MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MCDOWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

The Board of Education of the County of McDowell met in special session Wednesday, September 9, 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 and Linda Lester White, with Georgia West joining via telephone. Superintendent Dr. Ingrida Barker served as secretary.

BOARD ACTION

President Ed Evans called the meeting to order at 2:00 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. At first, she stated she wanted a closed hearing, with those in the room currently permitted.

The following individuals were sworn in to give testimony by Ed Evans, President of the Board: Tim Kennedy, Principal of Mount View High School, Deputy Ryan Harman, Eric Lester, Dean of Students and the mother of the student.

A motion was made by Jennifer Justice, seconded by James Copolo, to go into executive session at 2:30 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 Jennifer Justice, seconded by Linda Lester White, to return to regular session at 3:01 pm. A total of "Four" votes cast: "Four" Yes, "Zero" No, and "Zero" abstain, the Board voted to return to regular session. Georgia West had left the meeting during executive session.

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

Superintendent Barker recommended that the student be expelled from Mount View High for two Semesters, returning Semester 1 of the 2027-2028 school year.

A motion was made by Jennifer Justice, seconded by Linda Lester White, to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for expulsion. A total of "Four" votes cast: "Four" Yes, "Zero" No, and "Zero" abstain, the Board voted to approve the Superintendent's recommendation.

Announcement of Future Meetings

Date:	Tuesday, September 15, 2026
Time:	5:00 PM
Type:	Regular Meeting
Location:	900 Mount View Road, Welch, WV

Adjournment

On a motion of Jennifer Justice, seconded by James Copolo, and a total of "Four" votes cast: "Four" Yes, "Zero" No, and "Zero" abstain, the Board voted to adjourn at 3:03 pm.

Ed Evans, President Date

Dr. Ingrida Barker, Superintendent Date