

MINUTES
WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION
Capitol Building 6, Suite 600
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia
March 13, 2024

I. Call to Order

Following the welcome and Pledge of Allegiance, President L. Paul Hardesty (remote) called the meeting of the West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) to order at 9:00 a.m. on March 13, 2024, in Capitol Building 6, Suite 600, 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Charleston, West Virginia.

The following members were present: President Hardesty, Vice President Nancy J. White (remote), Robert W. Dunlevy, Victor L. Gabriel (remote), F. Scott Rotruck (remote), Daniel D. Snavely (remote), Christopher A. Stansbury, Debra K. Sullivan, and Gregory F. Wooten (remote), and ex officio Michele L. Blatt, State Superintendent of Schools. Member absent was ex officio Sarah Armstrong Tucker, Chancellor, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education.

II. Approval of Agenda

President Hardesty called for a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Stansbury moved, and Mr. Dunlevy seconded, that the agenda be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously.

III. Delegations

Dr. William Simmons, retired educator and resident of Gilmer County, addressed the Board on the state of education in West Virginia and the need for qualified educators. Mr. Fred Albert, President, AFT-West Virginia, addressed the Board on recent legislation.

IV. School Safety

Mr. Jonah Adkins, Director, West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) Office of School Safety, provided an update on school safety.

V. County Technical Assistance Update

Mr. Jeffrey Kelley, Assistant State Superintendent, WVDE Division of District and School Accountability, provided an update on technical assistance provided to counties.

VI. Consent Agenda

President Hardesty called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. White moved, and Dr. Stansbury seconded, that the Consent Agenda be approved. Upon the call for the question

the motion was carried unanimously. (Copies appended to Official Minutes, Attachments A through E.)

- Approved the February 14, 2024, WVBE minutes (Attachment A)
- Approved Employment of Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage policies for Gilmer, Kanawha, Marshall, Tyler, and Wyoming Counties (Attachment B)
- Approved Employment of Retired Bus Operators as Substitutes in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage policies for Gilmer, Marshall, and Monongalia Counties (Attachment C)
- Received and approved for submission to the Consolidated Public Retirement Board substitute teacher and bus operator affidavits found in Attachment D
- Received an update from the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (Attachment E).

VII. Policy 2322, West Virginia System of Support and Accountability

Ms. Alexandra Criner, Director, WVDE Office of Accountability, presented a request to withdraw Policy 2322 from public comment due to legislative action requiring that the policy be further amended. Policy 2322, inclusive of legislative amendments, will be presented for placement on public comment at the April WVBE meeting.

Ms. White moved, and Mr. Dunlevy seconded, that Policy 2322 be withdrawn from public comment. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously.

VIII. WVBE and WVDE Personnel Matters

President Hardesty called for a motion to approve the WVBE personnel matters found in the attachment. Mrs. Sullivan moved, and Dr. Stansbury seconded, that the WVBE personnel matters found in the attachment be approved. Upon the call for the question the motion was carried unanimously. (Copy appended to Official Minutes, Attachment F.)

IX. WVDE Reports

Superintendent Blatt stated that the WVDE is critiquing recent legislation and will provide a report regarding its effect on WVBE policy.

X. WVBE Member Updates and Requests for Information

Mrs. Sullivan reported that she has submitted edits to Policy 7212 to WVDE staff, continued correspondence with educators across the state, attended robotics tournaments, attended the girls basketball tournament, and attended a meeting of the West Virginia Commission for Professional Teaching Standards. Mrs. Sullivan requested the WVDE provide disaggregated data

on chronic absenteeism, inclusive of the educational difference between chronically absent students and those students who regularly attend school, and why students are chronically absent. Mr. Dunlevy attended the girls basketball tournament, will attend the boys tournament, and will be working with the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission later this month on rule changes.

XI. Future Meetings

President Hardesty announced that the next regular meeting of the WVBE will be held April 9, 2024 (formerly April 10), at 9:00 a.m., in Charleston, West Virginia.

XII. Adjourn

President Hardesty called for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Stansbury moved, and Ms. White seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon the call for the question the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Minutes approved by the Board on April 9, 2024.

L. Paul Hardesty, President

Nancy J. White, Vice President

*Minutes were recorded by
Virginia M. Harris
Secretary to the Board.
WVBEminutes3/13/24*