**MINUTES**

**WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Capitol Building 6, Suite 600**

**1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East**

**Charleston, West Virginia**

**May 10, 2023**

**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 May 10, 2023, 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, F. Scott Rotruck, Daniel D. Snavely, Christopher A. Stansbury, Debra K. Sullivan, and James S. Wilson, and ex officio David L. Roach, 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 Hardesty, at the request of Vice President White, moved Consent Agenda item B.1. West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) Personnel Matters to New Business item C and called for further adjustments. With no further adjustments heard, President Hardesty called a motion to approve the adjusted agenda. Dr. Stansbury moved, and Dr. Snavely seconded, that the adjusted agenda be approved. Upon the call for the question, the motion was carried unanimously.

**III. Delegations**

Mr. Fred Albert, President, AFT-West Virginia, addressed the Board regarding Teacher Appreciation Week. Mr. Dale Lee, President, West Virginia Education Association, addressed the Board regarding concerns from the field regarding the statewide job bank, test score accountability for all education populations, and HOPE scholarship funding and accountability.

**IV. School Safety Update**

Mr. Jonah Adkins, Director, WVDE Office of PK-12 Academic Support, provided an update regarding school safety officer training, installation of facial recognition software technology in several counties, and submission of crisis response plans. Dr. Stansbury requested a report regarding the cost of an armed security officer in every school.

**V. Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Sullivan commented on the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind monthly report and programs being offered on the campus this summer. President Hardesty called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Mr. Dunlevy seconded, that the Consent Agenda be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copies appended to Official Minutes, Attachments A and B through J.)

* Approved the April 12, 2023, WVBE minutes (Attachment A)
* Approved West Virginia University’s waiver request, for Multi-disciplinary Studies mathematics and science courses, of Policy 5100, 6.8.a, requiring all freshman cohorts transition to the West Virginia Residency Model culminating with a yearlong clinical experience no later than Fall 2024 with a resubmission to the West Virginia Educator Preparation Program Review Board no later than the Spring 2024 (Attachment C)
* Received, for submission to the Consolidated Public Retirement Board, Employment of Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage Affidavits from Monongalia (one), Pendleton (two), and Wood (one) Counties (Attachment D)
* Approved the Logan County Board of Education’s request to revise their 2020-2030 Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan to make the replacement of Man High School’s electrical and fire alarm systems their number one project priority. The project is proposed to be funded through local funds and a grant from the SBA (Attachment E)
* Approved the West Virginia Licensure Testing Directory (Attachment F)
* Approved Fairmont State University's Supervisor of Instruction initial licensure and certificate (Attachment G)
* Withdrew Policy 5901, Regulations for Alternative Certification Programs for the Education of Teachers, from public comment and placed the newly amended version on public comment for 30 days (Attachment H)
* Placed Policy 6204, School Closings or Consolidations, on public comment for 30 days (Attachment I)
* Received an update from the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (Attachment J).

**VI. WVDE Reports**

Superintendent Roach, assisted by Ms. Taran Wolford, Director, WVDE Office of Human Resources, provided an update regarding the *WV K-12 Jobs* webpage; Mrs. Sullivan requested a report in Spring 2024 regarding the success of the new hiring initiative. Superintendent Roach, assisted by Ms. Christy Day, Executive Director, WVDE Office of Communications, provided an update the WVDE’s mathematics initiative, UNIT*e* with *Numeracy*. Mr. Adkins provided an update regarding the WVDE’s literacy initiative, *Ready. Read. Write. West Virginia*.

Ms. Georgia Hughes-Webb, Director, WVDE Office of Data Analysis and Research, and Mr. Drew McClanahan, Director, WVDE Office of Leadership Development and Support, provided an overview of 2021-2022 West Virginia school discipline data, expand training on classroom management techniques and social and emotional supports, launch of a public discipline dashboard, continuation of internal review of discipline data, development of discipline data flags, the revision of Policy 4373, Expected Behaviors in Safe and Supportive Schools, and state, county, and school responsibilities in improving school discipline. Ms. White requested the report (PowerPoint) be made available to WVBE members. President Hardesty directed that the report be provided to all legislators and stated that options must be explored to address the report.

