MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCDOWELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2026

The Board of Education of the County of McDowell met in regular session Tuesday, August 4, 2026, at 5:00 pm at the Central Office, 900 Mount View Road, Welch, West Virginia, with the following members being present and serving throughout: Vice-President Jennifer Justice, Georgia West, James Copolo and Linda Lester White with President Ed Evans joining via telephone. Assistant Superintendent Amanda Peyton served as secretary.

BOARD ACTION

Vice President Justice called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm, followed leading the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Introduction of Board Members was made at this time, all members are present with the exception of President Ed Evans, who joined via telephone. Assistant Superintendent Amanda Peyton served as Secretary.

Approval of the Minutes of the July 21, 2026 Special Session

On a motion of Linda Lester White, seconded by Georgia West, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/ "zero" Abstain, the Board Members voted to approve the Minutes of the July 21, 2026 Special Session.

Approval of the Minutes of the July 21, 2026 Regular Session

On a motion of James Copolo seconded by Georgia West and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/ "zero" Abstain, the Board Members voted to approve the Minutes of the July 21, 2026 Regular Session.

Delegations and Speakers

There were no Delegations or Speakers.

Personnel

1. Personnel Agenda

August 4, 2026

Personnel Agenda

Professional Personnel

Transfer of Professional Personnel

	Last Name	First Name	From Position	To Position	Effective Date
1.	Anglin	Jessica	Southside K-8, Grade K/1 (P-SS-70)	Southside K-8, Grade 4/5 (P-SS-24)	August 17, 2026
2.	Scott	Elizabeth	Iaeger Elementary, Grade 5	Coalfield Elementary, Grade 1/2 (P-CF-07)	August 17, 2026
3.	Phelps	Beverly	Coalfield Elementary, Multi-Categorical (P-CF-30)	Bradshaw Elementary, Assistant Principal, 210 days (P-B-40)	August 6, 2026
4.	Carbaugh	Stephanie	Iaeger Elementary, Grade K/1 (P-I-31)	Iaeger Elementary, Assistant Principal, 210 days (P-I-42)	August 6, 2026
5.	Davis	Chelsea	County-wide, Short-term Substitute Teacher	Coalfield Elementary, Multi-Categorical (P-CF-35)	August 17, 2026 – Pending issuance of WV Permit

6.	Corner	Rileigh	County-wide, Substitute Teacher	Bradshaw Elementary, Grade 3/4 (P-B-33)	August 17, 2026

Resignation/Retirement/Other of Professional Personnel

	Action	Last Name	First Name	Location	Position	Effective Date
1.	Resignation	Wimmer	Michele	Coalfield Elementary	Grade 3 (P-CF-11)	August 4, 2026
2.	Rescind Offer of Employment	Redmond	Amy	Career & Technology Center	LPN Instructor (P-CT-11)	August 4, 2026
3.	Resignation	Morgan	Heather	Bradshaw Elementary	Pre-K Special Needs (P-B-29)	July 21, 2026
4.	Retirement	Evans	Kenneth	River View High	English 9-12 (P-RV-13)	July 1, 2026
5.	Resignation	Pendry	Kimberly	Iaeger Elementary	Title I Math (P-I-24)	August 4, 2026

Employment of Extra-Curricular Professional Personnel

	Last Name	First Name	Location	Position	Effective Date
1.	Adams	Wendy	Sandy River Middle	Multi-Tiered System of Supports/Student Assistance Team Coordinator (MTSS/SAT)	August 17, 2026
2.	Addair	Kimberly	Bradshaw Elementary	Multi-Tiered System of Supports/Student Assistance Team Coordinator (MTSS/SAT)	August 17, 2026
3.	Crouse	Stephanie	River View High	Multi-Tiered System of Supports/Student Assistance Team Coordinator (MTSS/SAT)	August 17, 2026
4.	Anglin	Jessica	Southside K-8	Multi-Tiered System of Supports/Student Assistance Team Coordinator (MTSS/SAT)	August 17, 2026
5.	Jack	Catherine	Mount View High	Multi-Tiered System of Supports/Student Assistance Team Coordinator (MTSS/SAT)	August 17, 2026
6.	Miller	Amanda	County-wide	Home Bound Teacher	August 17, 2026

