

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCDOWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019

The Board of Education of the County of McDowell met in regular session Monday, November 4, 2019 at 4:30 pm at the Phoenix Center, Welch, West Virginia, with the following members being present and serving throughout: David Williams, Mike Mitchem, John Callaway, and Mike Vallo. Superintendent Carolyn Falin served as Secretary. Board Member Margaret Beavers was absent.

BOARD ACTION

President Williams called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm, followed by Wanda Thomas, Executive Administrative Assistant, leading the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. President Williams made introduction of Board Members at this time.

Approval of the Minutes of the October 21, 2019 Regular Session

Upon a motion by Mike Mitchem, seconded by John Callaway, and a total of "Four" votes cast: "Four" Yes/"zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2019 Regular Session.

Approval of the Minutes of the October 24, 2019 Special Session

Upon a motion by John Callaway, seconded by Mike Mitchem, and a total of "Four" votes cast: "Four" Yes/"zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2019 Special Session.

Delegations and Speakers

None

Board Reports

Board Member Callaway reported that he, David Williams and Mike Vallo attended a WWSBA Meeting at Glade Springs.

Presentations

1. Attendance & After-School Program Update – Bonita Miano
Director of Student Services

Ms. Miano gave a presentation on truancy diversion and update on enrollment and the after-school program. According to Ms. Miano, there are 2902 students enrolled in McDowell County Schools. Enrollment is down by approximately 164 students. Ms. Miano pointed to the fact that several students have moved out of the county and a number of students are going to the homeschool option. Currently we have 136 students who are being homeschooled and the trend is slowly growing.

Ms. Miano reported that there are two new initiatives at laeger Elementary School and Mount View High School. laeger Elementary School has begun a "Youth for Youth NASA Program" for grades 3-5. This program centers on a challenge through NASA to build a pressure suit to protect astronauts from the dangers of being in a vacuum. Mount View High School, through help from Fairmont State College, is challenged to build robots and code them to pick up blocks and stack them. Ms. Miano reported that Mount View High School students are getting started with this task and she hopes to include River View High School next year.

2. Transportation Department Update – Adam Grygiel
Director of Transportation

Mr. Grygiel gave a power point presentation on "What It Takes To Get Students to School and Back Home Each Day". Grygiel reported that the county currently has 57 buses with 42 regular runs every day. A recall has been issued regarding seat foams for Thomas brand buses. Mr. Grygiel reported we have 11 Thomas brand buses. He is waiting additional information as to how to proceed. There are a total of 25 vehicles in the county truck fleet and three mechanics who keep the entire Transportation Department vehicles serviced. Mr. Grygiel praised his secretary, Cindy Smith, for the outstanding job she does in keeping the entire department going smoothly.

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Discussion Item(s)

None

Personnel

1. Personnel Agenda

Upon motion of Mike Mitchem, seconded by John Callaway, and a total of Four votes cast: "Four" Yes/"zero" No/"zero" Abstain" vote, the Board voted to approve the Personnel Agenda as presented.

2. Approval of Volunteers

There were no volunteers to be approved.

Finance

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

A motion was made by John Callaway to approve the payment of Allowed and Authorized Payment of Bills/Budget Revisions. Mike Mitchem seconded the motion. "Four" votes cast: "Four" Yes/"zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to approve the payment of Allowed and Authorized Payment of Bills/Budget Revisions.

Action Items

1. Revised Policy Final Approval

Policy 8-061 (6-007) Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Devices in Schools and by School Bus Operators

Upon a motion by Mike Mitchem, seconded by John Callaway and a total of "Four" votes cast: "Four" Yes/"zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to approve the for revised Policy 8-061 Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Devices in Schools and by School Bus Operators.

2. Approval to Place Revised Policy on Comment

Policy 11-030 Simulated Workplace Drug-Free Policy

Upon a motion by John Callaway, seconded by Mike Mitchem, and a total of "Four" votes cast: "Four" Yes/"zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to approve the placing of Policy 11-030 Simulated Workplace Drug-Free Policy on Comment.

3. Approval of Student Trip Request – BETA Club Convention (Charleston, WV) – Mount View High School Grades 9-12

4. Approval of Student Trip Request – Welch Public Library (Welch, WV) – Fall River Elementary School Grade Universal Pre-K

5. Approval of Student Trip Request – Welch Public Library (Welch, WV) – Fall River Elementary School Grade Universal Pre-K

Board Members unanimously decided by the members of the Board to vote upon Action Items 3-5 with one vote.

Upon a motion by John Callaway, seconded by Mike Mitchem, and a total of "Four" votes cast: "Four" Yes/"zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to approve Action Items 3-5.

Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Falin thanked Board Member for their prayers and support during the loss of her sister.

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Announcement of Future Meetings

November 12, 2019	Special Meeting of McDowell County Board of Education Phoenix Center, 275 Virginia Avenue, Welch, WV 10:00 am
November 18, 2019	Regular Meeting of McDowell County Board of Education Phoenix Center, 275 Virginia Avenue, Welch, WV 4:30 pm

Adjournment

Upon a motion by Mike Mitchem, seconded by Mike Vallo, and a total of "Four" votes cast: "Four" Yes/"zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:21 pm

David Williams, President

Date

Carolyn H. Falin, Superintendent

Date