, P.E.
Principal Engineer

Architectural Engineering Services Fee Proposal



Verdunville Elementary School Slip Repair – Phase 2 Logan County Schools

May 6, 2025

Williamson Shriver Architects, Inc. is appreciative of the opportunity to submit our fee proposal to provide architectural services for Verdunville Elementary School Slip Repair – Phase 2. Our understanding of the project scope, the services which we propose to provide, and our proposed fee are included herein for your consideration.

Understanding of Project Scope:

Williamson Shriver Architects' understanding of the scope of the projects to be included in this Agreement is as follows:

Verdunville Elementary School Slip Repair – Phase 2 - We understand due to a heavy rain fall on April 8, 2025, a slip occurred behind the existing Verdunville Elementary School. Logan County Schools (LCS) contracted Williamson Shriver Architects, Inc. (WSA) with the assistance of American Geotech, Inc. (AGI) to perform expedited design services for Verdunville Elementary School Slip Repair Phase 1. Phase 1 scope has been completed, which allowed LCS to reopen the building for the remainder of the year. The Phase 2 scope is necessary to provide the building with long term protection. The scope involved in Phase 2 includes removal of all slip/rockfall material behind the school, excavation of the existing hill with and new 2:1 slope, and removal of additional trees as required and directed by the Geotechnical Engineer. Upon completion of the slope cut, removal of all soil, repair of road access, the temporary window protection and retaining wall installed in Phase 1 can be removed. The Phase 2 scope will require a site survey and geotechnical investigation. WSA has contacted AGI for the geotechnical investigation and E.L. Robinson Engineering (ELRE) for the survey. ELRE will generate the construction documents required for the project with design assistance from AGI. WSA and ELRE will generate the required specifications for the scope. WSA, AGI, and ELRE will work together to conduct the pre-bid meeting and perform the bid opening on behalf of LCS. The Contract Administration will be conducted by WSA with the assistance from ELRE of monthly site visits and weekly site visits by AGI. This project may be funded entirely by Logan County Schools. This project was awarded to a single general contract for construction.

Scope of Basic Services

Basic services for this project will be as fully defined in the final selected AIA standard form agreement, but will generally include the following tasks:

1. Initial site meetings with administration and/or staff, to observe site conditions;
2. Physically evaluating components of the existing site and preparing an evaluation for corrections;
3. Survey of area of disturbance and surrounding area of slip/rockslide utilizing an outside consulting engineer;
4. Geotechnical engineering design utilizing an outside consulting engineer;
5. Site and civil engineering design utilizing an outside consulting engineer;
6. Materials research and specifications;
7. Budget and cost analysis;
8. Preparation of bidding documents;
9. Bidding phase services;
10. Contract administration in the construction phase of the project including site visits, shop drawing reviews, approval of applications for payment, and other tasks related to this phase of the work; and
11. Except as noted under Reimbursable Expenses below, costs for telephone, travel, lodging, office supplies, CADD/BIM services and other related business expenses are included in basic services.

Limitations to Scope of Services

The following are specifically excluded from our basic scope of services. If these services are required they shall be considered Additional Services and compensated as identified in this proposal:

1. Mechanical and electrical engineering design (if required by project conditions) utilizing an outside consulting engineer;
2. Structural engineering design (if required by project conditions) utilizing an outside consulting engineer;

Fee Proposal

- A **Basic Architectural Services** - Williamson Shriver Architects, Inc. proposes to provide "basic architectural services" as established herein being compensated using a lump sum cost as follows:

Verdunville Elementary School Slip Repair - Phase I:

• Architectural Design / Coordination Services (Williamson Shriver Architects)	
Construction Documents / Specifications	\$8,400
• Geotechnical Engineering (American Geotech, Inc)	
Initial Field Visit	\$1,035
Geotechnical Investigation / Test Pits	\$2,070
Geotechnical Report	\$2,415
Coordination of Survey	\$1,150
• Survey and Site Engineering (E.L. Roberts)	
Limited Site Survey	\$5,520
Construction Documents	\$13,570
• Bidding	
Bidding Services (WSA)	\$3,420
Bidding Service Assistance (ELRE)	\$2,875
• Contract Administration	
B -Monthly Progress meetings (WSA);	\$9,160
Monthly Site Visits (ELRE)	\$5,520
Weekly Monitoring Services (AGI)	\$17,710
Total of items above to	\$72,845

- B **Reimbursable Expenses** - Costs paid by the architect proposed to be reimbursed by the owner consist of
1. Cost of reproducing final plans and project manuals for bidding and construction times a 1.15 multiplier.

- C **Additional Services** - Additional services are proposed include any work not expressly indicated as basic services in the Owner-Architect Agreement. Additional services which are known at this time to be applicable to the project include the following:

1. None at this time.

Additional services that are not known at this time but which could become necessary will be based upon one or more of the following situations occurring:

- Material changes to the Owner approved program or scope of work;
- The reversal of a prior approval by the Owner;
- Changes in the project's legal requirements;
- Contractor errors or omissions; or

- For services that are not readily quantifiable such as excessive requests for substitutions, excessive shop drawing approval, attendance and other work related to legal proceedings not the fault of the architect, or consultation services following a fire or other casualty related to the construction of the project.

If these additional services are become required for the project, the Owner and the Architect shall agree in writing in accordance with the final contract. If these services are become required for this project, the compensation for these services will be based upon the architect's hourly rate schedule as follows:

Principal	\$180 / hour
Construction Administrator	\$155 / hour
Architect	\$145 / hour
Intern Architect/Project Manager	\$115 / hour
Production Staff	\$ 85 / hour
Clerical	\$ 80 / hour

Additional services of architect's consultants are billed at the consultant's hourly rate times a multiplier of 1.15.

- D **Other Costs** - The Owner should be aware of other project costs which are outside of the contract with the Architect. These could include, but not be limited to, the following:
1. State, county, and local review fees and permits
 - a. State Fire Marshal
 - b. WV Division of Environmental Protection
 - c. WV Department of Highways
 - d. State or County Health Department
 - e. Other State, County, or Local Permits, if required
 2. Other administrative, legal, real estate costs; and
 3. Appropriate design and construction contingencies
- E **Form of Agreement** - If acceptable to the Owner, Williamson Shriver Architects Inc. proposes to formalize this agreement of an American Institute of Architects [B221-2018] Service Order Agreement to the [B101-2017] Standard Form Master Service Agreement Between Owner and Architect. Upon acceptance of these terms, the Architect will initially prepare this document and submit it to the Owner for review as well as your legal consultant review if desired.

End of Proposal



Preliminary Cost Budget

Verdunville Elementary School Slip Repair - Phase 2

Logan County Board of Education

May 6, 2025

	Quan	Unit	\$/Unit	Extended	SubTotal	Total
Site Preparation / Utilities						437,000
Earthwork / Miscellaneous					412,000	
Layback the Hill 2:1 Slope		LS		350,000		
Remove Temp Plywood		LS		12,000		
Remove Temp Barriers		LS		15,000		
Permanent Seeding		LS		15,000		
Clean Up	1	LS		20,000		
Miscellaneous Modification	1	LS			25,000	
Sub-Total						437,000
Design Contingency					5%	21,850
Market and Bidding Contingency					5%	21,850
Contingency						26,220
Owner's Contingency				3%	13,110	
Architect's Contingency				3%	13,110	
Sub-Total						506,920
Soft Costs						
A/E Contract						
A/E Design Fees			Fixed	20.9%	20,980	20,980
Basic Services Fee	8,400					
Bidding	3,420					
Contract Administration	9,160					
Land Surveying and Engineering			Fixed	27,485	27,485	27,485
Limited Site Survey	5,520					
Construction Documents	13,570					
Bidding	2,875					
Contract Administration	5,520					
Geotechnical			Fixed	24,380	24,380	24,380
Initial Field Visits	1,035					
Geotechnical Investigation/Test Pits	2,070					
Geotechnical Reports	2,415					
Coordination of Survey	1,150					
Contract Administration	17,710					
Owner Direct Costs*					903	903
Reimbursables		1	S	403		
Bid Documents Printing	300					
Bid Documents - Mailing	50					
Miscellaneous Administrative				500		
Project Cost						580,668

Legend of Units

LS	Lump Sum	CY	per Cubic Yard
EA	per Each Item	LF	per Linear Foot
SF	per Square Foot	AC	per Acre
SY	per Square Yard	M	per Month
CF	per Cubic Foot		



WILLIAMSON SHRIVER ARCHITECTS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. George Aulenbacher, Superintendent
Logan County Schools
506 Holly Avenue
Logan, WV 25601

FROM: Greg Martin, AIA/NCARB, President
Williamson Shriver Architects, Inc.

RE: Building Evaluation – Verdunville Elementary School

DATE: July 21, 2025

On Friday, June 6th, a building evaluation of the existing Verdunville Elementary School, located in Verdunville, WV, will be conducted by Williamson Shriver Architects, Inc., Arrow Engineering, and Harper Engineering. The team assessed the condition of the building, both interior and exterior, as well as the surrounding ground, based on their respective areas of expertise. Each assessment from all disciplines is included in this report.

Architectural Observations

The existing building covers approximately 23,500 square feet and consists primarily of a single-story structure atop a crawl space, with an old coal feed furnace located below ground. The building was originally constructed in 1957, with a subsequent addition around 2006 that added a walk-in cooler, freezer, and dry food storage. The design features a double-loaded corridor, with academic classrooms situated on both the south and north sides of the building. The multi-purpose space, which includes an elevated stage, is located on the south side, and the kitchen is positioned at the same floor level as the stage. The general office is on the south face of the building, conveniently located next to the shared student and visitor entrance.

A separate building is located on the grounds, which appears to be a long-term portable building. This structure is typically framed with wood framing, placed on masonry piers, wood trusses and asphalt shingles. This building was not evaluated during our visit.

Exterior

The exterior of the school building comprises modular brick that appears to be a composite wall. Each classroom features original single-pane aluminum windows with 8"x8" glass blocks situated above the operable windows. A limited number of these glass blocks have been broken and need replacement. The

bottom row of glass blocks has through bolts positioned approximately 3 inches above the top of the aluminum windows; these bolts hold the interior shades. Various sections of glass in the windows have also been broken or replaced, and several data, coaxial, and cabling lines have been run through the exposed areas. In the multi-purpose rooms, translucent panels have been installed in the walls to allow for diffused natural light.

The site's grade is set below the floor line, with exterior access to the crawl space located at the southwest and northwest corners of the building. The trees and bushes on the south side need to be trimmed or removed due to their size or condition. The north side of the building is located close to the hillside and requires additional remediation, as per the geotechnical recommendation following the slip in the spring. The exterior retaining wall leading to the basement on the west side of the building and the stairs ascending to the kitchen exhibit signs of water infiltration, which have caused the brick to spall, crack, and separate. The elevated loading dock shows signs of damage from vehicles. The stoop landing outside the basement door "5" has overgrown vegetation, along with issues in the sump pump drain. At exterior door "6," a walkway of stepping pavers has been placed, but it is not level, which poses ADA accessibility challenges. A tree growing from the foundation on the building's north side should be removed.

The roof of the building is flat, featuring centralized drains with no parapet or gutter system. The overhang has limited venting in the soffit and appears to be made of painted exterior gypsum board or plywood. The roofing consists of asphalt built-up materials with small aggregate secured down, and there appears to be no slope present. Centralized drains show signs of vegetation growth, and during the evaluation visit, standing water was observed in select areas. The rooftop mechanical units are approximately 15 years old, positioned on elevated curbs, and rely on natural gas for operation. Multi-purpose rooms are served by through-wall units situated on the low roof.

Interior

While there is no separate visitor entrance, the school features a secure vestibule to accommodate visitors at the main entrance. The general office is strategically positioned to monitor visitors as they arrive, and there is a transaction point for credential verification. Hallways appear to be in good condition, with newer vinyl plank flooring, new wooden doors for each classroom, and a modern dropped ceiling with new lighting. The configuration of academic classrooms allows two classrooms to share access to male and female restrooms located between them. Each restroom is accessible via a narrow hallway and is designed for multiple users. The male restrooms include in-floor urinals with marble partitions, although privacy is limited, and some of the marble partitions are broken and need replacement. Classrooms typically feature lockers situated between the restrooms and the teaching wall opposite. Some lockers have had doors removed, and a few have been completely removed. Each exterior classroom wall has a heating unit beneath the windows, and all windows have blinds affixed with through bolts in the mortar joints. Classrooms have been painted over the years and contain a variety of furniture. The ceiling in all classrooms appears to be a hard surface and generally contains asbestos, based on the age of the construction. That should be tested by a certified company.

The multi-purpose rooms exhibit signs of cracking within the floor slab and perimeter end walls. The elevated stage features 9"x9" tiles, which are likely asbestos tiles. While it appears to be maintained, ongoing monitoring is recommended. The ceiling has acoustical tiles that should be tested for safety. Additionally, various signs of roof leaks are evident. Previously, the building contained fixed tables against the wall, but these have been removed, and new loose tables are currently placed on the stage for student use.

A wooden staircase with handrails has been installed to provide students with access to the stage from the multi-purpose room. However, the floor of the newer food storage and walk-in cooler is not level with the rest of the floor, showing a drop of 1/2 inch or more at the door opening. The connection

between the new masonry wall and the existing brick walls needs sealing. It appears that the roof over the additions has leaks in multiple locations.

The kitchen is sufficient for the school's needs, but the equipment should be inspected and serviced by a certified food service equipment vendor. Adjacent to the kitchen is the old basement furnace room, where the building's electrical gear and hot water tanks are located. This space is prone to water infiltration from the double doors and the coal access points. Water was present in the room at some point and appears to have been as deep as 4 inches, as indicated by waterlines on the hot water tank legs. Access to the full crawl space beneath the building is constrained by an owner-constructed elevated platform used for janitorial storage. Additionally, the door between the furnace room and the coal room has deteriorated and needs to be replaced.

The crawl space is damp, with saturated soil, indicating ongoing water issues. Sump pumps have been installed in low areas near the door to help remove excess water. The crawl spaces should be cleaned and protected from future water infiltration.

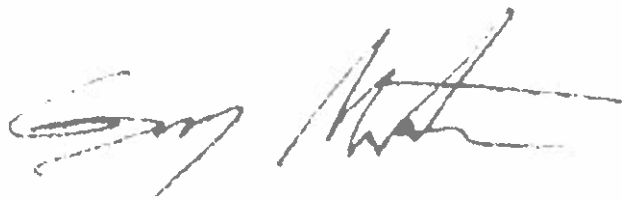
The external wastewater treatment plant was not reviewed, but it should be maintained by a certified WWTP company.

The asphalt parking lot appears to show signs of cracking throughout the area. The access drive to the school is limited to one lane in most locations.

In conclusion, while the building appears to be in adequate condition for a nearly 70-year-old structure, there are several items to consider for prolonging its lifespan. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: structural stabilization of the multi-purpose room exterior wall, crawl space waterproofing and dehumidification/sump pump installation, a new roof, a new HVAC system, a sprinkler system, a new fire alarm system, new electrical switchgear, new exterior windows, and other necessary code updates. Furthermore, Phase 2 of the site repair is needed due to the slip that occurred in the spring of 2025.

Photographs associated with Architectural Observations are included in the following pages.

The Reports from Arrow Engineering and Harper Engineering are included after the photograph pages.



Greg Martin – AIA/NCARB
President, Williamson Shriver Architects, Inc.





Overgrown trees on the front of the building and a tree growing out of the foundation on the rear of the building.



Overhang of the roof with a small, vented soffit.



Loading dock at the 2006 addition with damaged brick from vehicles.



Elevated kitchen entrance showing signs of water infiltration and sprawling brick.



The door and landing are basement level.
Sign a vegetation and water infiltration as a sump pump is located in the catch basin drain.





Roof area with existing rooftop mechanical units that are reaching life expectancy.



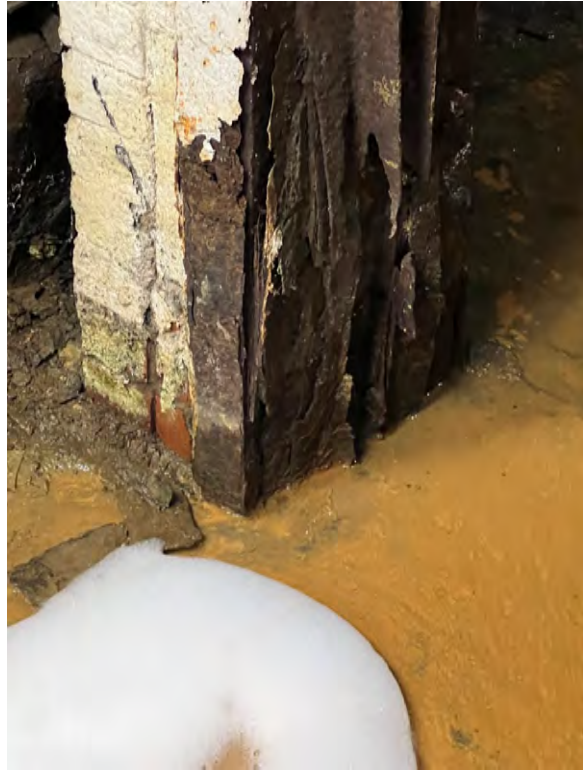
Roof drains with bricks on top to hold down the cover and vegetation growing around them.



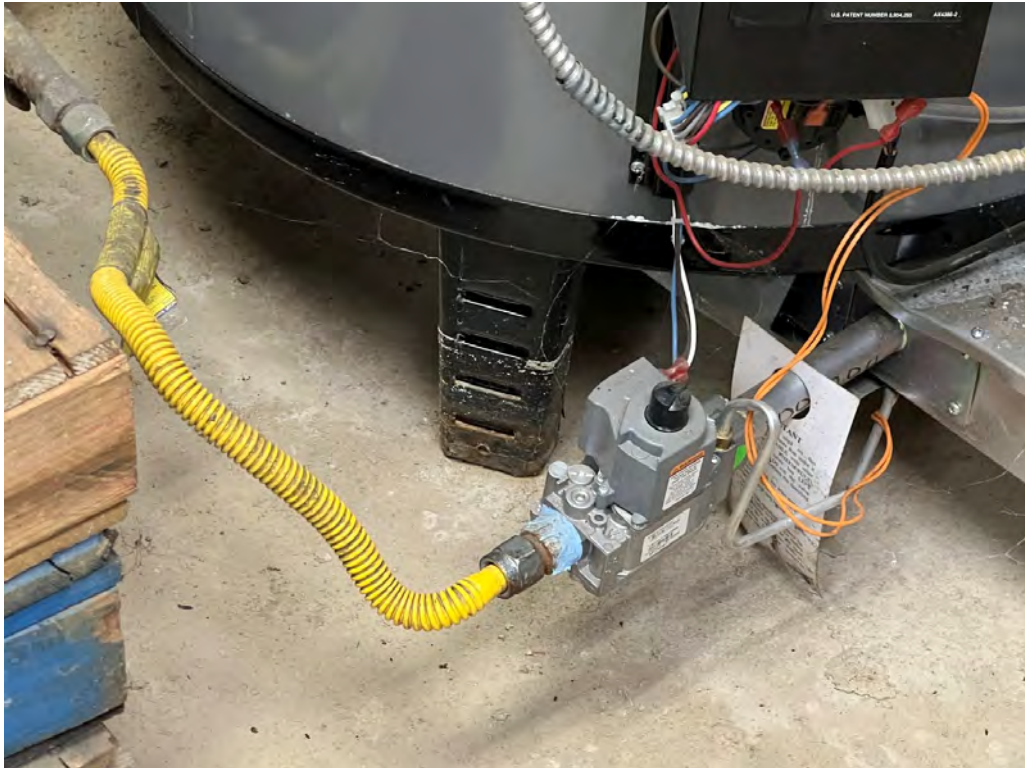
Basement with visible signs of water at the exterior door and base of stair from interior entrance.



Standing water under the elevated janitorial space that serves as access to the crawl space.



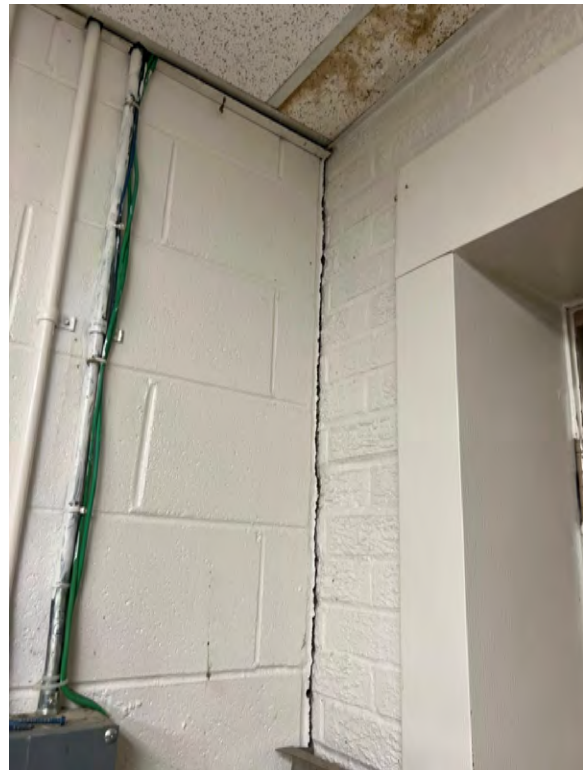
Standing water near old coal furnace area rusted door frame.
Soap suds bubbling from drain from washer above in elevated janitorial space.



The water level mud mark on the leg of the hot water tank is approximately 4" above the floor.



Tile in the elevated stage area with new tables. Door to the food storage area in the rear corner.



Sunken floor at the transition between the food storage and the stage.
Masonry separation at the addition, not properly connected/sealed.



Roof leak in Foor storage area (left) and roof leak in multi-purpose room (right).



Wood stairs to the elevated stage area.



Old heating unit and bookshelves in classroom. Units no longer used.



An old crack is visible in one classroom, which has been repaired. Window blinds anchored with through bolts in glass block mortar joints.



Existing lockers within classrooms. Lockers are in various conditions throughout the building.



Two separate boys' toilets showing in-floor urinals.
The right photo shows broken marble partitions.

The toilets do not appear to be ADA-compliant for clearances.



Front of the Multi-Purpose room. Signs of asphalt cracking are present in the lower section.



Front of the building with the main school entrance.



Original aluminum windows at General Office and typical classroom.



Glass block over existing windows showing through bolts and broke block

HE Harper Engineering pllc

52 B Street
St. Albans, WV 25177
Office: 304.722.3602 Fax: 304.722.3603

July 21, 2025

Greg Martin, AIA
Williamson Shriver Architects
717 Bigley Avenue
Charleston, WV 25302

Re: Verdunville Elementary School MEP Evaluation

Dear Greg,

A representative from Harper Engineering visited the site on Friday, June 6, 2025 to review existing mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems of the Verdunville Elementary School located in Logan County, WV. A visual inspection was performed.

The 23,500 sq ft school construction was completed in 1957. HVAC, power, and lighting systems were updated in 2006. The building is currently occupied.

Natural gas is available on site. Meter is located in the rear of the building near the old coal shed.

Existing domestic water piping is copper. 3" water entrance is located in first floor mechanical room. Backflow preventer has not been installed in the mechanical room. Water system should be tested for lead due to age of system if not already performed.

Building is not sprinklered.

Sanitary piping is cast iron hub and spigot. System drains to an onsite treatment plant. Treatment plant was not evaluated as part of this evaluation. Exposed piping appears to be in good condition. Floor drains in mechanical room were not functional at time of visit.

Exterior storm drain at mechanical room door was not functional at time of visit. Sump pumps were being used to drain the area.

Mechanical system was updated in 2006. System consists of gas fired roof top units with dx cooling serving the class rooms, dx cooling roof top units and radiant tube heaters serving the gym, and gas fired rooftop with dx cooling serving the kitchen. Portable classroom was not reviewed at time of visit. Portable classroom is served by ptacs. Dry for storage is served by ptacs.

Electrical entrance is 120 208v three phase 1200a. Main electrical room is on the lower level. Room had standing water at time of visit.

The original electrical distribution was installed in 1957. Original electrical equipment (panels, disconnects, etc.) is still in use in certain areas and has become obsolete. Replacement parts and breakers are no longer available for the original electrical equipment.

No panel covers or junction box covers were removed at time of site visit.

Lighting was upgraded to LED in 2006.

Fire alarm system is an Edwards Fire Shield analog zone system. Fire alarm should be upgraded to digital addressable system.

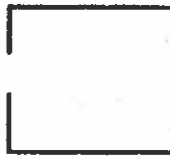
Fiber optic cabling and network wiring is in place and functional.

