

DateNovember 18, 2013.....

.....REGULAR.....Superintendent's Office.....Michael D. Blair, President
Kind of Meeting	Where Held	Presiding Officer

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

COUNTY OF WETZEL, to-wit:

The Wetzel County Board of Education met in Regular Session on Monday, November 18, 2013, at the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, in New Martinsville, WV, at 6:30 p.m. The following members were present:

William D. Aberegg	Linda T. Kirk
Michael D. Blair	Robert E. Patterson
Carolyn R. Gatian	Dennis Albright, Secretary

OPENING, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND INVOCATION:

This Regular Session of the Wetzel County Board of Education was called to order by the President of the Board, Mr. Michael D. Blair. Mr. Aberegg led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Mrs. Gatian gave the opening Invocation.

PRESENTATION:

West Virginia Education Association - Elliott Kendle

Elliott Kendle, WCEA Co-President and WVEA Executive Committee Member, provided the members of the Board with a handout and whiteboard presentation on WVEA’s salary campaign. He stated that in the month of September, 748 teachers retired in the state of West Virginia. He noted that it is difficult recruiting teachers with the current salaries offered. The data Mr. Kendle presented showed that West Virginia’s average salary ranking is 48th in the nation and West Virginia ranks at the bottom of the neighboring states in average teacher pay. He also stated that according to the West Virginia Department of Education, there were 1,541 education graduates last year, with only 438 of those graduates employed in the state. Mr. Kendle asked the Board to sign a resolution supporting the salary campaign to make the pay of educators competitive with our surrounding states.

Mr. Blair thanked Mr. Kendle for his presentation, and stated “they are very good points”. The Resolution will be added to the next meeting’s agenda.

New Martinsville Ministerial Association - Vic Hunter

On behalf of the New Martinsville Ministerial Association, Pastor Vic Hunter began by thanking the Board for their service to the children and educators of the community. He spoke to the Board regarding an opportunity to access Universal Free Meals for Wetzel County students in PK-8, and PK-6 at Paden City Elementary, in the year 2014. He encouraged the Board to work toward a serious consideration and possible implementation of the program. Mr. Hunter stated the association has based their appeal on four things: 1) needs assessment, 2) the request for suggestions on how to spend the surplus money for the 2012-2013 school year, 3) benefits assessments, and 4) as religious leaders in the community, they want to attend to the needs of the community in terms of health and education. He stated this program is an opportunity to improve diet, through the universal free breakfast and lunch, which has shown to reflect positive behavior and educational outcomes.

Mr. Blair thanked Mr. Hunter for his presentation. On behalf of the Board, he asked that Mr. Hunter and the Association set up a meeting with Mr. Albright, and for Mr. Albright to get back with the Board.

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Glenville State College/Hidden Promise Consortium - Dr. Peter Barr

Dr. Peter Barr presented the Board with information and a whiteboard presentation on the Hidden Promise Consortium through Glenville State College. The College and local school districts are working together on a program that illustrates the importance of higher education. The goals of the project are to increase the number of students graduating from high school and entering college, increase ACT scores, decrease the need for remedial courses, and increase the number of college graduates. The program includes students in the 8th through 12th grade, and criteria includes possible first generation, low to moderate income, and potential to further education to a higher level but needs extra support. Dr. Barr also discussed the JASON project, which is a science-based 5-8 curriculum developed in partnerships with National Geographic Society, NOAA, NASA, and the U.S. Department of Energy. The JASON project is a complimentary project with the Hidden Promise Consortium. The Hidden Promise Scholars are chosen by county superintendents, principals, and counselors. The program provides mentor and family involvement, campus visits, free summer camps, and scholarships. The program not only gets students in to college, but also gets those students out of college.

Dr. Barr stated he was present this evening to ask the Board for a commitment from Wetzel County Schools for the Superintendent to join the Consortium, to identify some scholars, and to allow them to work with those scholars. He stated the program is totally free. The goal of the Consortium is to get more kids to graduate from college.

Mr. Patterson and Mr. Blair both stated the Consortium sounded like a win-win program. Mr. Blair thanked Dr. Barr for coming, and stated the Board would discuss the topic with Mr. Albright and get back with him.

