**MINUTES**

**WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Capitol Building 6, Suite 600**

**1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East**

**Charleston, West Virginia**

**June 23, 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 June 23, 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 (via remote), Robert W. Dunlevy (via remote), Victor L. Gabriel, F. Scott Rotruck (via remote), Daniel D. Snavely (via remote), Christopher A. Stansbury, Debra K. Sullivan, and James S. Wilson (via remote). Members absent were 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.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

President Hardesty called for a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Stansbury moved, and Mr. Gabriel seconded, that the agenda be approved. Upon the call for the question, the roll was called and the motion was carried unanimously.

**III. Retirement of the State Superintendent of Schools**

President Hardesty called for a motion to accept the retirement of State Superintendent of Schools, David L. Roach, effective at the close of business on June 30, 2023. Prior to the vote Mrs. Sullivan issued her appreciation to Superintendent Roach for his 50 years of service. Mr. Gabriel moved, and Dr. Stansbury seconded, that the Board accept the retirement of State Superintendent of Schools, David L. Roach, effective at the close of business on June 30, 2023. Upon the call for the question, the roll was called and the motion was carried unanimously.

**IV.** **Appointment of State Superintendent of Schools**

**Executive Session**

President Hardesty called for a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the appointment of a State Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Stansbury 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 roll was called and the motion was unanimously carried; the Board moved into executive session at 9:06 a.m. Dr. Snavely joined the meeting.

**V.** **Appointment of State Superintendent of Schools**

**Return from Executive Session**

President Hardesty announced the Board had returned from executive session at 9:46 a.m. with no action taken and called for a motion regarding the appointment of a State Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Gabriel moved, and Dr. Stansbury seconded, that Michele Blatt be appointed as State Superintendent of Schools effective July 1, 2023, at an annual salary of $230,000.00. Upon the call for the question, the roll was called and the motion was carried unanimously.Mr. Dunlevy was absent for the vote. NOTE: Immediately following the meeting Mr. Dunlevy notified President Hardesty that he experienced technical difficulties that caused his vote in support of the motion to not be heard.

Mrs. Sullivan, Dr. Stansbury, President Hardesty, Mr. Rotruck, and Ms. White congratulated Ms. Blatt on her appointment as State Superintendent of Schools and stated that they look forward to working with her to improve education throughout West Virginia.

**VI. Future Meetings**

President Hardesty announced that the next regular meeting of the WVBE will be held July 12, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., in Charleston, West Virginia.

**VII. Adjourn**

President Hardesty called for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Stansbury moved, and Mrs. Sullivan seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the call for the question, the roll was called and the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

**Minutes approved by the Board on July 12, 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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