

MINUTES

Board of Education for the County of Mingo

110 Cinderella Road, Williamson, WV 25661

Regular Meeting

March 19, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

I. Call to order

President McCormick called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Machele McCormick, President; John W. Preece, Vice President; Tom Slone, and Amy Dearfield-Hannah. James Baisden was not present. Superintendent, Dr. Johnny Branch was in attendance.

Members of the Press in attendance: Bruce Justice of the Mingo Messenger; Josh Brown of the Williamson Daily News

Central Office Staff in attendance: Patrick Billips, Director of Technology; Beth Daniels, CSBO / Treasurer; (Chief School Business Officer); William Hensley, Director of Maintenance; Kay Maynard, Director Child Nutrition & Wellness; Lesia Sammons, Coordinator of Guidance and Testing; Virginia Taylor-Mounts, Technology Integration Facilitator, present a few minutes; Christie Tilley; Coordinator of Parent Involvement; Janet Varney, Director of Special Education; Leah Wireman, Director of Human Resources; Leslie Tyree, Attorney for the Board, was in attendance.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Spotlight on Success

a. American Heart Association Youth Ambassador – Miss Hillary Gore

Dr. Branch introduced Miss Gore. She was presented with a certificate. Miss Gore addressed the Board with a short testimonial. Pictures were made.

b. West Virginia ProStart Educator of Excellence – Thelma Stanley

Dr. Branch introduced Mrs. Stanley. She was presented with a certificate. Mrs Stanley made a short statement to the Board and pictures were made.

IV. Out-Of-State Field Trip(s)

a. Tug Valley High School | 5-13-24 Dollywood

Thelma Stanley presented the trip to the Board members. Questions were answered. Mr. Preece made the motion to approve the trip. Mr. Slone seconded that motion. The motion carried with a vote of 4/0.

b. Matewan Pre K-8 | 5-23-24 Pigeon Forge, TN

Melaine Hall presented the trip to the Board members. Questions were answered. Mr. Preece made the motion to approve the trip. Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah seconded that motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

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47
48 **c. Gilbert Pre K-8 | 5-17-24 Dollywood**

49 Stephanie Endicott presented the trip to the Board members. Questions were answered.
50 Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah made the motion to approve the trip. Mr. Preece seconded that motion. The
51 motion carried with a vote of 4/0.
52

53 **V. Delegations**

54 Mr. Carl Lily of the West Virginia Educators Association addressed the Board. His concern was about
55 employee cuts in Special Education.
56

57 **VI. Hearings related to realignment for the 2024-2025 school year**

58 **a. Carolyn Hager transfer teacher / gifted MCS**

59 This item was struck from the Agenda.
60

61 **b. Henry Dillon transfer teacher / eLearning Facilitator TVHS**

62 Mr. Dillon requested an open hearing. The time as approximately 5:30 p.m. Mrs. Tyree swore in Mr.
63 Dillon. Mrs. Leah Wireman, Human Resource Director, explained the purpose of the Workforce
64 alignment for the 2024-2025 year(from this agenda). Carl Lily, WVEA Representative, had questions and
65 Mrs. Wireman answered them. Mr. Dillion had questions and those were answered by Mrs. Wireman
66 and Mrs. Tyree. The hearing concluded approximately 5:43 p.m.
67

68 **VII. General Considerations**

69 **a. Discussion and possible action regarding placement of county audit services out for bid.**

70 ~~Estimated cost \$585.~~ - Beth Daniels

71 First thing done was to strike the Estimated Cost of \$585 – that was put on the agenda erroneously.
72 Mrs. Daniels addressed this item and explained the bidding process.
73

74 Mr. Slone made the motion to approve the audit selection process. Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah seconded
75 that motion The item carried with a vote of 4/0.
76

77 **b. Discussion and possible action for approval of cafeteria tables for Burch Pre K-8, Lenore**
78 **Pre K-8, Matewan Pre K-8, Kermit Pre K-8, Williamson Pre K-8, and Tug Valley High School.**
79 **Estimated cost \$190,744 – Kay Maynard**