Feel free to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jason Harper, PE
Harper Engineering, pllc



Preliminary Cost Budget

Building Renovations - Verdunville Elementary School

Logan County Schools

July 21, 2025

Building Area

Existing

Existing Building

23,500 SF

	Quan	Unit	\$/Unit	Extended	SubTotal	Total
Building Renovations						6,467,945
General Conditions	1	LS	587,995		587,995	
Demolition					295,000	
Selective Demolition - Architectural	1	LS	25,000.00	25,000		
Selective Demolition - Abatement - Ceiling	18000	LS	15.00	270,000		
Structural Helical Piers						
Selective Demolition - Site	1	LS	50,000.00	50,000	380,000	
Helical Piers	30	EA	9,000.00	270,000		
New Concrete Sidewalk	800	SF	75.00	60,000		
Architectural Space Renovations					896,500	
Crawl Space Water proofing	23,500	SF	25.00	587,500		
VCT Flooring						
Remove hazardous flooring	5,000	SF	8.00	40,000		
New Solid Vinyl Tile	5,000	SF	6.00	30,000		
New Base and Accessories	500	LS	2.00	1,000		
Painting	23,500	SF	4.00	94,000		
Acoustical Ceilings - Classrooms	18,000	SF	8.00	144,000		
Exterior Façade Renovations					215,000	
Exterior Door and Frame Replacement	10	EA	7,500.00	75,000		
Exterior Window Replacement	14	EA	10,000.00	140,000		
Roof Replacement - Flat/Built up	23,500	SF	38.00		893,000	
Toilet Renovations					49,000	
Toilet Partitions	28	EA	1,250.00	35,000		
Toilet Accessories	28	EA	500.00	14,000		
New HVAC System					1,400,500	
Selective Demolition	1	LS	50,000.00	50,000		
Rooftop AC Units	23,500	SF	38.00	893,000		
Sheet Metal Ductwork	23,500	SF	12.00	282,000		
Exhaust Fans	1	LS	75,000.00	75,000		
Electric Heaters	3	LS	3,500.00	10,500		
Crane	1	LS	90,000.00	90,000		
Plumbing					428,700	
Selective Demolition	23,500	SF	4.00	94,000		
Sprinkler System	23,500	SF	9.00	211,500		
Urinals	14	LS	2,500.00	35,000		
Water Closets	14	LS	3,500.00	49,000		
Lavatories	14	LS	2,800.00	39,200		

Electrical Renovations				1,322,250	
Selective Demolition	23,500	SF	3 00	70,500	
Upgrade of Electrical Service	1	LS	300,000 00	300,000	
New Lighting	23,500	SF	9 00	211,500	
Electrical Distribution / Branch Wiring	23,500	LS	12 00	282,000	
Communications / Data Upgrades	23,500	LS	4 50	105,750	
New Intercom System	23,500	SF	3 00	70,500	
New Security System	23,500	SF	4 00	94,000	
New Fire Alarm System	23,500	SF	4 00	94,000	
New Phone System	23,500	SF	2 00	47,000	
Cable TV Wiring	23,500	LS	2 00	47,000	
Miscellaneous Modification	1	LS	-	-	
Sub-Total					6,467,945
Design Contingency				10%	646,795
Market and Bidding Contingency				5%	323,397
Contingency					388,077
Owner's Contingency				3%	194,038
Architect's Contingency				3%	194,038
Sub-Total					7,826,213
Soft Costs					626,097
A/E Contract				626,097	
A/E Design Fees				626,097	
Basic Services Fee		8.00%	626,097		
Miscellaneous Administrative				500	
Project Cost					8,473,387
Total Funding					8,473,387
Balance (Deficit)					-

Legend of Units

LS	Lump Sum	CY	per Cubic Yard
EA	per Each Item	LF	per Linear Foot
SF	per Square Foot	AC	per Acre
SY	per Square Yard	Mo	per Month
CF	per Cubic Foot		

1459 Willey St.
Morgantown, WV

PH: 304.276.1296

info@arwecg.com

June 16, 2025

Mr. Greg Martin, AIA, NCARB, President
Williamson Shriver Architects, Inc.
717 Bigley Avenue
Charleston, WV 25302

RE: Assessment of Structure of Verdunville Elementary School in Verdunville, WV

At your request, Arrow Structural Engineering was asked to perform an assessment of the Verdunville Elementary School structure. The school is located at 251 Mustang Hill Road in Verdunville, WV and was constructed for the Logan County Board of Education in 1957. There was a landslide behind the school which happened on April 8, 2025. A small amount of material from the slide gathered at the rear of the structure, with some of it piling up against the back wall, to a height just below the window sill of one classroom. The purpose of this assessment was to perform an overall structural review of the building to determine what repairs may be needed in the future. Photos that were taken on June 6, 2025 of the existing conditions are included with this report. Also included is a floor plan with notations for conditions found.

The assessment and opinions presented in this report are based solely on a snapshot, conditional survey of the readily accessible and visually observable areas of the building or structure at this location. This report does not consider the historical progression of any condition, nor does it attempt to predict future developments—both of which may be critical to a comprehensive understanding of the structural issues involved. Our findings are limited to conditions observed at the time of the assessment or as relayed to us through available information. Additional insight may require further evaluation beyond the scope of this report, including—but not limited to—selective demolition, exploratory work, or material testing.

Observations:

The building structure consists of a mostly one-story structure with a partial basement that is used for mechanical space. There is a crawl space below most of the school, below the classrooms and office space. The gym/multipurpose room appears to be on a concrete slab-on-grade. The exterior walls are cinder block with brick veneer. Open web steel joists are used for the floor and roof framing, with concrete slabs for the structural floor system and metal deck at the roof.

Around the exterior of the structure, there are a number of cracks in the brick veneer, mostly at the front of the building. There appears to have been some settlement as there are horizontal gaps between mortar joints. There are also diagonal stair-stepped cracks in a few locations, which are indications of settlement. In most locations, the lintels appear to be in good condition with only a few locations where the mortar joint is deteriorated and/or brick is missing at the lintel bearing condition. Where the slide occurred and soil and rock were up against the building, only a small amount of damage to the grille was evident. No brick cracking was observed on the exterior and no damage on the interior could be seen either.

At the interior of the building, there are only a few locations where cracks were found. These were mostly in the front of the building and at the ceramic floor finishes at the toilet rooms between classrooms. At the gym/multipurpose room, there were cracks at the end walls and a crack in the floor slab. It appears that the

front wall of the gym/multipurpose room has settled. This settlement also appears to continue across the entrance to the office space just beyond.

The most concerning issue, other than the settlement, was the amount of water that was present in the crawl space locations and the basement. There are a few sump pumps but they are sitting in standing water and were not functioning. There was some plastic placed in some locations, but it did not appear that the entire crawl space had plastic covering the ground. Due to the amount of water present, access to the crawl space was very limited and a complete survey of the steel floor framing could not be completed. From what could be seen, the rust did appear to be limited to the surface however. Having this amount of moisture in the crawl space could lead to continuing settlement issues as well as environmental issues within the structure. Every attempt at removing the water should be made immediately.

Conclusion & Recommendations:

It is our opinion that the settlement issues can be addressed with the use of helical piers installed at least across the front of the building and partially down the sides. If additional settlement is seen, they could also be installed around the remainder of the building where there is a crawl space. As mentioned previously, the most important issue at this time is to remedy the water infiltration issue and remove the water from the basement and crawl space. Once deep foundation stabilization repairs are completed, the masonry repairs can be completed. Note that the deep foundations would only be installed at the exterior perimeter of the structure. Continued moisture infiltration into the crawl space could lead to settlement issues at interior bearing wall locations.

We recommend that a geotechnical investigation be completed to determine the conditions of the soil and rock strata below the building around the exterior. This investigation will determine where the rock is located and will help to determine the cost associated with these repairs. As a preliminary estimate, it is anticipated that the helical piers would need to be approximately 15 to 20 feet deep and approximately 8 ft oc. The geotechnical investigation would confirm these assumptions.

Additionally, measures to intercept the flow of water from the hillside behind the school will need to be completed in order to reduce the amount of water that will potentially be able to enter the crawl space. A permanent series of sump pumps that are functioning should also be planned. A vapor barrier system shall also be installed within the crawl space to keep moisture levels to a minimum. It is possible that the exterior of the structure in the vicinity of the crawl space could be excavated and waterproofed to assist in reducing moisture infiltration as an extra measure.

The majority of the structure appeared to be in adequate structural condition and most of the masonry damage was of a level anticipated for the age of the structure. Again, moisture mitigation and foundation stabilization across the front of the school are the main issues to be addressed.

We appreciate the chance to work with you on this project. If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,



Carol A Stevens, PE
Chief Engineer
Arrow Structural Engineering



6/16/25

Selective Photos Taken During Site Visit:

PHOTO 1

Description:

- View of Exterior Corner of School at Stage and Gym



PHOTO 2

Description:

- Exterior of Gym Near Main Entrance





PHOTO 3

Description:

- Main Entrance to School



PHOTO 4

Description:

- Exterior of Classrooms Along Front of School



PHOTO 5

Description:

- Another View of Exterior of Classrooms Along Front of School



PHOTO 6

Description:

- End of Classroom Wing



PHOTO 7

Description:

- Rear of School Showing Slope Behind that Slipped



PHOTO 8

Description:

- Addition to Kitchen for Storage and Walk-in Freezer and Cooler

PHOTO 9

Description:

- Kitchen Entrance



PHOTO 10

Description:

- Mechanical Space in Partial Basement





PHOTO 11

Description:

- Exterior Showing Rear Entrance



PHOTO 12

Description:

- Another View Along the Rear of the School

PHOTO 13

Description:

- Cracks and Separation at Gym/Stage Walls

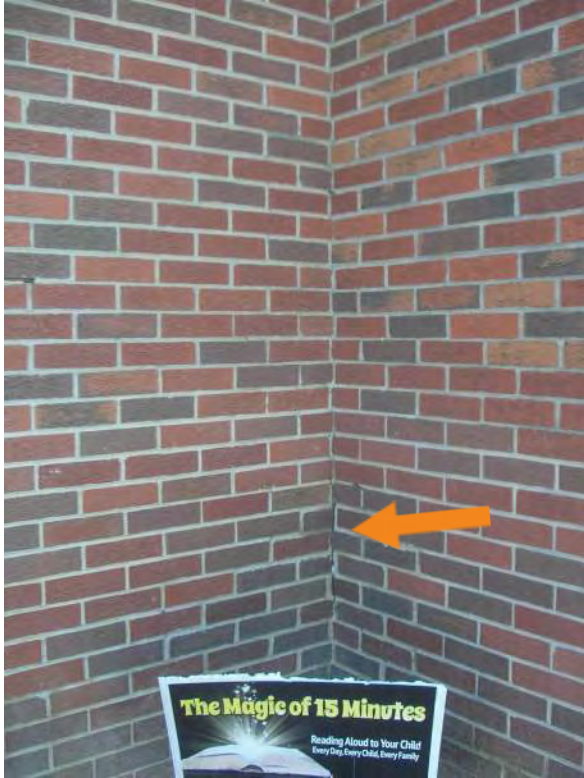


PHOTO 14

Description:

- View Along Front of Gym



PHOTO 15

Description:

- Cracks and Movement at Pilaster at Front of Gym



PHOTO 16

Description:

- Large Brick Overhang at Lintel over Gym Windows





PHOTO 17

Description:

- Cracks and Movement at End of Gym Wall at Entrance to School



PHOTO 18

Description:

- More Evidence of Movement at Gym Wall Near Entrance

PHOTO 19

Description:

- Evidence of Settlement at Pilaster at Gym Near Entrance



PHOTO 20

Description:

- Typical Cracking at End of Lintel at Window



PHOTO 21

Description:

- Cracks in Brick Adjacent to Main Entrance



PHOTO 22

Description:

- Open Mortar Joints Below Window Sill Near Main Entrance





PHOTO 23

Description:

- Hole in Ground Along Front Wall of School



PHOTO 24

Description:

- Possible Brick Mortar Joint Deterioration Along Front Wall of School

PHOTO 25

Description:

- Deteriorated Brick and Mortar Joints, possibly at Floor Level



PHOTO 26

Description:

- Opening into Crawl Space Along Front Wall





PHOTO 27

Description:

- View of Floor Structure and Condition of Crawl Space



PHOTO 28

Description:

- Deteriorated Brick and Mortar Joints at Exterior Stairs to Kitchen



PHOTO 29

Description:

- Another View of Deteriorated Brick and Mortar Joints at Kitchen Entrance



PHOTO 30

Description:

- Wall at Steps to Basement Showing Deterioration from Moisture Infiltration

PHOTO 31

Description:

- Exterior Access to Basement
- Drain Appears to be Blocked or Not Functioning



PHOTO 32

Description:

- Typical Mortar Joint Deterioration at End of Steel Lintel over Window



PHOTO 33

Description:

- Close-up of Mortar Joint and Missing Brick at Bearing



PHOTO 34

Description:

- Another Possible Access to Crawl Space under School



PHOTO 35

Description:

- Standing Water in Basement Area



PHOTO 36

Description:

- Standing Water in Basement Area





PHOTO 37

Description:

- Crawl Space Access from Basement Showing Floor Joists with Surface Rust



PHOTO 38

Description:

- Standing Water in Crawl Space



PHOTO 39

Description:

- Surface Rust on Floor Joists and More Standing Water in Crawl Space
- Moisture Showing on Block Foundation Walls



PHOTO 40

Description:

- Sump Pump Sitting in Water in Crawl Space



PHOTO 41

Description:

- More Standing Water in Crawl Space



PHOTO 42

Description:

- Roof Joists Over Basement with Surface Rust

PHOTO 43

Description:

View of Interior of Gym/Multipurpose Room



PHOTO 44

Description:

- Crack in End Wall
Correlates with Location
of Crack Seen on Exterior



PHOTO 45

Description:

- Prior Repair of Settlement Crack in Wall



PHOTO 46

Description:

- Crack at End of Opening at Gym/Stage Wall





PHOTO 47

Description:

- Close-up of Crack Showing Separation in Corner



PHOTO 48

Description:

- Cracks at Mandoor at Addition at Kitchen

PHOTO 49

Description:

- Separation at Kitchen Addition Wall Butted Against Original Exterior Wall



PHOTO 50

Description:

- Typical Interior Window Condition in each Classroom



PHOTO 51

Description:

- SettlementCracks Repaired Previously in Exterior Bearing Wall



PHOTO 52

Description:

- Cracks in Ceramic Flooring at Classroom Toilet Rooms





PHOTO 53

Description:

- Typical Cracks in Ceramic Flooring at Classroom Toilet Rooms



PHOTO 54

Description:

- Open Joints at Exterior Wall Possibly from Settlement

PHOTO 55

Description:

- Minor Cracking at Partition Wall to Ceiling Interface



PHOTO 56

Description:

- Open Horizontal Mortar Joint at Front Wall at Office Area



Ad Number 360950

Affidavit of Legal Publication and Posting

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

COUNTY OF Logan, TO-WIT

I Elisha Queen Classified Advertising

Representative of The Logan Banner, a newspaper published in the county of Logan, West Virginia, hereby

certify that the annexed publication was inserted in said newspaper _____

The cost of publishing said annexed advertisement

as aforesaid was \$ 178.56

Commencing On: 10/15/2025

Ending On: 10/29/2025

Given under my hand this day 10/29/2025

Sworn to and subscribed before me 10/29/2025
at Logan Logan County, West Virginia

Cheylan Lewis

Notary Public of, in and for Logan County, West Virginia

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 4 8 30

Elisha Queen



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOLS W.Va. Board of Education Policy 6204

DATE: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Sign in between 4:00 and 4:45 PM to speak. The regular Logan County Schools Board Meeting will begin at 5:00 PM, the Omar Elementary meeting will begin at 5:45 PM, and the Verdunville Meeting will begin at 6:30 PM.

ALTERNATIVE DATE AND TIMES: In the event of inclement weather or other factors beyond the control of the board, the hearing cannot take place at the date and time set forth above, the hearings will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 5:00 PM, 5:30 PM, and 6:00 PM.

PLACE: Chief Logan Conference Center, 1000 Conference Center Drive, Logan, WV 25601. The hearing location is subject to change, and at the time the meeting is called to order, it is determined that the meeting location is of insufficient size to accommodate those wishing to attend.

The hearings may not continue beyond 9:00 PM. In the event the hearing is not concluded by 9:00 PM, the hearing may recess, to continue the designated dates designated and announced by the board just prior to the hearing recess, to be continued day to day until concluded.

Proposed Action of the Board of Education of the County of Logan, West Virginia:

Verdunville Elementary: Close and transfer of students to Omar Elementary.

A representative of Logan County Schools will present an oral summary outlining the reasons and supporting data related to the proposed action by the Board.

Beginning 45 minutes prior to the start of the public hearing, individuals may come to register

Acc.Id: 217289
Name: LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOLS
Phone: 304-792-2044
Address: PO BOX 477
City: LOGAN
State: WV
Postcode: 25601
Class: 9010 Legal Notices
Edition: LOG LOG LOG
Start: 10/15/2025
Stop: 10/29/2025
Issues: 3
Units: 145.0
Order ID: HC 360950
TFN: C
TFN cycle:
Rep: EQUEN
Status: CF
Source: EM
Paytype: BI
Rate: LG
Cost EXC: 178.56
GST:
Tax: 0.00
Total Charge: 178.56
Printed on: 10/10/2025 08:36:33
Printed by: EQUEN

and they sign the register to indicate their intent to speak. Those wishing to comment on the proposed closure of Verdunville Elementary and its merger into Omar Elementary, as well as members of the general public, will be recognized in the order in which they signed the register.

Each speaker will be allotted five minutes to present their remarks. If ten or more individuals sign up to speak, the time per speaker will be reduced to three minutes to accommodate all participants.



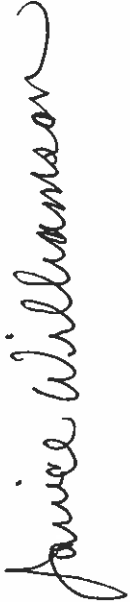

Written statements will be accepted in lieu of oral presentations but will not be accepted after the meeting has ended.

Written documentation outlining the reasons and supporting data related to the proposed action by the Board will be available for public inspection from Friday, October 17, 2025, through Monday, November 17, 2025, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM. These materials can be reviewed in the Office of the Superintendent of Logan County Schools, located in Room 2, 506 Holly Avenue, Logan, WV 25601.

Copies of the same documentation will also be available for inspection at Omar Elementary and Verdunville Elementary (Omar Campus).

**LH-360950
10-15,22,29;2025**

Sign below to acknowledge that you have received a copy of the Impact Statement for the proposed merger of Verdunville Elementary and Omar Elementary from Logan County Schools.

Impact Statement Receipt Log			
Date	Role	Name	Signature
10/17/25	Omar Principal	Hillary Nelson	
10/17/25	Omar LSIC President	Roni Kurnava	
10/17/25	Verdunville Principal	Janice Williamson	
10/17/25	Verdunville LSIC President	Jennifer Gollihue	

PLEASE SIGN TO VIEW

The Merger of Verdunville Elementary into Omar Elementary

NAME

1	<i>Lisa Rectoro</i>
2	<i>Billy</i>
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In the Matter Of:
LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOL CLOSURE

HEARING
November 18, 2025



ESQUIRE
DEPOSITION SOLUTIONS

800.211.DEPO (3376)
EsquireSolutions.com

AGENDA

Special Meeting of the Logan County Board of Education

Tuesday, November 18, 2025, 5:45 p.m.

Chief Logan Convention Center

Logan, West Virginia 25601

Purpose:

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SPECIAL MEETING is to conduct a public hearing for the proposed closure of Verdunville Elementary and the merger with Omar Elementary.

Any citizen desiring to address the Board must register to speak prior to the start of the meeting. Individuals will be allotted five (5) minutes. If ten (10) or more individuals sign up to speak, the time per speaker will be reduced to three (3) minutes to accommodate all participants.

1. Call to Order.
2. Public Participation.

TIME ADJOURNED: 7:15 p.m.

ESQUIRE DEPOSITION SOLUTIONS
ELIZABETH WILEY, Court Reporter
713 Lee Street
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
202-429-0014
www.esquiresolutions.com

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APPEARANCES BOARD

Anthony Dean, President, Logan County Board of Education
Dr. Sonya White, Superintendent
Leslie Tyree, Counsel
Mark Keyser
Pat J. White
Deborah Mendez
Ralph Rodighiero

APPEARANCES WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Michelle Blatt, State Superintendent
Jeffrey Kelley, Assistant Superintendent, Office of
Accountability
Uriah Cummings, School Finance
Micah Whitlow, School Facilities

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, 1st MEETING

Billy Reeves

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, 2nd MEETING

Goldie Belcher
Lesley Cabell
Zachary McConnell
Billy Reeves

1 1ST MEETING

2 PROCEEDINGS

3 (Meeting called to order at 5:45 p.m.)

4 MR. DEAN: This special meeting is
5 hereby called to order. Let me emphasize that this
6 is a public hearing. My name is Tony Dean. I'm the
7 president of the Logan County Board of Education.
8 And as president of the Logan County Board of
9 Education, I have determined that at least a quarter
10 of the board and the superintendent are present.

11 It is currently 5:45 p.m. And
12 registration to address the board at this public hearing
13 has now closed. We're now going to do a roll call by
14 the superintendent to establish the quorum.

15 MR. WHITE: Dr. Pat White.

16 MR. DEAN: My name is Anthony Dean.

17 MS. MENDEZ: Debbie Mendez.

18 MR. RODIGHIERO: Ralph Rodighiero.

19 MS. WHITE: A quorum is present.

20 MR. DEAN: All right. At this time,
21 we would like to ask everyone to please rise again
22 as we say Pledge of Allegiance as this is a new
23 hearing.

24 ALL PRESENT: I pledge allegiance to

1 the flag of the United States of America and to the
2 Republic for which it stands, one nation under God,
3 indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

4 MR. DEAN: You may please be seated.
5 All right. So this hearing was convened in
6 accordance with the terms of West Virginia Code
7 18-5-13a, and State Board of Education Policy 6204,
8 in connection with the proposed closure of
9 Verdunville Elementary School and its consolidation
10 and merger into Omar Elementary School.

11 The statute and State Board policy
12 provide that members of the public, one, have the right
13 to be present, two, have a right to submit statements
14 and testimony, and three, have a right to question
15 school officials.

16 Members of the public, in the order of
17 sign in, will be allowed to make statements, offer
18 testimony, and ask questions of school officials. A
19 total number of one member of the public have indicated
20 their desire to speak statements or testimony or to
21 question school officials.

22 In order to give every speaker a fair
23 opportunity to submit statements and testimony and to
24 question school officials, five minutes have been

1 allotted for each registered speaker. The responses of
2 school officials to questions will occur after all
3 public statements are completed. No member of the
4 public may present more than once. No member of the
5 public may grant time to another presenter.

6 Did we designate a timekeeper? Okay. So
7 we will designate Dr. White here as the official
8 timekeeper for the public comments. And she will advise
9 when one minute is remaining for each presentation, and
10 again when time has expired. It is not necessary to
11 consume the total amount of time allotted.

12 As stated in the public notice of this
13 hearing, written statements and materials will also be
14 given full consideration. Written statements will not
15 be accepted after the meeting is adjourned. At the
16 conclusion of all presentations by members of the
17 public, the superintendent may elect to respond to
18 questions presented or may delegate another school
19 official to respond.

20 There will be no direct debate or
21 dialogue between members of the public and board members
22 or members of the public and school officials. No
23 personal attacks will be tolerated. No decision on the
24 proposed closure will be made tonight.

1 The proposed closure of Verdunville
2 Elementary School and consolidation of its students into
3 the Omar Elementary School will be the subject of a
4 Board of Education meeting scheduled for
5 December 2nd, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

6 To begin, I'll ask Superintendent White
7 to provide a summation of the executive summary and
8 impact statement for the proposed closure and
9 consolidation.

10 Following Superintendent White's
11 statement, Mr. Jeffrey Kelley, assistant superintendent
12 at the West Virginia Department of Education, will
13 provide a timeline of events related to Verdunville
14 Elementary School's current status.

15 And finally, Leslie Tyree, legal counsel,
16 will provide information regarding the content of
17 statements from delegations. And then following that,
18 the delegations will be handled by, from my
19 understanding, Mr. Jeff Kelley. Correct?

20 MR. KELLEY: Yes, sir.

21 MR. DEAN: Okay. So with that, I'll
22 turn the floor over to Superintendent White.

23 MS. WHITE: Thank you. Good evening
24 and thank you all for being here tonight. I want to

1 begin by acknowledging the emotions that many of you
2 are feeling. The possibility of closing a school is
3 never just a logical decision. It touches lives,
4 memories, and futures. For our students, family,
5 staff, and community members, this school is more
6 than a building. It's a component of your community
7 and life.