**VII. Break**

President Hardesty called for a break at 10:52 a.m.

**VIII. Call to Order**

President Hardesty called the meeting back to order at 11:05 a.m.

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

**Series 1, Constitution, Series 2, Athletics, Provisions Governing Eligibility,**

**Series 3, Provisions Governing Contests, and Series 4, Provisions Governing Conduct**

Mr. Bernie Dolan, Executive Director, WVSSAC, presented amendments to WVSSAC Series 1, Series 2, Series 3, and Series 4 for the Board’s consideration. Proposed amendments are presented and voted upon at the annual Board of Control meeting; approved changes are then submitted to the WVBE for its review and approval. This year 27 proposals were submitted by member schools for consideration; 22 proposals were approved. In addition, Series 2 is being further amended to comply with recent legislative action.

Following discussion, Dr. Wilson moved, and Ms. White seconded, that WVSSAC Series 1, 2, 3, and 4 be placed on public comment for 30 days. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copies appended to Official Minutes, Attachments K-1 through K-4.)

**X. Update: Special Circumstance Review Report for the**

**Clay County Board of Education and Central Office**

Mr. Jeffrey Kelley, Director, WVDE Division of Accountability and Assessment, and Ms. Alexandra Criner, Coordinator, WVDE Office of Accountability, presented an updated Special Circumstance Review Report for the Clay County Board of Education and Central Office. Mrs. Sullivan spoke to the progress made in student achievement and strides made in school improvement. Ms. Joan Haney, Interim Superintendent, Clay County Schools, was called to the podium to address questions from the Board.

Following discussion, Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Mr. Dunlevy seconded, that the updated Special Circumstance Review Report for the Clay County Board of Education and Central Office be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment L.)

**XI. WVBE and WVDE Personnel Matters and Litigation Update in**

**B.P.J. by her next friend and mother, Heather Jackson**

**Executive Session**

President Hardesty called for a motion to enter in executive session. Ms. White moved, and Dr. Stansbury 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 12:09 p.m.

**XII. WVBE and WVDE Personnel Matters and Litigation Update in**

**B.P.J. by her next friend and mother, Heather Jackson**

**Return from Executive Session**

President Hardesty announced the Board had returned from executive session at 1:29 p.m. with no action taken and called for a motion to approve the Board’s personnel attachment. Mr. Gabriel moved, and Dr. Wilson seconded, that the personnel attachment be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment M.)

President Hardesty call for a motion to receive WVDE personnel. Mr. Gabriel moved, and Mr. Dunlevy seconded, that WVDE personnel be received. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment B.)

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

Dr. Snavely spoke regarding a young patient he sees and how he became interested in education. Mr. Gabriel met with Teacher Education Accreditation Council representatives and county directors of school transportation and requested that Mr. Andy Neptune, Executive Director, School Building Authority of West Virginia, be invited to a future meeting to provide an update on projects and funding. Mrs. Sullivan visited schools and students, worked on a number of WVBE policies, reviewed policy comments, and attended an education event at Chief Logan State Park. Dr. Snavely departed the meeting at 1:32 p.m. Mr. Rotruck participated in the Bridging Innovation Conference and attended the Annual Ed Keller and June Harless Hall of Fame Ceremonies. Dr. Stansbury congratulated graduating high school seniors. Dr. Wilson spoke regarding the WVSSAC and how athletics pulls the community together. Mr. Dunlevy participated in a number of WVSSAC meetings. Ms. White attended several education-related events with Mr. Gabriel.

**XIV. Future Meetings**

President Hardesty announced that the next regular meeting of the WVBE will be held June 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., in Charleston, West Virginia.

**XV. Adjourn**

President Hardesty called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Gabriel moved, and Ms. White seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the call for the question the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

**Minutes approved by the Board on June 14, 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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