7.	Pike	Annalyn	County-wide	Home Bound Teacher	August 17, 2026
8.	Thomas	Loretta	County-wide	Home Bound Teacher	August 17, 2026
9.	Phelps	Beverly	County-wide	Home Bound Teacher	August 17, 2026
10.	Muncy	Patricia	Bradshaw Elementary	Technology Systems Operator	August 17, 2026
11.	Picklesimer	Michael	Iaeger Elementary	Technology Systems Operator	August 17, 2026
12.	Justice	Ramona	Coalfield Elementary	Technology Systems Operator	August 17, 2026
13.	Miller	Amanda	Southside K-8	Technology Systems Operator	August 17, 2026
14.	Valach	Kristi	Mount View High 9-12	Technology Systems Operator	August 17, 2026
15.	Crouse	Stephanie	River View High	Technology Systems Operator	August 17, 2026
16.	Woolridge	Sherry	Sandy River Middle	Technology Systems Operator	August 17, 2026
17.	Davis	Edward	Mount View High 6-8	Technology Systems Operator	August 17, 2026

Coaching

Employment Coaching Personnel					
	Last Name	**First Name**	**Location**	**Position**	**Effective Date**
1.	Lester	Ryan	Sandy River Middle	Head Boys' Basketball	August 10, 2026

Service Personnel

Employment of Service Personnel					
	Last Name	**First Name**	**Location**	**Position**	**Effective Date**
1.	Cooper	Jean	County-wide	Substitute Bus Operator	August 17, 2026 – Pending issuance of WVDE Bus Operator Certification
2.	Keen	Ernest	County-wide	Substitute Bus Operator	August 17, 2026 – Pending issuance of WVDE Bus Operator Certification

3.	Muncy	Gene	Central Office	Carpenter/General Maintenance	August 10, 2026

Transfer of Service Personnel

	Last Name	First Name	From Position	To Position	Effective Date
1.	Jones	William	Mount View Attendance Area, Bus Operator, Bus #161 (S-BM-16)	River View Attendance Area, Bus Operator, Bus #180 (S-BR-26)	August 17, 2026
2.	Dawson	Landon	Iaeger Elementary, Custodian, 3.5 hrs. (S-I-15)	Bradshaw Elementary, Custodian, 8 hrs. (S-B-11)	August 10, 2026
3.	Church	Tammy	Sandy River Middle, Secretary (S-R-01)	Southside K-8, Secretary (S-SS-02)	August 13, 2026
4.	Jarrells	Misty	County-wide, Substitute Custodian	Career & Technology Center, 3.5 hrs.(S-CT-04)	August 10, 2026
5.	McClanahan	Gabrielle	Southside K-8, Aide/ECCAT (S-SS-23)	County-wide, Substitute Aide	August 4, 2026

Resignation/Retirement/Other of Service Personnel

	Action	Last Name	First Name	Location	Position	Effective Date
1.	Resignation	Click	Charles	River View High	Custodian, 8 hrs. (S-RV-9)	August 14, 2026
2.	Resignation	Parnell	Kathy	County-wide	Substitute Cook	August 4, 2026
3.	Resignation	Baker	Shamya	Coalfield Elementary	Aide/ECCAT (S-CF-4)	August 4, 2026
4.	Resignation	Stacy	Marsha	Preferred Recall	Preferred Recall	August 4, 2026

Summer Service Personnel

	Last Name	First Name	Location/Position	Effective Dates
1.	Jones	William	General Maintenance	Extend through August 14, 2026

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

On a motion of Georgia West, seconded by James Copolo and a total of "four" votes cast: "four" Yes / "zero" No / "one" Abstain vote, Board Members voted to approve the personnel agenda. Linda Lester White recused herself from the vote.

2. Volunteer List

Volunteer	SCHOOL(S)	REASON
Tameka Baker	MVHS	School Activities/Concession Stands/non-coaching
April Chapman	MVHS	School Activities/Concession Stands/non-coaching
Robin Walker	MVHS	School Activities/Concession Stands/non-coaching
Crystal Wright	MVHS	School Activities/Concession Stands/non-coaching

On a motion of Linda Lester White, seconded by Georgia West, 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 Georgia West, seconded by Linda Lester White, 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.

2. Approval To Authorize School Fundraiser Events

Mount View High, High School Volleyball Team – Fall Mums Sale (August 3, 2026 – August 17, 2026)

Mount View High, Varsity Cheerleaders – Bake Sale (August 18, 2026)

On a motion of Linda Lester White, seconded by Georgia West, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to Approve both School Fundraiser Events: Mount View High, High School Volleyball Team – Fall Mums Sale (August 3, 2026 – August 17, 2026); Mount View High, Varsity Cheerleaders – Bake Sale (August 18, 2026).

Presentation/Reports

1. Strategic Planning and Consolidation Plan – Amanda Peyton, Assistant Superintendent

Mrs. Peyton went over the McDowell County Strategic Plan, sharing a slide show to highlight the accomplishments of the 2025-2026 school year in strategic gains and academic momentum, as well as socioeconomic and staffing realities.