80 Mrs. Maynard spoke regarding this item. There was some discussion.
81

82 Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah made the motion to approve the purchase cafeteria tables. Mr. Slone seconded
83 that item motion. The motion carried with a vote of 4/0.
84

85 **c. Discussion and possible action regarding grass cutting (30-week) bid \$81,210. - William**
86 **Hensley**

87 Mr. Hensley spoke regarding this item. There was discussion.
88

89 Mr. Slone made the motion to approve the grass cutting bid as presented. Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah
90 seconded that motion. The motion carried with a vote of 3/1. Mr. Preece voted no.
91

92 ~~**d. Discussion and possible action to approve a School Calendar for 2024-2025 the school year**~~

93 Dr. Branch addressed this item. The website was not allowing comments. These were to be put out for
94 comment again and put back on the April agenda. This item was struck from the agenda.
95

~~e. Discussion and possible action regarding setting of the three-week conditioning window for Athletes~~

Dr. Branch spoke regarding this item. The WVSSAC had implemented 32-flex days for athletes instead of the three-week conditioning window. This item was struck from the agenda.

f. Discussion and possible action regarding setting salary for occupational therapist

Dr. Branch addressed this item. He explained how the figure of \$58,849.35 was reached.

Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah made the motion to approve this salary for occupational therapist. Mr. Slone seconded that motion. The motion carried with a vote of 4/0.

VIII. Departmental Updates

a. Maintenance Report - William Hensley

Mr. Hensley gave the Maintenance report.

b. Treasurer's Report - Beth Daniels

Mrs. Daniels delivered the Treasure's report.

IX. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes

- 1. Minutes of February 13**
- 2. Minutes of February 20**

b. Bills, Transfers, Supplements

1. Payment of Bills

Bills presented for approval through 3-11-24. The invoice list is available for review during public hours two business days prior to the meeting.

	Amount
Fund 11	\$543,679.56
Fund 41	\$-
Fund 51	\$130,411.99
Fund 61	\$221,031.92
Fund 71	\$510,161.86

2. Budget Transfers

Budget Transfers presented for approval

February Transfers	
1	\$ 2,704.81
Total	\$ 2,704.81

3. Budget Supplements

Budget Supplements presented for approval

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- x. Marie White Assistant Coach / Softball LK8 (effective March 20, 2024) (zero comp)

b. Resignations

- i. Gavin Farley Assistant Coach / Baseball (effective March 5, 2024)
ii. Michael McKneely Coach / Boys Basketball KK8 (effective March 7, 2024)
iii. Debra Santer After School Teacher / Tutor K-2 (effective February 16, 2024)

3. SERVICE PERSONNEL

a. New Employment or Transfer into Existing Position

- i. Dennie Hill Custodian IV MK8 to Custodian III BK8 (effective March 20, 2024)
ii. April Dove Cook II MCHS to Cook II BK8 (effective March 20, 2024)
iii. Jacob Kenneth Williamson Substitute Mechanic MCS to Mechanic (effective March 20, 2024)

b. Retirement

- i. Joe Howard Director of Transportation (effective March 15, 2024)
ii. Ivan Baisden custodian III TVHS (effective March 1, 2024)

4. Mingo County Volunteers 2023-2024

- i. Oanh Doung
ii. Erika Preece
iii. Ruby Tracy Hatfield
iv. Casandra Williamson

End Consent Agenda

Mr. Preece requested an audio copy of the February 20, 2024 meeting.

Mrs. Wireman addressed the Board. There was an item struck from the agenda: c. Personnel Actions, 1. PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL, a. New Employment into Existing Position, vi. _____ Occupational Therapist MCS (effective March 20, 2024)

Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Preece seconded that motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 4/0.

