MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MCDOWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2026

The Board of Education of the County of McDowell met in special session Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at 2:00 pm at the McDowell County Central Office, 900 Mount View Road, Welch, West Virginia, with the following members being present and serving throughout: President Ed Evans, James Copolo, Jennifer Justice, Georgia West and Linda Lester White. Superintendent Dr. Ingrida Barker served as secretary.

BOARD ACTION

President Ed Evans called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm, then led the group in the Pledge.

Student A Expulsion Hearing: (WV§18A-5-1a & the Safe School Act & Policy 4373)

Mr. Evans asked the student's mother if she would like an open or closed hearing. She chose an open hearing.

The following individuals were sworn in to give testimony by Ed Evans, President of the Board: Lori Howington, Principal of the Career and Technology Center, Deputy Ryan Harman, and the mother of the student.

A motion was made by Jennifer Justice, seconded by James Copolo, to go into executive session at 2:20 pm. A total of "Five" votes cast: "Five" Yes, "Zero" No, and "Zero" abstain, the Board voted to go into Executive Session, along with Dr. East and Deputy Harman.

A motion was made by Linda Lester White, seconded by Jennifer Justice, to return to regular session at 2:32 pm. A total of "Five" votes cast: "Five" Yes, "Zero" No, and "Zero" abstain, the Board voted to return to regular session.

At this time, President Ed Evans called for the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Superintendent Barker recommended that the student be expelled for two Semesters. Ms. Howington and Ms. Krabbe will create a plan for the student, with written permission, to come on campus after school with an adult driver transporting the student to complete his remaining tests. The student must work with Ms. Krabbe to complete the necessary, required tests.

A motion was made by Jennifer Justice, seconded by Georgia West, to approve the Superintendent's recommendation. A total of "Five" votes cast: "Five" Yes, "Zero" No, and "Zero" abstain, the Board voted to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.

Adjournment

On a motion of Georgia West, seconded by James Copolo, and a total of "Five" votes cast: "Five" Yes, "Zero" No, and "Zero" abstain, the Board voted to adjourn at 2:35 pm.

Ed Evans, President Date

Dr. Ingrida Barker, Superintendent Date