MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCDOWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MONDAY, JULY 6, 2026

The Board of Education of the County of McDowell met in regular session Monday, July 6, 2026, at 4:00 pm at the Central Office, 900 Mount View Road, Welch, West Virginia, with the following members being present and serving throughout: President Georgia West, Ed Evans, James Copolo, Jennifer Justice and Linda Lester White. Superintendent Ingrida Barker served as secretary.

BOARD ACTION

President Georgia West called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm, followed by Ed Evans leading the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Introduction of Board Members was made at this time, Jennifer Justice, Ed Evans, Georgia West, James Copolo, with Dr. Barker serving as Secretary. Linda Lester White joined via telephone.

Delegations and Speakers

Joshua Thompson addressed the Board regarding the conveyance of the Kimball Elementary School property, advocating for the Town of Kimball.

Election of President to Serve on McDowell County School's Board

On a motion of Jennifer Justice, seconded by James Copolo, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No / "zero" Abstain vote, Board Members voted for Ed Evans to serve as President of the McDowell County Board.

Election of Vice President to Serve on McDowell County School's Board

James Copolo moved to nominate Jennifer Justice as Vice President. Georgia West moved to nominate James Copolo as Vice President. James Copolo declined the nomination. On the motion of James Copolo, seconded by Linda Lester White, and a total of "five" votes cast: "four" Yes/ "one" No / "zero" Abstain vote, Board Members voted for Jennifer Justice to serve as Vice-President of the McDowell County Board.

Personnel

1. Personnel Agenda

July 6, 2026

Personnel Agenda

Professional Personnel

Transfer of Professional Personnel					
	Last Name	**First Name**	**From Position**	**To Position**	**Effective Date**
1.	Addair	Kimberly	Bradshaw Elementary, Kindergarten (P-B-07)	Bradshaw Elementary, Multi-Categorical (P-B-39)	August 17, 2026
2.	Rutter	Mary	Bradshaw Elementary, Grade 3 (P-B-11)	Bradshaw Elementary, Grade 1/2 (P-B-10)	August 17, 2026

Coaching

Employment of Coaching Personnel					
	Last Name	**First Name**	**Location**	**Position**	**Effective Date**

1.	Lester	Ryan	River View High	Assistant Football Coach 9-12	July 13, 2026

Resignation of Coaching Personnel					
	Last Name	**First Name**	**Location**	**Position**	**Effective Date**
1.	Puckett-Estep	Stacy	Sandy River Middle	Assistant Softball Coach	April 24, 2026
2.	Davis	Edward	Mount View High	Assistant Baseball Coach 6-8	July 6, 2026

Service Personnel

Transfer of Service Personnel					
	Last Name	**First Name**	**From Position**	**To Position**	**Effective Date**
1.	Matney	Crystal	Southside K-8, Secretary, 203 days (S-SS-02)	Central Office, Executive Secretary, 240 days (S-C-10)	July 13, 2026

Ratify Suspension of Service Personnel					
	Last Name	**First Name**	**Location**	**Position**	**Effective Date**
1.	Church	Yvonne	County Itinerant (Mount View High)	Bus/Program Aide	10 days – June 3, 2026 – June 16, 2026

Additions to the Personnel Agenda may be made at the scheduled Board of Education meeting.

On a motion of James Copolo, seconded by Linda Lester White, and a total of "four" votes cast: "four" Yes / "zero" No / "one" Abstain vote, Board Members voted to approve the personnel agenda. Georgia West recused herself from the vote. Jennifer Justice asked for clarification on the "Ratify Suspension" section, and Dr. Barker explained that this makes the suspension of an employee official, for the record.

2. Volunteer List

Volunteer	SCHOOL(S)	REASON
Dwayne Clark	RVHS	Athletic Activities/Volunteer Coach
Nila Estep	RVHS	School Activities/Game Statistics/non-coaching
Martha Estep	RVHS	School Activities/Game Statistics/non-coaching
Mary Dobbs	RVHS	School Activities/Game Statistics/non-coaching
William Kendrick	RVHS	Volunteer Coach
Donald Lowe, Jr.	RVHS	Game Statistics/non-coaching

On a motion of Jennifer Justice, seconded by James Copolo, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes / "zero" No / "zero" Abstain vote, Board Members voted to approve the volunteer agenda.