8 I want you to know that we see and hear
9 you, and we are well aware of the seriousness of this
10 moment in time. As your superintendent, it is my
11 responsibility to ensure every decision that we make is
12 guided by our commitment to providing high quality
13 education and equitable opportunities for all students.
14 Unfortunately, we're facing a number of challenges that
15 require us to have this difficult conversation tonight.

16 Our school system has, over the past
17 several years, seen a steady decline in enrollment.
18 Just a few weeks ago, the WVDE released official
19 enrollment counts for the current school year. Logan
20 County Schools has 318 fewer students than at this time
21 last year.

22 This equates to roughly a \$1.8 million in
23 reduced funding for the county. This impacts our
24 ability to sustain programs and conduct the necessary

1 maintenance to the facilities in our county. Fewer
2 students need fewer resources, and as we move forward,
3 we need to ensure we're spending our resources in a
4 manner that makes sure quality educational experiences
5 are there for our students and that our facilities are
6 safe.

7 Verdunville Elementary currently has an
8 enrollment of 72 students, which is about 40.9 percent
9 capacity for the Verdunville building, while Omar
10 Elementary has an enrollment of 115 students and is at
11 31.1 percent capacity. Both schools have had declining
12 enrollment over the past few years.

13 The cost of Phase 2 of the project at
14 Verdunville is approximately \$580,000, coupled with
15 needed upgrades to the building at an estimate of
16 \$8.4 million. The consolidation of Verdunville and Omar
17 will save the school system approximately \$861,000
18 annually.

19 At the same time, our financial resources
20 have not kept pace with our growing needs of our
21 schools. Rising operational costs coupled with reduced
22 funding and environmental concerns have forced us to
23 make difficult choices. Most importantly, we must
24 consider what it means to our students. Our goal is to

1 ensure that every child has access to a safe,
2 supportive, and enriching educational environment.

3 In some cases, consolidated resources may
4 allow us to strengthen academic offerings, enhance our
5 support services, and invest in the schools that remain.
6 This is not a decision we take lightly. We are here
7 tonight to listen, to answer questions, and to engage in
8 a transparent, respectful dialogue.

9 Your voices matter, and your input will
10 help guide the path forward. Thank you for your
11 continued partnership and your unwavering commitment to
12 our students.

13 MR. KELLEY: Thank you,
14 Superintendent White. My name is Jeff Kelley, the
15 assistant superintendent of the West Virginia
16 Department of Education's Office of Accountability.
17 I am going to provide a brief timeline of the events
18 dating back into April.

19 On April 8, a rock slide was reported at
20 Verdunville Elementary School. This prompted immediate
21 safety measures, which involved the relocation of the
22 students, staff, an early dismissal, and contacting the
23 relevant authorities and experts for evaluation.

24 Contingency plans at that time were

1 studied, site evaluation, and school closure. American
2 Geo Tech conducted site visits on April 10th, leading to
3 a school closure announced on April 11 through the 18th.
4 I believe spring break was the following week. Phase 1
5 bid advertisements were distributed on April 14th, and
6 by April 27th, Phase 1 site work was completed by the
7 low bidder, and students returned on April 29.

8 Further evaluations, a final report from
9 American Geo Tech on May 1, recommended Phase 2 repairs
10 before the '25-'26 school year. And I'll come back to
11 that. That was estimated at \$580,000. Subsequent to
12 the prudent discussions -- subsequent prudent
13 discussions led to a full-facility evaluation due to the
14 building's age and condition, with the resulting report
15 on July 21 estimating 8.4 million needed to bring the
16 school up to standard.

17 This was exclusive of the slip work. And
18 I want to make a point here, in both cases with American
19 Geo Tech, the engineer's professional seal was present.
20 And again, I'll come back to why that's important in a
21 minute. Also, relevant to that timeline, when the
22 July 21 document was provided, or report was provided, I
23 notified Superintendent Blatt of the contents and asked
24 her to make West Virginia Board of Education members

1 aware of the situation.

2 Subsequent to that, on July 30, we had an
3 onsite meeting in Logan, inclusive of Williamson
4 Shriver, Superintendent Blatt, myself, central office
5 staff, and WVDE members. I want to go back to a couple
6 of points here to clarify a couple of things.

7 Regarding the Phase 1 and Phase 2 pieces,
8 one of the most frequent questions that I get is, "Why
9 were the students permitted back in the school after
10 spring break, and then subsequently told we can't put
11 the kids in the school in the fall without Phase 2?"

12 Again, I'll go back to the two reports
13 that were provided by American Geo Tech. The first
14 report, which stated the students could -- the temporary
15 solution implemented allowed the students to remain in
16 the building safely through the end of the school year.
17 It addressed immediate concerns, but was not a permanent
18 fix. It's not unusual for schools to temporarily pivot
19 until long-term plans can be executed.

20 When the Phase 2 piece came in, a more
21 comprehensive project designed to mitigate long-term
22 risks, particularly those related to more severe weather
23 conditions such as rain, snow, and ice, which increase
24 the likelihood of rock slides. These conditions are

1 more prevalent as we get into the fall and, of course,
2 the winter.

3 We followed the lead of American Geo Tech
4 on those two options. I just want to be clear about
5 that. Again, Phase 1 was the short-term solution, but
6 not the long-term cure.

7 Secondly, the timeline of the closure
8 notification. One of the reasons for the delay or the
9 delivery of the evaluation report took longer than
10 anticipated. Additionally, the projected cost of
11 8.4 million was a staggering number that we did not
12 foresee. And looking back, I can tell you all that had
13 we known that that was going to be the time frame and
14 that the number was going to be 8.4, I certainly would
15 have made you all aware of that then. I didn't do that,
16 and that's my fault. Okay? I'll own that. Again, the
17 time frame in which that report came to us was longer
18 than we anticipated, and of course, the cost associated
19 was such as well.

20 Lastly, looking at taxpayers' dollars.
21 The Phase 2 project compounded -- was compounded by the
22 finding of the evaluation, which resulted in the
23 upgrades of 8.4 million. Per fiscal year '25, last
24 school year, Logan County Schools' unrestricted fund

1 balance rested somewhere between 24 and \$25 million.
2 That's the end of fiscal year '24 and '25, so last
3 school year. Correct me if I misstep at any point here.

4 So in essence, we would be spending more
5 than 30 percent of our unrestricted fund balance on a
6 single dilapidated facility that serves just -- or that
7 served just over 100 students during the '24-'25 school
8 year.

9 So the impact and at the end of the line
10 here, an expenditure of that nature, considering our
11 fund balance, would critically hamper the county's
12 ability to address the needs across the district
13 relative to day-to-day operations, staffing, and
14 instructional programs for students.

15 It would also result in significant cuts
16 to other areas of the system and schools to subsidize
17 Verdunville. Of course, our responsibility is to ensure
18 equitable use of taxpayer dollars for the benefit of all
19 students, not just a small subset, especially when there
20 is a viable option available.

21 We collectively weigh every one of these
22 situations and its impact on the system as a whole. And
23 the financial reality makes it difficult to justify a
24 financial investment of that magnitude under these

1 circumstances. That is the reason for this hearing
2 tonight.

3 I'll close with that, and I will read it
4 again for the next meeting should new individuals arrive
5 for the second -- or the third meeting. I'm sorry. So
6 at this time, I'll turn the mic over Ms. Tyree.

7 MS. TYREE: Thank you.

8 MR. KELLEY: Thank you.

9 MS. TYREE: Okay. Well, maybe it
10 won't. I'll just -- I'll just try it this way.
11 Okay. Good evening, everyone. First thing I want
12 to say is that back in the early 2000s, I spent
13 12 years in Logan County working as general counsel
14 for the school district and the personnel director.
15 And Logan County has a very special place in my
16 heart and the people in the community have always
17 and will always.

18 With that said, I want to assure you all
19 that everything that has occurred and will occur will
20 follow West Virginia Code. And importantly, I want to
21 remind everyone that the purpose of this meeting tonight
22 is to discuss the Verdunville closure and the Omar
23 merger.

24 The forum is not appropriate for

1 discussion about individual employees, about Facebook
2 gossip, community news, or anything of that sort. This
3 forum is to discuss the closure of Verdunville
4 Elementary, not individual employees.

5 Now, should anyone choose to disregard my
6 advice, I just want to make sure to advise you that
7 doing so can subject you to legal difficulties for
8 slander, defamation, libel. So please be cautious in
9 your comments tonight. Thank you very much.

10 MR. KELLEY: I believe Mr. Dean
11 indicated that we have one delegation for this
12 portion, and that is Mr. Reeves.

13 The floor is yours.

14 MR. REEVES: First, I want -- first,
15 I want to start off, I find it funny, everything
16 that was just said. Especially the -- the counsel
17 coming up because what I was actually going to
18 address was something that was on Facebook and
19 something that did happen. But let's not talk about
20 that for legal reasons.

21 But I am still going to say my piece
22 because of what happened. I will not send my child
23 there because, personally, I believe that with those
24 things to go on because transparency is not what -- is

1 that not what you guys preached before she stood up to
2 say what she said?

3 So let's talk about that. Let's talk
4 about transparency. And my child will not go to Omar,
5 no matter how much you guys want to fill that school,
6 because it was a junior high school. It is a larger
7 school. And if we talk about Omar, the Charleston
8 Gazette, published November 4, 2003, about the Chauncey
9 cancer case that affected Omar Elementary. That has
10 been going on to this day. It's still not been cleaned
11 up. So when we talk about environmental factors and
12 when we talk about closing the school, why has this
13 never been brought up?

14 But when we talk about Verdunville and
15 the hill slip, it says in the reports from American
16 Geo Tech there was no damage occurred to the school, no
17 structural damage, nothing to prompt the further
18 investigation that them two just clearly stated needed
19 to be done.

20 Another thing that they failed to mention
21 is that the engineers that conducted the reports to over
22 inflate the budget to up to \$8.4 million was Harper
23 Engineering and Arrow Engineering. They never mentioned
24 them. They only mentioned American Geo Tech. American

1 Geo Tech was the ones who initially conducted the
2 hillside slip investigation, and with that
3 investigation, that's what they found.

4 They found in their reports, which
5 anybody can look at, which they presented to us on a
6 July 31st meeting with the information that stated no
7 apparent damage was done to the school. But their
8 agenda, whatever it is, decided to push it further,
9 inflate the budget up to \$8.4 million and consolidate
10 our school.

11 Another thing I want to mention. He
12 mentioned that Verdunville -- when we talk about
13 Verdunville, we talk about enrollment, Verdunville is
14 currently at 72 students. When we talked about at the
15 beginning, before that announcement was made, which you
16 should have if you want to be transparent and you want
17 to be correct, Verdunville had 110 to 120 students
18 currently enrolled. Their announcement dropped the
19 enrollment and caused the enrollment to drop.

20 Omar's enrollment has been declining at a
21 much faster rate and a much faster pace. Even with --
22 it states in their reports -- I don't know if anybody
23 went to Verdunville Elementary, anybody went to Omar
24 Elementary or if anybody took the time to go to the

1 Board of Education and look at the book they prepared.
2 It is a book, this thick, that they prepared for this
3 meeting here today with all the hidden stuff that they
4 never presented to us prior. And in that, it does show
5 the declining enrollment of Omar.

6 So what they were trying to do is they
7 were trying to force parents to go over 50 minutes on a
8 bus ride to a school because it used to be a middle
9 school. And Aulenbacher even stated this at one point
10 in time. And this was at one of the board meetings on
11 the news report, that we have buildings that are being
12 underutilized. Well, just because that building is
13 being underutilized doesn't mean you have to create a
14 whole scheme, you have to create a whole plan to -- to
15 put us through all of this. That is ridiculous.

16 That is not transparent, and that goes
17 against everything that you guys have stated and are
18 stating because that's basically all this is is a rouse.
19 And I'm going to call it how I see it. I don't care
20 what she says. I don't care what you say. As a -- as a
21 veteran, I have my First Amendment right, and I'm going
22 to speak to it.

23 MR. DEAN: With no other public
24 speakers, that concludes this hearing. Do I have a

1 motion to adjourn? Mr. Keyser?

2 MR. KEYSER: I'll second that.

3 MR. DEAN: Dr. White, second? All
4 those in favor of adjournment, please indicate by
5 saying, aye.

6 BOARD AND OFFICIALS: Aye.

7 MR. DEAN: All those opposed indicate
8 by saying no.

9 (No responses.)

10 MR. DEAN: The ayes have it 5-0. We
11 are adjourned with this meeting at 6:07 p.m. The
12 next meeting will take place promptly at 6:30 p.m.

13 (Meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.)

14 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

15 2ND MEETING

16 PROCEEDINGS

17 (Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.)

18 MR. DEAN: This special meeting is
19 called to order. This will follow the same format
20 as the previous meeting. Let me emphasize that this
21 is a public hearing. My name is Tony Dean, and I am
22 the president of the Logan County Board of
23 Education. As president of the Logan County Board
24 of Education, I determined that at least a quorum of

1 the board and the superintendent are present.

2 It is now 6:30 p.m. Registration to
3 address the board at this public hearing has now closed.
4 We will now do a roll call by Superintendent White to
5 establish the order.

6 MR. KEYSER: Mark Keyser.

7 MR. WHITE: Dr. Pat Joe White.

8 MR. DEAN: Anthony Dean.

9 MS. MENDEZ: Deborah Mendez.

10 MR. RODIGHIERO: Ralph Rodighiero.

11 MR. DEAN: The quorum has been
12 declared present, and we will now ask everyone to
13 please stand as we recite the Pledge.

14 ALL PRESENT: I pledge allegiance to
15 the flag of the United States of America and to the
16 Republic for which it stands, one nation under God,
17 indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

18 MR. DEAN: You may all be seated.
19 This hearing is convened in accordance with the
20 terms of West Virginia Code 18-5-13a, and State
21 Board of Education Policy 6204, in connection with
22 the proposed closure of Verdunville Elementary
23 School and its consolidation and merger into Omar
24 Elementary School.

1 The statute and State Board policy
2 provide that members of the public, one, have a right to
3 be present, two, have a right to submit statements and
4 testimony, and three, have a right to question school
5 officials.

6 Members of the public, in the order of
7 sign-in will be allowed to make statements. They will
8 be allowed to offer testimony, and they will be allowed
9 to ask questions of school officials. A total of four
10 members of the public have indicated their desire to
11 submit statements or testimony or to question school
12 officials.

13 In order to give every speaker a fair
14 opportunity to submit statements and testimony and to
15 question school officials, five minutes have been
16 allotted for each registered speaker. The responses of
17 school officials to questions will occur after all
18 public statements are completed. No member of the
19 public may present more than once. No member of the
20 public may grant time to another presenter.

21 Dr. White has been designated as the
22 timekeeper and will advise you one minute of your time
23 is remaining for each presentation and when time has
24 expired. It is not necessary to consume the total

1 amount of time allotted.

2 As stated in the public notice of this
3 hearing, written statements and materials will be given
4 full consideration. Written statements will not be
5 accepted after the meeting is adjourned. At the
6 conclusion of all presentations by members of the
7 public, the superintendent may elect to respond to
8 questions presented or may delegate another school
9 official to respond.

10 There will be no direct debate or
11 dialogue between members of the public and board members
12 or members of the public and school officials. No
13 personal attacks will be tolerated. No decision on the
14 proposed closure will be made tonight.

15 The proposed closure of Verdunville
16 Elementary School and consolidation of its students into
17 Omar Elementary School will be the subject of a board of
18 education meeting scheduled for December 2nd, 2025, at
19 5:30 p.m. To begin, I will ask Superintendent White to
20 provide a summation of the executive summary and impact
21 statement for the proposed closure and consolidation.

22 Following Superintendent White's
23 statement, Mr. Jeffrey Kelley, assistant superintendent
24 at the West Virginia Department of Education, will

1 provide a timeline of events related to Verdunville
2 Elementary School's current status.

3 And finally, Leslie Tyree, legal counsel,
4 will provide information regarding the content of
5 statements from delegations. I now yield the floor to
6 Superintendent White.

7 MS. WHITE: Thank you, President
8 Dean. Good evening again, and thank you for being
9 here tonight. And again, I want to begin by
10 acknowledging the emotions that many of you are
11 feeling. The possibility of closing the school is
12 never just a logistical decision. It touches lives,
13 memories, and futures. For our students, family,
14 staff, and community members, this school is more
15 than a building. It's a component of our community
16 and life.

17 I want you to know that we see and hear
18 you and are aware of the seriousness of this moment in
19 time. As your superintendent, it's my responsibility to
20 ensure that every decision we make is guided by our
21 commitment to providing high quality education and
22 equitable opportunities to our students. Unfortunately,
23 we are facing a number of challenges that require us to
24 have this difficult conversation tonight.

1 Our school system has, over the past
2 several years, seen a steady decline in enrollment.
3 Just a few weeks ago, the West Virginia Department of
4 Education released official enrollment counts for the
5 current school year. Logan County Schools has 318 fewer
6 students than this time last year.

7 This equates to roughly a \$1.8 million
8 dollars in reduced funding for the county. This impacts
9 our ability to sustain programs and conduct necessary
10 maintenance to many of our facilities in the county.
11 Fewer students mean fewer resources, and as we move
12 forward, we need to ensure we are spending our resources
13 in a manner that makes sure we have quality educational
14 experience for our students and facilities that are safe
15 to use.

16 Verdunville Elementary currently has an
17 enrollment of 72 students, which is about 40.9 percent
18 capacity for the Verdunville building. While Omar
19 Elementary has an enrollment of 115 students and
20 31.1 percent capacity. Both schools have had declining
21 enrollment over the past few years.

22 The cost of Phase 2 of the project at
23 Verdunville is approximately \$580,000, and this coupled
24 with needed upgrades to the building at an estimated

1 \$8.4 million. The consolidation of Verdunville and Omar
2 will save the school system approximately \$861,000
3 annually.

4 While these financial resources have not
5 kept pace with the growing needs of our schools, rising
6 operational costs and reduced funding and environmental
7 concerns have forced us to make difficult choices. Most
8 importantly, we must consider what it means to our
9 students. Our goal is to ensure that every child has
10 access to a safe, supportive, and enriching educational
11 environment.

12 In some cases, consolidating resources
13 may allow us to strengthen academic offerings, enhance
14 our support services, and invest more deeply in the
15 schools that remain. This is not a decision we take
16 lightly. We are here tonight to listen, to answer
17 questions, and to engage in a transparent and respectful
18 dialogue.

19 Your voices matter, and your input will
20 help guide the path forward. And again, thank you for
21 your continued partnership and your unwavering
22 commitment to our students.

23 MR. KELLEY: Again, my name is Jeff
24 Kelley, assistant superintendent of the

1 West Virginia Department of Education, Office of
2 Accountability. The timeline on April 8, 2025, a
3 rock slide was reported at Verdunville Elementary
4 School. Again, this prompted immediate safety
5 measures and contingency plans for student
6 transportation, special education impacts, so on and
7 so forth. By April 10, American Geo Tech conducted
8 site visits leading to a school closure on
9 April 11th through the 18th. The following week was
10 spring break.

11 Repair and completion of Phase 1, bid
12 advertisements were distributed on April 14th, and by
13 April 27th, Phase 1 site work was completed by the
14 bidder. Clearance for student return was received by
15 the county on April 28th, with students returning on
16 April 29. American Geo Tech then, on May 1, completed
17 Phase 2 and recommended repairs before the '25-'26
18 school year, estimated at \$580,000.

19 Subsequent and prudent discussion led to
20 a full-facility evaluation due to the building's age and
21 condition, with a resulting report on July 21 estimating
22 \$8.4 million needed to bring the school up to standard.
23 That was exclusive of the slip. Again, the engineer's
24 professional seal was on both the Phase 1 and the

1 Phase 2 documents.

2 Subsequent to the July 21 report arriving
3 to our office, I informed Superintendent Blatt and asked
4 her to make West Virginia Board of Education members
5 aware.

6 Subsequent to that, on July 30, there was
7 a meeting conducted on site in Logan County, inclusive
8 of representatives from Williamson Shriver,
9 Superintendent Blatt was present, myself, of course,
10 Logan County Central Office staff, and members of the
11 WVDE.

12 Revisiting the Phase 1 and Phase 2,
13 again, we followed the recommendations of American
14 Geo Tech in both instances. Phase 1 was a temporary
15 solution implemented to allow students to remain in the
16 building safely through the end of the school year. It
17 addressed immediate concerns but was not a permanent
18 fix.

19 Phase 2 was a more comprehensive project
20 designed to mitigate long-term risks, particularly those
21 related to more severe weather conditions such as rain,
22 snow, and ice, which increased the likelihood of rock
23 slides. These conditions are more prevalent, of course,
24 as we get into the fall and, of course, the winter. So

1 again, it was a short -- Phase 1 was the short-term
2 solution, but not the long-term cure, which was set
3 forth in Phase 2.

4 Also, relative to the timeline of the
5 closure notification and the reason for the delay, the
6 delivery of the evaluation report took longer than
7 anticipated. And, of course, the projected cost of the
8 8.4 million was a number much larger than was
9 anticipated. This spurred additional consideration. As
10 I said earlier, I acknowledge and own that communication
11 could have been clearer and timelier on that front. Had
12 I known at the time that the report was going to take
13 that long and be that costly, I certainly would have
14 made you all aware of it sooner. And again, that's mine
15 to own, so I apologize to the public for that.

16 From a taxpayer perspective, the Phase 2
17 project was compounded by findings from the facility
18 evaluation, which projected costs of approximately
19 8.4 million. The fiscal year '25 unrestricted fund
20 balance for Logan County Schools situated somewhere
21 between 24 and \$25 million at the end of last school
22 year.

23 So, in essence, this would require
24 spending of more than 30 percent of the district's

1 unrestricted fund balance at the end of the school year
2 of '25 on a single dilapidated facility that served just
3 over 100 students during the '24-'25 school year. Any
4 impact, such as expenditure, would critically hamper the
5 county's ability to address the needs across the
6 district, including day-to-day operations, staffing, and
7 instructional programs for students. It would also
8 result in significant cuts to other areas of the system
9 and schools to subsidize Verdunville.

10 Our responsibility is to ensure equitable
11 use of taxpayer dollars for the benefit of all students,
12 not just a small subset, especially when there's a
13 viable option available. We collectively weigh every
14 situation and its impact on the system, and the
15 financial reality makes it difficult to justify this
16 level of financial investment considering the
17 circumstances. Thank you.

18 Ms. Tyree.

19 MS. TYREE: Good evening, everyone.
20 And for those of you all who were here at the
21 earlier meeting, I apologize that you're going to
22 have to listen to my little talk again.

23 However, I just want to say, as I said
24 before, I spent many years working for the Logan County

1 Board of Education as their chief counsel and their
2 personnel director. And I've spent many years getting
3 to know people in this community, and I love them, and I
4 still do. And I have a very soft place in my heart for
5 Logan County, and I know this isn't easy for anybody.

6 However, I want to assure everyone that
7 this process has and will continue to follow
8 West Virginia Code. The purpose of this meeting tonight
9 is for discussion regarding the Verdunville closure and
10 the Omar merger.

11 And this is not an appropriate forum for
12 discussions regarding individual employees. It is not
13 an appropriate forum for discussion about Facebook
14 gossip or anything of that nature. People have privacy
15 rights, so we won't really be wanting anyone to discuss
16 individual employees tonight.

17 Should you choose not to follow my advice
18 on that matter, I just want to advise you, you can be
19 subjected to legal ramifications such as slander, libel,
20 defamation, by those individuals, so please be cautious
21 in your comments. And finally, let me say that should
22 there be any disruption, then we will close the meeting.
23 Thank you.

24 MR. KELLEY: Our first delegation is

1 Goldie Belcher.

2 MS. BELCHER: Good evening, board
3 members, superintendents, and everyone actually here
4 in our community that cares about our children.
5 Community members, it is my opinion and the opinion
6 of very many others, that they want our school to be
7 closed for attendance situations, but it's more
8 about fiscal -- fiscal responsibility.

9 I'm here to tell every camera that's in
10 this room that it's about local organized corruption.
11 I'm here also to tell you that the corruption that has
12 been going on in Logan County, that's choking our
13 district for years, it's got to stop because now it's
14 been -- that corruption's been brought -- bought --
15 brought before us bold enough to try to even kill our
16 school districts. We, the people, have had enough.

17 I watched a lady -- I watch her all the
18 time. Her name is Tori Morazzi (phonetic), and she laid
19 out the other night, and some of the things that she
20 said to me felt like she would have had written this,
21 and it was speaking straight to our community. She
22 said, her words, "They don't consolidate schools because
23 the numbers don't work. They consolidate those
24 schools" -- hang on, I lost my place here -- "they

1 consolidate those schools, not because the numbers don't
2 work. They consolidate them because the money flows
3 better when there's only one faucet to close and to
4 control." That hit me in the ribs because that's
5 exactly what myself and many, many others have -- are
6 seeing. Your jobs are to protect and serve on a local,
7 state, and even further up. You took a vow to our
8 children, and it is your duty to protect them.

