

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
COUNTY OF FAYETTE, TO-WIT:

The Board of Education of the County of Fayette, West Virginia, met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, October 20, 2011, in the George M. Edwards Conference Room of the Board of Education Office, 111 Fayette Avenue, Fayetteville, West Virginia. Those present were:

Leon Newman	President
Steve Bush	Vice-President
David Arritt	
Pat Gray	
Leon Ivey	Members
Dwight D. Dials	Superintendent
Dr. Serena Starcher	Associate Superintendent
Ron Cantley II	Director of Operations
Bob Hollandsworth	Director of Technology
Gary Hough	Director of Transportation
Anna Kincaid-Cline	Director of Secondary Schools
Judy Lively	Director of Attendance
Margaret Pennington	Director of Personnel
David Seay	Director of Child Nutrition
Jackie Mollohan	Executive Secretary

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Newman following which Mr. Ivey led the Pledge of Allegiance. All members were present.

RECOGNITIONS/REPORTS:

Dr. Starcher reported on the 5-Year Strategic Plan submitted to the West Virginia Department of Education which includes data analysis, goals and objectives, action steps, professional development, and parental involvement for Title I, Title II, Technology, and Special Education. (See Attachments)

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

BOARD ACTION:

A motion was made by Mr. Bush, second by Mr. Arritt to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2011. At this time discussion ensued regarding the Superintendent's Comments:

Mr. Ivey asked for clarification of the MIP Project and Needs Project that was discussed during the Superintendent's Comments on October 3, 2011.

Mr. Dials clarified the addition of two classrooms at Divide Elementary and the upgrade of their sewage treatment plant would be to accommodate the fifth grade students from Nuttall Middle if Nuttall is closed. He also clarified the possibility of a Needs Project for an addition to Fayetteville High or Midland Trail High. He also stated the need for a new elementary school in Mount Hope. He stressed there are needs everywhere and he does not feel we are where we need to be to pass a bond issue. He reported an addition to Fayetteville High could accommodate Midland Trail High going to Fayetteville or an addition to Oak Hill High could accommodate Fayetteville High and Midland Trail High going to Oak Hill.

Mr. Ivey questioned why it would be a better fit for Midland Trail at Fayetteville than at Oak Hill.

October 20, 2011

Mr. Dials stated there are many people in Fayette County that would like to see one high school in the entire county but there are many variables to be considered in order to meet the needs of our children.

Mr. Arritt asked if the best fit would be to keep the schools where they are now.

Mr. Dials stated he would love to be able to do that but the economies of scale, laws for hiring, unfunded mandates, and meeting the standards for the needs of our students does not afford us to maintain the number of schools we currently have.

Mr. Arritt reported on the last election about consolidation stating 77 percent of the people voted against it and 22 percent for it. He commented we should do what the public elected us to do. He stated he has never been for consolidation and he campaigned against. He reported he did not have a hidden agenda and the Town of Fayetteville recently passed a resolution confirming they did not want the school to leave the town. He said he was sure Ansted feels the same way.

Mr. Dials stated we have no control over the decline in population and enrollment in Fayette County. He stated we must adjust and be resilient in trying to make our communities prepare for these realities.

Mr. Newman commented he was 100 percent sure that "status quo" was not an option for this school system. He remarked that keeping things as they are and living on past memories is not sufficient.

After Mr. Newman's call for the vote, the motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2011 was approved 5-0.

ITEMS FOR BOARD REVIEW:

Personnel Changes – (See Attachments)

Board Bills – (See Attachments)

BOARD COMMENTS: (not all inclusive)

Mr. Bush thanked Dr. Starcher for her report and also Mr. Cantley for his work on the performance contract. He expressed his appreciation to teachers for connecting with students. He expressed his condolences to the family of Edith Price Bobbitt. He said she was a teacher for 33 years in Logan, Raleigh, and Fayette Counties and was a founding member of the Fayette branch of Delta Kappa Gamma. He congratulated Oak Hill High marching band for receiving top honors in the recent Raleigh County Marching Festival. Oak Hill received 1st Place Color Guard; 1st Place Band; 2nd Place Percussion; and 1st Place Tie Drum Major in the Class AA competition.

Mr. Gray reported on the RESA 4 Council meeting hosted by Fayette County at Fayette Institute of Technology and distributed handouts to fellow Board members from the meeting. He reported the hot topics were OPEB (Other Post Employee Benefits) and complimented Howard Seufer for his presentation of the case. He also reported Senator Bill Laird and Delegate David Perry were present to answer questions. He stated the disciplinary policy and some of the language on the balanced calendar movement were also major items of discussion.