Finance

1. Allowed and Authorized Payment of Bills/Budget Revisions. Invoices presented for payment are available in the Finance Office during normal business hours.

On a motion of Jennifer Justice, seconded by Georgia West, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to approve the allowed and authorized payment of bills/budget revisions. Jennifer had questions about several of the line items, asking for clarification which was provided by both Dr. Barker and Janna Conn, Treasurer.

2. Request to Allow Payment of Utility Bills as they are received by McDowell Board of Education (A listing of payment will be provided periodically to the Board for information purposes).

On a motion of Linda Lester White, seconded by James Copolo, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to approve the Budget Supplements. Further explanation was given, that this allows bills to be processed in a timely manner.

Set Day/Time of 2026-2027 Board Meetings

On a motion of Jennifer Justice, seconded by Linda Lester White, and a total of "five" votes cast: "four" Yes/ "one" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to move the meetings to Tuesdays of each month beginning at 5:00 pm. The motion was amended by a motion of Jennifer Justice, seconded by Linda Lester White, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" yes/ "zero" No/ "zero"/ Abstain, to clarify that meetings be held on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Elect to Participate or Not to Participate in Worker's Compensation

On a motion of Linda Lester White, seconded by Jennifer Justice, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted not to participate in Worker's Compensation.

Set Compensation Per Meeting for Board Members

On a motion of Jennifer Justice, seconded by James Copolo, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to raise the current compensation rate to $260.00 per meeting, which is the maximum allowed, as per legislature.

Appoint SESC Representative

On a motion of Jennifer Justice, seconded by Ed Evans, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to have James Copolo to serve in this capacity.

Appoint Representative to Serve on WVU McDowell County Extension Service Committee

On a motion of Jennifer Justice, seconded by Ed Evans, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to have Georgia West continue to serve in this capacity.

Appoint Representative to Serve on Criminal Justice Board

On a motion of James Copolo, seconded by Jennifer Justice, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to have Linda Lester White to serve in this capacity.

Superintendent's Updates

Dr. Barker first asked for clarification as to which Tuesdays the Board would like to meet, which vote was amended above.

Dr. Barker advised the Board members of information she had received from both Mr. Thompson, Attorney on behalf of the Town of Kimball, and the Council of Southern Mountains regarding the acquisition of the Kimball Elementary School property, giving each Board member a copy of the same. She further explained that the delay in conveyance of this property as opposed to the Welch Elementary property is due to the large number of deeds and leases that are involved. She reminded the Board that conveyance to the Town of Kimball as a government agency would ensure that the property wouldn't be subject to revert back to the Board after five years. Joshua Thompson added that a conveyance to the Council of Southern Mountains solely or jointly with the Town of Kimball would not negate this clause. Dr. Barker advised the Board that this information is being given as a matter of reference for them to review and come together at a later time to discuss the plans and make a final decision. Mr. Evans asked if a special meeting could be held specifically for this matter. Dr. Barker answered that she planned to have a special work session with the new Board to go over the Personnel and Finance aspects of the Board of Education. Jennifer Justice asked if the Town of Kimball were to acquire the property, if they would be amenable to leasing space to the Council of Southern Mountains, and Mr. Thompson answered that this was something that could be worked out.

Dr. Barker also shared with the Board members a "cheat sheet" outlining the funding codes in order for new members to get a better understanding of where money comes from and where it is being spent. She also gave the Board members a listing of the school codes which are a part of the accounting funds.

Summer School begins next week at both Coalfield Elementary School and Bradshaw Elementary School for Grades K-3 as well as the Vocational School for shops. If anyone would like to visit the sites, please let Dr. Barker know so that she can make the Administrators aware of their visit.

Announcement of Future Meetings

Date:	Tuesday, July 21, 2026
Time:	4:00 PM
Type:	Special Work Session
Location:	Central Office, 900 Mount View Road, Welch, WV

Date:	Tuesday, July 21, 2026
Time:	5:00 PM
Type:	Regular Meeting
Location:	Central Office, 900 Mount View Road, Welch, WV

Adjournment

On a motion Georgia West, seconded by Linda Lester White, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain the Board moved to adjourn at 5:08 pm.

Edward Evans, President Date

Ingrida Barker, Superintendent Date