**MINUTES**

**WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

***Teleconference Meeting***

**Capitol Building 6, Room 353**

**1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East**

**Charleston, West Virginia**

**May 13, 2020**

**I. Call to Order**

Following the welcome and Pledge of Allegiance, President David G. Perry called the teleconference meeting of the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) to order at 10:00 a.m. on May 13, 2020, in Capitol Building 6, Room 353, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Charleston, West Virginia.

The following members were present: President Perry, Vice President Miller L. Hall, Thomas W. Campbell (via telephone), Robert W. Dunlevy (via telephone), F. Scott Rotruck (via telephone), Daniel D. Snavely (via telephone), Debra K. Sullivan, Nancy J. White (via telephone), and James S. Wilson (via telephone), and ex officio W. Clayton Burch, State Superintendent of Schools. Member absent was ex officio Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Chancellor, West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education, and Interim Chancellor, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

President Perry called for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Hall moved, and Mrs. Sullivan seconded, that the agenda be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously.

**III. Delegations**

Correspondence submitted by delegations is attached to the official minutes at Attachment H.

**IV. Recognitions**

Superintendent Burch stated that a recognition would take place at noon honoring West Virginia’s education support and administrative staff. The Board requested a resolution honoring the graduating class of 2020 be presented prior to the close of the meeting.

**V. Consent Agenda**

President Perry called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Dunlevy moved, and Ms. White seconded, that the Consent Agenda be approved. Upon the call for the question and the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved. (Copies appended to Official Minutes, Attachments A through C.)

* Approved April 8, 2020, minutes (Attachment A)
* Received West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) personnel matters (Attachment B)
* Received Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage affidavits from Berkeley (four), Calhoun (one), Wirt (two), and Wyoming (one) County Schools

* Received notification of statewide waivers of WVBE policies, approved by the State Superintendent of Schools, due to COVID-19 school closures (Attachment C).

**VI. West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission (WVSSAC)**

**Series 2, *Athletics, Provisions Governing Eligibility***

**and Series 3, *Provisions Governing Contests***

Mr. Bernie Dolan, Executive Director, WVSSAC, presented proposed amendments to Series 2 and Series 3 for the Board’s consideration. Discussion ensued regarding proposals 8, 9, and 4.

Following discussion regarding the proposed amendments, Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Dr. Wilson seconded, that proposals 2) eligibility to practice, 4) awards with $100 retail value, 6) out of season coaching, 7) moving up any class, 11) volleyball season start, 12) volleyball preview, and 13) wrestling dual meet, be placed on public comment for 30 days. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously.

Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Dr. Wilson seconded, that proposals 8) eliminating the proximity to county seat, and 9) classification appeal, not be placed on public comment. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copies appended to Official Minutes, Attachments D-1 and D-2.)

**VII. Policy 2520.1A, West Virginia College- and Career-Readiness Standards**

**for English Language Arts**

Dr. Jan Barth, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Teaching and Learning, presented amendments to Policy 2520.1A, inclusive of the repeal of Policy 2520.17, Library Media Content Standards and Objectives for West Virginia Schools, for the Board’s consideration.

Following discussion, Mr. Hall moved, and Ms. White seconded, that Policy 2520.1A, inclusive of the repeal of Policy 2520.17, be placed on public comment for 30 days. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment E.)

**VIII. Policy 2525, West Virginia’s Universal Access to a Quality Early Education System**

Dr. Barth presented amendments to Policy 2525 for the Board’s consideration.

Following discussion, Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Mr. Rotruck seconded, that Policy 2525 be placed on public comment for 30 days. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment F.)

**IX. Special Circumstance Review of Berkeley County Schools**

Ms. Michele Blatt (distributed information), Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Support and Accountability, and Ms. Charlene Coburn, Senior Administrator, WVDE Office of Leadership and System Support, presented: 1) an overview of Policy 2322 provisions, and 2) the Special Circumstance Review of Berkeley County Schools, for the Board’s consideration.

Following discussion, Mr. Hall moved, and Ms. White seconded, that the Special Circumstance Review Report prepared for Berkeley County Schools be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment I.) President Perry requested the Board’s consensus to reorder the agenda to immediately take up the Superintendent Report.

**X. Break**

President Perry called for a break at 11:40 a.m. Dr. Wilson exited the meeting.

**XI. Call to Order**

President Perry called the meeting back to order at 11:45 a.m.

