**MINUTES**

**WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Capitol Building 6, Room 353**

**1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East**

**Charleston, West Virginia**

**February 10, 2021**

**I. Call to Order**

 Following the welcome and Pledge of Allegiance, President Miller L. Hall called the meeting of the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) to order at 10:00 a.m. on February 10, 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, 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. Snavely seconded, that the agenda be approved. Upon the call for the question, the motion was carried unanimously.

**III. Delegations**

 Mr. David Gladkosky, Executive Director, West Virginia Professional Educators, and Mr. Dale Lee, Executive Director, West Virginia Education Association, addressed the Board regarding legislative goals for 2021 and the vaccination of school personnel. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment Mc.)

**IV. Recognitions**

The Board recognized the following (WVDE) employees for their years of service to the State of West Virginia. Mr. Campbell joined the meeting.

***20 YEARS***

 Bridget N. Casto Brandy G. Humphrey

 James G. Daniels Aaron D. Riley

 Kenneth L. Hughart

***25 YEARS***

Michael L. Davis Brenda J. Morris

 Sherri K. Hudnall Steven A. Whisman

 Mendy A. Marshall

***30 YEARS***

Kelly A. Turley

**V. West Virginia Public Education Equity Partnership**

 President Hall requested that the West Virginia Public Education Equity Partnership item be taken up immediately. Mr. Drew McClanahan (distributed information), Director, WVDE Leadership Support Services, and Ms. Jill S. Upson, Executive Director, Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs, provided in‑depth information regarding disparity and equity issues and presented the West Virginia Public Education Equity Partnership agreement for the Board’s consideration. Equity plans and partnership with the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs will assist with improving equity structures by increasing involvement of key local community stakeholders.

 Following discussion, Mr. Campbell moved, and Mr. Dunlevy seconded, that the West Virginia Public Education Equity Partnership agreement be approved. Upon the call for the question, the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment N.)

**VI. Consent Agenda**

 President Hall requested that Consent Agenda item 2, *Waivers of State Board of Education Policies Due to COVID-19 School Closures*, be moved from the Consent Agenda and taken up following approval of the Consent Agenda; that Consent Agenda item 9, *Policy 1242, State Board of Education Policy Making Process*, be removed from the agenda; and called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Dr. Wilson moved, and Mr. Campbell seconded, that the Consent Agenda be approved. Upon the call for the question the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved. (Copies appended to Official Minutes, Attachments A through K.)

* Approved January 13 and 20, 2021, WVBE minutes (Attachment A)
* Received West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) personnel matters (Attachment B)
* Approved Employment of Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage policies for Cabell, Lewis, McDowell, and Putnam County Schools (Attachment D)
* Approved 2020-2030 Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plans (CEFP) for [Doddridge](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.Doddridge%20County%20Board%20Attachment.pdf), [Hancock](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.Hancock%20County%20Board%20Attachment.pdf), [Lincoln](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.Lincoln%20County%20Board%20Attachment.pdf), [Marion](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.Marion%20County%20Board%20Attachment.pdf), [Marshall](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.Marshall%20County%20Board%20Attachment.pdf), [McDowell](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.McDowell%20County%20Board%20Attachment.pdf), [Pendleton](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.Pendleton%20County%20Board%20Attachment.pdf), [Wetzel](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.Wetzel%20County%20Board%20Attachment.pdf), and [Wirt](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.Wirt%20County%20Board%20Attachment.pdf) Counties and the [James Rumsey](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.James%20Rumsey%20Board%20Attachment.pdf) and [Mid-Ohio Valley](file:///%5C%5Cwvdoefiles%5CPAS%5C2021-2%20February%20Attachments%5Cawillard.Mid-Ohio%20Valley%20Board%20Attachment.pdf) Technical Institutes (Attachments E-1 through E-11)
* Appointed Mrs. Kimberly Kehrer, Director of Special Programs, Pleasants County Schools, to serve on the Alternative Certification Educator Preparation Program Review Board (Attachment F)
* Approved the West Virginia Licensure Testing Directory (Attachment G)
* Accepted the Medicaid Status Report Fiscal Year 2020 (Attachment H)
* Appointed A. Stanley Maynard to replace Debra K. Sullivan as a member of the West Virginia Commission on Holocaust Education
* Placed Policy 1461, Drug-Free Workplace, on public comment for 30 days (Attachment J)
* Placed Policy 1471, Regulations for Adult Diversion and Transition Programs, on public comment for 30 days (Attachment K).

