**MINUTES**

**WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Capitol Building 6, Room 353**

**1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East**

**Charleston, West Virginia**

***Emergency Meeting***

**January 20, 2021**

**I. Call to Order**

Following the welcome and Pledge of Allegiance, President Miller L. Hall called the emergency meeting of the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) to order at 12:00 p.m. on January 20, 2021, in Capitol Building 6, Room 353, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Charleston, West Virginia.

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

**II. Approval of Agenda**

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

**III. Break**

President Hall called for a break at 12:03 p.m. to observe the inauguration speech of the President of the United States of America, Joseph R. Biden. Jr.

**IV. Call to Order**

President Hall called the meeting back to order at 12:15 p.m.

**V. Report of State Superintendent of Schools**

Superintendent Burch (distributed information) presented a letter outlining the responses of all 55 county boards of education to the WVBE’s motion directing in-person instruction to begin on January 19, 2021. As of January 19, 2021, Gilmer, Marion, and Taylor Counties had not complied with the Board’s motion. (Copies appended to Official Minutes, Attachment A.)

**VI. Consideration of Action to be Taken in Response to**

**County Boards of Education that Have Failed to Comply**

**with the WVBE’s Motion Directing the Resumption of**

**In-Person Learning on January 19**

Upon hearing Superintendent Burch’s report, discussion ensued regarding the counties choosing not to allow students to return to school.

Ms. Heather Hutchens, General Counsel to the WVBE and WVDE, provided an overview of actions that may be taken in response to county boards of education that have failed to offer an in-person learning option to all families in compliance with the motion adopted on January 13, 2021.  Discussion ensued regarding options available to the Board at its planned January 26 meeting. It was suggested that Superintendent Burch and President Hall participate in virtual meetings with the non-compliant county boards. It was the consensus of the Board that action, if any, to be taken against the non-compliant counties would occur at the Board’s January 26 meeting.

**VII. Future Meetings**

President Hall announced that the WVBE will meet in special session on January 26, 2021; the next regular meeting of the WVBE will be held February 10, 2021. The meetings will be held in Charleston, West Virginia.

**VIII. Adjourn**

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

**Minutes approved by the Board on February 10, 2021.**

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**Miller L. Hall, President**

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**Thomas W. Campbell, Vice President**

Minutes were recorded by

Virginia M. Harris

Secretary to the Board

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