2. Building Brighter Futures: Title I In Action – Summer Garlic, Title I Director

Ms. Garlic, along with Mrs. Peyton, presented information about Federal Programs and Title Funding. They explained how the funding in Title I, Title II, Title III, Title V and CSI Funding is used throughout the County to support Tier I, Tier II and Tier III Instruction, Professional Development, Community in Schools Facilitators, Home Visiting Programs, and many other instruction and project activities.

Board Reports/Comments

1. Kimball Elementary School Property Conveyance Discussion

At this time, board members engaged in a conversation regarding the Kimball Elementary School Property and the cost of maintaining the building up to this point. In the last 12 months, the Board has paid $125,000.00 for electricity. Mr. Chapman provided a needs assessment that Mrs. Peyton shared. Among the needs listed are immediate roof repair, estimated cost of $600,000.00; sewage treatment plant repairs, which the recipient of the property will need to work out with DEP for cost; HVAC/Duct work repairs, estimated at $10,000.00; water line repair, estimated at $60,000.00 (water is currently shut off at the property due to the leak); the office area is in need of repair, at an estimated cost of $20,000.00. They also discussed the fact that the property that is available to be conveyed does not include the property from the playground area to the post office – this property is on a lease owned by Pocahontas Land Company, and the recipient would need to negotiate with them for the lease rights. Right away, repairs on the property will reach between $700,000.00 - $800,000.00.

Board members discussed the possibility of both of the interested parties working together to obtain the property. Mrs. Peyton shared that Dr. Barker had spoken with Mark D'Antoni of Bowles Rice and was told that we could convey the property to one entity, with the stipulation that a designated part of the property be made available to the second entity to lease. Mr. Copolo asked about the clause that would allow the property to revert back to the board after a period of time, and was informed that if the property was conveyed to a government agency, this clause would not apply.

Mr. Evans asked about having the matter placed on the next agenda under Action Items to vote on the conveyance. The board members want to have a special work session before the next meeting to further discuss and decide what action to take.

Action Items

1. Approval to Place Policy 11-060, Third Grade Success Act – Promotion/Retention/Exemptions, Up For Comment

On a motion of Georgia West, seconded by Linda Lester White, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to Approve the Placement of Policy 11-060, Third Grade Success Act – Promotion/Retention/Exemptions, Up For Comment. Mr. Copolo asked for further clarification, and Mrs. Peyton went into detail on what the Policy would allow, emphasizing that the recommendation of the classroom teacher would not be overridden.

2. Approval to Contract with Twin Sisters Construction Company for Storm Drain Repair ($311,165.00)

On a motion of James Copolo, seconded by Georgia West, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to Approve to Contract with Twin Sisters Construction for Storm Drain Repair ($311,165.00). Jennifer Justice asked if this was located at the Bus Garage, and Mrs. Peyton answered that it was, and the damage came from the flooding last February. Money used for these repairs is coming from FEMA.

3. Approval to Contract with Twin Sisters Construction Company for Southside Field Repairs ($119,500.00)

On a motion of Georgia West, seconded by James Copolo, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to Approve to Contract with Twin Sisters Construction for Southside Field Repairs ($119,500.00). Jennifer Justice asked if this money is also coming from FEMA, and it is.

4. Approval of Student Trip Request – Marion High School, VA – River View High School Football Scrimmage, Grades 9-12 (August 14, 2026)

On motion of Georgia West, seconded by Linda Lester White, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to Approve the Student Trip Request – Marion High School, VA – River View High School Football Scrimmage, Grades 9-12 (August 14, 2026).

5. Appointment of Attendance Director

On a motion of Jennifer Justice, seconded by Linda Lester White, and a total of "five" votes cast: "five" Yes/ "zero" No/"zero" Abstain, the Board voted to Approve the Appointment of Russell A. Lester, Attendance Director.

Superintendent's Updates

Amanda Peyton shared information about the Open House Events throughout McDowell County as we get ready for the opening of school for the 2026-2027 School Year. She invited board members to attend any of them, as well as joining staff for porch visits.

Board members received a snapshot calendar of beginning of school dates, holidays, etc.

Summer camp has concluded, with a Fairy Tail Theme this year. Students and staff alike had a great time learning this summer.

Amanda Peyton shared that Dr. Barker has asked Dr. East to present a BOE Member Training for HB2499 on Navigating Special Education Regulations in a special work session before the next board meeting. Board members commented that they prefer to have the next special work session about the Kimball Elementary Property conveyance, and move this special work session to a later date. Mrs. Peyton advised that the session on HB2499 would take the full hour.

Announcement of Future Meetings

Date:	Tuesday, August 18, 2026
Time:	4:00 PM
Type:	Special Work Session Meeting
Location:	Central Office, 900 Mount View Road, Welch, WV

Date:	Tuesday, August 18, 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 7:11 pm.

Jennifer Justice, Vice-President Date

Amanda Peyton, Assistant Superintendent Date