**VII. Policy 1242, State Board of Education Policy Making Process**

 Ms. Heather Hutchens, General Counsel to the WVDE and WVBE, spoke to the removal of Policy 1242 from the agenda. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment I.)

**VIII. Waivers of State Board of Education Policies**

 **Due to COVID-19 School Closures**

 Superintendent Burch (distributed information) added a waiver of Policy 2436.10, Participation in Extracurricular Activities, specifically a limited waiver of the 2.0 rule at sections 3.1.a.4 and 3.1.a.5, to Attachment C. (Copies appended to Official Minutes, Attachment C and addendum.)

**IX. Waiver Requests Seeking Exemption from WVBE Motion**

 **Requiring a Return to In-person Instruction**

Ms. Hutchens presented, for the Board’s consideration, waiver requests from the Monongalia County Board of Education and the Berkeley County Board of Education seeking an exemption from the WVBE’s January 13, 2021, directive to return to in-person instruction.

Following discussion, Mr. Campbell moved, and Dr. Maynard seconded, that waiver requests be denied. Upon the call for the question, the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment L-1 and L-2.)

**X. WVBE Personnel Matters**

President Hall called for a motion to approve the Board’s personnel matters. Mr. Campbell moved, and Dr. Snavely seconded, that the Board’s personnel items be approved. Upon the call for the question, the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment M.)

**XI. Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Burch, assisted by Ms. Hutchens, Ms. Melanie Purkey, Senior Officer, WVDE Office of Federal Programs and Support, Mr. Michael Daniels, Coordinator, WVDE Office of Communications, and Ms. Sonya White, Teaching and Learning Officer, WVDE Office of Teaching and Learning, provided information regarding their visit to McDowell and Wyoming Counties; applauded seven West Virginia schools that earned the College Board’s Advanced Placement (AP®) Computer Science Female Diversity Award (the schools earned this distinction for expanding female representation in AP® Computer Science courses during the 2019-2020 school year); announced that for the seventh year, West Virginia is again the top-performing state in the nation for school breakfast participation; assisted by Ms. Purkey and Ms. White, viewed the WVDE’s County Recovery Plans website; assisted by Ms. White (distributed information), presented information regarding the administration of the SAT School Day in high schools when a county is designated as red on the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources map; assisted by Ms. Michele Blatt, Deputy State Superintendent, provided an update regarding vaccine distribution; and, assisted by Ms. Sarah Stewart, Government Affairs Counsel, provided information regarding the upcoming legislative session. Superintendent Burch stated that an update regarding the Educator Preparation Task Force will be presented at the Board’s March regular meeting. (Copy to Official Minutes, Attachment O.)

**XII. WVBE Member Updates**

 Ms. White attended the West Virginia Public Education Collaborative (WVPEC) legislators’ education orientation and the School Building Authority of West Virginia’s CEFP training; Dr. Wilson spoke to the importance of county health officers to schools and about an Afro-American studies course that is under development; Mr. Dunlevy spoke in support of the Policy 2436.10, 2.0 rule waiver; Mr. Rotruck spoke regarding a recent meeting of the WVPEC; Mr. Campbell complimented Ms. Willard on her presentation at the WVPEC meeting and stated that he is scheduled to visit several schools in Greenbrier County; Mrs. Sullivan provided an update regarding Communities In Schools, a meeting of the West Virginia Library Commission and interagency cooperation, and interview of students from across West Virginia for a scholarship to the University of Virginia; Dr. Snavely stated that he was very pleased with the return to learning and also the Governor and his team for facilitating COVID vaccinations; Dr. Maynard attended the WVPEC meeting and asked that presentations from the meeting be made available to county board members; and, President Hall spoke regarding contacts with students in Raleigh County and their excitement about the return to school.

**XIII. WVBE Future Items**

 Dr. Wilson spoke regarding a student from Marshall County who has been nominated as a Presidential Scholar and would like the student invited to address the Board at a future meeting; Mrs. Sullivan spoke to teacher recruitment and suggested counties be contacted to ascertain what they are doing to attract teachers; and, President Hall requested that dialogue continue regarding equity and an updated joint strategic plan.

**XIV. Future Meetings**

 President Hall announced that the next regular meeting of the WVBE will be March 10, 2021, in Charleston, West Virginia.

**XV. Adjourn**

 Mr. Dunlevy moved, and Dr. Wilson seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the call for the question, the motion was carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

 **Minutes approved by the Board on March 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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