

AGENDA

WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

November 12, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.

- I. Welcome - Pledge of Allegiance - Introductions – Call-to-Order**
L. Paul Hardesty, President
- II. Approval of Agenda – (Action)**
L. Paul Hardesty
- III. Recognition(s) – West Virginia Schools 2025 National Blue Ribbon Nominees – (Information)**
Margaret Williamson

Neale Elementary School (Wood County)
Steenrod Elementary School (Ohio County)

- IV. Delegation(s) – (Information)**
Christy Day
- V. School Safety Annual Report – (Action)**
Micah Whitlow

[Attachment A](#)

A motion is requested to **accept the 2025 School Safety Report.**

- VI. West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) Reports – (Information)**
Superintendent Michele L. Blatt

- VII. Consent Agenda - (Action)**

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

[Attachment B](#)

It is recommended that the **minutes of the October 1, 2025, 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 C](#)

It is recommended that the **Employment of Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage policies for Barbour, Braxton, Harrison, Kanawha, Nicholas, Pendleton, and Wayne counties** be approved.

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

[Attachment D](#)

It is recommended that the **Employment of Retired Bus Operators as Substitutes in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage policies for Harrison, Kanawha and Monongalia Counties** be approved.

- 3. Employment of Substitute Teachers and/or Bus Drivers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage Affidavits - (Action)**

[Attachment E](#)

Kelli Talbott

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.**

4. **Appointment of Nancy J. White to an unexpired term on the West Virginia Commission for Professional Teaching Standards and an unexpired term on the West Virginia Education Broadcasting Authority– (Action)**
L. Paul Hardesty

It is recommended that **Nancy J. White be appointed to an unexpired term ending June 30, 2026, on the West Virginia Commission for Professional Teaching Standards, currently held by Debra K. Sullivan, and to an unexpired term ending August 1, 2026, on the West Virginia Educational Broadcasting Authority, currently held by Cathy L. Justice.**

5. **Statewide Waiver of Policy 6204, School Closings or Consolidations, Section 3.4 – (Action)**
Micah Whitlow

A statewide waiver of Policy 6204, section 3.4, is requested to allow counties to complete the required procedures for closing a school on or before February 27 of the calendar year in which the closures or consolidations are to be effective. This extension does not remove counties' responsibility to meet the statutory requirements for the transfer and reduction-in-force of county personnel. Decreases and uncertainties in student enrolment, personnel shortages, and limited school finances necessitate the proposed additional time.

It is recommended that the **request for a statewide waiver of Policy 6204, section 3.4 be approved.**

6. **Amendment of Wayne County's 2020-2030 Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP) – (Action)**
Micah Whitlow

[Attachment F](#)

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 Wayne County Board of Education requests approval to amend its CEFP to add and make a top priority safe school entries at East Lynn Elementary School, Lavalette Elementary School, Dunlow Elementary School, and Genoa Elementary School. The project is planned to be funded through local funds and a grant from the SBA.

It is recommended that the **Wayne County Board of Education's request to amend their 2020-2030 CEFP be approved.**

7. **Amendment of Pendleton County's 2020-2030 Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan (CEFP) – (Action)**
Micah Whitlow

[Attachment G](#)

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 Pendleton County Board of Education requests approval to amend its CEFP to include reroofing and HVAC projects at Brandywine Elementary School and a reroofing project at Pendleton County Middle/High School. The projects are planned to be funded through local funds and a grant from the SBA.

It is recommended that the **Pendleton County Board of Education's request to amend their 2020-2030 CEFP be approved.**

8. **Approval of the West Virginia School Board Association (WVSBA) Statewide Fall Training Conference – (Action)**
Howard O’Cull

[Attachment H](#)

The County Board Member Training Standards Review Committee requests approval of the Statewide Training Session (6.75 hours) specified in the attachment and scheduled for November 15, 2025, at Stonewall Resort.

9. **Monongalia County Schools’ Request for Waiver of Policy 4321.1, Standards for School Nutrition, be approved for the 2025-2026 school year – (Action)**
Tony Crago

Monongalia County Schools has requested a waiver of Policy 4321.1, Standards for School Nutrition, to allow for a la carte food sales at Morgantown High School.

It is recommended that **Monongalia County Schools’ Request for Waiver of Policy 4321.1, Standards for School Nutrition, be approved for the 2025-2026 school year.**

10. **West Virginia Universal Pre-K 2024 Annual Report – (Action)**
Janet Bock-Hager

[Attachment I](#)

The 2024 WV Universal Pre-K Annual Report provides a comprehensive summary of program data for the WV Pre-K Program, including pre-k funding, enrollment, participation, collaboration rates, Pre-K Program Review results, and WV 2024 national State of Pre-K rankings from the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER).

It is recommended that the West Virginia Universal Pre-K 2024 Annual Report be approved.

VIII. New Business

- A. **Mingo County Schools Update – (Action)**
Jeff Kelley and Superintendent Joetta Basile

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

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

- B. **Nicholas County Schools Update – (Action)**
Jeff Kelley and Superintendent Scott Cochran

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

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

- C. **Tyler County Schools Update – (Action)**
Jeff Kelley and Shane Highley

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

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

- D. **Discussion of Legal Matters – Supreme Court No. 25-642, West Virginia Board of Education v. Warner; Civil Action No. CC-41-2025-C-230, Miranda Guzman**

v. West Virginia Board of Education, et. al.; Civil Action No. CC-02-2025-C-470, M. E.-P, et.al. v. West Virginia Board of Education, et al.; Civil Action No. 25-P-19, Allegra v. Gilmer County Board of Education; Civil Action No. CC-19-2025-C-247, Dyson v. West Virginia Board of Education; Civil Action No. CC-20-2025-C-1112, K.J., III v. Kanawha County Board of Education; Civil Action No. 2:25-cv-00588 International Association of Color Manufacturers v. Singh, et al.; Notice of Claim from Jared and Amanda McCray; Civil Action No. CC-29-2025-C-48; Hansford v. Ravenscroft, et al.; and, Discussion of Religious Exemptions from Compulsory School Vaccination Requirements – (Information and/or Action)

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

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

E. 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 J](#)

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

[Attachment k](#)

IX. WVBE Member Updates and Requests for Information - (Information)

L. Paul Hardesty

X. Future Meetings - (Information)

L. Paul Hardesty

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

XI. Adjournment - (Action)