

Date April 18, 2017

Statutory and 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 to continue the Statutory Session of March 20, 2017, and in Regular Session on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 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 Continuation of Statutory Meeting and 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 Girl Scout Daisies and Juniors Troop 51301 led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Mr. Blair gave the opening Invocation.

RECONVENING OF STATUTORY SESSION - MARCH 20, 2017

The Statutory Meeting of March 20, 2017 was reconvened by the President of the Board, Mr. Warren L. Grace, Jr. The Board received a copy of the letter of approval of levy estimates from the Office of the State Auditor in their packets, which is made a part of these minutes.

OBJECTIONS, IF ANY, TO THE LEVY ORDER:

Mr. Grace asked for objections, if any, to the Levy Order of the General Current Expense Fund. No objections were heard.

APPROVAL OF THE LEVY ORDER of the General Current Expense Fund, and entering same into the school budget for the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2017:

With no objections being heard, Mr. Jones moved, with second to the motion by Mrs. Cooley, that the Levies for the General Current Expense Fund be entered into the school budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and that the budget estimate and the rates of levy proposed therein were unanimously approved by the members of the Board and the following levies were laid on each one hundred dollars valuation of each class of property:

<u>General Current Expense Levy:</u>	<u>Excess Levy</u>
19.40 cents on Class I property;	22.95 cents on Class I property;
38.80 cents on Class II property;	45.90 cents on Class II property;
77.60 cents on Class III property; and	91.80 cents on Class III property; and
77.60 cents on Class IV property.	91.80 cents on Class IV property.

ADJOURNMENT of Statutory Session of March 20, 2017:

Following the aforesaid action, Mr. Grace moved and Mr. Jones seconded the motion for unanimous approval for adjournment at 6:33 p.m. of this Statutory Meeting of March 20, 2017.

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DELEGATIONS:
There were no delegations.

RECOGNITION:

<u>Golden Horseshoe</u>	
Rachel Bates	Short Line School
Makayla McDougal	New Martinsville School
Jacob Kuhn	Long Drain School

Mr. Grace recognized the 2017 Golden Horseshoe Winners. He congratulated the students, stressing the honor in receiving this award, and presented them with a Certificate of Achievement. Mr. Jones added that the Golden Horseshoe Awards Ceremony in Charleston is a very prestigious ceremony. Mr. Grace also congratulated the parents and schools on these successes.

PRESENTATION:

Assessment Update – Elementary School Principals

Mrs. Linda Haught, Mrs. Fay Pritchard, Mrs. Tammy Chambers, and Mr. Paul Huston, along with Mrs. Beth Sigley from Hundred High School, provided a powerpoint presentation with an update on their schools’ ICA and diagnostic testing results. Mrs. Sigley provided handouts and reviewed results from the Diagnostic Assessments the students took in March. She highlighted some of the best and worst areas in English/Language Arts and Math. In ELA, the students did well in looking at how relevant sources are, ability to write and revise brief texts, and determine word meanings. The weak areas in ELA included citing evidence within text, language use, and analyzing information. Mrs. Sigley said the teachers have compared the data from the fall and spring to determine their focus areas. She went on to review the math diagnostics, noting their weaknesses and strengths. The 11th grade ICA results for ELA revealed that the students do their best in vocabulary use and ability to write and revise brief texts. Mrs. Sigley said they are still working on grading the spring math tests. She said their goals for the remainder of the year in ELA include teaching students how to cite evidence to support arguments and researching skills. They will determine their math goals once they have completed the grading. She said the staff works well together and always strives to improve.

Mrs. Haught provided handouts and reviewed the results for Short Line School. She said the teachers reviewed the data from last years’ Summative Assessment, along with the IAB’s and ICA’s, and identified that math is their low performing area. Concepts and procedures were a major area of concern in all areas of mathematics, which has been their focus this school year. Mrs. Haught briefly reviewed the initial ICA results in ELA and mathematics, which revealed low proficiency levels. She then went on to review the action research cycle they used to close the gap. They utilized the data from the ICA’s and IAB’s to determine the students’ needs for ELA and math. Some of the materials and resources they are utilizing include fraction kits, IAB practice questions, and Math Talks. The teachers have also utilized Best Practices, reteach, SPL, and strategies from MDC and LDC. The teachers have implemented Step Up to Writing Strategies and the Reading Wonders Series. Mrs. Haught noted that she is striving to provide the training and tools necessary for the teachers and raising student achievement. She concluded with a brief review of the data from the IAB fraction block, which revealed student growth from the initial test.