X. Probationary contract renewals and offer contracts for the 2024-2025 school year

a. Professional Personnel-Renew probationary contracts and offer contracts for the 2024-2025 school year as indicated (current assignment listed for reference)

- i. Pamela Blackburn teacher / Grade 6 LK8 , continuing
ii. Tiffany Brewer teacher / Grade 3 GK8, continuing
iii. Brian Crawford teacher / Music WK8 , continuing
iv. Darlene Griffith teacher / preschool /special needs BK8, continuing
v. Whittani Kirk teacher / special education GK8 , 3rd probationary
vi. Elwood Larder teacher / Math LK8, continuing
vii. Michael McKneely teacher / social studies TVHS, continuing
viii. Benjamin Moore teacher / Health & PE BK8, continuing
ix. Kirsten Moore teacher / Science MCHS, continuing
x. Misty Mounts teacher / Grade 3 GK8, continuing

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- xi. Bruce M. Smith teacher / Health & PE KK8, continuing
xii. Koneta Starr Collins teacher / Grade 6 WK8, continuing
xiii. Gabriel Varney teacher / Health & PE TVHS continuing
xiv. Payton Stanley Rowe Speece Language Pathologist, MCS, 3rd Probationary
xv. Ashley Willis Teacher / Math WK8 3rd Probationary
xvi. Barry Scott Grimmer Teacher / Special Education TVHS, continuing
xvii. Christy McCoy teacher / Kindergarten MK8, 3rd probationary
xviii. Garrett Bevins teacher / English MCHS, 3rd probationary
xix. Brandon Jace Hall teacher / Social Studies GK8, 3rd probationary
xx. Angel Jude teacher / Health Occupations MCHS, 3rd probationary
xxi. Norma Sammons teacher / grade 3 LK8, 3rd probationary
xxii. Donna King teacher / Kindergarten WK8, 3rd probationary
xxiii. Stacey Floyd teacher / Math BK8, 3rd probationary
xxiv. Patrick James Billips teacher / special education BK8, 3rd probationary
xxv. Andrea Sloan Beckinsale teacher / art GK8, 3rd probationary
xxvi. Kimberly Brown teacher / science TVHS, 3rd probationary
xxvii. Medra Murphy teacher / grade 5 KK8, 2nd probationary
xxviii. Chris Thompson teacher / Pre-Engineering MCHS, 2nd probationary
xxix. Elizabeth Jude teacher / grade 6 MK8, 2nd probationary
xxx. Katie Hager teacher / English MCHS, 2nd probationary
xxxi. Lakyn Williamson teacher / grade 3 KK8, 2nd probationary
xxxii. Kara Gess teacher / grade PK Special Needs KK8, 2nd probationary
xxxiii. Marissa Brock teacher/ art KK8, 2nd probationary
xxxiv. Jada Howell teacher / vision impaired itinerant, 2nd probationary
xxxv. Chelsea Sammons teacher / e Learning Facilitator MCHS, 2nd probationary
xxxvi. Dakota Jessie teacher 50% eLearning Facilitator / 50% Social Studies MCHS, 2nd probationary
xxxvii. Katherine Endicott teacher / e Learning Facilitator LK8, KK8, WK8, 2nd probationary
xxxviii. Tabitha Hitchcock Communities in Schools BK8 / MK8, 2nd probationary
xxxix. Andrea Evans Communities in Schools DES, 2nd probationary
xl. Kara Plummer Communities in Schools GK8 / WK8, 2nd probationary
xli. Lavanda Church teacher / grade 1 MK8, 2nd probationary

Mrs. Wireman explained this item and answered questions.

Mr. Slone made the motion to approve this section of the agenda. Mr. Preece seconded that motion.
The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

b. Service personnel renew probationary contracts and offer contracts for the 2024-2025 school year as indicated (current assignment listed for reference)

- i. Shawna Belcher aide / autism mentor itinerant (current BK8), continuing
ii. Michelle Boggs cook II WK8, continuing
iii. Nicolas Clark custodian III MCHS continuing
iv. Amanda Deskins aide / autism mentor (KK8), continuing
v. Jessica Ford aide / ECCAT BK8, continuing
vi. Johnny Hager bus operator MCS (Tug Valley Area), continuing

