

Date November 21, 2016

Regular	Superintendent's Office	Warren L. Grace, Jr., 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 21, 2016, at the Office of the Superintendent of Schools in New Martinsville, WV at 6:30 p.m. The following members were present:

Josh Balcerek	Warren L. Grace, Jr.
Michael D. Blair	William F. Jones
Amy J. Cooley	Edward T. Toman, 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. Warren L. Grace, Jr. Members of the New Martinsville Cub Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Mr. Jones gave the opening Invocation.

DELEGATIONS:

On behalf of the New Martinsville School PTO, Connie Yeager and Erica Lynch presented a sample binder to Mrs. Standiford, which contained grade-level worksheets including math problems, vocabulary and spelling words. Mrs. Yeager stated the binder was originated by Amy Cooley, who started this as an enrichment for her own children to assist them with multiplication. The binder contains sheets with sample problems, and each sheet is placed in plastic page protectors to be used with dry-erase markers in order for them to be reused. The use of the binder has grown and has been a well-receptive tool with all the grades at New Martinsville School. Mrs. Yeager said the teachers that have been using them have stated they have seen improvement with grades in the classroom. The PTO has had discussion with Mrs. Standiford on using them countywide. With community support and donations from the PTO, WalMart, and Wetzel County Hospital, binders will be made for all the students in kindergarten through fifth grade countywide. Mrs. Standiford thanked Mrs. Yeager and the PTO for the presentation.

REPORTS:

American Education Week Proclamation – Edward T. Toman

Mr. Toman stated that last week, November 14th-18th, marked the 95th Anniversary of American Education Week to generate public awareness and support for education. This years' theme was "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility". Mr. Toman presented a proclamation for the Board members to sign and distribute to all employees of Wetzel County Schools as an expression of gratitude for their hard work and dedication to our kids. The Board was in agreement, and Mr. Grace read a portion of the proclamation, stating, "As an expression of our gratitude, we will dismiss school staff at 12:30 on Thursday, December 22nd, so that the holiday break can begin a half day early".

County Strategic Plan Annual Update; and A-F County School Report Cards – Tammy Wells

Mrs. Wells began by stating the County Strategic Plan and the A-F School Report Cards go hand-in-hand, and presented both agenda items, 'b' and 'c', at the same time. The West Virginia Board of Education released the school grades last week. Mrs. Wells reiterated the four criteria the scores were based upon for all public schools in the state. She reminded the Board that this was the first year for the A-F school accountability system and the scores were applied on the bell curve.

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The schools receiving a grade of B include: New Martinsville School, Magnolia High School, Paden City High School, and Valley High School. The schools receiving a grade of C include: Long Drain School, Paden City Elementary School, and Short Line School. Hundred High School received a grade of D. Mrs. Wells stated that mathematics is a problem countywide and statewide, and said Wetzel County is working to improve that through numerous action steps. She went on to review the goals and action steps of the Strategic Plan for the 2016-2017 school year, which were devised to address the areas that individual schools and the county office determined as challenges based upon the four areas of the A-F grading scale. The goals include:

1. Instructional leadership for higher educator effectiveness;
2. Student engagement to increase student achievement and increase graduation rate; and
3. A culture of high expectations and shared mission to meet or exceed the measureable objectives set forth by the state.

Mrs. Wells said the teachers are participating in research-based instruction practices in mathematics through the Southern Regional Education Board’s Mathematics Design Collaborative (MDC). They are also working with the Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC) to continue with student growth in literacy. She stated they are focusing on alignment, pacing guides, and curriculum mapping. Mrs. Wells reminded the Board the county will soon be involved in the curriculum called JASON Learning, which is a comprehensive STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) curriculum.

Mr. Blair commented and said he wants to see scores of ‘A’s’ and ‘B’s’ next year. He asked Mrs. Wells what the county is doing to maintain the four ‘B’ schools and to enhance the ‘D’ and ‘C’ schools. He also asked about what is being done in the classrooms for mathematics in the form of teaching, and wanted to know if the county is buying programs. Mrs. Wells answered and said, “we have mathematics resources, but we are not buying programs”. She further explained that the MDC is a research-based instruction program. Mr. Blair also asked about testing and monitoring student growth. Mrs. Wells said all schools are administering the ICA’s.