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Mrs. Pritchard continued with the presentation for New Martinsville School. She said grade-level assessments were done the first semester. The teachers utilize STAR, with three benchmark assessments throughout the year. The PALS assessment is used for students in PK-3. She said the professional development with the instructional coaches has been a wonderful support for new teachers. The FAL assessments are used by the teachers involved in the MDC, and the LDC teachers are utilizing rubrics to evaluate student writing. She said the teachers spend a lot of time in grade-level data meetings during PLC's. They have identified strengths and weaknesses in ELA and math. They have incorporated writing through the strategies with Step Up to Writing, and working with the Wonders Reading Series in the younger grades to build writing skills. They also do Wednesday Study Groups, offering 170 hours throughout the year with trainings, data reviews, and lesson development. Mrs. Pritchard reviewed the monitoring process. For PK-K, they collect data from the PALS and formative assessments and build lessons to focus on the weaknesses. Students in grades 1-3 focus on STAR and PALS, and utilize the Title I Interventionist, grade level meetings, and after-school data meetings with County TIS, Mary Young. They currently have 51 students in grades 3-6 receiving in-school tutoring, focusing on math. Students in the 4th and 5th grade continue with the STAR, utilizing ICA's, and in-school tutoring. They add MDC and LDC for the 6-8 students and continue monitoring for mastery of the standards. Teachers also use the STAR, READ 180, and grade-level meetings. Mrs. Pritchard stressed that the teachers design lessons to assure the students are getting the help they need for their specific weaknesses.

Mrs. Chambers reviewed the assessment data for Paden City Elementary. She said last years' assessment indicated their weakness was in math in all grade levels, with concepts and procedures with fractions and face value being the big target area. The fall ICA data results revealed the same. The strategic plan and school-wide goal focuses on the basics of math. Some of the strategies they are utilizing include STAR and PALS assessments, FAL's, IAB's, and grade level pre- and post-tests. With the focus on math, teachers have implemented the fraction kits. The math interventionist is utilizing the Touch Math with the students in K-3. They also do small flexible groups, working with students based on their needs. They offer after-school tutoring, benefitting approximately 24 students. The school also has resource time in the mornings for 5th and 6th grade students to either go to a study hall or a specific teacher for extra help they need. There is a quiet zone in the mornings in the hallways to allow students time to finish homework. Mrs. Chambers provided a sample of a progress monitoring report. She noted that while the focus is on math, they have also incorporated Step Up to Writing Strategies.

Mr. Huston concluded the presentation with the review of the March ICA data for Long Drain School. The ELA results indicated three grade levels with averages better than the state. The math results indicated only one grade better than the state average, but most of the other grades were within 4 points. Mr. Huston went on to discuss what they do with their data, and provided a comparison chart of the fall and spring results in both math and ELA. The teachers review and analyze the data to see what areas they need to focus on prior to the WVGSA. Mr. Huston discussed some of the focus areas for ELA, which included author's purpose, working on main ideas and supporting details, revising writing, and interpreting data. For math, fractions are being focused on in grades 3-5, as well as focusing on two-digit multiplication, geometry and measurement, place value, and problem solving. Mr. Huston continued with the data focus for students in 6-8 in both ELA and math. For ELA, they are focusing on central ideas, word meanings, and vocabulary use, reasoning and evidence, key details, listening, and citing evidence. In math, the sixth grade is focusing on integers and absolute values, seventh grade is concentrating on solving 1- and 2-step inequalities, and the eighth grade is focusing on real numbers and solving pairs of linear equations.

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At the conclusion, Mr. Grace thanked the principals for their outstanding presentations.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – April 3, 2017
 Special Meeting – April 10, 2017

Acting on the Superintendent’s recommendation, Mr. Jones made the motion to approve the minutes for Regular Meeting, April 3, 2017, and Special Meeting, April 10, 2017. Second to the motion was made by Mr. Balcerek and the motion was approved unanimously by the members of the Board.

Personnel Matters:

Retirements:

Karen L. Longwell	Acceptance of retirement from position as Math Teacher at Long Drain School, effective the end of the 2016-2017 school year.
Debra D. Thomas	Acceptance of retirement from position as Bus Operator, effective the end of the 2016-2017 school year.

Resignation:

Marcia L. Cline	Acceptance of resignation from position as Assistant Cheer Coach at Magnolia High School, effective March 31, 2017.
Howard O. Meeks, III	Acceptance of resignation from position as Assistant Boys’ Basketball Coach at Paden City High School, effective immediately.

Professional Personnel:

Donna Earley	Approval for employment as Countywide Alternative TASC Examiner, effective April 18, 2017.
Kristina L. Leonard	Approval for employment as Math Teacher at Valley High School, effective August 17, 2017.

Extracurricular:

Chad M. Flowers	Approval for employment as Countywide Summer Handyman, effective June 12, 2017.
Ralph V. Gainer	Approval for employment as Countywide Summer Handyman, effective June 12, 2017.
William L. Gainer	Approval for employment as Countywide Summer Handyman, effective June 12, 2017.
Josie L. Greathouse	Approval for employment as Countywide Summer Handyman, effective June 12, 2017.
Drema F. Hupp	Approval for employment as Countywide Summer Handyman, effective June 12, 2017.