9 Even today, we receive created chaos and
10 deterrences. I won't go into that because I only have
11 five minutes. People going into public buildings asking
12 for public records and considered -- they were
13 considered trespassing. That's not law. That's panic,
14 and that's -- that's protection of corruption.

15 Tori also said something that keeps
16 ringing into my head, "When they can't win with facts,
17 they're going to manufacture chaos." Okay? Until
18 you're too tired to fight for what the right is, they're
19 going to cause chaos until you're too tired, and then
20 they want you to hand over the keys.

21 Look around at all of these people here
22 that's took off work. They've had to take off, they've
23 had to come in here, childcare, all of the things.
24 Okay? They're trying to wear you down just so you'll

1 hand over the keys. But that's not what -- what they
2 don't count on is we're not done being tired. We're not
3 done watching our kids pay the price to the backroom
4 deals that have been cooked up between different
5 entities of this county, which we feel involve the
6 board, the County Commission, and the City of Logan.

7 Whosoever is getting rich off these
8 babies that have to go on a bus 45 minutes away, Pre-K
9 babies. How can you lay your heads down at night? How
10 can you do it? Where are your morals? Where are your
11 ethics? It's not about declining enrollment. It's
12 about corruption.

13 The professional and personal
14 relationships between the BOE, County Commission and
15 Logan in -- in Logan, they've been bleeding our school
16 dry for years. Contracts that go on by the same three,
17 four different companies. Emergency repairs that cost
18 triple what a normal person would cost. But you have
19 buses that are idle by, but you pay a private company
20 overtime, owned by a buddy from the County Commission.
21 You've looted the system until the only thing left is to
22 steal from your children. Shame on you.

23 You choose theft over transparency. You
24 choose friends' pockets over the children's future. I

1 have a question for every single board member. What are
2 you going to tell your own grandkids when this goes
3 down? How -- did you stand up, or did you roll over and
4 take the orders from the higher up? What's going to be
5 your choice? What chains are you going to wear? Are
6 you going to wear the chains that you've inherited, or
7 are you going to wear the chains that you've chosen? So
8 many others are whispering because of intimidation.
9 We're done whispering. Our give-a-dangs are busted and
10 disgusted.

11 MS. WHITE: Time is up.

12 MR. KELLEY: Thank you, Ms. Belcher.
13 Our next delegation is Lesley Cabell.

14 MS. CABELL: Thank you. You can
15 target and silence these people all you want. You
16 can intimidate me. You can intimidate the people of
17 Logan County all you want because you're hiding the
18 corruption, and I have all of the evidence to show
19 it.

20 In 2022, West Virginia Department of
21 Education report lists 46 separate crimes and violations
22 used to steal our schools, West Virginia Constitution,
23 and the oath of every one of you swore, elected or
24 unelected. These oaths are going to be judged this

1 evening.

2 By closing Verdunville, you do not just
3 take a school from a community and taxpayers. You are
4 actually opening up that land for an abandoned mine land
5 grant for federal dollars that house \$481 million. That
6 is going to be seized by the City of Logan and the Logan
7 Commission for a land grant, just like what built this
8 facility here.

9 You can get those grants, and you've been
10 in this county since 2022. You could apply for that
11 grant because the SBA actually houses 1,000 -- or
12 \$111 million currently. So you can sit there and say
13 your report said this when they don't even have the
14 correct PSD and the deed that is on file for this
15 school. You have to be in power and over this county
16 because that deed is owned by the county, the original
17 deed. That's why you want this because guess what's
18 going on 22 Mine Road? A data center that requires that
19 land for the watershed underneath it to run AI systems.

20 Are you not on public -- public forums
21 everywhere calling out for your Strive (phonetic) and
22 yourself, State Board of Education. Ms. Superintendent,
23 you're all over the world talking about it. It's
24 public, and I have my First Amendment right to call it

1 out.

2 This Constitution that you have this oath
3 for, every single one of you, if you allow this closure
4 and allow more harm to this community and this county,
5 you are liable under federal jurisdiction of the
6 West Virginia Constitution and the United States
7 Constitution.

8 They just dissolved your U.S. Federal
9 Education Department. Did they not? Executive orders
10 from Donald Trump. Now, your only grab is to get land
11 and water. Water will be sold like gold because you
12 want it for technology.

13 So right now, local Board of Education,
14 just because they tell you that you are under
15 stronghold, you did not have an oath to the State Board
16 of Education. You gave an oath to the U.S. Constitution
17 of the United States of America.

18 And you, if you do not stand up against
19 them, and if you do not fight for the people that
20 elected you in there, then you can be going to jail,
21 too. Because, guess what, even the West Virginia
22 Constitution gives every one of these people the right
23 to dissolve you as of right now.

24 You have caused harm. You are doing bad

1 deals, and you're putting nonprofits, NGOs, and
2 technology before these people. This community deserves
3 water, not to serve you, sir, or ma'am, for that matter.
4 We are the people, and we stand right now. You are
5 dissolved. You continue this, you will be served in the
6 morning. Just telling you.

7 MR. KELLEY: Thank you, Ms. Cabell.
8 Next delegation, Zachary McConnell.

9 MR. McCONNELL: So I have a few
10 concerns here that have been brought to me by some
11 community members that I want to address first. A
12 lady who's present here today, who doesn't want to
13 be publicly acknowledged, let me know that her
14 prescription costs for her grandchild, who she's
15 raising, has tripled this month because of the
16 longer bus rides to Omar. He suffers from asthma,
17 and that's a long bus ride for a kid anyway,
18 especially our special needs kids.

19 And when we planned this out, a side note
20 to this, why didn't we, instead of sending them to Omar,
21 which is actually 20 to 30 -- 55 minutes down the road,
22 why didn't we send them to Holden? That would make a
23 lot more sense. It's 10 minutes.

24 Another thing, a question I have for

1 Mr. Jeff Kelley, you -- I've heard you twice now call
2 the building dilapidated. I've been there. It's not
3 dilapidated. It needs work.

4 And then we -- we've got this big spiel
5 probably four times now about how much it would cost to
6 fix Verdunville and how we need to appropriately
7 distribute the funds. So it's not okay to spend
8 30 percent to open up a school, but we're going to vote
9 yes to pay a teacher \$575 a day when our hard working
10 teachers don't make that. I mean, make that make sense.
11 It don't. The math don't match there.

12 Also, touching on his point, Omar was
13 deemed unsafe, what, 5, 10 years ago? Ain't never been
14 fixed. Then, in the light of transparency -- Ralph,
15 could you read this for me? Are you cool with that or
16 not? No? Okay. I'll read it then.

17 Straight from WCHS, and I'm going to pass
18 it around to you guys, Dr. Sonya White was appointed the
19 superintendent of Logan County. I don't have any issues
20 with her. I don't know her. I've heard really good
21 things about her. But when you read this, at the
22 bottom, "White will step into the position on
23 November 1st following Dr. George Aulenbacher. He is
24 currently being held in Central Regional Jail." Black

1 and white. It's not talking about him. It's news.
2 Where was the transparency with that? If you want to
3 look at that.

4 And I have a question for Dr. Sonya
5 White. Like I said, I don't know you. I've heard
6 really good things about you, and hopefully you do great
7 things for this county. How will you personally help
8 the citizens of Verdunville get just a straightforward
9 answer? That's all they want, is transparency. They
10 want what's best for their kids. That's really the main
11 thing they're looking for. They don't want the school
12 to close.

13 And I have a side idea that I want to
14 bring before all of you. At one of the meetings that
15 was held in the community at a church, a guy came in, a
16 local guy, and he said, "If you give me four good
17 crewmen and \$500,000, and I can fix everything that's
18 wrong with that school." So why are we going to pay
19 8.4 million from the getgo? Let's hire some good old
20 boys and get it done and take care of ourselves. Okay.
21 That's fine. And I also would like to ask that the
22 state relinquish the county and let our voted citizens
23 take care of us. That's all I've got.

24 MR. KELLEY: Thank you,

1 Mr. McConnell. By the way, Ms. Belcher, Ms. Cabell,
2 and Mr. McConnell, if you wanted to have any of that
3 documentation entered into the record up here,
4 you're welcome to do so, but you need to do so
5 before the end of the meeting.

6 MS. BELCHER: What do you need from
7 me?

8 MR. KELLEY: If you have anything
9 that you want to offer documentation-wise --

10 MS. BELCHER: As far as policies
11 or...

12 MR. KELLEY: Ma'am, that's up to you.

13 MS. BELCHER: Okay. Okay.

14 MR. KELLEY: I'm just -- I'm just
15 letting everyone know that before the meeting has
16 been submitted.

17 MS. BELCHER: Okay. Thank you.

18 MR. KELLEY: Yes, ma'am.

19 Mr. Reeves, last but not least. This is
20 our final delegation.

21 MR. REEVES: I've stood in front of
22 you since the very beginning, and I've done nothing
23 but told the truth on the -- the lies that -- well,
24 on the things that I believe were lies. Just

1 because it wasn't said, doesn't make it no more or
2 no less than a lie.

3 But the West Virginia Constitution
4 promises a thorough and efficient system of free
5 schools. But consolidation and closure has been on the
6 rise in the past 5 years with the consolidation in
7 West Virginia of over 70 schools in the past 5 years and
8 more. I mean, you can ask these guys behind the cameras
9 there. I'm sure they're all over West Virginia running
10 around like chickens with their heads cut off trying to
11 keep up with you guys and the schools you're closing.

12 But also, so glad that Mr. Whitlow is
13 here, because I know that in the past meeting at the
14 Board of Education, there was a waiver on Policy 6204
15 for closings and consolidation, Section 3.4, that
16 states -- usually it would state that a closure would
17 have to be completed prior to the December 31st, but
18 that waiver policy brings it up to February 27.

19 Will it be considered to postpone the
20 closure consolidation until a later date for
21 Verdunville, or is that not within your agenda?

22 As well, was Aulenbacher's resignation
23 voluntary or involuntary? Is there anything you can
24 tell us about it? Something?

1 Why is the information regarding the
2 resignation not transparent and available for public
3 viewing record?

4 And then if we talk about the top safety
5 concern about Verdunville, you talked about your
6 timeline. I have a timeline as well. Well, Verdunville
7 was open to staff April 28, to students, April 29. The
8 final inspection from Williamson Shriver, Incorporated,
9 or -- no. It was American Geo Tech. Sorry about that.
10 But the final inspection report wasn't completed until
11 midday, April 30th, and e-mailed May the 1st. Well, the
12 company that completed Phase 1 was Superior Pocahontas,
13 and I know they are not an engineering company, so I
14 don't know if you just took their word that the school
15 was safe, because the final report clearly states that
16 it wasn't. It wasn't completed until April the 30th,
17 midday after a light rainstorm.

18 So they're the geological experts,
19 so -- but why was Policy 4366, West Virginia Code
20 18-2e-5d bus route waiver not proposed or approved prior
21 to enacting the bus route? Why are our children having
22 to switch buses two times a day? We're talking about
23 age 4 through 10.

24 Why was phone communication not

1 established until after August 26, ensuring a direct
2 connection to the school in the event of an emergency?
3 What if something happened to my child? What if
4 something happened to me, and my child needed to be
5 notified?

6 Well, why were suggested repairs, as
7 stated in reports from Harper and Arrow Engineering,
8 added into the repair costs, over-inflating the budget
9 in public perception of true cost to the safety
10 pertaining to the rock hill slide occurrence?

11 With no new slip or activity, as well as
12 no initial damage occurring to the school, why was
13 Phase 2 last-minute scrapped? As anyone would assume
14 prior to the last-minute decisions, repairs were
15 previously calculated into a budget. A lot of smart
16 people out there. I'm sure you probably already had
17 money set aside because I know you have a lot more
18 education than me.

19 Well, we talk about more of this and --
20 let's see, where else am I? Oh, yeah. It was also
21 stated to me that under the West Virginia Constitution,
22 and the State superintendent has no authority to appoint
23 a superintendent.

24 In the news report from the Logan Banner

1 and news reports from some of these other guys at the
2 initial one, it all states that the school was closed
3 due to structural concerns. Your story has been back
4 and forth multiple times. That's why I'm still up here.
5 That's why I'm still talking.

6 Because, well, I'm glad he used that
7 line, the math ain't matching because, you know, two
8 plus two don't equal fish, or is that what you're
9 teaching our children? Because what you're presenting
10 to me, what you're putting out to me, you're an
11 educator, educate. Make it make sense. It don't make
12 sense to me. If it made sense, I wouldn't be standing
13 here today because I don't want my child in a school
14 that's unsafe. Make it clear. Make it transparent.
15 The reports state otherwise.

16 There are deficiencies. There's things
17 that it doesn't make no sense. There's things that
18 don't add up. Well, I'm going to teach my child math,
19 and I send them to school. And like I said, two plus
20 two equals fish. I'm sure you're probably going to give
21 them an F, but that's what you're sitting here telling
22 me.

23 MS. WHITE: Your time is up.

24 MR. KELLEY: Thank you, Mr. Reeves.

1 So regarding the questions that have been presented
2 over the span, again, the question regarding
3 personnel, those are personnel matters, and as
4 Ms. Tyree indicated, it is not the purpose of this
5 meeting. It's not an agenda item, nor do county
6 boards, state boards, or school personnel discuss
7 matters relative to the personnel, so there'll be no
8 comments on that.

9 There was a question about the Strive
10 initiative through the West Virginia Department of
11 Education and what that was. It's an initiative that
12 promotes attendance, improves academic achievement.
13 That was started in the '24-'25 school year, I believe.
14 One of the main initiatives out of the gate was
15 childhood behaviors or misbehaviors. That's been a very
16 front-and-center topic, especially with our teachers,
17 especially in our lower grade levels. And per the
18 request of our counties and our teacher associations, we
19 attempted to use the Strive network to address and
20 support schools and counties in handling misconduct
21 among our youngest students.

22 The Strive initiative has expanded.
23 We've recently done work in special ed and are about to
24 launch a number of initiatives relative to middle

1 school. Again, I'll go back per the request of our
2 counties. Those are areas where they want support. So
3 we have used the Strive program to help support counties
4 with practices and support to help them with our special
5 ed population, as well as working with our middle
6 schools. One initiative there is we're doing
7 alternative learning or alternative learning centers
8 with our -- our younger schools, our elementary middle
9 schools. So those are a couple of things that are
10 addressed through the Strive initiative, which was
11 started by Superintendent Blatt.

12 There was a question about FOIA requests.
13 FOIA requests that are delivered to the Department of
14 Education are sent to our legal department. If you have
15 concerns about a FOIA request, call our legal
16 department. They'll help you answer any questions you
17 might have there.

18 SAIL. You asked, what was SAIL? SAIL
19 was a return-to-school conference which was held not
20 last -- the last two? Last summer. Thank you. It was
21 a two-day conference. It was open to all educators,
22 leaders. We had board members from across the state
23 present. We had community members present. We
24 showcased best practices and new ideas to spark

1 engagement in the classroom among our students. Day 2
2 featured sessions that energized educators and empowered
3 leaders to do student engagement. That was all about
4 teaching and learning.

5 The question came why kids were not sent
6 to Holden. We didn't send kids anywhere. What we did
7 is when the move was made, they were provided options to
8 go to schools. As you all well know, I think we had 29
9 students that decided to go to Logan. If there are any
10 concerns lingering about attendance at Holden or any
11 other school, you can address those through the central
12 office here in Logan, and they will help you go through
13 the process of looking at other schools.

14 For the next question, "Why are costs
15 associated with the 8.4 million not put out" -- I'm
16 using your terminology here, Mr. McConnell. I think you
17 said "to the good old boys?" There's a bid process for
18 those things, and I'm going to let Mr. Cummings speak to
19 that.

20 MR. CUMMINGS: Yes. So in accordance
21 with State Board policy 8200, Section 7 of that
22 policy goes into details as to how bidding
23 procedures should take place. Anything over \$50,000
24 requires there to be some sort of sealed bid process

1 for those procurement of goods or services.

2 In the event of an emergency or anything
3 of that nature, if declared an emergency by a county
4 superintendent, there could be some foregoing of the
5 sealed bid process. But there is still a bid process
6 that should have -- or take place, at least verbally, in
7 order to garner as a best price and protect the public
8 funds as best as possible.

9 MR. REEVES: So can I get somebody to
10 bid on that right now?

11 MR. KELLEY: Well, we're not going to
12 take any questions from the audience at this
13 juncture, but I will pass the mic back to
14 Mr. Cummings.

15 MR. CUMMINGS: In accordance with
16 state law, County Boards of Education may only be
17 able to do business with those who are licensed and
18 able to conduct business in the State of
19 West Virginia.

20 MR. KELLEY: Next question. Closures
21 will be due to the waiver that was mentioned by
22 Mr. Reeves. I'm going to turn the mic over to
23 Mr. Whitlow to discuss the waiver and what that
24 could mean for the closure process.

1 MR. WHITLOW: So that waiver request
2 was put in to extend the closure process for a
3 county, I guess, broad, statewide counties, and that
4 was to February 27th. So it would extend it, I
5 guess, another month or two, but I know, in this
6 situation, it would be helpful to the process
7 necessarily. But I don't know if that answered the
8 question, or...

9 MR. KELLEY: So I think, Mr. Reeves,
10 it could be -- it could be extended, but there's no
11 guarantee of that. And we'll go through the process
12 and see where that takes us.

13 The next question, I believe, was about
14 the bus route waiver. I will check with our
15 transportation office on that and get back to you.

16 And then I believe the question was --
17 the final question was about Phase 2 being scrapped. I
18 walked us through that timeline and explained the impact
19 of the report at the end.

20 With that, I have no other questions. I
21 do want to say this one last time, if any of you have
22 anything that you need to get in the folder before we
23 get out of this meeting, now is the time to do it.

24 With that, that concludes the delegations

1 unless -- I'll turn it back over to you, President Dean.

2 MR. DEAN: Before we close the
3 meeting, I want to give everybody one last
4 opportunity. If you have any written statements,
5 any supporting documentation. Once I adjourn the
6 meeting, they won't accept any more documentation,
7 so I'm going to give you one more -- one more chance
8 to bring it up. Going once. Going twice.

9 All right. With that, that concludes our
10 meeting. And this public hearing is concluded. All I
11 need now is a motion to adjourn. Mr. Keyser with a
12 motion.

13 I need a second. Ms. Mendez is with the
14 second. All those in favor of concluding this meeting
15 and adjourning, I need an indication by voting aye.

16 BOARD AND OFFICIALS: Aye.

17 MR. DEAN: Aye. All those opposed to
18 adjournment, vote no.

19 (No responses.)

20 MR. DEAN: The ayes have it 5-0. We
21 are adjourning this meeting at 7:15 p.m.

22 (Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.)

23 -- oOo --

24

1 STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,
2 COUNTY OF LOGAN, to-wit:

3 I, Elizabeth Wiley, Court Reporter and Notary
4 Public within and for the County and State aforesaid,
5 duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that
6 the foregoing hearing duly taken by me and before me at
7 the time and place and for the purpose specified in the
8 caption hereof.

9 I do further certify that the said proceedings
10 were correctly taken by me in verbatim, and that the
11 same were accurately written in full and reduced to
12 typewriting by means of computer-aided transcription.

13 I further certify that I am neither attorney
14 or counsel for, nor related to or employed by any of the
15 parties to the action in which these proceedings were
16 taken, and further that I am not a relative or employee
17 of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties or
18 financially interested in the action, and the foregoing
19 transcript meet all West Virginia Code requirements.

20 My commission expires August 11, 2030.

21 Given under my hand this 24th day of November
22 2025.

23 _____ Elizabeth Wiley, Court Reporter 
24

HEARING
LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOL CLOSURE

November 18, 2025
Index: \$1.8..6:07

	1,000	8:13 10:9	26	
\$	35:11	11:7,11,	43:1	4
	10	20 12:21	27	
\$1.8	26:7	24:22	41:18	4
7:22 24:7	37:23	26:17	27th	16:8
\$111	38:13	27:1,12,	10:6	42:23
35:12	42:23	19 28:3,	26:13	40.9
\$25	100	16 43:13	49:4	8:8 24:17
13:1	13:7 29:3	47:1	28	4366
28:21	10th	49:17	42:7	42:19
\$481	10:2	20	28th	45
35:5	11	37:21	26:15	33:8
\$50,000	10:3	2000s	29	46
47:23	110	14:12	10:7	34:21
\$500,000	17:17	2003	26:16	
39:17	115	16:8	42:7 47:8	5
\$575	8:10	2022	2nd	
38:9	24:19	34:20	6:5 19:15	5
\$580,000	11th	35:10	22:18	38:13
8:14	26:9	2025		41:6,7
10:11	12	6:5 22:18	3	5-0
24:23	14:13	26:2		19:10
26:18	120	21	3.4	50:20
\$8.4	17:17	10:15,22	41:15	50
8:16	14th	26:21	30	18:7
16:22	10:5	27:2	11:2 13:5	55
17:9 25:1	26:12	22	27:6	37:21
26:22	18-2e-5d	35:18	28:24	5:30
\$861,000	42:20	24	37:21	6:5 22:19
8:17 25:2	18-5-13a	13:1,2	38:8	5:45
	4:7 20:20	28:21	30th	3:3,11
1	18th	24- '25	42:11,16	
	10:3 26:9	13:7 29:3	31.1	6
1	1st	45:13	8:11	
10:4,6,9	3:1 38:23	25	24:20	6204
11:7 12:5	42:11	12:23	318	4:7 20:21
26:11,13,		13:2	7:20 24:5	41:14
16,24	2	28:19	31st	6:07
27:12,14		29:2	17:6	19:11,13
28:1		25- '26	41:17	
42:12	2	10:10		
		26:17		

6:30	accept	45:19	35:19	28:7,9
19:12,17	50:6	47:11		
20:2			allegiance	apologize
	accepted	addressed	3:22,24	28:15
	5:15 22:5	11:17	20:14	29:21
7		27:17	allotted	apparent
	access	46:10	5:1,11	17:7
	9:1 25:10		21:16	
7	accordance	adjourn	22:1	apply
47:21	4:6 20:19	19:1		35:10
	47:20	50:5,11	allowed	
70	48:15		4:17	appoint
41:7		adjourned	11:15	43:22
		5:15	21:7,8	
72	Accountabil	19:11,13	alternative	appointed
8:8 17:14	ity	22:5	46:7	38:18
24:17	9:16 26:2	50:22	Amendment	appropriately
			18:21	38:6
7:15	achievement	adjourning	35:24	approved
50:21,22	45:12	50:15,21		42:20
	acknowledge	adjournment	America	approximate
	28:10	19:4	4:1 20:15	ly
8	acknowledge	50:18	36:17	8:14,17
8	d	advertiseme	American	24:23
9:19 26:2	37:13	nts	10:1,9,18	25:2
		10:5	11:13	28:18
8.4	acknowledgi	26:12	12:3	
10:15	ng		16:15,24	April
12:11,14,	7:1 23:10	advice	26:7,16	9:18,19
23 28:8,		15:6	27:13	10:2,3,5,
19 39:19	activity	30:17	42:9	6,7 26:2,
47:15	43:11		amount	7,9,12,
		advise	5:11 22:1	13,15,16
8200	add	5:8 15:6		42:7,11,
47:21	44:18	21:22	announced	16
	added	30:18	10:3	
	43:8	affected		areas
A	additional	16:9	announcemen	13:16
	28:9	age	t	29:8 46:2
abandoned	Additional	10:14	17:15,18	
35:4	y	26:20	annually	arrive
	12:10	42:23	8:18 25:3	14:4
ability	address		Anthony	arriving
7:24	3:12	agenda	3:16 20:8	27:2
13:12	13:12	17:8		
24:9 29:5	15:18	41:21	anticipated	Arrow
	20:3 29:5	45:5	12:10,18	16:23
academic	37:11	AI		43:7
9:4 25:13				
45:12				