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- vii. Justin Hale heating & A/C mechanic / general maintenance MCS, continuing
- viii. Jackie Queen bus operator MCS (Williamson area) , continuing
- ix. Tammy Sartin custodian III LK8, continuing
- x. Julie Sheppard Cook II KK8, continuing
- xi. Betty Slone cook II BK8, continuing
- xii. Ashley Smith cook II MK8, continuing
- xiii. Ashley Maynard aide / autism mentor LK8, 3rd probationary
- xiv. John Turner custodian III / groundsman, 3rd probationary
- xv. Holly Hoffman secretary II DES, 3rd probationary
- xvi. Susan Jude bus operator MCS (Gilbert Area) 3rd probationary
- xvii. Bobby Runyon custodian IV WK8, 3rd probationary
- xxviii. Gavin Farley custodian III MK8, 3rd probationary
- xix. Angela Fleming secretary II BK8, 3rd probationary
- xx. Philip Staggs custodian III MK8, 3rd probationary
- xxi. Melissa Turner custodian III GK8, 3rd probationary
- xxii. Heather Grace aide / ECCAT KK8, 3rd probationary
- xxiii. Vivian Carter secretary II GK8, 3rd probationary
- xxiv. Chris Evans custodian III WK8, 3rd probationary
- xxv. Brian Ford bus operator MCS (Matewan Area) , 3rd probationary
- xxvi. James David Sloan bus operator MCS (Gilbert Area) , 3rd probationary
- xxvii. Lesa Compton aide / ECCAT GK8, 3rd probationary
- xxviii. Dwight Stepp bus operator MCS (Matewan Area) 3rd probationary
- xxix. Ashley Church custodian III GK8, 3rd probationary
- xxx. Danny West bus operator MCS (Tug Valley Area) , 3rd probationary
- xxxi. Amy Baisden bus operator MCS (Tug Valley Area), 2nd probationary
- xxxii. Teddy Graham custodian III WK8 , 2nd probationary
- xxxiii. Kim Cline Aide / ECCAT GK8, 2nd probationary
- xxxiv. Megan Sullivan Aide / ECCAT KK8, 2nd probationary
- xxxv. Tonya Jones Aide / ECCAT MK8, 2nd probationary
- xxxvi. Briana Webb Aide / ECCAT WK8, 2nd probationary
- xxxvii. Nathan Brewer Custodian III MK8, 2nd probationary
- xxxviii. Ryan Haugen Custodian III MCHS, 2nd probationary
- xxxix. Jonia Stumbo Aide / Autism Mentor KK8, 2nd probationary
- xl. Michelle Brewer Aide/ Autism Mentor KK8, 2nd probationary
- xli. Kristin Harvey Aide / Autism Mentor WK8, 2nd probationary
- xl.ii. Tyler Paige Baisden Aide / Autism Mentor TVHS, 2nd probationary
- xl.iii. Sharon Layne Aide / Autism Mentor WK8, 2nd probationary
- xl.iv. Charlotte Williams Aide / ECCAT WK8, 2nd probationary
- xl.v. Kyria Stewart Aide / Autism Mentor DES, 2nd probationary
- xl.vi. Mary Mullins Aide / ECCAT WK8, 2nd probationary
- xl.vii. Kiara Dempsey Aide / ECCAT WK8, 2nd probationary
- xl.viii. Erma Justice Aide / Autism Mentor, 2nd probationary
- xl.ix. Jennifer Totten Cook III GK8, 2nd probationary
- I. Tammy Green Cook III MCHS, 2nd probationary
- li. James McCoy bus operator MCS (Tug Valley Area), 2nd probationary

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Mrs Dearfield-Hannah made the motion to approve this item. Mr. Preece seconded that item. The item carried with a vote of 4/0.

XI. Workforce realignment for the 2024-2025 School year

a. Create positions (professional), effective July 1, 2024

- i. E-Learning Facilitator MCHS
- ii. E-Learning Facilitator 50% TVHS, 25% LK8, 25% KK8
- ii. E-Learning Facilitator WK8 26%, BK8 24%, MK8 24%, GK8 24%
- iii. Gifted 50% / Coordinator of Special Education Transitions 50%
- iv. Teacher / Grade 2 WK8
- v. Teacher / Grade 3 BK8
- vi. Teacher / Grade 5 GK8

Mrs. Wireman and Dr. Branch explained this item and answered questions.

Mr. Slone made the motion to approve the Workforce realignment. Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah seconded the item. The item passed with a vote of 3/1. Mr. Preece voted no.

There had been confusion regarding what the previous vote encumbered. Attorney Leslie Tyree was consulted. The item was rescinded so that each item under *XI. Workforce realignment for the 2024-2025 School year* could be voted on separately.