Mr. Grace thanked Mrs. Wells and asked that she report at a future Board meeting and provide them with specific numbers and data for each school and how they were scored their letter grade.

Technology Update – Ben McPherson

Mr. McPherson provided the Board with a presentation and update on the technology in the county. He began with the progress of the 1:1 initiative, and stated that all 2,150 laptops are imaged. The TSS’s, along with some of the co-op students from Magnolia, are currently building the carts. They have also started working on the 450 tablets that go to the students in pre-k through 1st grade. He provided pictures of the process the technology department went through from the time of receiving the laptops on pallets to the imaging set-up and the distribution of the carts. Mr. McPherson proudly stated the first round of carts and machines were distributed to Paden City Elementary last week.

Mr. McPherson went on to provide an update on the WiFi upgrade project. They are adding 145 access points, and the project costs are supported through e-rate. Additional 1:1 items taking place include: electrical upgrades; LightSpeed, which offers the ability for the teachers to see what is going on the screens of their students and also takes care of filtering when at home; the revised Acceptable Use Policy; and URcast, which is a caching service.

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He continued with a discussion on interactive displays, which are taking the place of smartboards. Mr. McPherson reviewed several advantages of using the interactive displays. They do not require projectors and are easier to mount. The displays are able to run the same software as the smartboards, they are more energy efficient, and have a significant lifespan. He said 23 have been ordered, and 16 of them will be on a mobile cart.

Mr. McPherson expressed his appreciation for the addition of the Technology Integration Specialists, stating they are a huge part of the 1:1 initiative. He said they are currently very busy taking care of technology trainings with the teachers in the classroom, they are trying to get everyone caught up with logging in, and have technology rolls with the LDC and MDC trainings. He also said the demands will increase as the 1:1 is implemented. Mr. Grace questioned whether Microsoft was offering trainings for the teachers, and Mr. McPherson answered by stating the TIS’s receive the trainings and they, in turn, train the teachers.

He concluded with an update on the technology workload. They use School Dude and have responded to 523 tickets since July 1, 2016, which does not include the 1:1 devices. Mr. McPherson invited the Board members to Long Drain School next Wednesday, November 30th, at 10:00 a.m. for the next distribution of the 1:1 laptops.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – November 7, 2016

Acting on the Superintendent’s recommendation, Mr. Jones made the motion to approve the minutes for Regular Meeting, November 7, 2016. Second to the motion was made by Mr. Balcerek and the motion was approved unanimously by the members of the Board.

***Mr. Jones recused his vote from Personnel Matters and left the Board Room.

Personnel Matters:

Employment and/or Changes in Employment:

Resignations:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gregory S. Hostutler | Acceptance of resignation from position as Head Football Coach at Hundred High School, effective immediately. |
| Rebecca J. Moore | Acceptance of resignation from position as Countywide Substitute Teacher, effective October 27, 2016. |
| Craig A. Schneid | Acceptance of resignation from position as Head Boys Track Coach at Magnolia High School, effective immediately. |
| Lisa A. Shepherd | Acceptance of resignation from position as 7 th grade Girls Basketball Coach at Paden City High School, effective immediately. |
| Sarah L. Yeater | Acceptance of resignation from position as Countywide Substitute Teacher, effective November 6, 2016. |

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Professional Personnel:

- Christina L. Coulter Approval for employment as Countywide Substitute Teacher, effective November 28, 2016. Non-certified.
- Sarah E. Morgan Approval for employment as Countywide Substitute Teacher, effective November 28, 2016.
- Ashley B. White Approval for change in assignment from First Grade Teacher at Short Line School for the 2017-2018 school year to Fourth Grade Teacher at Short Line School, effective the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year.

Service Personnel:

- Susan R. Cospers Approval for employment as Countywide Substitute Cook, effective November 28, 2016.
- Sara L. Grimm Approval for change in assignment from Cook at Paden City Elementary to Cook at New Martinsville School, 676/B, effective November 28, 2016.
- Tammy L. Kocher Approval for employment as Countywide Substitute Cook, effective November 28, 2016.
- Kaylee Nice Approval for employment as Countywide Substitute Cook, effective November 28, 2016.
- Sharon A. Scyoc Approval for change in assignment from Cook at Paden City Elementary to Cook at Short Line School, 676/B, effective November 28, 2016.
- Steven C. Zajdowicz Approval for change in assignment from Countywide Substitute Custodian to Evening Custodian II, 682/B, at Valley High School, effective December 1, 2016.