HEARING
LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOL CLOSURE

November 18, 2025
Index: assistant..Cabell

assistant	23:18	beginning	3, 21 21:1	16:13
6:11 9:15	27:5	17:15	22:11, 17	31:14, 15
22:23	28:14	40:22	27:4 30:1	37:10
25:24			31:2 33:6	
	aye	behaviors	34:1	buddy
association	19:5, 6	45:15	35:22	33:20
s	50:15, 16,	Belcher	36:13, 15	budget
45:18	17	31:1, 2	41:14	16:22
assume	ayes	34:12	46:22	17:9
43:13	19:10	40:1, 6,	47:21	43:8, 15
assure	50:20	10, 13, 17	50:16	building
14:18		benefit	boards	7:6 8:9,
30:6	B	13:18	45:6	15 11:16
asthma		29:11	48:16	18:12
37:16	babies	bid	BOE	23:15
attacks	33:8, 9	10:5	33:14	24:18, 24
5:23	back	26:11	bold	27:16
22:13	9:18	47:17, 24	31:15	38:2
attempted	10:10, 20	48:5, 10	book	building's
45:19	11:5, 9, 12	bidder	18:1, 2	10:14
attendance	12:12	10:7	bottom	26:20
31:7	14:12	26:14	38:22	buildings
45:12	44:3 46:1	bidding	bought	18:11
47:10	48:13	47:22	31:14	32:11
audience	49:15	big	boys	built
48:12	50:1	38:4	39:20	35:7
August	backroom	Black	47:17	bus
43:1	33:3	38:24	break	18:8 33:8
Aulenbacher	bad	Blatt	10:4	37:16, 17
18:9	36:24	10:23	11:10	42:20, 21
38:23	balance	11:4	26:10	49:14
Aulenbacher	13:1, 5, 11	27:3, 9	bring	buses
's	28:20	46:11	10:15	33:19
41:22	29:1	bleeding	26:22	42:22
authorities	Banner	33:15	39:14	business
9:23	43:24	board	50:8	48:17, 18
authority	basically	3:7, 8, 10,	brings	busted
43:22	18:18	12 4:7, 11	41:18	34:9
aware	begin	5:21 6:4	broad	C
7:9 11:1	6:6 7:1	10:24	49:3	
12:15	22:19	18:1, 10	brought	Cabell
	23:9	19:6, 22,		
		23 20:1,		

HEARING
LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOL CLOSURE

November 18, 2025
Index: calculated..component

34:13,14	30:20	children	clearer	29:13
37:7 40:1	center	31:4 32:8	28:11	comments
calculated	35:18	33:22	close	5:8 15:9
43:15	centers	42:21	14:3	30:21
call	46:7	44:9	30:22	45:8
3:13	central	children's	32:3	Commission
18:19	11:4	33:24	39:12	33:6,14,
20:4	27:10	choice	50:2	20 35:7
35:24	38:24	34:5	closed	commitment
38:1	47:11	choices	3:13 20:3	7:12 9:11
46:15	chains	8:23 25:7	31:7 44:2	23:21
called	34:5,6,7	choking	closing	25:22
3:3,5	challenges	31:12	7:2 16:12	communicati
19:17,19	7:14	choose	23:11	on
calling	23:23	15:5	35:2	28:10
35:21	chance	30:17	41:11	42:24
camera	50:7	33:23,24	closings	community
31:9	chaos	chosen	41:15	7:5,6
cameras	32:9,17,	34:7	closure	14:16
41:8	19	church	4:8 5:24	15:2
cancer	Charleston	39:15	6:1,8	23:14,15
16:9	16:7	circumstanc	10:1,3	30:3
capacity	Chauncey	es	12:7	31:4,5,21
8:9,11	16:8	14:1	14:22	35:3 36:4
24:18,20	check	29:17	15:3	37:2,11
care	49:14	citizens	20:22	39:15
18:19,20	chickens	39:8,22	22:14,15,	46:23
39:20,23	41:10	City	21 26:8	companies
cares	chief	33:6 35:6	28:5 30:9	33:17
31:4	30:1	clarify	36:3	company
case	child	11:6	41:5,16,	33:19
16:9	9:1 15:22	classroom	20 48:24	42:12,13
cases	16:4 25:9	47:1	49:2	completed
9:3 10:18	43:3,4	cleaned	Closures	5:3 10:6
25:12	44:13,18	16:10	48:20	21:18
caused	childcare	clear	Code	26:13,16
17:19	32:23	12:4	4:6 14:20	41:17
36:24	childhood	44:14	20:20	42:10,12,
cautious	45:15	Clearance	30:8	16
15:8		26:14	42:19	completion
			collectivel	26:11
			y	component
			13:21	

7:6 23:15	17:1 26:7	21:24	cost	35:10,15,
compounded	27:7	contacting	8:13	16 36:4
12:21	conference	9:22	12:10,18	38:19
28:17	46:19,21	content	24:22	39:7,22
comprehensi	connection	6:16 23:4	28:7	45:5
ve	4:8 20:21	contents	33:17,18	48:3,16
11:21	43:2	10:23	38:5 43:9	49:3
27:19	considerati	contingency	costly	county's
concern	on	9:24 26:5	28:13	13:11
42:5	5:14 22:4	continue	costs	29:5
concerns	28:9	30:7 37:5	8:21 25:6	couple
8:22	considered	continued	28:18	11:5,6
11:17	32:12,13	9:11	37:14	46:9
25:7	41:19	25:21	43:8	coupled
27:17	consolidate	Contracts	47:14	8:14,21
37:10	17:9	33:16	counsel	24:23
44:3	31:22,23	control	6:15	create
46:15	32:1,2	32:4	14:13	18:13,14
47:10	consolidate	convened	15:16	created
concluded	d	4:5 20:19	23:3 30:1	32:9
50:10	9:3	conversatio	count	crewmen
concludes	consolidati	n	33:2	39:17
18:24	ng	7:15	counties	crimes
49:24	25:12	23:24	45:18,20	34:21
50:9	consolidati	cooked	46:2,3	critically
concluding	on	33:4	49:3	13:11
50:14	4:9 6:2,9	cool	counts	29:4
conclusion	8:16	38:15	7:19 24:4	Cummings
5:16 22:6	20:23	correct	county	47:18,20
condition	22:16,21	6:19 13:3	3:7,8	48:14,15
10:14	25:1	17:17	7:20,23	cure
26:21	41:5,6,	35:14	8:1 12:24	12:6 28:2
conditions	15,20	corruption	14:13,15	current
11:23,24	Constitutio	31:10,11	19:22,23	6:14 7:19
27:21,23	n	32:14	24:5,8,10	23:2 24:5
conduct	34:22	33:12	26:15	cut
7:24 24:9	36:2,6,7,	34:18	27:7,10	41:10
48:18	16,22	corruption'	28:20	cuts
conducted	41:3	s	29:24	13:15
10:2	43:21	31:14	30:5	29:8
16:21	consume		31:12	
	5:11		33:5,6,	
			14,20	
			34:17	

	December	delegation	dialogue	disruption
D	6:5 22:18	15:11	5:21 9:8	30:22
	41:17	30:24	22:11	dissolve
damage	decided	34:13	25:18	36:23
16:16,17	17:8 47:9	37:8	difficult	dissolved
17:7	decision	40:20	7:15 8:23	36:8 37:5
43:12	5:23 7:3,	delegations	13:23	distribute
data	11 9:6	6:17,18	23:24	38:7
35:18	22:13	23:5	25:7	distributed
date	23:12,20	49:24	29:15	10:5
41:20	25:15	delivered	difficultie	26:12
dating	decisions	46:13	s	district
9:18	43:14	delivery	15:7	13:12
day	declared	12:9 28:6	dilapidated	14:14
16:10	20:12	department	13:6 29:2	29:6
38:9	48:3	6:12 9:16	38:2,3	31:13
42:22	decline	22:24	direct	district's
47:1	7:17 24:2	24:3 26:1	5:20	28:24
day-to-day	declining	34:20	22:10	districts
13:13	8:11	36:9	43:1	31:16
29:6	17:20	45:10	director	document
deals	18:5	46:13,14,	14:14	10:22
33:4 37:1	24:20	16	30:2	documentati
Dean	33:11	deserves	discuss	on
3:4,6,16,	deed	37:2	14:22	40:3
20 4:4	35:14,16,	designate	15:3	50:5,6
6:21	17	5:6,7	30:15	documentati
15:10	deemed	designated	45:6	on-wise
18:23	38:13	21:21	48:23	40:9
19:3,7,	deeply	designed	discussion	documents
10,18,21	25:14	11:21	15:1	27:1
20:8,11,	defamation	27:20	26:19	dollars
18 23:8	15:8	desire	30:9,13	12:20
50:1,2,	30:20	4:20	discussions	13:18
17,20	deficiencie	21:10	10:12,13	24:8
debate	s	details	30:12	29:11
5:20	44:16	47:22	disgusted	35:5
22:10	delay	determined	34:10	Donald
Debbie	12:8 28:5	3:9 19:24	dismissal	36:10
3:17	delegate	deterrences	9:22	drop
Deborah	5:18 22:8	32:10	disregard	
20:9			15:5	

17:19	26:1,6	48:2,3	enrollment	establish
dropped	27:4 30:1	emotions	7:17,19	3:14 20:5
17:18	34:21	7:1 23:10	8:8,10,12	established
dry	35:22	emphasize	17:13,19,	43:1
33:16	36:9,13,	3:5 19:20	20 18:5	estimate
due	16 41:14	employees	24:2,4,	8:15
10:13	43:18	15:1,4	17,19,21	estimated
26:20	45:11	30:12,16	33:11	10:11
44:3	46:14	empowered	ensure	24:24
48:21	48:16	47:2	7:11 8:3	26:18
duty	Education's	enacting	9:1 13:17	estimating
32:8	9:16	42:21	23:20	10:15
	educational	end	24:12	26:21
	8:4 9:2	11:16	25:9	ethics
E	24:13	13:2,9	29:10	33:11
	25:10	27:16	ensuring	evaluation
e-mailed	educator	28:21	43:1	9:23
42:11	44:11	29:1 40:5	entered	10:1,13
earlier	educators	49:19	40:3	12:9,22
28:10	46:21	energized	entities	26:20
29:21	47:2	47:2	33:5	28:6,18
early	efficient	engage	environment	evaluations
9:22	41:4	9:7 25:17	9:2 25:11	10:8
14:12	elect	engagement	environment	evening
easy	5:17 22:7	47:1,3	al	6:23
30:5	elected	10:19	8:22	14:11
ed	34:23	engineer's	16:11	23:8
45:23	36:20	26:23	25:6	29:19
46:5	elementary	engineering	equal	31:2 35:1
educate	4:9,10	16:23	44:8	event
44:11	6:2,3,14	42:13	equals	43:2 48:2
education	8:7,10	43:7	44:20	events
3:7,9 4:7	9:20 15:4	engineers	equates	6:13 9:17
6:4,12	16:9	16:21	7:22 24:7	23:1
7:13	17:23,24	enhance	equitable	evidence
10:24	20:22,24	9:4 25:13	7:13	34:18
18:1	22:16,17	enriching	13:18	exclusive
19:23,24	23:2	9:2 25:10	23:22	10:17
20:21	24:16,19	enrolled	29:10	26:23
22:18,24	26:3 46:8	17:18	essence	executed
23:21	emergency	enrollment	13:4	11:19
24:4	33:17	emotions	28:23	
	43:2	emphasize		

executive 6:7 22:20 36:9	factors 16:11	2 24:5,11	fixed 38:14	17:3,4
expanded 45:22	facts 32:16	fight 32:18 36:19	flag 4:1 20:15	frame 12:13,17
expenditure 13:10 29:4	failed 16:20	file 35:14	floor 6:22 15:13 23:5	free 41:4
experience 24:14	fair 4:22 21:13	fill 16:5	flows 32:2	frequent 11:8
experiences 8:4	fall 11:11 12:1 27:24	final 10:8 40:20 42:8,10, 15 49:17	FOIA 46:12,13, 15	friends' 33:24
experts 9:23 42:18	family 7:4 23:13	finally 6:15 23:3 30:21	folder 49:22	front 28:11 40:21
expired 5:10 21:24	faster 17:21	financial 8:19 13:23,24 25:4 29:15,16	follow 14:20 19:19 30:7,17	front-and- center 45:16
explained 49:18	faucet 32:3	find 15:15	force 18:7	full 5:14 22:4
extend 49:2,4	fault 12:16	finding 12:22	forced 8:22 25:7	full- facility 10:13 26:20
extended 49:10	favor 19:4 50:14	findings 28:17	foregoing 48:4	fund 12:24 13:5,11 28:19 29:1
<hr/> F <hr/>	featured 47:2	fine 39:21	foresee 12:12	funding 7:23 8:22 24:8 25:6
Facebook 15:1,18 30:13	February 41:18 49:4	fiscal 12:23 13:2 28:19 31:8	format 19:19	funds 38:7 48:8
facilities 8:1,5 24:10,14	federal 35:5 36:5,8	fish 44:8,20	forum 14:24 15:3 30:11,13	funny 15:15
facility 13:6 28:17 29:2 35:8	feel 33:5	fix 11:18 27:18 38:6 39:17	forums 35:20	future 33:24
facing 7:14 23:23	feeling 7:2 23:11		forward 8:2 9:10 24:12 25:20	futures 7:4 23:13
	felt 31:20		found	
	fewer 7:20 8:1,			

	goal	49:11	38:9	higher
G	8:24 25:9	guess	harm	34:4
	God	35:17	36:4,24	hill
garner	4:2 20:16	36:21	Harper	16:15
48:7	gold	49:3,5	16:22	43:10
gate	36:11	guide	43:7	hillside
45:14	Goldie	9:10	head	17:2
gave	31:1	25:20	32:16	hire
36:16	good	guided	heads	39:19
Gazette	6:23	7:12	33:9	hit
16:8	14:11	23:20	41:10	32:4
general	23:8	guy	hear	Holden
14:13	29:19	39:15,16	7:8 23:17	37:22
Geo	31:2	guys	heard	47:6,10
10:2,9,19	38:20	16:1,5	38:1,20	house
11:13	39:6,16,	18:17	39:5	35:5
12:3	19 47:17	38:18	hearing	houses
16:16,24	goods	41:8,11	3:6,12,23	35:11
17:1	48:1	44:1	4:5 5:13	
26:7,16	gossip		14:1	I
27:14	15:2		18:24	
42:9	30:14		19:21	
geological	grab	hamper	20:3,19	ice
42:18	36:10	13:11	22:3	11:23
George	grade	29:4	50:10	27:22
38:23	45:17	hand	heart	idea
getgo	grandchild	32:20	14:16	39:13
39:19	37:14	33:1	30:4	ideas
give	grandkids	handled	held	46:24
4:22	34:2	6:18	38:24	idle
21:13	grant	handling	39:15	33:19
39:16	5:5 21:20	45:20	46:19	impact
44:20	35:5,7,11	hang	helpful	6:8 13:9,
50:3,7	grants	31:24	49:6	22 22:20
give-a-	35:9	happen	hidden	29:4,14
dangs	great	15:19	18:3	49:18
34:9	39:6	happened	hiding	impacts
glad	growing	15:22	34:17	7:23 24:8
41:12	8:20 25:5	43:3,4	high	26:6
44:6	guarantee	hard	7:12 16:6	implemented
			23:21	11:15

27:15	initial	9:21	29:15	laid
important	43:12	issues	_____	31:18
10:20	44:2	38:19	K	land
importantly	initially	item	_____	35:4,7,19
8:23	17:1	45:5	Kelley	36:10
14:20	initiative	_____	6:11,19,	larger
25:8	45:10,11,	J	20 9:13,	16:6 28:8
improves	22 46:6,	_____	14 14:8	last-minute
45:12	10	jail	15:10	43:13,14
including	initiatives	36:20	22:23	Lastly
29:6	45:14,24	38:24	25:23,24	12:20
inclusive	input	Jeff	30:24	launch
11:3 27:7	9:9 25:19	6:19 9:14	34:12	45:24
Incorporate	inspection	25:23	37:7 38:1	law
d	42:8,10	38:1	39:24	32:13
42:8	instances	Jeffrey	40:8,12,	48:16
increase	27:14	6:11	14,18	lay
11:23	instruction	22:23	44:24	33:9
increased	al	jobs	48:11,20	lead
27:22	13:14	32:6	49:9	12:3
indication	29:7	Joe	keys	leaders
50:15	intimidate	20:7	32:20	46:22
individual	34:16	judged	33:1	47:3
15:1,4	intimidatio	34:24	Keyser	leading
30:12,16	n	July	19:1,2	10:2 26:8
individuals	34:8	10:15,22	20:6	learning
14:4	invest	11:2 17:6	50:11	46:7 47:4
30:20	9:5 25:14	26:21	kid	led
indivisible	investigati	27:2,6	37:17	10:13
4:3 20:17	on	juncture	kids	26:19
inflate	16:18	48:13	11:11	left
16:22	17:2,3	junior	33:3	33:21
17:9	investment	16:6	37:18	legal
information	13:24	jurisdictio	39:10	6:15
6:16 17:6	29:16	n	47:5,6	15:7,20
23:4 42:1	involuntary	36:5	kill	23:3
informed	41:23	justice	31:15	30:19
27:3	involve	4:3 20:17	_____	46:14,15
inherited	33:5	justify	L	Lesley
34:6	involved	13:23	_____	34:13
			31:17	
			37:12	

Leslie	7:3 23:12	lost	makes	13,15,17,
6:15 23:3	local	31:24	8:4 13:23	18,20
letting	31:10	lot	24:13	22:5,18
40:15	32:6	37:23	29:15	27:7
level	36:13	43:15,17	manner	29:21
29:16	39:16	love	8:4 24:13	30:8,22
levels	Logan	30:3	manufacture	40:5,15
45:17	3:7,8	low	32:17	41:13
liable	7:19 11:3	10:7	Mark	45:5
36:5	12:24	lower	20:6	49:23
libel	14:13,15	45:17	match	50:3,6,
15:8	19:22,23		38:11	10,14,21,
30:19	24:5	<hr/> M <hr/>	matching	22
liberty	27:7,10		44:7	meetings
4:3 20:17	28:20	made	materials	18:10
licensed	29:24	5:24	5:13 22:3	39:14
48:17	30:5	12:15	math	member
lie	31:12	17:15	38:11	4:19 5:3,
41:2	33:6,15	22:14	44:7,18	4 21:18,
lies	34:17	28:14	matter	19 34:1
40:23,24	35:6	44:12	9:9 16:5	members
life	38:19	47:7	25:19	4:12,16
7:7 23:16	43:24	magnitude	30:18	5:16,21,
light	47:9,12	13:24	37:3	22 7:5
38:14	logical	main	matters	10:24
42:17	7:3	39:10	45:3,7	11:5
lightly	logistical	45:14	McConnell	21:2,6,10
9:6 25:16	23:12	maintenance	37:8,9	22:6,11,
likelihood	long	8:1 24:10	40:1,2	12 23:14
11:24	28:13	make	47:16	27:4,10
27:22	37:17	4:17 7:11	means	31:3,5
lingering	long-term	8:23	8:24 25:8	37:11
47:10	11:19,21	10:18,24	measures	46:22,23
listen	12:6	15:6 21:7	9:21 26:5	memories
9:7 25:16	27:20	23:20	meeting	7:4 23:13
29:22	28:2	25:7 27:4	3:1,3,4	Mendez
lists	longer	37:22	5:15 6:4	3:17 20:9
34:21	12:9,17	38:10	11:3	50:13
lives	28:6	41:1	14:4,5,21	mention
	37:16	44:11,14,	17:6 18:3	16:20
	looted	17	19:11,12,	17:11
	33:21			mentioned
				16:23,24
				17:12

48:21	misconduct	49:7	23:23	officials
merger	45:20	needed	28:8	4:15,18,
4:10	misstep	8:15	45:24	21,24
14:23	13:3	10:15	numbers	5:2,22
20:23	mitigate	16:18	31:23	19:6
30:10	11:21	24:24	32:1	21:5,9,
mic	27:20	26:22	_____	12,15,17
14:6	moment	43:4	O	22:12
48:13,22	7:10	network	_____	50:16
midday	23:18	45:19	Oath	Omar
42:11,17	money	news	34:23	4:10 6:3
middle	32:2	15:2	36:2,15,	8:9,16
18:8	43:17	18:11	16	14:22
45:24	month	39:1	oaths	16:4,7,9
46:5,8	37:15	43:24	34:24	17:23
million	49:5	44:1	occur	18:5
7:22 8:16	morals	NGOS	5:2 14:19	20:23
10:15	33:10	37:1	21:17	22:17
12:11,23	Morazzi	night	occurred	24:18
13:1	31:18	31:19	14:19	25:1
16:22	morning	33:9	16:16	30:10
17:9 24:7	37:6	nonprofits	occurrence	37:16,20
25:1	motion	37:1	43:10	38:12
26:22	19:1	normal	occurring	Omar's
28:8,19,	50:11,12	33:18	43:12	17:20
21 35:5,	move	note	offer	onsite
12 39:19	8:2 24:11	37:19	4:17 21:8	open
47:15	47:7	notice	40:9	38:8 42:7
mine	multiple	5:12 22:2	offerings	46:21
28:14	44:4	notificatio	9:4 25:13	opening
35:4,18	_____	n	office	35:4
minute	N	12:8 28:5	9:16 11:4	operational
5:9 10:21	_____	notified	26:1	8:21 25:6
21:22	nation	10:23	27:3,10	operations
minutes	4:2 20:16	43:5	47:12	13:13
4:24 18:7	nature	November	49:15	29:6
21:15	13:10	16:8	official	opinion
32:11	30:14	38:23	5:7,19	31:5
33:8	48:3	number	7:18 22:9	opportuniti
37:21,23	necessarily	4:19 7:14	24:4	es
misbehavior		12:11,14		7:13
s				23:22
45:15				

HEARING
LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOL CLOSURE

November 18, 2025
Index: opportunity..present

opportunity	20:2	24:17,20	phone	policies
4:23	22:19	28:24	42:24	40:10
21:14	50:21,22	38:8	phonetic	policy
50:4	pace	perception	31:18	4:7,11
opposed	8:20	43:9	35:21	20:21
19:7	17:21	permanent	piece	21:1
50:17	25:5	11:17	11:20	41:14,18
option	panic	27:17	15:21	42:19
13:20	32:13	permitted	pieces	47:21,22
29:13	parents	11:9	11:7	population
options	18:7	person	pivot	46:5
12:4 47:7	partnership	33:18	11:18	portion
order	9:11	personal	place	15:12
3:3,5	25:21	5:23	14:15	position
4:16,22	pass	22:13	19:12	38:22
19:17,19	38:17	33:13	30:4	possibility
20:5	48:13	personally	31:24	7:2 23:11
21:6,13	past	15:23	47:23	postpone
48:7	7:16 8:12	39:7	48:6	41:19
orders	24:1,21	personnel	plan	power
34:4 36:9	41:6,7,13	14:14	18:14	35:15
organized	Pat	30:2	planned	practices
31:10	3:15 20:7	45:3,6,7	37:19	46:4,24
original	path	perspective	plans	Pre-k
35:16	9:10	28:16	9:24	33:8
over-	25:20	pertaining	11:19	preached
inflating	pay	43:10	26:5	16:1
43:8	33:3,19	Phase	pledge	prepared
overtime	38:9	8:13	3:22,24	18:1,2
33:20	39:18	10:4,6,9	20:13,14	prescriptio
owned	people	11:7,11,	Pocahontas	n
33:20	14:16	20 12:5,	42:12	37:14
35:16	30:3,14	21 24:22	pockets	present
	31:16	26:11,13,	33:24	3:10,19,
	32:11,21	17,24	point	24 4:13
P	34:15,16	27:1,12,	10:18	5:4 10:19
	36:19,22	14,19	13:3 18:9	20:1,12,
p.m.	37:2,4	28:1,3,16	38:12	14 21:3,
3:3,11	43:16	42:12	points	19 27:9
6:5	percent	43:13	11:6	37:12
19:11,12,	8:8,11	49:17	phone	46:23
13,17	13:5			

presentatio n 5:9 21:23	process 30:7 47:13,17, 24 48:5,	6:1,8 20:22 22:14,15, 21 42:20	42:2 43:9 48:7 50:10	questions 4:18 5:2, 18 9:7 11:8
presentatio ns 5:16 22:6	24 49:2, 6,11	protect 32:6,8 48:7	publicly 37:13	21:9,17 22:8
presented 5:18 17:5 18:4 22:8 45:1	procurement 48:1	protection 32:14	published 16:8	25:17 45:1
presenter 5:5 21:20	professiona l 10:19 26:24 33:13	provide 4:12 6:7, 13,16 9:17 21:2	purpose 14:21 30:8 45:4	46:16 48:12 49:20
presenting 44:9	program 46:3	22:20 23:1,4	push 17:8	quorum 3:14,19 19:24 20:11
president 3:7,8 19:22,23 23:7 50:1	programs 7:24 13:14 24:9 29:7	provided 10:22 11:13 47:7	put 11:10 18:15 47:15 49:2	<hr/> R <hr/>
prevalent 12:1 27:23	project 8:13 11:21 12:21	providing 7:12 23:21	putting 37:1 44:10	rain 11:23 27:21
previous 19:20	24:22 27:19 28:17	prudent 10:12 26:19	<hr/> Q <hr/>	rainstorm 42:17
previously 43:15	projected 12:10 28:7,18	PSD 35:14	quality 7:12 8:4 23:21 24:13	raising 37:15
price 33:3 48:7	promises 41:4	public 3:6,12 4:12,16, 19 5:3,4, 5,8,12, 17,21,22 18:23 19:21 20:3 21:2,6, 10,18,19, 20 22:2, 7,11,12 28:15 32:11,12 35:20,24	quarter 3:9	Ralph 3:18 20:10 38:14
prior 18:4 41:17 42:20 43:14	promotes 45:12		question 4:14,21, 24 21:4, 11,15 34:1 37:24 39:4 45:2,9 46:12 47:5,14 48:20 49:8,13, 16,17	ramificatio ns 30:19
privacy 30:14	prompt 16:17			rate 17:21
private 33:19	prompted 9:20 26:4			read 14:3 38:15,16, 21
procedures 47:23	promptly 19:12			reality 13:23 29:15
PROCEEDINGS 3:2 19:16	proposed 4:8 5:24			

