

AGENDA

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

Capitol Building 6, Suite 600
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia

May 13, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

- I. **Welcome - Pledge of Allegiance - Introductions – Call-to-Order**
L. Paul Hardesty, President
- II. **Approval of Agenda – (Action)**
President Hardesty
- III. **Delegation(s) – (Information)**
Christy Day
- IV. **School Safety Update – (Information)**
Micah Whitlow and James Agee
- V. **West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) Reports – (Information)**
Superintendent Michele L. Blatt
- VI. **Consent Agenda - (Action)**
 - A. **Approval of Minutes - (Action)**

[Attachment A](#)

It is recommended that the **minutes of the April 8, 2026, meeting of the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) be approved.**

B. Routine Business

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

[Attachment B](#)

It is recommended that the **Employment of Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage policy for Webster County be approved.**

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

[Attachment C](#)

Pursuant to W. Va. Code §18A-2-3(c)(2)(G) and §18A-4-15a(b)(2)(F), affidavits from counties must be received and approved by the WVBE for submission to the Consolidated Public Retirement Board.

It is recommended that the **affidavits listed in the attachment be received and approved for submission to the Consolidated Public Retirement Board.**

- 3. **Approval of Christian Schools International (CSI), North American Christian School Accrediting Agency (NACSAA), and Society for Classical Learning (SCL) as Nonpublic School Accreditation Organizations pursuant to WVBE Policy 2330 – (Action)**
Dustin Lambert

[Attachment D](#)

WVBE Policy 2330 outlines the process for recognition of nonpublic schools in West Virginia as being accredited. Currently, the WVDE maintains a list of five organizations approved by the WVBE. Three additional organizations have

submitted proposals aligned with WVBE Policy 2330 for approval. These organizations include Christian Schools International (CSI), North American Christian School Accrediting Agency (NACSAA), and Society for Classical Learning (SCL). All three proposals have been reviewed and recommended by the Nonpublic School Coalition, comprised of nonpublic school administrators who are fully accredited by one of the five approved accrediting organizations. If the WVBE approves these additional agencies, nonpublic schools that meet accreditation requirements within these organizations will be recognized as accredited in West Virginia.

It is recommended that the **Christian Schools International (CSI), North American Christian School Accrediting Agency (NACSAA), and Society for Classical Learning be approved as nonpublic school accreditation organizations that meet the requirements of WVBE Policy 2330.**

4. Monongalia County Schools' Request for a Waiver of WVBE Policy 4321.1, Standards for School Nutrition – (Action)
Joey Wiseman

Monongalia County Schools has requested a waiver of WVBE Policy 4321.1, Standards for School Nutrition, to allow for a la carte food sales at University High School and Morgantown High School. Waivers allowing for a la carte food sales in Monongalia County High Schools have been approved for the past three school years.

It is recommended that **Monongalia County Schools' Request for a waiver of WVBE Policy 4321.1, Standards for School Nutrition, to allow a la carte food sales at University High School and Morgantown High School be approved.**

5. Amendment of Cabell County's 2020-2030 Comprehensive Educational Facilities Education Plan (CEFP) – (Action)
Micah Whitlow

[Attachment E](#)

WVBE Policy 6200 requires all local boards of education to submit amendments to CEFPs to the WVBE and the SBA for approval. The Cabell County Board of Education requests approval to revise its CEFP to include a partial roof replacement at Central City Elementary School. Cabell County Schools plans to fund this project through a combination of local funds and a SBA grant request.

It is recommended that **Cabell County's amendment to its 2020-2030 CEFP be approved.**

6. Amendment of Lincoln County's 2020-2030 CEFP – (Action)
Micah Whitlow

[Attachment F](#)

WVBE Policy 6200 requires all local boards of education to submit amendments to CEFPs to the WVBE and SBA for approval. The Lincoln County Board of Education requests approval to revise its CEFP to include an elevator replacement at Lincoln County High School. Lincoln County plans to fund this project through a combination of local funds and a SBA grant request.

It is recommended that **Lincoln County's amendment to its 2020-2030 CEFP be approved.**

7. West Virginia School Board Association (WVSBA) Orientation Training Approval – (Action)
Howard O'Cull

[Attachment G](#)

The WVSBA will provide orientation training to satisfy new county board member training requirements established in W. Va. Code §18-5-1a(d). The training,

approved for recommendation at the Training Standards Review Committee (TSRC) on April 27, 2026, is scheduled for June 12-13, 2026, at Canaan Valley Resort and Conference Center.

It is recommended that the **WVSBA Orientation Training, as recommended by the TSRC, be approved.**

8. Appointment to the Alternative Certification Educator Preparation Program Review Board (ACEPPRB) – (Action)
Traci Gregory

[Attachment H](#)

The ACEPPRB makes recommendations to the WVBE regarding the approval of initial and continuing alternative certification programs for the education of teachers. These programs make it possible for qualified individuals to earn a teacher certification that helps fill staff vacancies in areas of critical need and shortage. According to WVBE Policy 5901, the ACEPPRB is comprised of nine members who may serve up to two consecutive three-year terms and are appointed as follows: Two members representing higher education; three members (one who was alternatively prepared) representing public education, one member at each programmatic level for elementary, middle, and high school; two members representing county offices; one member who is a principal appointed by the State Superintendent of Schools; and one member from the West Virginia Commission for Professional Teaching Standards. The current vacancies are for one county office representative and one high school educator, to be appointed by the WVBE. The recommended appointees are Tonji Bowen, Coordinator of Curriculum and Intervention for Wayne County Schools, and Melissa Ennis, a high school teacher for Kanawha County Schools who was alternatively prepared to acquire her teacher certification.

