**MINUTES**

**WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Capitol Building 6, Suite 600**

**1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East**

**Charleston, West Virginia**

**December 14, 2022**

**I. Call to Order**

Following the welcome and Pledge of Allegiance, President L. Paul Hardesty called the meeting of the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) to order at 9:00 a.m. on December 14, 2022, in Capitol Building 6, Suite 600, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Charleston, West Virginia.

The following members were present: President Hardesty, Vice President Nancy J. White, Robert W. Dunlevy, Victor L. Gabriel, Daniel D. Snavely, Christopher A. Stansbury, Debra K. Sullivan, and James S. Wilson, and ex officios David L. Roach, State Superintendent of Schools, and Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Chancellor, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education. Member absent was F. Scott Rotruck.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

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

**III. Delegations**

Dr. Mickey Blackwell, Executive Director, **West Virginia** Association of Elementary/Middle School Principals, addressed the Board regarding the Association’s annual conference. Mr. David Gladkosky (distributed information), Executive Director, West Virginia Professional Educators (WVPE), addressed the Board regarding WVPE 2023 Annual Goals. Mr. Fred Albert, President, AFT-West Virginia, addressed the Board regarding focus group meetings and solutions for success. Reverend Franklin Hairston (provided remarks for attachment to the minutes), NAACP (Harrison County Branch), addressed the Board regarding preventative measures for racial bullying and harassment in Harrison County Schools and fairness in the disciplinary process. Reverend Matthew J. Watts, Tuesday Morning Group (Kanawha County), addressed the Board regarding student school suspensions. (Copies appended to Official Minutes, Attachment I.)

**IV. School Safety Update**

Mr. Jonah Adkins, Coordinator, WVDE Accountability Services, provided an update regarding school safety.

**V. Improving West Virginia’s Literacy Outcomes**

Superintendent Roach (distributed information) provided an overview of actions to improve student outcomes by prioritizing reading, writing, and mathematics while maintaining continuous support and focus on student development and well-being. Mrs. Sullivan suggested the WVBE/WVDE provide counties with an official multiple list of approved programs for statewide use. Discussion ensued regarding bringing actions to improve student outcomes to fruition. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment J.)

**VI. WVBE Personnel Matters and Litigation Updates in**

**Travis Beaver, et al. v. Riley Moore, et al.,**

**Civil Action Numbers 22-P-24, 22-P-25, and 22-P-26; and**

**B.P.J. by her next friend and mother, Heather Jackson v. WVBE, et al.,**

**Civil Action No. 2:21-cv-00316**

**Executive Session**

President Hardesty called for a motion to enter in executive session. Ms. White moved, and Mrs. Sullivan seconded, that the Board enter in executive session for WVBE personnel and/or legal matters 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)]. Upon the call for the question the motion was unanimously carried; the Board moved into executive session at 10:42 a.m. Chancellor Tucker departed the meeting.

**VII. WVBE Personnel Matters and Litigation Updates in**

**Travis Beaver, et al. v. Riley Moore, et al.,**

**Civil Action Numbers 22-P-24, 22-P-25, and 22-P-26; and**

**B.P.J. by her next friend and mother, Heather Jackson v. WVBE, et al.,**

**Civil Action No. 2:21-cv-00316**

**Return from Executive Session**

President Hardesty announced the Board had returned from executive session at 11:22 a.m. with no action taken and called for a motion to approve the Board’s personnel attachment. Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Dr. Stansbury seconded, that the personnel attachment be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment A.)

**VIII. Consent Agenda**

President Hardesty called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Mr. Gabriel seconded, that the Consent Agenda be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copies appended to Official Minutes, Attachments B through H.)

* Approved the November 9, 2022, WVBE minutes (Attachment B)
* Received WVDE personnel matters (Attachment C)
* Approved Employment of Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage policies for Berkeley, Hardy, Harrison, Jackson, Pleasants, Roane, Taylor, and Tyler Counties (Attachment D)
* Accepted the West Virginia Educator Preparation Program Review Board's recommendation of approval of the addition of a Clinical Teacher of Record Program for Concord University with Kanawha County (Attachment E)
* Approved documentation as an addendum to the Alternative Certification for Educators (ACE) program for general education provided by Summers County Schools in partnership with Marshall University to add the endorsement of Early Childhood Education K-4 (Attachment F)
* Placed amended portions of Policy 2419, Regulations for the Education of Students with Exceptionalities, on public comment for 30 days (Attachments G-1 and G-2)
* Received an update from the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (Attachment H).

**IX. WVDE Reports**

Superintendent Roach provided progress updates regarding: 1) Lincoln County State of Emergency (assisted by Mr. Matt Hicks, Director, WVDE Accountability Services), 2) Logan County Intervention (assisted by Ms. Charlene Coburn, Accountability Officer, WVDE Office of Support and Accountability); it was requested that Mr. Jeff Huffman, Superintendent of Logan County Schools, provide a progress update on a quarterly basis, and 3) student discipline report; discussion ensued regarding the student discipline report and associated WVBE policies going forward.

**X. WVBE Member Updates and Requests for Information**

Mr. Gabriel worked with WVDE school transportation staff on a policy. Mrs. Sullivan attended several meetings, visited a kindergarten class, spent time with staff and students at a juvenile facility, attended an event in Logan County, attended a WVEA/AFT Listening tour stop in Kanawha County, and attended a reading conference. Dr. Wilson attended a superintendents’ conference and John Marshall High School’s festival of sound and spoke about a day treatment center in Marshall County Schools. Mr. Dunlevy attended a superintendents’ conference and participated in Super 6 activities. Ms. White attended meetings of the Education Broadcasting Authority and School Building Authority of West Virginia. Mr. Roach announced videos on the WVDE’s social media site for improving literacy. Mr. Hardesty thanked all agencies involved in the swatting response last week, attended a listening tour at Mary C. Snow/West Side Elementary School and issued concern regarding comments heard regarding how the school and central office (in the same county) are not on the same page, and issued support and thanked the WVDE staff for their hard work and efforts.

**XI. Future Meetings**

President Hardesty announced that the next regular meeting of the WVBE will be held January 11, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., in Charleston, West Virginia.

**XII. Adjourn**

President Hardesty called for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Dr. Stansbury seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the call for the question the meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

**Minutes approved by the Board on January 11, 2023.**

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**L. Paul Hardesty, President**

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**Nancy J. White, Vice President**

Minutes were recorded by

Virginia M. Harris

Secretary to the Board

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