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David J. Pfalzgraf	Approval for employment as Countywide Summer Handyman, effective June 12, 2017.	
Richard A. Ritz	Approval for employment as Countywide Summer Handyman, effective June 12, 2017.	
Eric S. Roberts	Approval for employment as Countywide Summer Handyman, effective June 12, 2017.	
Waneta G. Yoho	Approval for employment as Countywide Summer Handyman, effective June 12, 2017.	

Leave of Absence:
Approval of request from James M. Daugherty for an extension of his unpaid ‘medical leave of absence’ from his position as Bus Aide, which began August 15, 2016 through April 1, 2017, to extend to July 1, 2017.

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

Mr. Balcerek made the motion for approval of the Superintendent’s recommendations as outlined under Personnel Matters. Second to the motion was made by Mrs. Cooley and the motion was approved unanimously by the members of the Board.

Routine Matters:

Out of State Trips:

Approval of request from Paul Huston to take Long Drain School students in grades 1-5 to attend the Washington Wild Things School Event in Washington, PA on May 4, 2017. Funded through allocated funds.

Approval of request from Paul Huston to take the Long Drain School students in grade 4 to the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh, PA on May 12, 2017. Funded through class funds.

Approval of request from Paul Huston to take Long Drain School students in grades 6-8 to Kennywood in Pittsburgh, PA on May 19, 2017. Funded through allocated funds.

Approval of request from Katie Smith to take the second grade students from Short Line School on a field trip to Stacy Farms in Marietta, OH on May 26, 2017. Funded through class funds

Release from Wetzel County Schools:

Approval of request from Taylor Charkawi for her child, Kindal Charkawi, to be released from Wetzel County Schools (Paden City Elementary) to continue attending Tyler County Schools for the 2017-2018 school year.

Approval of request from Cathy Boggs for her child, Jake Boggs, to be released from Wetzel County Schools (Paden City High School) to continue attending Tyler County Schools for the 2017-2018 school year.

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

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

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Approval for Payment of Bills for the Month of March, 2017 (invoices approved at this meeting are available for review at the Wetzel County Schools’ Financial Office); and Transfers and Increases in the Budget:

Mr. Balcerek made the motion for approval for Payment of Bills for the Month of March, 2017. Second to the motion was made by Mr. Jones and the motion was approved unanimously by the members of the Board. There were no Transfers and Increases in the Budget.

ACCEPTANCE OF AUDIT REPORT:

Acknowledge receipt of the final written Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, and declare the contents available for inspection by all offices and by the public:

Mr. Lancaster reported that the audit went very well again this year, stating there were no financial statement findings. He stressed how proud and thankful he is for the staff at the county office. Mr. Jones made the motion to acknowledge receipt of the final written Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, and declare the contents available for inspection by all offices and by the public. Second to the motion was made by Mr. Balcerek and the motion was unanimously approved by the members of the Board.

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDANCE AND ACCEPTING CLASSES AT COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SCHOOL	ACCEPTING CLASS	ATTENDING
Magnolia High School Thursday, May 25, 2017 8:00 p.m.	Mr. Grace	Mr. Balcerek Mr. Blair Mr. Grace Mr. Jones
Valley High School Friday, May 26, 2017 6:00 p.m.	Mrs. Cooley	Mr. Balcerek Mr. Blair Mr. Grace Mr. Jones
Paden City High School Saturday, May 27, 2017 11:00 a.m.	Mr. Grace	Mr. Blair Mrs. Cooley Mr. Grace Mr. Jones
Hundred High School Saturday, May 27, 2017 7:00 p.m.	Mr. Jones	Mr. Blair Mrs. Cooley Mr. Grace Mr. Jones

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FIRST READING OF REVISED WETZEL COUNTY POLICY:

FIRST READING	SECOND READING	NEW POLICY	REVISED POLICY	DELETE POLICY	NAME OF POLICY	ORIGINATOR
X			X		JEAA: Compulsory School Attendance	Todd Barcus

Approval of First Reading of Revised Wetzel County Policy JEAA, Compulsory School Attendance:

Mr. Balcerek made the motion for approval of First Reading of Wetzel County Policy JEAA. 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 announced that he and Mr. Jones will be attending the RESA Council meeting this Thursday. He hopes to find out more information regarding the legislation on the RESA's.

Mr. Toman informed the Board that there will be a group Student Advisory Meeting next Monday, April 24th, at the County Office, beginning at 11:30 a.m. He invited the Board members to attend.

Mr. Blair asked for an update on the purchase of additional defibrillators. Mr. Highley said he met with the nurses for their input on the number of extras needed in the schools. They were ordered last week.

POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION:

An Executive Session was not needed.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

April 20, 2017 – Special Meeting – County Office 5:00 p.m.

May 1, 2017 – 25-Year Club Recognized 6:00 p.m./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. Balcerek seconded the motion for unanimous approval to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

President

Secretary