RECOGNITION:

August/September 2013 Employees of the Month

John Kocher, Valley High School	Professional
Shelley Hulsey, Paden City High School	Professional
Kathy Mace, Long Drain School	Service
Denise Poling, Short Line School	Service

Mr. Albright, Superintendent, recognized the August/September 2013 Employees of the Month. Mr. Albright congratulated the employees and presented each of them with a Governor’s Certificate and lapel pin.

The Employee Personnel Hearing and Presentation of Charges items on the Addendum were moved to the Superintendent’s Recommendations.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting - November 4, 2013

Acting on the Superintendent’s recommendation, Mr. Aberegg made the motion to approve the minutes for Regular Meeting, November 4, 2013. Second to the motion was made by Mrs. Gatian and the motion was approved unanimously by the members of the Board.

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Mr. Blair informed the Board to strike the following from the Addendum: Employee Personnel Hearing; and Presentation of Charges, items “a” and “b” (2). Mr. Blair also informed the Board to include the Addendum items in the motion under Personnel Matters and Routine Matters.

EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL HEARING:

~~Conduct an Employee Personnel Hearing concerning the Superintendent’s recommendation of a service employee’s: (1) suspension with and without pay, and (2) termination of employment contract as an employee of the Wetzel County Board of Education.~~

PRESENTATION OF CHARGES:

Possible Executive Session:

~~_____ Per WV Code §6-9A-4(b-2-A), for the discussion of personnel matters involving the discipline of an employee.~~

Motion _____ Second _____ Action _____
Time Out _____ Time Return _____

Ratification of Superintendent’s Recommendation:

Mr. Dennis Albright, Superintendent, recommends:

- (1) Suspension with pay of the employee beginning October 25, 2013 through October 30, 2013 and suspension without pay of the employee beginning October 31, 2013.
- (2) ~~The termination of employment contract of the employee.~~

Such actions are taken for the employee’s violation of State Board Policy 5902 and 8100.

Personnel Matters:

Employment and/or Changes in Employment:

Retirements and/or Resignations:

Resignations:

Brian K. Bartlett	Acceptance of resignation from position as Assistant Boys’ Basketball Coach at Hundred High School, effective immediately.
Franklin S. Hixenbaugh	Acceptance of resignation from position as Secretary II/Computer Operator at Hundred High School, effective immediately.
Terry D. Metz	Acceptance of resignation from position as 8 th Grade Girls’ Basketball Coach at Long Drain School, effectively immediately.

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Professional Personnel:

Ashley R. Bunner Approval for change in assignment from Half-time Art Teacher at Valley High School to Half-time MI/LD/BD with Autism Teacher at Hundred High School, on permit, and will remain Half-time Art Teacher at Valley High School, effective November 19, 2013.

Service Personnel:

Justin F. Herrick Approval for change in assignment from Half-time Evening Custodian II, 682/B, at Paden City Elementary School to Half-time Daytime Custodian II, 682/B, at Short Line School, and will remain Half-time Evening Custodian II, 682/B, at Paden City Elementary School, effective January 2, 2014.

Extracurricular:

Brent J. Croasmun Approval for employment as 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach at Paden City High School, effective the beginning of the 2013-2014 WVSSAC Season.

Kimberly J. Hizer Approval for change in assignment from Assistant Cheerleader Coach at Paden City High School to Head Cheerleader Coach at Paden City High School, effective November 19, 2013. Non-certified.

Brittany D. Jackson Approval for contracted services position as Extended Day Tutor - Policy 2512 at New Martinsville School, effective November 12, 2013.

Regina L. Lemley Approval for employment as 7th Grade Boys' Basketball Coach at Short Line School, effective the beginning of the 2013-2014 WVSSAC season. Non-certified.

Terry D. Metz Approval for employment as Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach at Hundred High School, effective the beginning of the 2013-2014 WVSSAC season. Non-certified.

David C. Riggle Approval for contracted services position as Extended Day Tutor - Policy 2512 at New Martinsville School, effective November 12, 2013.

Jason P. Salva Approval for contracted services position as LINKS Coordinator at Paden City High School for the 2013-2014 school year.

Kimberly D. Starkey Approval for contracted services position as Extended Day Tutor - Policy 2512 at New Martinsville School, effective November 12, 2013.