**XII. Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Burch provided updates regarding the Summers County notification of special circumstance review (assisted by Ms. Coburn), Principals Academy (assisted by Mr. Drew McClanahan, Assistant Director, WVDE Office of Leadership and System Support), West Virginia Public Broadcasting education resources, reentry to Capitol Building 6, submission of school calendars, WVDE staffing, COVID-19 2020: From Outbreak to Recovery Advisory Council, and his recent visit to the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (WVSDB) and timeline for the WVSDB Superintendent Search. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment J.) President Perry requested Superintendent Burch issue a letter to Mr. Dolan regarding the training of student athletes during the COVID-19 pandemic. The availability and safety of technology and health matters during the pandemic were discussed.

**XIII. Recognitions (Continued)**

The Board recognized individuals involved in the effort to provide face shields in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. James Coble and Mr. Tim Elliott, Coordinators, WVDE Office of Career Technical Education, and Mr. Joe White, Executive Director, West Virginia School Service Personnel Association, provided remarks regarding the manufacturing and distribution of face shields.

President Perry read a resolution honoring the graduating class of 2020 into the minutes. The resolution will appear on the WVDE’s website and Twitter and Facebook feeds. President Perry requested the resolution be provided to counties to make available to graduating classes.

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) acknowledges that the graduating class of 2020 has experienced a senior year unprecedented in all history due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, and

**WHEREAS,** the WVBE believes that the experiences gained through National and State Emergencies due to the COVID-19 pandemic will increase the resiliency of our 2020 graduates to excel throughout their lives, and

**WHEREAS,** the WVBE wishes to express its recognition of the accomplishments of the graduating class of 2020, and

**WHEREAS,** the WVBE deeply regrets that the graduating class of 2020 will not have the opportunity to experience the usual end of year celebrations and graduations in the traditional manner that they have expected since they first entered public school.

**NOW THEREFORE,** the WVBE hereby congratulates and honors the graduating class of 2020 for persevering and achieving excellence in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**XIV. WVBE Personnel Matters Inclusive of Matters Related to the**

**State Superintendent of Schools Search and**

**Superintendent of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind Search**

**Executive Session**

President Perry called for a motion to enter executive session for matters related to the State Superintendent Schools Search and Superintendent of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind Search. Mr. Hallmoved, as provided in W. Va. Code §6-9A-4(b)(2)(A) [personnel exception] and/or §6-9A-4 [matters involving attorney‑client privilege per *Peters v. County Commission*, 205 W. Va. 481 (1999)], that the Board enter in executive session for personnel matters. Mr. Dunlevy seconded the motion and upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. The Board entered executive session at 12:52 p.m.

**XV. Return from Executive Session**

President Perry announced that the Board had returned from executive session at 1:12 p.m. with no decisions made or action taken.

President Perry called for a motion to approve the process and timeline for the Superintendent of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (WVSDB) search. Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Ms. White seconded, that the process and timeline for the Superintendent of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind search be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment G-2.) Ms. White requested Superintendent Burch send a letter to Mr. Mark Gandolfi, former Superintendent of the WVSDB, to thank him for his service.

President Perry called for a motion to approve the Board’s personnel matters. Ms. White moved, and Mr. Dunlevy seconded, that the personnel items be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment G-1.)

**XVI. WVBE Member Updates**

Ms. White attended EDTalk and Shark Tank events; Mr. Rotruck attended an EDTalk event and thanked WVDE staff for their COVID-19 efforts; Dr. Snavely recommended that the Board conduct future meetings, when necessary, virtually via Teams; Mr. Hall met with a number of Raleigh County retirees and as a result of the meeting the group will award $1,000 scholarships to ten Raleigh County students; Mr. Campbell thanked the WVDE for their COVID-19 efforts and Governor Justice for his leadership; Mrs. Sullivan attended the Shark Tank event, provided an update regarding the Communities In Schools initiative, and thanked all involved in addressing COVID-19 matters. President Perry requested the Board’s guidance regarding naming etiquette for commemorative plaques placed on schools currently under construction; it was the consensus of the Board that, in this instance, the names of the past and current State Superintendent should appear on the commemorative plaque.

**XVII. Items for Future Meetings**

Ms. White issued support of Dr. Snavely’s recommendation that future meetings be conducted, when necessary, virtually via Teams.

**XVIII. Future Meetings**

The WVBE will meet June 4-5, 2020, to conduct interviews for the position of State Superintendent of Schools. The next regular meeting of the WVBE will be held June 10, 2020, in Charleston, West Virginia. The meeting will continue June 11, 2020, if the agenda is not completed on June 10, 2020.

**XIX. Adjourn**

Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Mr. Campbell seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

**Minutes approved by the Board on June 10, 2020.**

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**David G. Perry, President**

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**Miller L. Hall, Vice President**

Minutes were recorded by

Virginia M. Harris

Secretary to the Board

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