HEARING
LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOL CLOSURE

November 18, 2025
Index: reason..roughly

reason	3:12 20:2	12:9,17	24:11,12	32:4
14:1 28:5	related	18:11	25:4,12	rich
reasons	6:13	26:21	respectful	33:7
12:8	11:22	27:2	9:8 25:17	ride
15:20	23:1	28:6,12	respond	18:8
receive	27:21	34:21	5:17,19	37:17
32:9	relationshi	35:13	22:7,9	rides
received	ps	42:10,15	responses	37:16
26:14	33:14	43:24	5:1 19:9	ridiculous
recently	relative	49:19	21:16	18:15
45:23	13:13	reported	50:19	rights
recess	28:4	9:19 26:3	responsibil	30:15
19:14	45:7,24	reports	ity	ringing
recite	released	11:12	7:11	32:16
20:13	7:18 24:4	16:15,21	13:17	rise
recommenda	relevant	17:4,22	23:19	3:21 41:6
tions	9:23	43:7	29:10	rising
27:13	10:21	44:1,15	31:8	8:21 25:5
recommended	relinquish	representat	rested	risks
10:9	39:22	ives	13:1	11:22
26:17	relocation	27:8	result	27:20
record	9:21	Republic	13:15	road
40:3 42:3	remain	4:2 20:16	29:8	35:18
records	9:5 11:15	request	resulted	37:21
32:12	25:15	45:18	12:22	rock
reduced	27:15	46:1,15	resulting	9:19
7:23 8:21	remaining	49:1	10:14	11:24
24:8 25:6	5:9 21:23	requests	26:21	26:3
Reeves	remind	46:12,13	return	27:22
15:12,14	14:21	require	26:14	43:10
40:19,21	repair	7:15	return-to-	Rodighiero
44:24	26:11	23:23	school	3:18
48:9,22	43:8	28:23	46:19	20:10
49:9	repairs	requires	returned	roll
Regional	10:9	35:18	10:7	3:13 20:4
38:24	26:17	47:24	returning	34:3
registered	33:17	resignation	26:15	room
5:1 21:16	43:6,14	41:22	Revisiting	31:10
registratio	report	42:2	27:12	roughly
n	10:8,14,	resources	ribs	7:22 24:7
	22 11:14	8:2,3,19		
		9:3		

rouse	9:20	31:22,24	serve	significant
18:18	10:1,3,	32:1	32:6 37:3	13:15
	10,16	34:22		29:8
route	11:9,11,	41:5,7,11	served	
42:20,21	16 12:24	45:20	13:7 29:2	silence
49:14	13:3,7	46:6,8,9	37:5	34:15
	14:14	47:8,13		
run	16:5,6,7,	Schools'	serves	single
35:19	12,16	12:24	13:6	13:6 29:2
	17:7,10		services	34:1 36:3
running	18:8,9	scrapped	9:5 25:14	sir
41:9	20:23,24	43:13	48:1	6:20 37:3
	21:4,9,	49:17		
<hr/> s <hr/>	11,15,17	seal	sessions	sit
	22:8,12,	10:19	47:2	35:12
safe	16,17	26:24	set	site
8:6 9:1	23:11,14		28:2	10:1,2,6
24:14	24:1,5	sealed	43:17	26:8,13
25:10	25:2	47:24	severe	27:7
42:15	26:4,8,	48:5	11:22	sitting
	18,22	seated	27:21	44:21
safely	27:16	4:4 20:18	Shame	situated
11:16	28:21		33:22	28:20
27:16	29:1,3	Section	short	situation
	31:6,16	41:15	28:1	11:1
safety	33:15	47:21	short-term	29:14
9:21 26:4	35:3,15	seized	12:5 28:1	49:6
42:4 43:9	38:8	35:6	show	situations
	39:11,18	send	18:4	13:22
SAIL	42:14	15:22	34:18	31:7
46:18	43:2,12	37:22	showcased	slander
	44:2,13,	44:19	46:24	15:8
save	19 45:6,	47:6		30:19
8:17 25:2	13 46:1	sending	Shriver	slide
	47:11	37:20	11:4 27:8	9:19 26:3
SBA	School's	sense	42:8	43:10
35:11	6:14 23:2	37:23	side	slides
	schools	38:10	37:19	11:24
scheduled	7:20	44:11,12,	39:13	27:23
6:4 22:18	8:11,21	17	sign	slip
	9:5 11:18	separate	4:17	10:17
scheme	13:16	34:21	sign-in	16:15
18:14	24:5,20	seriousness	21:7	17:2
	25:5,15	7:9 23:18		26:23
school	28:20			
4:9,10,	29:9			
15,18,21,				
24 5:2,				
18,22				
6:2,3				
7:2,5,16,				
19 8:17				

HEARING
LOGAN COUNTY SCHOOL CLOSURE

November 18, 2025
Index: small..subjected

43:11	31:21	standard	11,14,18	Strive
small	special	10:16	22:3,4	35:21
13:19	3:4 14:15	26:22	23:5 50:4	45:9,19,
29:12	19:18	standing	states	22 46:3,
smart	26:6	44:12	4:1 17:22	10
43:15	37:18	stands	20:15	stronghold
snow	45:23	4:2 20:16	36:6,17	36:15
11:23	46:4	start	41:16	structural
27:22	spend	15:15	42:15	16:17
soft	38:7	started	44:2	44:3
30:4	spending	45:13	statewide	student
sold	8:3 13:4	46:11	49:3	26:5,14
36:11	24:12	state	stating	47:3
solution	28:24	4:7,11	18:18	students
11:15	spent	20:20	status	6:2 7:4,
12:5	14:12	21:1 32:7	6:14 23:2	13,20
27:15	29:24	35:22	statute	8:2,5,8,
28:2	30:2	36:15	4:11 21:1	10,24
Sonya	spiel	39:22	steady	9:12,22
38:18	38:4	41:16	7:17 24:2	10:7
39:4	spring	43:22	steal	11:9,14,
sooner	10:4	44:15	33:22	15 13:7,
28:14	11:10	45:6	34:22	14,19
sort	26:10	46:22	step	17:14,17
15:2	spurred	47:21	38:22	22:16
47:24	28:9	48:16,18	stood	23:13,22
span	staff	stated	16:1	24:6,11,
45:2	7:5 9:22	5:12	40:21	14,17,19
spark	11:5	11:14	stop	25:9,22
46:24	23:14	16:18	31:13	26:15
speak	27:10	17:6	story	27:15
4:20	42:7	18:9,17	44:3	29:3,7,11
18:22	staffing	22:2	straight	42:7
47:18	13:13	43:7,21	31:21	45:21
speaker	29:6	statement	38:17	47:1,9
4:22 5:1	staggering	6:8,11	straightfor	studied
21:13,16	12:11	22:21,23	ward	10:1
speakers	stand	statements	39:8	stuff
18:24	20:13	4:13,17,	strengthen	18:3
speaking	34:3	20,23	9:4 25:13	subject
	36:18	5:3,13,14		6:3 15:7
	37:4	6:17		22:17
		21:3,7,		subjected

30:19	22:7,19,	49:12	16:16,24	31:19
submit	22,23	talk	17:1	32:23
4:13,23	23:6,19	15:19	26:7,16	38:21
21:3,11,	25:24	16:3,7,	27:14	39:6,7
14	27:3,9	11,12,14	42:9	40:24
submitted	35:22	17:12,13	technology	44:16,17
40:16	38:19	29:22	36:12	46:9
subsequent	43:22,23	42:4	37:2	47:18
10:11,12	46:11	43:19	telling	time
11:2	48:4	talked	37:6	3:20 5:5,
26:19	superintend	17:14	44:21	10,11
27:2,6	ents	42:5	temporarily	7:10,20
subsequentl	31:3	talking	11:18	8:19 9:24
y	Superior	35:23	temporary	12:13,17
11:10	42:12	39:1	11:14	14:6
subset	support	42:22	27:14	17:24
13:19	9:5 25:14	44:5	terminology	18:10
29:12	45:20	target	47:16	21:20,22,
subsidize	46:2,3,4	34:15	terms	23 22:1
13:16	supporting	taxpayer	4:6 20:20	23:19
29:9	50:5	13:18	testimony	24:6
suffers	supportive	28:16	4:14,18,	28:12
37:16	9:2 25:10	29:11	20,23	31:18
suggested	sustain	taxpayers	21:4,8,	34:11
43:6	7:24 24:9	35:3	11,14	44:23
summary	switch	taxpayers'	theft	49:21,23
6:7 22:20	42:22	12:20	33:23	timekeeper
summation	swore	teach	there'll	5:6,8
6:7 22:20	34:23	44:18	45:7	21:22
summer	system	teacher	thick	timelier
46:20	7:16 8:17	38:9	18:2	28:11
superintend	13:16,22	45:18	thing	timeline
ent	24:1 25:2	teachers	14:11	6:13 9:17
3:10,14	29:8,14	38:10	16:20	10:21
5:17 6:6,	33:21	45:16	17:11	12:7 23:1
10,11,22	41:4	teaching	33:21	26:2 28:4
7:10	systems	44:9 47:4	37:24	42:6
9:14,15	35:19	Tech	39:11	49:18
10:23	<hr/>	10:2,9,19	things	times
11:4	T	11:13	11:6	38:5
20:1,4	<hr/>	12:3	15:24	42:22
takes				44:4
				tired
				32:18,19

33:2	38:14	underneath	13:17	voices
today	39:2,9	35:19	14:22	9:9 25:19
18:3 32:9	transparent	understandi	15:3	voluntary
37:12	9:8 17:16	ng	16:14	41:23
44:13	18:16	6:19	17:12,13,	vote
told	25:17	underutiliz	17,23	38:8
11:10	42:2	ed	20:22	50:18
40:23	44:14	18:12,13	22:15	voted
tolerated	transportat	unelected	23:1	39:22
5:23	ion	34:24	24:16,18,	voting
22:13	26:6	United	23 25:1	50:15
tonight	49:15	4:1 20:15	26:3 29:9	vow
5:24 6:24	trespassing	36:6,17	30:9 35:2	32:7
7:15 9:7	32:13	unrestrict	38:6 39:8	
14:2,21	triple	d	41:21	
15:9	33:18	12:24	42:5,6	
22:14	tripled	13:5	veteran	W
23:9,24	37:15	28:19	18:21	
25:16	true	29:1	viable	waiver
30:8,16	43:9	unsafe	13:20	41:14,18
Tony	Trump	38:13	29:13	42:20
3:6 19:21	36:10	44:14	viewing	48:21,23
top	truth	unusual	42:3	49:1,14
42:4	40:23	11:18	violations	walked
topic	turn	unwavering	34:21	49:18
45:16	6:22 14:6	9:11	Virginia	wanted
Tori	48:22	25:21	4:6 6:12	40:2
31:18	50:1	upgrades	9:15	wanting
32:15	two-day	8:15	10:24	30:15
total	46:21	12:23	14:20	watch
4:19 5:11	Tyree	24:24	20:20	31:17
21:9,24	6:15		22:24	watched
touches	14:6,7,9	v	24:3 26:1	31:17
7:3 23:12	23:3		27:4 30:8	watching
touching	29:18,19	verbally	34:20,22	33:3
38:12	45:4	48:6	36:6,21	water
transparenc		Verdunville	41:3,7,9	36:11
y	U	4:9 6:1,	42:19	37:3
15:24		13 8:7,9,	43:21	watershed
16:4	U.S.	14,16	45:10	35:19
33:23	36:8,16	9:20	48:19	WCHS
			visits	38:17
			10:2 26:8	

wear	White's	WVDE
32:24	6:10	7:18 11:5
34:5,6,7	22:22	27:11
weather	Whitlow	<hr/>
11:22	41:12	Y
27:21	48:23	<hr/>
week	49:1	year
10:4 26:9	Whosoever	7:19,21
weeks	33:7	10:10
7:18 24:3	Williamson	11:16
weigh	11:3 27:8	12:23,24
13:21	42:8	13:2,3,8
29:13	win	24:5,6
West	32:16	26:18
4:6 6:12	winter	27:16
9:15	12:2	28:19,22
10:24	27:24	29:1,3
14:20	word	45:13
20:20	42:14	years
22:24	words	7:17 8:12
24:3 26:1	31:22	14:13
27:4 30:8	work	24:2,21
34:20,22	10:6,17	29:24
36:6,21	26:13	30:2
41:3,7,9	31:23	31:13
42:19	32:2,22	33:16
43:21	38:3	38:13
45:10	45:23	41:6,7
48:19	working	yield
whispering	14:13	23:5
34:8,9	29:24	younger
white	38:9 46:5	46:8
3:15,19	world	youngest
5:7 6:6,	35:23	45:21
22,23	written	<hr/>
9:14 19:3	5:13,14	Z
20:4,7	22:3,4	<hr/>
21:21	31:20	Zachary
22:19	50:4	37:8
23:6,7	wrong	
34:11	39:18	
38:18,22		
39:1,5		
44:23		

To whom it concerns,

I am writing this on the issue of the closing of Verdunville Elementary School. I am a parent of a 3rd grade student, and a former student myself. Yes, it is a personal topic to me but its much more than that. Here are some ways the loss of our school has impacted my child and our life. My child was very anxious and afraid. She had never left our side. When she started school it was what felt like an impossible process. She refused to return after 1 day of Pre-K, then from Kindergarten - the end of 1st grade we all worked hard to get her to be OK. The Verdunville staff were amazing at helping her feel safe, secure and even loved. Eventually she loved school and hated to miss a day. Before the beginning of this school year and the meeting in July she was so excited to go back. Then the board dropped the boulder on our normal life. As it came close to the start date she cried and begged daily to not have to go, to just have her old school back. Then now there's still mornings she cries and begs to not have to go. So the peace with school she had found was yanked away and the anxiety returned because change is hard.

Secondly, the bus was another big anxiety issue. She'd only started riding it in the 2nd half of 2nd grade. Now riding the bus for 45 plus minutes isn't happening and neither is switching busses on a parking lot during cold weather. My child getting on and off a bus 8 times a day is ridiculous! No. So now rather than spending \$20 a week for gas to go to Verdunville. We're out \$70 a WEEK! We are on a set / fixed income every 2 weeks with no govt. assistance so this made our life very hard. There's times we go without certain

things now just so we can buy gas. We even had to sell a truck we had for 20 years to buy a cheaper on gas vehicle. A truck my mother bought 50 years ago again, it was personal.

In closing there are some questions I and many others would like to know...

1. Are we being forced to merge with Omar? If so I may choose to home school even though my child needs socialization.
2. Why can't you re-district to put our kids closer to home? Emergencies and bad weather does happen.
3. Why was our school fine to finish 2025 out in if its so unsafe now?
4. Why are so many FAKE or just ignorant repairs listed other than to just bump repair fees up!
5. Who wants the land where our school site is Bad? and who all got paid personally to make it happen? Hatfield McCoy Trails? a big politician? Something more is going on we aren't dumb!

I absolutely would not put my child in harm's way, but its obvious theres more going on than a slip that caused no damage that can be fixed. The slip is a Red Herring. The board is doing more harm mentally and emotionally and what about future Verdunville kids? We are VERDUNVILLE VOYAGERS! NOT OMAR Panthers. If the plan all along was to close Verdunville. A better plan should have been made. A Logan K-8 perhaps. You people have picked + chosen and treated our babies as nothing!

Mrs. Tonya "Burd" Biggestaff
mother of Graclyn Biggestaff

Whom it may concern.

1. IS Verdenville Elem. was ~~Ditap~~ Dilapidated why was the Building not kept up to par? To get it up to standard?
 - 2) Why was the kids allowed back in?
 - 3) Why wasn't phase 2 not completed in the summer? If it was already put in to complete?
 - 4) Why does our kids have to get on & off a bus a total of 8 times in one day? 4 times there 4 times back?
 - 5) It seems to me that someone should have figured something out before school started?
 - 6) Why does Verdenville not have a sign.
- Judy Blair Concerned Grandparent

my questions

My name is Victoria Harris

Where are we being put next year?

are they planning on fixing the school?

is the Haffield and McCoy's trails getting the land?

Why was we last to know on the school being closed?

What is the real reason were being closed?

Why couldn't they give us an answer before

Why make us so worried on next year?

Why can't you bring it up with us the parents and vote on keeping the school?

Why be so rude to us when we have asked on the closing of our school?

Petition against Logan County Schools (LCS), West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE), and West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) proposed decision for permanent closure of Verdunville Elementary School (Verdunville, WV) and its merger with Omar Elementary School (Omar, WV).

NAME PRINT	SIGNATURE
Victoria Adams	Victoria Adams
Chandler Harris	Chandler Harris
Terri Adams	Terri Adams
Clayton Marcum	Clayton Marcum
Kara Marcum	Kara Marcum
Annetta Daniels	Annetta Daniels
TENNIS BRISDEN	Tennis Brisden
Debra Scaggs	Debra Scaggs
Andrea Brisden	Andrea Brisden
Katarina Kocikera	Katarina Kocikera
Kellen Boyd	Kellen Boyd
Jack Davis	Jack Davis
Jessica Spurlack	Jessica Spurlack
Tiffany Spurlack	Tiffany Spurlack
Anthony Spurlack	Anthony Spurlack
Rachael Marcum	Rachael Marcum
Tonya Biggerstaff	Tonya Biggerstaff
Judith Blair	Judith Blair
Christopher Adams	Christopher Adams
Dieter Tsvukiana	Dieter Tsvukiana
Haley Holt	Haley Holt
Chris Kiser	Chris Kiser
Ednamarie Brisden	Ednamarie Brisden
Kandee Carter	Kandee Carter
Adra Workman	Adra Workman
Andrew Roberts	Andrew Roberts
Skippy Lambert	Skippy Lambert
Nicole Ball	Nicole Ball
Patrick Adams	Patrick Adams
Alexis Nelson	Alexis Nelson
Billy Reeves	Billy Reeves
Leah Reeves	Leah Reeves

~~IIAS~~

Initial Rockfall/Slip April 08,
Geotech site visit April 10
Geotech email April 11

Timeline

Building Evaluation June 06

Geotech Phase 1 Slip/Rock Fall Evaluation - April 11th

Final Inspection of Phase 1

May 1st

Phase 2 Proposal - Slip/Rockfall Repair

May 6th

Building Evaluation proposal & Report

May 19th / July 21st

Verdunville Student Transition Plan

July 31st

Conference Held informing Staff/Parents

July 31st

Elected Officials

Students

Returned to
School

April 29th

State Superintendent (Ms. Blatt) attended

Superintendent Aulenbacher stated meeting w/ Directors Aug 1st

Logan County BOE Meeting

August 12

Hand-Delivered FOIA (Aulenbacher)

August 12

WV State BOE Meeting

August 13

Hand-Delivered FOIA (2 members) left others w/ Secretary

August 13

Gregory Wooten & Christopher Stansbury - Assigned as School

Building Authority (Replacing unexpired term of Paul Hardesty)

August 13

George Aulenbacher meeting with Cooks & Bus Drivers

August 14

Aulenbacher email (FOIA) sent to Attorney (reply)

August 19

Attended Verdunville open House at Omar

August 19

First day of school

August 20

Bus arrived at school late beyond estimated time

August 20

(approx. 8:34 arrival at school)

Gate to Verdunville Elementary building locked to public access

August 20



Logan High School built - 1957 68 years old

Logan Middle School Approx: ~~1996~~¹⁹⁹⁷ Approx: 29 years

Logan Elementary School - ~~1957~~ 1966 68 years

~~Holden Central School~~

Omar Elementary School - 1964

Justice Elementary School - ~~1959~~¹⁹⁵⁷ 66 years

Holden Elementary School - 1979

Verdonville Elementary School - 1958

7/21/25

Good afternoon Dr. Aulenbacher,

Attached for your review and records is our Building Evaluation of the existing Verdunville Elementary School that was requested by Logan County Schools. In this evaluation, the design team discusses the existing conditions of the school with recommendations for immediate projects and other projects that can be implemented at a later date. Included in the last pages of this evaluation is a Preliminary Cost Estimate for the recommendations indicated. The current construction costs are between \$6.5 to \$7.4 million, with a total project cost of over \$8.4 million. This cost does not include the slip repair work that American Geotech has recommended as Phase 2, which I believe is estimated at around \$580k.

Please review and let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you

Greg Martin • AIA • NCARB
President / Architect

Mr. Greg Martin, AIA, NCARB, President
Williamson Shriver Architects, Inc.
717 Bigley Avenue
Charleston, WV 25302

RE: Assessment of Structure of Verdunville Elementary School in Verdunville, WV

At your request, Arrow Structural Engineering was asked to perform an assessment of the Verdunville Elementary School structure. The school is located at 251 Mustang Hill Road in Verdunville, WV and was constructed for the Logan County Board of Education in 1957. There was a landslide behind the school which happened on April 8, 2025. A small amount of material from the slide gathered at the rear of the structure, with some of it piling up against the back wall, to a height just below the window sill of one classroom. The purpose of this assessment was to perform an overall structural review of the building to determine what repairs may be needed in the future. Photos that were taken on June 6, 2025 of the existing conditions are included with this report. Also included is a floor plan with notations for conditions found.

The assessment and opinions presented in this report are based solely on a snapshot, conditional survey of the readily accessible and visually observable areas of the building or structure at this location. This report does not consider the historical progression of any condition, nor does it attempt to predict future developments—both of which may be critical to a comprehensive understanding of the structural issues involved. Our findings are limited to conditions observed at the time of the assessment or as relayed to us through available information. Additional insight may require further evaluation beyond the scope of this report, including—but not limited to—selective demolition, exploratory work, or material testing.

Observations:

The building structure consists of a mostly one-story structure with a partial basement that is used for mechanical space. There is a crawl space below most of the school, below the classrooms and office space. The gym/multipurpose room appears to be on a concrete slab-on-grade. The exterior walls are cinder block with brick veneer. Open web steel joists are used for the floor and roof framing, with concrete slabs for the structural floor system and metal deck at the roof.

Around the exterior of the structure, there are a number of cracks in the brick veneer, mostly at the front of the building. There appears to have been some settlement as there are horizontal gaps between mortar joints. There are also diagonal stair-stepped cracks in a few locations, which are indications of settlement. In most locations, the lintels appear to be in good condition with only a few locations where the mortar joint is deteriorated and/or brick is missing at the lintel bearing condition. Where the slide occurred and soil and rock were up against the building, only a small amount of damage to the grille was evident. No brick cracking was observed on the exterior and no damage on the interior could be seen either.

At the interior of the building, there are only a few locations where cracks were found. These were mostly in the front of the building and at the ceramic floor finishes at the toilet rooms between classrooms. At the gym/multipurpose room, there were cracks at the end walls and a crack in the floor slab. It appears that the

front wall of the gym/multipurpose room has settled. This settlement also appears to continue across the entrance to the office space just beyond.

The most concerning issue, other than the settlement, was the amount of water that was present in the crawl space locations and the basement. There are a few sump pumps but they are sitting in standing water and were not functioning. There was some plastic placed in some locations, but it did not appear that the entire crawl space had plastic covering the ground. Due to the amount of water present, access to the crawl space was very limited and a complete survey of the steel floor framing could not be completed. From what could be seen, the rust did appear to be limited to the surface however. Having this amount of moisture in the crawl space could lead to continuing settlement issues as well as environmental issues within the structure. Every attempt at removing the water should be made immediately.

↑ With preventative building maintenance this would not be an issue on an almost 70yr old school

Conclusion & Recommendations:

It is our opinion that the settlement issues can be addressed with the use of helical piers installed at least across the front of the building and partially down the sides. If additional settlement is seen, they could also be installed around the remainder of the building where there is a crawl space. As mentioned previously, the most important issue at this time is to remedy the water infiltration issue and remove the water from the basement and crawl space. Once deep foundation stabilization repairs are completed, the masonry repairs can be completed. Note that the deep foundations would only be installed at the exterior perimeter of the structure. Continued moisture infiltration into the crawl space could lead to settlement issues at interior bearing wall locations.

This is an issue that has been known since school closed in 1973

We recommend that a geotechnical investigation be completed to determine the conditions of the soil and rock strata below the building around the exterior. This investigation will determine where the rock is located and will help to determine the cost associated with these repairs. As a preliminary estimate, it is anticipated that the helical piers would need to be approximately 15 to 20 feet deep and approximately 8 ft oc. The geotechnical investigation would confirm these assumptions.