Reconfiguration for 2014-2015 School Year:

Deborah L. Allen Upon the recommendation of the Principal in accordance with West Virginia Code §18A-4-7a(u), approval for change in assignment from Fourth Grade Teacher at Paden City Elementary School to First Grade Teacher at Paden City Elementary School effective the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year.

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Rescindment of Posting:

Approval of the rescindment of Wetzel County Schools Job Posting 2013-328, First Grade Teacher at Paden City Elementary School for lack of need.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AS OUTLINED UNDER PERSONNEL MATTERS:

Mrs. Gatian made the motion for approval of the Superintendent’s recommendations as outlined under Personnel Matters, striking the Employee Personnel Hearing; and Presentation of Charges, items “a” and “b” (2), to uphold the Superintendent’s recommendation for the suspension with pay of Franklin S. Hixenbaugh beginning on October 25, 2013 through October 30, 2013, and suspension without pay of Mr. Hixenbaugh beginning October 31, 2013. Second to the motion was made by Mr. Patterson and the motion was approved unanimously by the members of the Board.

Routine Matters:

County Strategic Plan Annual Update:

Superintendent recommends approval of the Annual Update to the County Strategic Plan for the 2013-2014 school year, as presented at the October 21, 2013 Board Meeting.

Out of State Trips:

Approval of request from Annie Hall, Agricultural Education Teacher at Valley High School, to take the Pine Grove FFA Chapter at Valley High School to tour the Isler Genetics Swine Farm in Prospect, OH, on November 20, 2013. Funded through the Pine Grove FFA Chapter.

Approval of request from Jay Salva, Principal, to take the 8th grade students from Paden City High School to Washington, D.C. on May 28-30, 2014. Funded through fundraisers and student fees.

Approval of request from Jeanine Watson, Advisor, for the Hundred High School Travel Club to travel to Ireland in the spring of 2015, with the exact dates to be scheduled after the 2014-2015 school calendar is approved. Funded through student fees.

Approval of request for Tammy Wells and David Riggle, ESL Teacher, to attend the Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages International Conference in Portland, Oregon, March 26-29, 2014. Funded through ESL funds and Step 7.

Request to Use School Facilities:

Approval of request from Christina Fulks for the Paden City Grasshopper Basketball League to use the gymnasium at Paden City Elementary School for basketball and cheerleading practices and games, as scheduled with the Principal, from November 4, 2013 through March, 2014.

Approval of request from Stacie Starkey and Mayor Roy Justice for the Town of Pine Grove to use the kitchen and commons at Valley High School for their annual free Thanksgiving Dinner on November 28, 2013.

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Request to Attend Wetzel County Schools:

Approval of request from Tina Barnhart for her son, William Paul Morgan, to attend Wetzel County Schools (New Martinsville School) for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year, pending release form Tyler County Schools.

Memorandum of Understanding:

Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding on Student Teaching between Alderson Broaddus University and the Wetzel County Board of Education for the spring 2014 semester.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AS OUTLINED UNDER ROUTINE MATTERS:

Mr. Patterson made the motion for approval of the Superintendent’s recommendations as outlined under Routine Matters. Second to the motion was made by Mr. Aberegg and the motion was approved unanimously by the members of the Board.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Approval for Payment of Bills for the Month of October, 2013; and Transfers and Increases in the Budget:

Mrs. Gatian moved and Mr. Aberegg seconded the motion for unanimous approval for Payment of Bills for the Month of October, 2013. There were no Transfers and Increases in the Budget. Mr. Jeff Lancaster, Treasurer, asked the Board to complete and return the ‘conflict of interest’ and ‘consideration of fraud’ questionnaires which he presented to them.

OTHER ITEMS:

The Superintendent respectfully requested an Executive Session.

POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Blair moved and Mrs. Gatian seconded the motion for unanimous approval to retire into Executive Session per WV Code §6-9A-4(b-2-A), for the discussion of personnel matters...The Board retired in Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. Following the Executive Session the Board reconvened in Open Session at 8:04 p.m., no action needed, none taken.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

November 20, 2013 - Special Meeting - Work Session - County Office - 6:00 p.m.
December 2, 2013 - Regular Meeting - County Office - 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having set the time and date of the next meeting of the Wetzel County Board of Education, Mr. Blair made the motion to adjourn this Regular Meeting. Mr. Aberegg seconded the motion for unanimous approval to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

President

Secretary