

Executive Summary

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

Introduction: The Wetzel County Board of Education requests approval of an amendment to their current 2020-2030 Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP).

Changes: Policy 6200 requires all local boards of education to submit amendments to CEFPs to the West Virginia Board of Education and the School Building Authority of West Virginia (SBA) for approval. The Wetzel County Board of Education requests approval to revise its CEFP to reflect a change in the grade configuration of Paden City Elementary School. Under this revision, Paden City Elementary would shift from serving students in grades PreK–6 to serving students in grades PreK-5. The 6th-grade students from Paden City Elementary would transition to New Martinsville School PreK-8, the school they naturally progress to. The proposed change would take effect beginning with the 2026–2027 school year.

WETZEL COUNTY SCHOOLS



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March 3, 2026

The Honorable Michele L. Blatt
Superintendent
West Virginia Department of Education
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, WV 25305-0330

Dear Superintendent Blatt:

I am writing this request for the consideration to amend Wetzel County's CEFP to reflect changing Paden City Elementary from a school serving students in grades Pre-K-6 to a school serving students in grades Pre-K-5 effective for the 2026-2027 school year.

The Wetzel County Board of Education voted in favor 5-0 to make this amendment on February 10, 2026 at a regular meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter. If you are in need of any additional information or clarification, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cassandra Porter".

Cassandra Porter,
Superintendent,
Wetzel County Schools

[Wetzel County]

100.021 CEFP APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENT

Instructions: Please provide details regarding the request for amendment for any part of the CEFP.

COUNTY	Wetzel County
DATE	3/3/2026
AMENDMENT TYPE	BUDGET/PROJECT/OVERALL PLAN
AMENDMENT #	
DATE AMENDMENT APPROVED BY LEA	February 10, 2026
SIGNATURE-COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT	See Attached

Briefly describe the nature of the amendment and/or scope of work to be completed:

The Wetzel County Board of Education requests approval to revise its CEFP to reflect a change in the grade configuration of Paden City Elementary School. Under this revision, Paden City Elementary would shift from serving students in grades PreK–6 to serving students in grades PreK-5. The 6th-grade students from Paden City Elementary would transition to New Martinsville School PreK-8, the school they would naturally progress to. The proposed change would take effect beginning with the 2026–2027 school year.

A. BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PROJECT WITHIN THE CURRENT CEFP

Include a revised CEFP finance plan summary sheet and any other altered CEFP pages with revision date as per Section E to specifically reflect the project expenditures requested in this amendment. Briefly describe the need to adjust the present budget.

BUDGET ITEM	BUDGET AMOUNT
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET APPROVED BY CEFP	\$
A. SBA GRANT	\$
B. OTHER (DESCRIBE)	\$
AMENDMENT TO THIS PROJECT BUDGET(+/-)	\$
A. SBA GRANT	\$
B. OTHER (DESCRIBE)	\$
TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT IF AMENDMENT APPROVED	\$NA

B. AMENDMENT TO EXISTING OR NEW PROJECT (Complete information on additional pages if 2, 3, or 4 are checked below)

REVISE THE SCOPE OF AN EXISTING PROJECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ADD A NEW PROJECT NOT CURRENTLY IN CEFP	<input type="checkbox"/>
NEW ADDITION OR RENOVATION PROJECT	<input type="checkbox"/>
TECHNOLOGY AND/OR BLDG. INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>

Provide a revised budget in Part A for the project(s) affected by this amendment. Also, provide replacement sheets for the current approved plan on file in the SBA and WVDE offices for all chapters of the plan affected by the amendment. Include revision dates on all replacement sheets as per Section E.

C. OVERALL PLAN AMENDMENT (Complete Information on additional pages)

Amendments to the overall plan are defined as those changes that alter the educational delivery models (grade configuration, delivery system, etc.) or dramatically affect the major elements of the CEFP identified in WVBE 6200, Chapter 1, Handbook on Planning Schools or Goals and Objectives of the SBA (West Virginia Code §18-9D-15). Provide replacement sheets for the current approved plan on file in the SBA and WVDE offices for all chapters of the plan affected by the amendment, including revisions dates on all replacement sheets as per Section E.

D. AMENDMENT JUSTIFICATION AS REQUIRED IN WEST VIRGINIA CODE §18-9D-15 (Attachment additional backup information, if required)

1. Describe how the amendment alters the current ten-year comprehensive educational facilities plan, project, finance plan, and changes in the scope of the project. (Narrative)

Amend Wetzel County's CEFP to reflect changing Paden City Elementary from a school serving students in grades Pre-K-6 to a school serving students in grades Pre-K-5 effective for the 2026-2027 school year.

2. Provide the impact of this amendment upon the educational opportunities of students and the budget of the LEA. (Narrative)

Better align grade configurations with traditional grade configurations and future consolidation plans for the county.

3. Describe how the existing facility plan does not and the proposed amendment does meet the following goals of the SBA as described in WV Code §18-9D-16:

a. Student health and safety including, but not limited to, critical health and safety needs

Wetzel County will continue to meet the safety and health needs of its students.

b. Economies of Scale, including compatibility with similar schools that have achieved the most economical organization, facility use, and pupil-teacher ratios

Not Applicable

c. Reasonable Travel Time and practical means of addressing other demographic considerations

Not Applicable

d. Multi-County and regional planning to achieve the most effective and efficient instructional delivery system

Not Applicable

e. Curriculum improvements and diversification, including the use of instructional technology, distance learning and access to advanced courses in science, mathematics, language arts, and social studies

f. Innovations in Education

Wetzel County will continue to meet the educational needs of its students.

g. Adequate Space for projected student enrollments

There is adequate space to accommodate the action.

h. The history of efforts taken by the LEA to propose or adopt local school bond issues or special levies to the extent constitutionally permissible

Not Applicable

i. Regularly scheduled preventive maintenance

Not Applicable

j. How the project will assure the prudent and resourceful expenditure of state funds and achieve the purposes of this article for constructing, expanding, renovating or otherwise improving and maintaining school facilities for a thorough and efficient education

Better align grade configurations with traditional grade configurations and future consolidation plans for the county. The action will improve the county's efficiency.

E. SUBMISSION OF REVISED CEFP PAGES

List the page numbers changed in the CEFP by this amendment, attach the altered pages to this form, place the revision date (revised [date]) on the bottom right hand corner of each revised page, and

submit one copy to both the SBA and the WVDE. If additional pages are required, use the page number from the preceding page in the CEFP and add successive letters, i.e., 47, 47a, 47b, 48.

FOR WVDE AND SBA USE ONLY

WVDE Signature: _____

SBA Signature: _____

WVDE Approval Date: _____

SBA Approval Date: _____