Additionally, measures to intercept the flow of water from the hillside behind the school will need to be completed in order to reduce the amount of water that will potentially be able to enter the crawl space. A permanent series of sump pumps that are functioning should also be planned. A vapor barrier system shall also be installed within the crawl space to keep moisture levels to a minimum. It is possible that the exterior of the structure in the vicinity of the crawl space could be excavated and waterproofed to assist in reducing moisture infiltration as an extra measure.

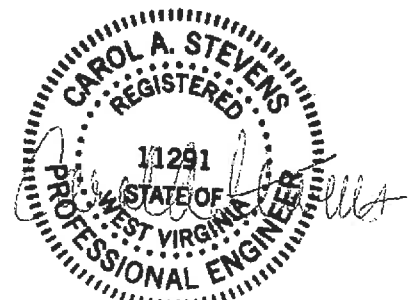
The majority of the structure appeared to be in adequate structural condition and most of the masonry damage was of a level anticipated for the age of the structure. Again, moisture mitigation and foundation stabilization across the front of the school are the main issues to be addressed.

We appreciate the chance to work with you on this project. If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,



Carol A Stevens, PE
Chief Engineer
Arrow Structural Engineering



6/16/25

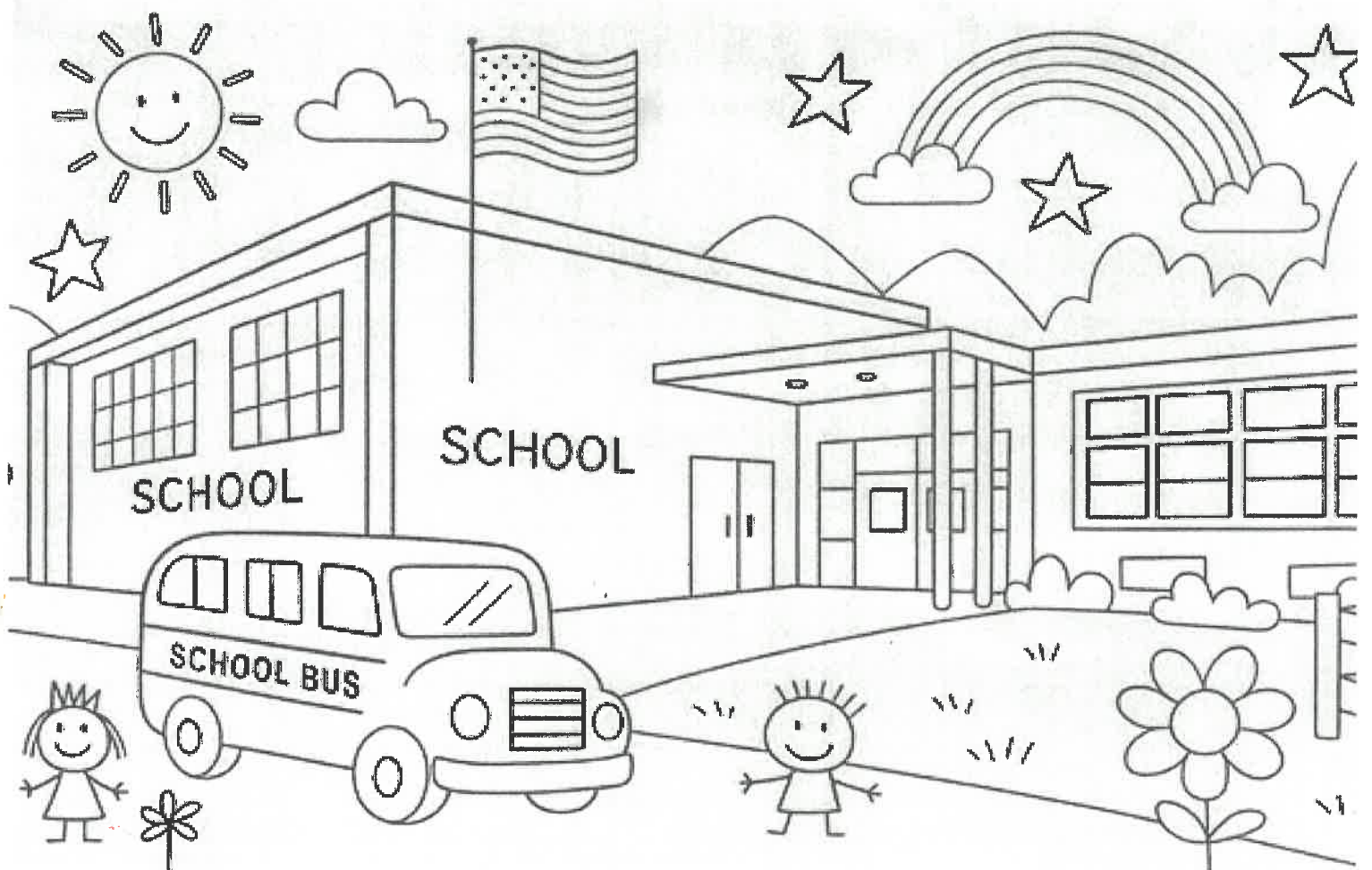
Name: Damion Scagggs
Grade: Kindergarten



What does Verdunville Elementary School mean to you?

It's close to me not much of a drive if I have to go to the school. It's very clean & safe. I adopted my grandson 2 years ago when my daughter passed away. He has asthma & being on the bus from 45-60 minutes one way bus ride I've had to give his inhaler more time the first two months from the fumes than I've had to in a year. He had to start on ADHD medication in September he don't like changes. He gets anxiety from new places & new people. Please save our school. Debbie Scagggs

Name: Lucy Harris
Grade: Kindergarten

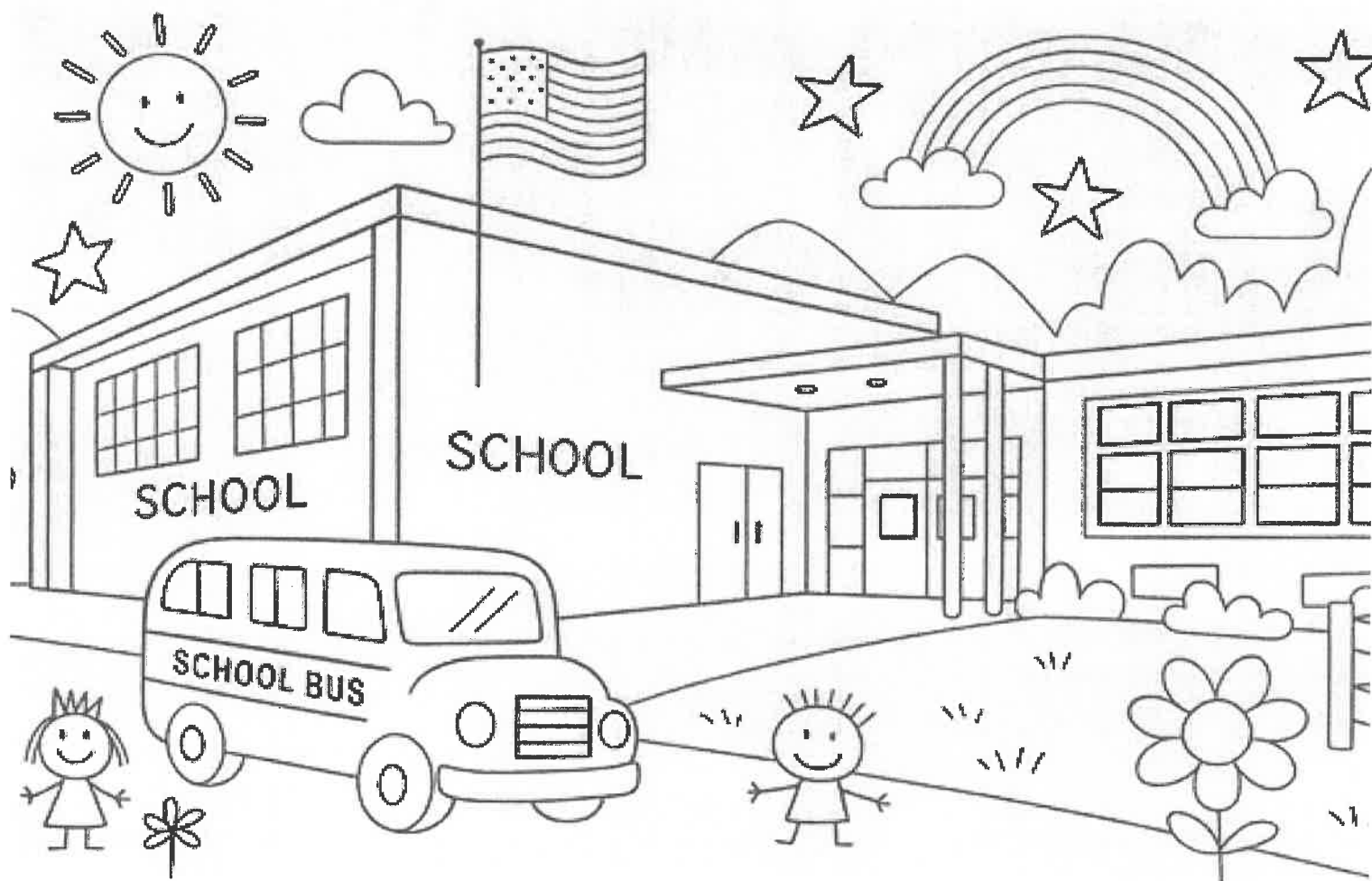


What does Verdunville Elementary School mean to you?

My school is best ; Love seeing
my friends ; feel school is cool
and fun but i dont see my friends
i will Be sad want to cry please
Dont take my school please

Name: Patrick Adams

Grade: was a verdunville kid

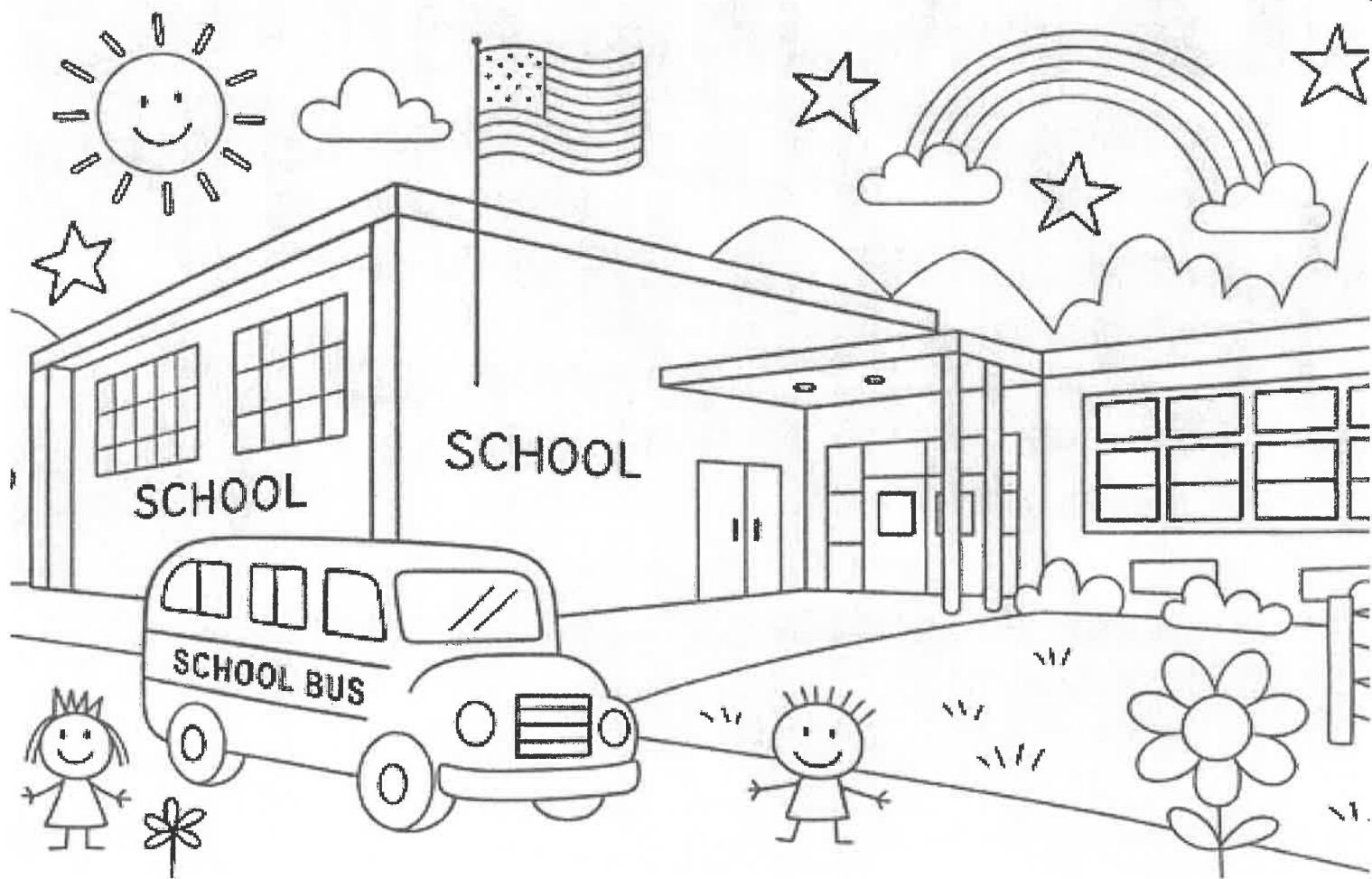


What does Verdunville Elementary School mean to you?

Verdunville mean alot to my family so much history for family i went there my sister, Brother, gradpa and my Aunt, my nesia my mother and any grandpas Brother and so many more went so i ask dont take our history and so many others history is as well.

Name: Victoria Harris

Grade: mother of the Kindergarter and was a Verdunville



What does Verdunville Elementary School mean to you?

Verdunville means a lot school is the safe around, its out of the flood zone for kids everyone thing make kids feel safe so why take the place mud fork kids that go to verdunville feel the safes.

City of Logan Deed to Water Tower @ Verdunville

DEED BOOK 322

142

THIS DEED OF EASEMENT and RIGHT-OF-WAY, made this 10th day of September, 1968, by and between THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE COUNTY OF LOGAN, as West Virginia statutory corporation, hereinafter called "BOARD", and THE CITY OF LOGAN, WEST VIRGINIA, a municipal corporation, hereinafter called "CITY",

WITNESSETH: That for the consideration hereinafter specified, said The Board of Education of the County of Logan does hereby grant and convey unto said The City of Logan, West Virginia, a perpetual easement for the construction, operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and removal of a water storage tank upon that certain parcel of land on the Mud Fork of Island Creek, in Island Creek District, Logan County, West Virginia, which parcel is adjacent to the Verdunville Grade School, and is described as follows:

Beginning at a stake near the Northeast corner of Verdunville Grade School, thence
N. 88° 56' W. 124.55 feet to a stake; thence
N. 14° 28' W. 100.00 feet to a stake; thence
N. 75° 32' E. 120.00 feet to a point in the property line between The Board of Education and Georgia Pacific Corporation, thence with said property line
S. 14° 28' E. 152.30 feet to the beginning, containing 14,000 square feet area.

Together with a perpetual easement and right-of-way for installing, constructing, maintaining, repairing, replacing, and removing water mains and pipe lines, and other necessary utility lines, upon, under, and through the Verdunville School site to and from said water storage tank.

For the same consideration, said The Board of Education of the County of Logan does hereby grant and convey unto said The City of Logan, West Virginia, a perpetual easement and right-of-way over the Verdunville School site for access from the state highway to said tank site, which easement and right-of-way is described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the center line of the present asphalt road to Verdunville School 250ft West from the West side of Verdunville School thence from said point in a Northeasterly direction and passing a mine opening at 200 feet, more or less, continuing around a drain in a Northeast, Easterly and Southeasterly direction for a total distance of 700 feet more or less to the tank site and being an area of approximately 50 feet X 700 feet long.

9-19-68

Mail: Ester, Smith & Eiland

Together with a perpetual easement and right-of-way for the construction, repair, and maintenance of a road upon the above-described easement and right-of-way for the transportation of personnel, equipment, and supplies to and from the above-described water tank site.

The easements and rights-of-way hereby conveyed are designated and shown upon a plat, hereto attached, captioned as follows:

Plat Showing Lot to be Purchased by Logan Water Board From Board of Education at Verdunville, West Va. Scale 1" = 40' July, 1968 McCall Engineering Co., Logan, W. Va.

The consideration for this conveyance is One Dollar (\$1.00) and the benefits, in the form of improved water service to the Verdunville Grade School and the public in the Verdunville area, to be derived from said water storage tank, which is to be constructed and used by the City of Logan, as a public water utility, in supplying water to the Verdunville area.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF The Board of Education of the County of Logan has caused this Deed to be signed in its corporate name and its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed by its proper officers as of the 10th day of September, 1968.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE COUNTY OF LOGAN

By Neal Bateman
its President

ATTEST:

Thomas B. Eri
Secretary

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,

COUNTY OF LOGAN, TO-WIT:

I, Wardell Lucas, a Notary Public of the
said County of Logan, do hereby certify that Margaret Bartram
Thomas B. Orr,
who signed the writing above bearing date the 10th day of September,
1968, for THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE COUNTY OF LOGAN, a West Vir-
ginia statutory corporation, has this day in my said county, before me,
acknowledged the said writing to be the act and deed of said corpora-
tion.

Given under my hand this 10 day of September, 1968.

My commission expires August 11, 1974.

Wardell Lucas
Notary Public

DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION

I hereby declare that the foregoing deed is not subject
to the West Virginia Excise Tax or Privilege of Transferring Real
Property for the reason that it is a transfer to the City of Logan,
which is an instrumentality, agency or political subdivision of the
State of West Virginia.

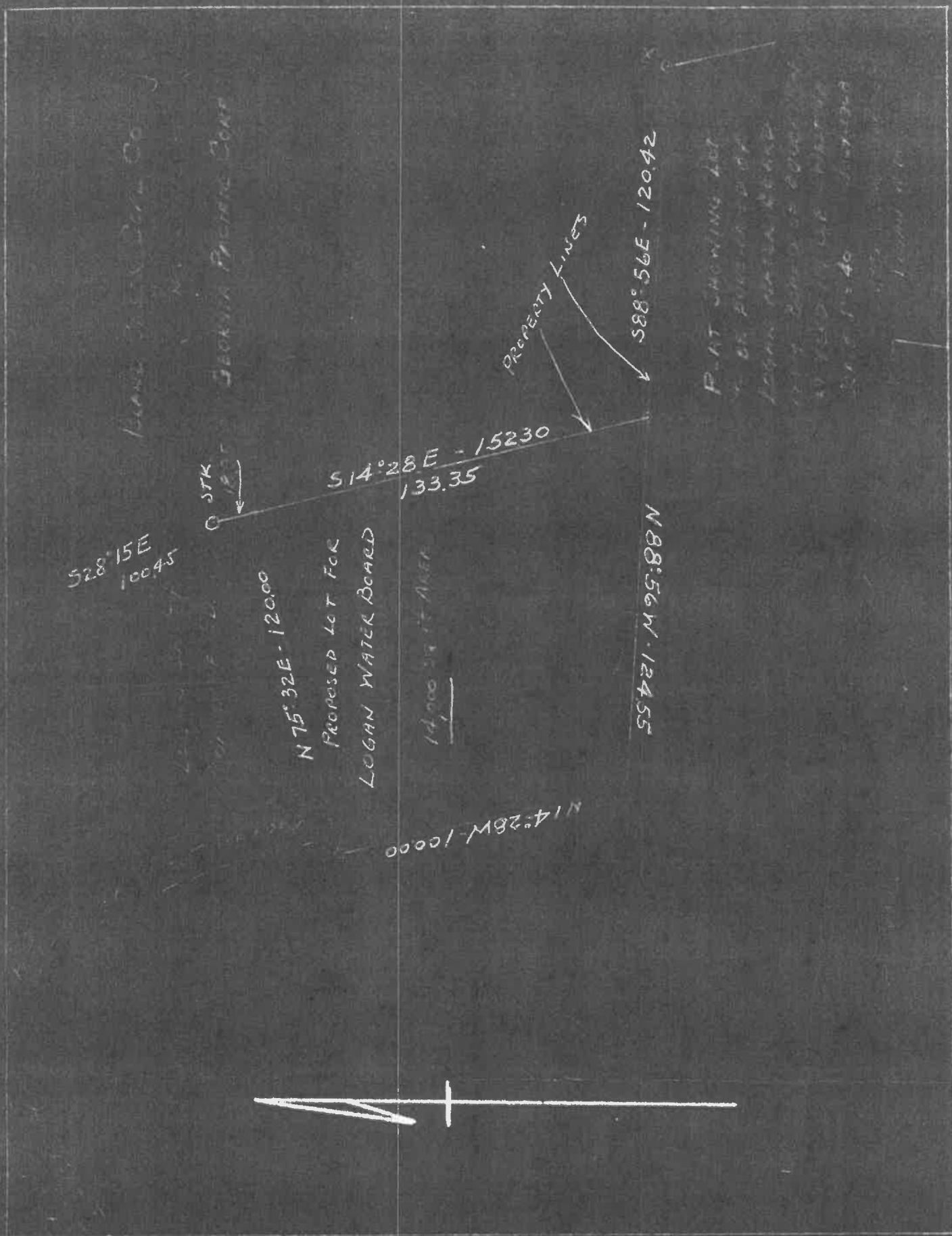
Dated this 16th day of September, 1968.

Name:

Edward I. Eiland
City Attorney

Address: Logan, West Virginia

THIS INSTRUMENT WAS PREPARED BY
EDWARD I. EILAND OF THE LAW FIRM
OF ESTEP, SMITH & EILAND, SUITE 302
SEARS BUILDING, LOGAN, WEST VIRGINIA.



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF LOGAN, TO-WIT:
IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT:

The foregoing paper was this the 17th day of September 1968,
at 3:15 PM, presented to me in my office, and thereupon, together with a certificate
thereunto annexed is admitted to record.

Recording Fee \$ 1.75
1.00 (Map)

Teste: W. N. ANDERSON, JR. CLERK
By Wm. H. Gies Deputy

45
2

03-53-23

Lagan County Commission Deed
Parcel Id: 03 59008700000000
Book # 529 Page: 741
SUR PAR CONT .20 AC M/L

Parcel Id: 03 59008800000000
Book # 504 Page: 558
SUR PAR CONT 0.0749 AC M/L

Line Mountainer (State of WV)



02/29/2024

Deed to Verdunville Elementary

DEED BOOK 244 ~~121~~ 121

121
121

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF LOGAN, TO-WIT:
IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT:

The foregoing paper was this the 6th day of April 1956
at 2:30 P. M., presented to me in my office, and thereupon,
together with a certificate thereunto annexed is admitted to record.

Recording Fee \$ 2.25

Teste: LUTHER MOUNTS, CLERK

By Salvo Aroncio Deputy

THIS DEED, made this 2d day of April, 1956,
between ISLAND CREEK COAL COMPANY, a Maine corporation, party
of the first part, and the BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE COUNTY OF
LOGAN of the State of West Virginia, a public corporation,
party of the second part,

WITNESSETH:

That for and in consideration of the sum of One
Dollar (\$1.00) cash in hand paid, and other good and valuable
considerations, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged,
the party of the first part hereby grants and conveys unto the
party of the second part (subject to the exceptions and res-
ervations hereinafter contained) all that certain lot, piece
or parcel of land situate in Logan District, Logan County,
West Virginia, and lying north of the Mud Fork of Island Creek
above the preparation plant for the party of the first part's
Mine No. 16, and contiguous to the east side of Aldredge Land
Company's Manus Subdivision, Section 2, Parcel No. 3, and more
particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the most northern corner of above
mentioned Parcel 3 (said beginning corner is a T-Rail); thence
leaving Parcel 3

N 27 37 W 222.35 feet to a stake; thence

N 89 27 E 253.67 feet to a stake; thence

N 72 40 E 219.64 feet to a stake; thence

N 44 21 E 315.98 feet to a stake; thence

S 67 49 E 195.85 feet to a stake; thence

S 28 15 E 100.45 feet to a stake; thence

Mail: Board of Education, City

APR 18 1956

S 14 28 E 152.30 feet to a stake; thence

S 88 56 E 120.42 feet to a stake; thence

S 14 28 E 385.00 feet to a stake in the north right of way line of The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company's right of way running up Mud Fork, approximately 450 feet downstream from the Railway Company's monument marked MP 2 Mud Junction; thence running westerly and with the Railway Company's north line to the point of intersection with the east line of the before mentioned Parcel 3; thence leaving the said right of way line and running with the east line of the Manus Sub-division

N 27 37 W 196.13 feet to the place of beginning, containing 11.63 acres.