It is recommended **that the appointment of Tonji Bowen and Melissa Ennis to serve on the ACEPPRB be approved.**

9. West Virginia Licensure Testing Directory Approval – (Action)
Robert Hagerman

[Attachment I](#)

The WVBE required licensure exams for educator certification and completion of WVBE approved programs leading to West Virginia licensure directory is maintained on the WVDE website. Additional test(s), scores, or exceptions have been changed to reflect updates in policy and exams.

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

10. Statewide Waiver of WVBE Policy 2510, Assuring the Quality of Education: Regulations for Education Programs, Section 5.1 – (Action)
Joey Wiseman

The purpose of this waiver is to allow counties to utilize physical activities and/or sports in lieu of physical education, allowing students the opportunity to take additional credit-bearing courses and/or career exploration coursework during the middle school experience.

It is recommended that a **Statewide Waiver of WVBE Policy 2510, Section 5.1, be approved.**

VII. New Business

A. West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission (WVSSAC) Series 2, Athletics, Provisions Governing Eligibility – (Action)
Wayne Ryan, Executive Director, WVSSAC

[Attachment J](#)

Most secondary public schools and several private schools in West Virginia belong to the WVSSAC. Each year, the principals of member schools submit revisions to the rules and regulations. The submitted proposals are presented and voted upon at the annual Board of Control meeting. Any approved changes are then submitted to the WVBE for review and approval pursuant to *W. Va. Code §18-2-25(b)*. The proposed changes to this rule are a result of the passage of House Bill No. 4425 - *To repeal the provision allowing for students to transfer from one school to another without losing eligibility* (2026 Regular Legislative Session), effective on June 11, 2026. The WVSSAC Board of Control approved this rule revision on March 31, 2026, and it should be filed as an emergency rule on June 11, 2026, to avoid conflicts with current law.

It is recommended that **WVSSAC, Series 2, be approved as an emergency rule, effective upon filing on June 11, 2026, and be placed on public comment for 30 days from filing.**

B. Career Technical Education Apprenticeship Program Update – (Information)
Adam Canter

The Office of Career Technical Education will provide information relating to the Classroom2Career - Apprenticeship Program.

C. Mingo County Schools Intervention Update – (Action)
Alexandra Criner

The Office of Accountability will provide an update on the intervention in Mingo County Schools.

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

D. Nicholas County Schools Intervention Update – (Action)
Alexandra Criner

The Office of Accountability will provide an update on the intervention in Nicholas County Schools.

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

E. Tyler County Schools Intervention Update – (Action)
Alexandra Criner

The Office of Accountability will provide an update on the intervention in Tyler County Schools.

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

F. West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (WVSDB) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Hampshire County Little League (HCLL) – (Action)
Kelli Talbott

[Attachment K](#)

Since 1949, the HCLL has been utilizing property owned by the WVBE on behalf of the WVSDB for baseball activities. In 2013, HCLL approached the WVBE seeking to install light towers on the property. As a result, the WVBE decided to enter into a MOU with HCLL. An MOU was approved by the WVBE in March 2014,

providing permission for the League to install the light towers and to have the use of the fields indefinitely, while requiring the League to carry liability insurance and indemnify the WVBE. Under the MOU, the WVBE retains the right to terminate the arrangement upon 30 days' written notice, but if it does so, the WVBE is required to compensate HCLL for the fair market value of its improvements to the property.

In April 2026, HCLL contacted WVSDS Superintendent Clayton Burch seeking permission to construct an Indoor Training Facility on the same tract of land. According to materials provided by the League, the Indoor Training Facility is planned to be 40' in width, 80' in length, and 14' in height, containing two multi-use lanes for indoor baseball practices and pregame warmups. The total cost of the facility is expected to be \$70,850 and will be financed by the HCLL through donations.

As a result, an Addendum to the MOU is proposed, which will set forth the WVBE's permission for the HCLL to construct the Indoor Training Facility and to otherwise update some aspects of the MOU. The WVBE will continue to retain the right to terminate the MOU upon 30 days' written notice and, if it does so, it will be required to compensate the League for the fair market value of the League's improvements to the property.

It is recommended that the **Addendum to the MOU with HCLL be approved.**

G. Discussion of Legal Matters – Supreme Court No. 25-642, West Virginia Board of Education v. Warner – (Information and/or Action)

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

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

H. WVBE and WVDE Personnel Matters – (Action)

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

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

[Attachment L](#)

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

[Attachment M](#)

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

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

The next regular meeting will be held on June 10, 2026, in Charleston, West Virginia.

X. Adjournment - (Action)