Extracurricular:

- Leslie A. Lively Approval for employment as Freshman Basketball Coach at Valley High School, effective November 28, 2016.

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

Mrs. Cooley made the motion for approval of the Superintendent’s recommendations as outlined under Personnel Matters. Second to the motion was made by Mr. Balcerek and the motion was approved by a 3 to 1 vote:

Mr. Balcerek aye

Mr. Blair nay

Mrs. Cooley aye

Mr. Grace aye

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Routine Matters:

County Strategic Plan Annual Update:

Superintendent recommends approval of the Annual Update to the County Strategic Plan for the 2016-2017 school year .

Out of State Trips:

Approval of request from Tammy Chambers, Elliott Kendle and Kandi Loy-Kay to take the 6th grade students from Paden City Elementary on a field trip to the Campus Martius and Ohio River Museums in Marietta, OH on November 29, 2016. Funded through student fees.

Fund Raisers:

Per advisement of the Board's legal counsel, the Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the following groups/organizations to raise funds (Monies) in the name of a particular school in Wetzel County:

Valley High School and Short Line School:

Valley High School and Short Line School TSA Boosters

Partnership Agreement:

Approval of the Teacher-in-Residence (TIR) Partnership agreement between Fairmont State University and the Wetzel County Board of Education for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the TIR Program outlined in West Virginia Board of Education Policy 5100.

Request to Use School Facilities:

Approval of request from Rich Williamson for the Charlie Morris Basketball to use the gym at New Martinsville School for basketball practices and games from November 5, 2016 through February 28, 2017.

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

Mr. Balcerek made the motion for approval of the Superintendent's recommendations as outlined under Routine Matters. Second to the motion was made by Mr. Jones 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, 2016 (invoices approved at this meeting are available for review at the Wetzel County Schools' Financial Office); and Transfers and Increases in the Budget:

Mr. Jones made the motion for approval for Payment of Bills for the month of October, 2016. Second to the motion was made by Mrs. Cooley and the motion was approved unanimously by the members of the Board. There were no Transfers and Increases in the Budget.

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FIRST/SECOND READING OF NEW/REVISED WETZEL COUNTY POLICY(S):

FIRST READING	SECOND READING	NEW POLICY	REVISED POLICY	DELETE POLICY	NAME OF POLICY	ORIGINATOR
	X		X		JFB: Acceptable Use of Technology	Benjamin McPherson

Approval for Second Reading of Wetzel County Policy JFB: Acceptable Use of Technology:

Mr. Balcerek made the motion for approval of Second Reading of Wetzel County Policy JFB. Second to the motion was made by Mr. Jones and the motion was approved unanimously by the members of the Board.

OTHER ITEMS:

Mr. Toman made a suggestion to have a budget workshop on December 12th at 5:00. The Board was in agreement.

Mr. Toman informed the Board that he has scheduled the first Student Advisory meetings. They will be held November 28th at Hundred and Valley, and on November 29th at Magnolia and Paden City High School. He said the second monthly meeting with the Professional Advisory and Service Advisory was held last week. Mr. Grace said the questions and comments have been very positive and he feels the advisory groups will benefit the school system.

With Thanksgiving around the corner, Mr. Toman thanked the Board and all the staff for all they do. He also expressed a special thanks to Mr. Blair and Mr. Balcerek for their vote of support in his hiring.

Mr. Grace expressed his appreciation and congratulated the administration and staff in the schools on the grades they earned. He added that it represents a great deal of work and stress they endured.

Mr. Toman provided the Board with a brief explanation of the JASON Learning, stating it provides a motivation for kids to get involved in science. JASON is a curriculum and learning experience in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Mr. Toman directed the Board’s attention to the interactive display screen, which showed a sample draft for computer desktop backgrounds. The rolling screens provides informative information regarding Wetzel County Schools. He is working with Mr. McPherson on getting this on all computers.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

December 5, 2016 - 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. Grace made the motion to adjourn this Regular Meeting. Mr. Jones seconded the motion for unanimous approval to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

President

Secretary