The meridian on which this survey is based is the magnetic meridian of 1902, and that in use by the Island Creek Coal Company.

Party of the first part hereby excepts and reserves to itself, its successors and assigns, all the coal (other than the coal in the Island Creek seam), oil, gas, and other minerals in, on, or underlying said tract of land, together with the right to transport over, across or under said tract of land by any means of transportation any personnel, substance, or thing; provided, however, that in exercising the rights reserved party of the first part, its successors or assigns, shall not have the right to cause the party of the second part, its successors or assigns, to move or change the location of any school building which may be erected on said tract.

It is a condition of this grant and said party of the second part covenants, that the tract of land hereby conveyed shall be used for public school purposes only, and that in the event said land shall be used for any other purpose, or in the event said land shall cease to be used for public school purposes for a period of one year, the title thereto shall revert to and vest in said party of the second part, its successors and assigns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Island Creek Coal Company has caused this instrument to be signed by its proper officers thereunto duly authorized, all as of the day and year

first above written.

123
1st

ISLAND CREEK COAL COMPANY

By R. W. Laxson
Vice President.

R. W. Laxson
Assistant Secretary

Approved
RSC
Council

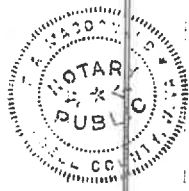
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,
COUNTY OF CAHELL, ss:

I, L. M. Mounts, a Notary Public in and for
said state and county, do certify that R. W. Laxson, who signed
the writing above bearing date the 2d day of April, 1956,
for Island Creek Coal Company, a corporation, has this day in
my said county, before me, acknowledged the said writing to
be the act and deed of said corporation.

Given under my hand and notarial seal this 2d day
of April, 1956.

My commission expires December 29, 1962

L. M. Mounts
Notary Public.



123
3rd

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF LOGAN, TO-WIT:
IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNTY COURT:

The foregoing paper was this the 6th day of April 19 56
at 3:40 P. M., presented to me in my office, and thereupon,
together with a certificate thereunto annexed is admitted to record.

Recording Fee \$ 2.75

Teste: LUTHER MOUNTS, CLERK

By L. Leo Aroncia Deputy

~~Speech~~

~~Approx~~

2 min Speech

I want to talk about titles for a sec, we all have one or more depending on our job, social status or whatever. But the title we all hold most important is the title of Mother or Father, Grandmother, Grandfather. I feel it is safe to say the majority of everyone ^{here} ~~here~~ has that title. With that said if your child's elementary school closed causing disturbance to their early education and early perception of school I know you would feel the emotions of myself, the other parents, the staff, and the community. When we talk about community there is 1 quote that will always hold true "It takes a village to raise a child". Our Verdunville community it not like your suburban communities where all the decision-makers live! You have your nice houses, nice cars, nice facilities, nice buses, some would say overall better quality of life. But I disagree. When I lived in Fayetteville, NC I had all that but it never felt right. ~~I had~~ I had security cameras all around my house, security system, would not allow my child outside of home other than the backyard under supervision. When we talk about the Verdunville community "our village" Myself and most of the community will have their front door wide open everyday no fancy security, no fancy bcks just community looking out for one another! As a parent you can be tidying up your home or cooking up supper while your kids play in the alley knowing Jim, Sue, Robb, Mary or whoever is probably doing some "porch sitting" keeping an eye out on our children & community.

If something happens there is always someone near, concerned and willing to help. I know ^{few can} ~~you can~~ say that about ^{their} ~~your~~ own community, ~~The HOA meetings are probably the only time you see half of your neighbors!~~

When we talk about Verdunville Elementary School it is a huge part of our community! On that parcel of land houses, Verdunville Elementary School, the Mudfork Community Playground, A resource building for our local Volunteer Fire Dept. and a water tower ^{for} ~~that the city of Logan that helps provide water to the community~~ supplies water to many communities.

Look, we don't have much, but we treasure what we do have; Family, Community, History! and we take care of those things!

Sept 9th
@ Logan County BOE Meeting

Quote August 13th meeting

"I'm not going to tell you how to look at the data this is how I look at the data (bold up paper) I'm a guy that pulls it out, I write it down on a piece of paper 1 time I look at it and then I set it to the side then I come back and I pull that data out again and I look at it a bit different"

American

Initial slip occurred April 08, 2025, Geotech engineers conduct site visit April 10, 2025 during a light rain shower. Report states "No obvious or apparent damage to the structure was noted aside from some mud splattering" also stating in report "Based on our observations of the lower rock cut slope and upper slope area below the water tank, we did not observe evidence that a large failure was imminent on this slope"

Staff returned to school April ~~20th~~^{28th} and Students April 29th

American Geotech email sent May 1st stated "American Geotech Inc (AGI) completed the final inspection for Phase 1 slip/rockfall mitigation procedures at Verdunville Elementary School on April 30, 2025.

Our final inspection was performed in the midday hours following an overnight heavy rain storm." May 6, 2025 Williamson Shriver Architects Inc Phase 2 proposal w/budget. (\$12,000 to remove plywood that isnt there, \$15,000 to remove barriers why not leave them in place for additional security measures, \$25,000 for Miscellaneous Modifications - No specific service or product provided) Almost \$~~150~~⁷⁰,000 in Contingency fees)

Building evaluation completed June 6th by Williamson Shriver Architects Inc; Arrow Engineering, and Harper Engineering. Email dated July 21, 2025 there is a cover page to that email not disclosed publicly by the BOE officials and in it states "In this evaluation, the design team discusses the existing conditions of the school with recommendations for immediate projects and other projects that can be implemented at a later date." In the same email/report stated "A limited number of these glass blocks have been broken and need replacement." I have photos showing only 1 window block having damage.

From
Greg Martin
President
Architect

"Exterior Window Replacement 14 @ \$10,000 ea for a total of \$140,000"

That same report concludes by stating "In conclusion, while the building appears to be in adequate condition for a nearly 70-year-old structure there are several items to consider for prolonging its lifespan."

Quoting
WVBE meeting
August 15th

I like to
compare
Apples to Apples

Information taken from the SBA website shows Man High School built 1957 (Overall Condition of Building is Poor) Project Budget proposed by Williamson Shriver Architects Inc, SBA funding request of \$9,386,772 and local funds of \$1,042,975 for a total cost of \$10,429,747 in total in 2024. Logan High School renovations similar in 2025 most likely same estimated cost. Logan Middle \$3 million in structural repair on a 30 million dollar build School approx 30 years old.

- Arrow Engineering report (not released to the public) Report dated June 16, 2025 states "The purpose of this assessment was to perform an overall structural review of the building to determine what repairs may be needed in the future." Report concluded stating "The majority of the structure appeared to be in adequate structural condition and most of the masonry damage was of a level anticipated for the age of the structure."

August 26 CCBE meeting

Can we discuss Honesty and Transparency.

As leaders in our children's education I would hope these virtues would be not only taught but displayed by the people who we all give our everything to 5 days a week approx: 7hrs a day. ~~They say leadership is displayed from the top to the bottom~~ When I say everything that is exactly what I mean "As parents our children are our everything" We give you our hearts and our lives! When we ask a question, voice a concern, or just complain, It is not only your job but your duty to provide us with what is asked until the answer is satisfactory! As of late the virtues I spoke about seem to not matter; And as a parent who has given you the ultimate trust, I feel betrayed and disappointed Not in the teachers, not in the school staff or school administration. But in our educational leaders our bureaucrats who hide behind policies and dismiss or avoid giving direct honest and transparent answers. ~~You say our school is not safe but delay answers or dismiss them away!~~ Well as a parent with no trust in the ^{educational} system and our educational leaders don't feel my children are safe around you. Our children are housed in what looks as if it was a storage building and when brought to your attention about issues and concerns They were brushed away stating Nobody has told me there were any problems, Well I have told you and I will tell you again until you recognize and address

the problems or issues. It was a slap in the face to tell me the subpar conditions at Omar were adequate for my child and many other children. And although you may be oblivious to why a wooden dowel or board would be in a window frame - The answer as everyone here knows from experience is the window will not lock or secure properly so a board is placed to prevent entry into through said window!

Arrow engineering Report states "The purpose of this assessment was to perform an overall structural review of the building to determine what repairs may be needed in the future."

On July 21 2025 email stating "In this evaluation, the design team discusses the existing conditions of the school with recommendations for immediate projects and other projects that can be implemented at a later date."

How much has Verdunville relocation cost the BOE so far? What is the projected cost?

Logan County Board Meeting Sept 23, ~~2008~~ 2025

Today I would like to talk about Honesty, Transparency, Empathy, and Compassion. The reason I bring up these 4 traits is because throughout the Verdunville transition myself and many other feel these qualities have been absent, overlooked and disregarded. Honesty is defined: the quality of being honest. With the inconsistency in the reports and detail as to why specifically the closure is a result of imminent danger concerns, the obvious overinflated budget. I accuse you of Dishonesty. Transparency is defined: the quality of being open to public ~~self~~ scrutiny. Well if we further discuss this ~~none~~ ^{most} of our concerns and questions have gone unanswered, yes when we say unanswered I refer to a full answer explaining details as to why? The meeting of ~~the~~ August 26th Parents were denied an opportunity to speak. For these actions I state your administration is not transparent. Empathy is defined: the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. Parents are upset, children are exhausted, A situation with little to no understanding and the remedies are cold and lack emotion or concern. Unkept building housing students and staff. Upgrades and ~~Schedules~~ ^{Quotes} that cause more inconvenience to those already affected. No direct communication lines established prior to changes. There was opportunity to delay start of school 3 days to better prepare and finish or install key components prior to start!

So for not understanding how impactful your decisions are and how they have affected everyone involved I say your administration lacks empathy for those they service! Children, Parents, staff

Compassion is defined: 'sympathetic pity and concerns for the sufferings or misfortune of others. It is

clear that money is all we are, There is no plan to accommodate children next year, Decisions

were hastily made based upon money as has been stated before. With all our children, parents, staff

have been through I state there is an obvious lack of Compassion for the public you serve!

Take accountability and publicly answer our questions, concerns, comments. Because at the least, bare minimum we are owed that,

Remember you work for us!

WV State BOE Meeting

Wed August 13 @ 9AM

~~I am speaking today on behalf of the Verdunville Community. I would like to make the following ^{committee} ~~aware~~ aware of the Emergency Closure of Verdunville Elementary School. As a parent with a child diagnosed with ADHD and Autism the sudden closure and announcement of closure has not been an easy adjustment with only 20 days notice before School officially starts. I am a Disabled Veteran who served 7 years and did a deployment partly in Iraq and majority in Jordan ^{attached to 5th Group Special Forces} in 2017. I was a part of 3rd Group 1st Battalion ^{Special Forces Support Company} prior to Medical ^{Discharge} in 2020. My child attended Kindergarten in NC after my discharge where we resided in Fayetteville, NC minutes away from Ft. Bragg. All throughout the school year me and my wife had difficulties with drop-off procedures due to at the time (Undiagnosed ADHD, Autism) ^{Severe Separation Anxiety} and my child would kick, scream, refuse to leave vehicle. Staff and teachers would be waiting knowing he would have to be escorted into the school and many times would sit with the principal until his mental state had calmed to rejoin classmates. Me and my wife made a huge decision halfway through the school year to leave ~~the~~ NC and come back to WV so we can have family support dealing with his behavior due to his conditions. We chose to enroll our child in Verdunville Elementary since my wife ^{attended} and her nieces, nephew were currently attending the school. With the support~~

of ~~Wendy Edwards~~, ~~Janice~~ the Verdunville staff we realized he was falling behind his peers and agreed he should re-take 1st grade to catch up. With the assistance of his teachers, staff, and principal coordinating with my wife and I we were finally able to get him an IEP (which we have been working towards since he started kindergarten (Approx: 2 years with multiple doctors involved to no ~~protection~~ avail) My child has become comfortable with the staff and the Verdunville Elementary Building, This change is going to reset the progress my son has made and hinder his education in the upcoming school year.

I have overlooked the evaluations of Phase 1 & 2 from Geotech Engineering Inc and William Shivers Architects Inc And report states no damage to building, only damage from mudslide was mud splattering. With no significant rainfall since Phase 1 completion allowing the children to return to finish the school year 24-25 returning April 29th. With no significant changes other than Phase 1 construction What makes the school so unsafe now than it was April 29th ^{Approx: June 2nd} Approx: 25 days of Uncertain Safety, our children attended to complete school year 24-25.

It also makes no sense that when 3 other companies were added the Phase 2 budget got overinflated to over 8.4 million in cost.

- There is currently a barrier behind the school approx 2 ft tall if imminent danger was a concern shouldn't a larger barrier have been placed? Safety nets installed to protect from falling debris, Hesco Barriers, or even concrete blankets to secure hillside from additional slips/or falls.
- If preventative maintainance is conducted on each school per year using the allocated funds budgeted for said purpose Phase 2 budget of 8.4 million would be irrelevant due to majority of cost being preventative maintainance on a 70yr old school.
- Teachers returned April 28th, Students April 29th, Final Inspection Phase 1 May 1st
Why cant we re-evaluate, re-budget, re-bid re-plan, and re-assess Phase 2 to keep Verdunville Elementary School Open?

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF LOGAN**

A special meeting of the Logan County Board of Education was held at the Ralph R. Willis Career Technical Center on Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

The purpose of the special meeting is to conduct a public hearing for the proposed closure of Verdunville Elementary and the merger with Omar Elementary.

Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Board President Mr. Anthony Dean. Those present were Mark Keyser, Deborah Mendez, Ralph Rodighiero, Dr. Pat J. White, and Secretary Superintendent Dr. Sonya White.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Teresa Dingess.

Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

Superintendent Dr. Sonya White presented her recommendation to officially close Verdunville Elementary at the end of the 2025-2026 school year and merge it with Omar Elementary, effective for the 2026-2027 school year. This recommendation follows a thorough review of the instructional, operational, and financial conditions in the County, as well as public hearings that were held on November 18, 2025. The following was

- Verdunville Elementary has faced an ongoing enrollment decline.
- The facility condition of Verdunville Elementary is concerning and will require millions of dollars to bring the facility up to current standards.
- Consolidation with Omar Elementary will allow students to benefit from broader instructional support and improve access to specialists and certified staff. Omar has the physical capacity to accommodate additional students and provide a safe and supportive learning environment.

Jeffrey Kelley represented State Superintendent Blatt, in her acting capacity, as the Board of Education of Logan County has approved the closure of Verdunville Elementary and the merger with Omar Elementary. This closure shall take place at the end of the 2025-2026 school year. The State Superintendent also approved the amendment to the Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP).

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mrs. Mendez made the motion to adjourn, with Dr. Pat J. White seconding the motion. Motion carried; the vote was 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

Question regarding the closure of Verdunville Grade school and relocation of students to old junior high school.

West Virginia Department of Education answers are provided in blue.

A. Structural & Building Condition

1. Has the Board obtained more than one engineering or architectural opinion, or is the closure decision based solely on a single report?

The closure decision was based on a single report from professional architects and engineers.

2. Did the engineer/architect provide multiple repair scenarios (life-safety-only, phased repairs, structural-only) or only a full renovation estimate?

The estimate was representative of the overall facility needs.

3. How much of the \$8 million estimate reflects actual structural repair, versus optional full-code and ADA upgrades?

Please see the preliminary cost budget for a breakdown of repairs that are not considered cosmetic or nonessential.

4. Did the estimate include cosmetic or nonessential improvements beyond safety, code, and ADA compliance?

Please see the preliminary cost budget for a breakdown of repairs that are not considered cosmetic or nonessential.

5. Has the Board reviewed the impact of standing water in the crawl space, rusted floor joists, and lack of vapor barriers on student and staff safety?

This information has been reviewed as part of the structural report.

6. Was a peer review or independent verification of the engineer/architect report conducted?

A peer review was not conducted.

7. Did the Board consider partial repairs, phased renovations, or short-term stabilization to keep the building safe during the interim?

A comprehensive review of the facility and its long-term needs was completed as part of the report.

8. Were restroom upgrades, roof replacement, and asbestos removal properly prioritized for safety versus full modernization?

A comprehensive review of the facility and its long-term needs was completed as part of the report.

B. Geotechnical / Site Safety

9. The geotechnical report has been made publicly available and confirms the hillside is stable and safe. Given this, why are the structural issues alone sufficient to justify closure? Please refer to the geotechnical report dated May 1, 2025, which states that a long-term, permanent fix to address the slips/rockfalls must be completed before occupying the building for the next school year. The hillside is thereby unstable and unsafe.

10. Were any alternate mitigation measures considered (drainage, crawl-space repair, dehumidification) to address water and structural issues?

A comprehensive review of the facility and its long-term needs was completed as part of the report, and alternative mitigation measures were not included.

C. Cost, Funding, and Alternatives

11. The Board has provided a cost breakdown separating structural repairs, HVAC, roof, ADA compliance, asbestos removal, and other components. Has this breakdown been independently reviewed for accuracy?

The closure decision was based on a single report from professional architects and engineers.

12. Does the breakdown clearly identify which costs are essential for life-safety and code compliance versus optional modernization or betterments?

Please see the preliminary cost budget for a breakdown of repairs that are not considered cosmetic or nonessential.

13. Are there duplicative costs included (e.g., asbestos removal already completed in prior repairs)?

Please see the preliminary cost budget for a breakdown of repairs. Duplicative repairs, if they occur, are not substantial considering the overall facility needs.

14. Were alternative repair scenarios (partial repairs, phased renovations, minimal ADA/code compliance) analyzed using this cost breakdown?

Please see the preliminary cost budget for a breakdown of repairs. Alternative repair scenarios were not considered.

15. Was a life-cycle cost analysis performed using the breakdown to compare renovation versus new construction or phased repairs?

Please see the attached preliminary cost budget for a breakdown of repairs. A life-cycle cost analysis was not performed.

16. Was any SBA funding, state grants, or phased capital funding considered to repair or partially renovate the school?

SBA grants or phased capital funding were not considered, as the school's enrollment would not meet the required economies of scale.

Historical SBA Funding

17. Logan County received SBA funding in 2012 for construction of a new school for Verdunville.

- Why was a new school not built at that time?

Information is not available at the time the questions were received and may require further research.

- Why were the funds returned to the SBA instead of being used for the intended project?

Information is not available at the time the questions were received and may require further research.

- Were any lessons learned from the 2012 funding process applied to current planning?

Information is not available at the time the questions were received and may require further research.

18. How does the 2012 SBA funding history affect current cost, timing, and decision-making regarding school closure and new construction?

The 2012 SBA funding history does not affect current cost, timing, and decision-making.

19. In 2012, the total projected cost for a new Verdunville school was \$17,732,351, with \$8,732,351 in local funds and \$9,000,000 in SBA funds.

- Where were these funds actually spent?

SBA Funds were not granted and therefore not spent. Regarding the use of local funds from 2012, it is undetermined at the time these questions were received and would require further research from that period.

- Were any portions of the funding used for other projects, maintenance, or unrelated expenses?

Regarding the use of local funds from 2012, it is undetermined at the time these questions were received and would require further research from that period.

- Has the Board conducted a financial audit or review of the 2012 funding allocation?

20. Prior to receiving SBA funding in 2012, was a study or assessment conducted regarding the construction of a new Verdunville school?

Regarding the use of local funds from 2012, it is undetermined at the time these questions were received and would require further research from that period.

- If so, what type of study was it (feasibility, structural, cost analysis, site assessment)?
Regarding the use of local funds from 2012, it is undetermined at the time these questions were received and would require further research from that period.

- What were the findings and recommendations of that study?
Regarding the use of local funds from 2012, it is undetermined at the time these questions were received and would require further research from that period.

- Were the results of the study used to guide the decision to return SBA funds and not build the school?
Regarding the use of local funds from 2012, it is undetermined at the time these questions were received and would require further research from that period.

- Are records of this study publicly available for review?
Regarding the use of local funds from 2012, it is undetermined at the time these questions were received and would require further research from that period.

D. Transportation & Educational Impact

21. What is the expected bus ride time for students after relocation? Current estimates indicate up to 50 minutes each way.

Transportation times are available in the impact statement for Verdunville Elementary and Omar Elementary Schools.

22. Students will be required to change buses mid-route. How will the Board ensure their safety, supervision, and timely arrival?

Student safety will always be the top priority, and every effort will be made to ensure safe transportation to and from school.

23. Has a formal transportation impact study been conducted, including costs, scheduling, and winter weather considerations?

Transportation was included in the impact statements, and further consideration will be given for developing issues as needed. Student safety will always be the top priority, and every effort will be made to ensure safe transportation to and from school.

24. How will the longer commute and bus transfers affect attendance, academic performance, and student fatigue?

Students will be provided with support as needed to minimize the impact of additional travel time.

25. Has this transportation impact been included in the required educational impact statement?

Transportation impact has been provided as part of the impact statement.

E. Long-Term Planning

26. What is the long-term plan for students from Verdunville? Construction of a new school is projected to take at least 5 years (minimum).

The plan for Verdunville Elementary is to merge it into Omar Elementary School.

27. What temporary measures are being planned to ensure safety, accessibility, and quality of education during this interim period?

The plan for Verdunville Elementary is to merge it into Omar Elementary School, and student safety, accessibility, and quality of education will be ensured at that location.

28. Has the Board evaluated whether repairing the existing school would be safer or more practical than relocating students for 5+ years?

The merger of Verdunville Elementary into Omar Elementary is the safest and most practical decision given the condition of the Verdunville Elementary School facility.

29. What is the timeline for design, funding, permitting, and construction of the new school?

There is no timeline in place.

30. Are there contingency plans if the new school is delayed?

There is no timeline in place.

31. How has the community, parents, and teachers been consulted regarding the interim plan?

Public hearings were held for the merger of Verdunville Elementary School into Omar Elementary School, and public hearings will be held for any future decisions.

F. CEFP / Maintenance Oversight

32. What happened to CEFP funds previously allocated for maintenance or improvements to Verdunville Grade School?

There is no fund specifically called CEFP.

33. Were CEFP or other funds used to address standing water, rusted floor joists, or other structural issues over the years?

Regarding the use of local funds for these repairs, it is undetermined at this time and would require further research to determine what work has been completed to address the identified structural issues.

34. Why were the standing water and crawl-space issues not addressed during previous construction or the addition built years ago?

It is unknown why the stated issues were not previously addressed.

35. Were inspections performed during prior additions or renovations, and were any recommendations ignored?

It is unknown what prior inspections were completed and if any information was ignored.

36. Has the Board conducted a long-term maintenance review, documenting recurring structural or water issues?

A long-term maintenance review is not known to have been completed.

37. Were any mitigation attempts made over the years to address crawl-space water, rust, or lack of vapor barriers?

It is unknown what prior mitigation attempts have been completed at the time these questions were received.

G. Policy 6204 Compliance / Transparency & Community Impacts

38. Has the Board met all Policy 6204 requirements:

- Public notice of proposed closure

Yes

- 30-day public review of supporting data

Yes

- Public hearings

Yes

- Documentation of alternatives considered

All available information is provided in the impact statement for the closure of Verdunville Elementary School.

39. How does the closure satisfy the requirement to consider educational, fiscal, and community impacts?

Please see the provided impact statement for the closure of Verdunville Elementary School.

40. Specifically, what is the impact on community activities:

- Gym rentals for local events

Information is not available at the time of the question.

- Playground use for community gatherings (e.g., Easter egg hunts)

Information is not available at the time of the question.

- Gym use as a voting location

Information is not available at the time of the question.

- Other community programs historically hosted at the school

Information is not available at the time of the question.

41. Is there a formal record showing why closure is necessary instead of renovation or phased repairs, given the loss of community resources?

No formal record is available outside of the provided impact statement for the closure of Verdunville Elementary School.

H. Asbestos Removal / Testing

42. The estimate includes asbestos floor and ceiling tile removal. Has the Board verified whether any of this work was already completed during previous repairs or renovations?
Deleting any potential duplicates of asbestos removal would not be significant enough, given the facility's overall needs.

43. If asbestos was previously removed, why is it being included again in the \$8M estimate?
If some asbestos was previously removed, it may not include all areas that need abatement, and deleting any potential duplicates of asbestos removal would not be significant enough, given the facility's overall needs.

44. Was the cost of duplicative asbestos removal separated from structural or code-related costs in the estimate?

Deleting any potential duplicates of asbestos removal would not be significant enough, given the facility's overall needs. Please see the preliminary cost budget for a breakdown of repairs

45. Has asbestos testing been conducted on the current building materials?

The county is required to annually update its paperwork regarding the location of any asbestos-containing materials.

46. Are records of past asbestos testing and abatement available for public review?

Asbestos records may be provided upon formal request.

47. Were previous asbestos abatement reports incorporated into the current renovation estimate?

The county is required to annually update its paperwork regarding the location of asbestos-containing materials.

48. Has an independent consultant verified the asbestos scope for accuracy and necessity?

The county is required to annually update its paperwork regarding the location of asbestos-containing materials.