Mr. Slone made the motion rescind the previous motion. Mr. Preece made the second. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

Mr. Slone made the motion to approve the Workforce realignment section a. Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah seconded that motion. The motion carried with a vote of 3/1. Mr. Preece voted no.

b. Abolish positions (professional) (vacant or to become vacant), effective July 1, 2024

- i. Teacher / Special Education BK8
- ii. Teacher / Special Education KK8
- iii. Teacher / Special Education TVHS
- iv. Teacher / Business Education TVHS
- v. Teacher / Special Education WK8
- vi. Teacher / Special Education WK8
- vii. Instructional Coach-Math MCS
- viii. Teacher / Music MCHS
- ix. Teacher / Kindergarten KK8
- x. Teacher / Grade 1 LK8
- xi. Teacher / Special Education MK8
- xii. Teacher / Virtual MCELC
- xiii. Coordinator of Special Education Transitions Itinerant
- xiv. Teacher / Gifted Itinerant
- xv. Teacher / eLearning Facilitator MCHS, GK8, BK8, MK8
- xvi. Teacher / eLearning Facilitator LK8, KK8, WK8
- xvii. Teacher / eLearning Facilitator TVHS

Mrs. Wireman explained this item and Mrs. Janet Varney addressed the Special Education positions. Dr. Branch also made comments regarding this item.

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Mr. Slone made the motion to approve item b, abolishing of positions. Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah seconded that motion. The motion carried with a vote of 3/1. Mr. Preece voted no.

c. Reassign or Transfer as appropriate (professional), effective July 1, 2024

- i. Heather Denise Fitzpatrick teacher / Kindergarten KK8 to a position to be determined
- ii. Isaac Williamson teacher / Grade 1 LK8 to a position to be determined
- iii. Katherine Endicott teacher / eLearning Facilitator LK8, WK8, KK8 to a position to be determined
- iv. Marsha Bays teacher / Special Education MK8 to a position to be determined
- v. Henry Dillon teacher / eLearning Facilitator TVHS to a position to be determined
- vi. Vanessa Dotson teacher / Virtual MCELC to a position to be determined
- vii. Walt Cline Coordinator of Special Education Transitions to a position to be determined
- viii. Chelsea Sammons teacher / eLearning Facilitator MCHS, BK8, MK8, GK8 to a position to be determined
- ix. Carolyn Hager teacher / Gifted to a position to be determined

Mrs. Wireman and Dr. Branch spoke regarding this item.

Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah made the motion to approve this item. Mr. Slone seconded that item. The motion carried with a vote of 4/0.

d. Abolish service position (vacant or to become vacant) effective July 1, 2024

- i. Lubrication Man MCS
- ii. Aide/ Autism Mentor Itinerant (to begin at GK8)
- iii. Aide / Autism Mentor Itinerant (to begin at KK8)

Mr. Slone made the motion to approve this item, abolish service position. Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah seconded that item. The item carried with a vote of 4/0.

e. Appointment of Treasurer for the 2024-2025 school year (effective July 1, 2024)

- i. Mary E. Daniels treasurer / chief school business officer

Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah made the motion to approve the Appointment of Treasurer, Mrs. Daniels. Mr. Slone seconded that motion. The motion was passed by affirmation of the Board members.

XII. Action Item: Resignation of Board Member James E. Baisden

Mr. Slone made the motion to approve the resignation of James Baisden. Mrs. Dearfield-Hannah made the second. The motion carried with a vote of 3/1. Mr. Preece voted no.

XIII. Discussion and Information regarding the process for filling a B.O.E. vacancy

Dr. Branch gave a presentation. There is Board Policy that governs this process.

XIV. Board Member Comment Period

Each member had comments.

XV. Superintendent's Update

The superintendent had several updates.

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409 **XVI. Adjournment**

410 Mr. Slone made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Preece seconded that motion. The motion carried with a
411 vote of 4/0.

412

413 The time was 7:25 p.m.

414

415

416 **Next Regular Meeting**

417 April 16, 2024

 

Superintendent, Dr. Johnny Branch Date

Minutes approved 4-16-24