Mr. Arritt commented on recent newspaper article regarding 110-room Courtyard Marriott being built on the Kanawha Boulevard by his former classmate at Fayetteville High and Marshall University, Charlie Wendell. He commented on Dr. Vernon Stanley, who attended WV Tech and medical school at University of Virginia, being the head of Plateau Medical Center. He also commented on Dr. Scott Keffer, who was also a former Fayette County student, working at Plateau Medical Center. He stated these are three individuals from Fayette County to be proud of. He stressed we have had good schools in the past and hopefully we will continue to have in the future.

Mr. Ivey reported there is still a communication problem in the county as he found about a recent lawsuit in the Charleston Gazette. He questioned if a teacher applies for another position do we release the teacher and replace with a non-endorsed substitute until the position is filled by a qualified applicant.

October 20, 2011

Mr. Dials and Mrs. Pennington responded by stating this particular applicant has not been released and will not be moved until the position is filled by a qualified applicant.

Mr. Ivey expressed his appreciation for the response. He asked if we are “on track” to eliminate Algebra in the Middle Schools. He said it would affect students getting all of the upper-level math classes they need if they don’t have Algebra in Middle School.

Mrs. Kincaid-Cline and Mr. Dials responded that we will be changing to Common Core soon which includes Algebra and Geometry in the 6th and 7th grade textbooks.

SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS: *(not all inclusive)*

Mr. Dials named several individuals for Fayette County to also be proud of and they were Roda Hostetter, Paul Ramsey, and Irene Fitzwater, all of the Ansted area. He commented on communication problems and efforts we are making to improve them. He stated sometimes situations can get dynamic but he makes every attempt to be open and honest to everyone.

BOARD COMMENTS: *(not all inclusive)*

Mr. Newman thanked Dr. Starcher for her participation and her report.

Mr. Dials stated he had several requests to change the date for the Special Meeting for the Fayetteville area LSIC’s the due to Halloween and the “Trick or Treat” schedule. It was agreed to change the date from Monday, October 31, 2011, to Thursday, October 27, 2011. He stated the closure hearing dates for Nuttall Middle and Danese Elementary will be scheduled for December 12 and December 13, 2011. After discussion regarding the start time for the hearings, it was decided for 6:00 p.m. Mr. Dials stated regular scheduled meetings in December could be cancelled or changed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARINGS:

In accordance with 6-9A-4 (3) of School Laws of West Virginia, “The governing body of a public agency may hold an executive session during a regular, special or emergency meeting . . . upon a majority affirmative vote of the members present . . . To decide upon disciplining, suspension or expulsion of any student in any public school . . . unless the student requests an open meeting.”

At approximately 7:15 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Ivey, second by Mr. Arritt, carried 5 to 0, the Board agreed to convene in executive session following a 10-minute break to conduct student discipline hearings.

Board Ratification – Student 1 – Superintendent Dials’ recommendation of the ratification of suspension for Student 1 through the end of the second six weeks and placed in an alternative agreement was approved upon motion by Mr. Ivey, second by Mr. Bush, carried 4-0, with Mr. Arritt abstaining.

Student A102011 – Superintendent Dials’ recommendation that Student A102011 be expelled from Fayette County Schools for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year with the effects waived at the second semester provided stipulations are met, was approved upon motion by Mr. Ivey, second by Mr. Gray, carried 5 to 0.

Student B102011 – Superintendent Dials’ recommendation that Student B102011 be expelled from Fayette County Schools for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year with the effects waived at the second semester provided stipulations are met, was approved upon motion by Mr. Bush, second by Mr. Ivey, carried 5 to 0.

Student C102011 – Superintendent Dials’ recommendation that Student C102011 be expelled from Fayette County Schools for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year with the effects waived at the second semester provided stipulations are met, was approved upon motion by Mr. Bush, second by Mr. Arritt, carried 5 to 0.

October 20, 2011

Student D102011 – Superintendent Dials’ recommendation that Student D102011 be expelled from Fayette County Schools for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year with the effects waived at the second semester provided stipulations are met, was approved upon motion by Mr. Arritt, second by Mr. Ivey, carried 5 to 0.

At approximately 9:30 p.m. Mr. Newman announced the return to open session.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:

Special Meeting <i>LSIC</i> – Fayetteville Area	Thursday, October 27, 2011 Fayetteville High School, Fayetteville, WV	6:00 p.m.
--	--	-----------

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion by Mr. Gray second by Mr. Ivey, carried 5 to 0, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:32 p.m.

President

Secretary/Superintendent