

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. Monday, December 5, 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
Paula Fridley	Treasurer
Bob Hollandsworth	Director of Technology
Gary Hough	Director of Transportation
Anna Kincaid-Cline	Director of Secondary Schools
Judy Lively	Director of Attendance
Linda Palenchar	Director of Special Education
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 with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Ivey. All members were present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Shirley McGraw, concerned Meadow Bridge citizen, spoke against consolidation of schools in Fayette County not only in Meadow Bridge but throughout the entire county. She reported on longer bus rides for students, travelling dangerous roads and the loss of tax dollars with students being forced to go Greenbrier and Summers Counties. She also stated the curriculum will not improve at a consolidated school.

Marlene Ford, concerned Meadow Bridge parent, commented on the lengthy bus ride of curvy and dangerous roads that students living in the Backus Mountain area would have to endure in order to go to Midland Trail High School. She questioned the quality of education students will receive after travelling that distance and the hardship it will create for students and parents to participate in any extracurricular activity.

RECOGNITIONS/REPORTS:

Rhonda Chuyka, Midland Trail High Teacher, introduced a program Midland Trail High School has implemented and the positive impact it has on students. The program, Rachel's Challenge, is based on the first student shot at Columbine High School, Rachel Scott. Rachel's family shared her journal and an essay about a code of ethics which Rachel challenged the reader to start a chain reaction of kindness and goodwill by each person reaching out to the next in order to beat the bad in the world. She reported Midland Trail students have learned strategies for teaching kindness, how to keep the momentum going, and how to intervene with bullying.

December 5, 2011

Mr. Newman commended Ms. Chuyka for introducing Rachel's Challenge to the students as well as everyone at the meeting.

Mr. Dials stated the program could possibly be expanded throughout the schools.

BOARD ACTION:

Upon motion by Mr. Bush, second by Mr. Ivey with a vote of 5 to 0, the following items were approved.

- A. Approval of Minutes:
 - 1) November 7, 2011 – Regular Meeting
 - 2) November 14, 2011 – Special Meeting
- B. Out-of-State Trip Request – New River Elementary 4th Grade – (See Attachments)

ITEMS FOR BOARD REVIEW:

Personnel Changes – (See Attachments)

Board Bills – (See Attachments)

BOARD COMMENTS: (not all inclusive)

Mr. Bush thanked Ms. Chuyka for her presentation on Rachel's Challenge. He remarked the program was done at Oak Hill High several years ago. He quoted the expression *"the journey of 1,000 miles begins with the first step, but the first step has to be in the right direction"*. He expressed his appreciation for the informative LSIC meeting for the Oak Hill area schools held at Oak Hill School on November 28.

Mr. Gray thanked Shirley McGraw and Marlene Ford for their comments and thanked Rhonda Chuyka for her presentation. He commended Mr. Cantley and Mrs. Kincaid-Cline for their help with obtaining the S3 Grant. He remarked that he was convinced after seeing Ms. Chuyka's presentation that we are getting our money's worth. He stated as educators and administrators it is vitally important that children know someone cares about them which can be a direct reflection on lowering dropout rates, improving attendance rates, and keeping students from using drugs. He wished Fayetteville High, Midland Trail High, and Oak Hill High good luck in the upcoming cheerleading competition in Charleston.

Mr. Arritt asked if the bond call will be moved to the general election in 2012. He reported Fayette County receives funding from the State for Needs Projects to be used for school improvements. He stated if Fayette County has a bond call it should be held with the general election to alleviate the cost of a special election.

Mr. Dials stated no decision has been made to do anything and we may or may not get consideration for the Needs Project.

Mr. Ivey thanked Rhonda Chuyka for her presentation. He recognized the Boy Scouts and their Scoutmasters for being present at the meeting and learning about local government.

Mr. Arritt also thanked Ms. Chuyka for her presentation and her work with the students at Midland Trail High School. He recognized the Scoutmasters and the Boy Scouts.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS: (not all inclusive)

Mr. Dials reported on a draft put together by Dr. Starcher for a policy on student drug testing. He commented on the impact the Supreme Court's decision regarding OPEB could have on our budget. He stated these decisions can force other things to happen because the State does not fund employees over the State aid formula. He remarked that curriculum is a major part of our focus and many hours have been spent listening to concerns and talking with citizens about possible solutions while adhering to laws, policies, rules, regulations, and meeting the economies of scale. He stated before any plans are implemented it will be fully discussed and understood. He distributed a recent article from Time magazine to Board members about student education and their commitment to studying in Seoul, Korea. He recognized Chris Goodson as the new Fayette County President of the West Virginia Service Personnel Association.

December 5, 2011

BOARD COMMENTS: (not all inclusive)

Mr. Newman thanked the Boy Scouts for attending the meeting and the speakers for their comments.

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 7:16 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Bush, second by Mr. Ivey, carried 5 to 0, the Board agreed to convene in executive session following a 10-minute break to conduct student discipline hearings.

Student A120511 – Superintendent Dials' recommendation that Student A120511 be expelled from Fayette County Schools for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year, was approved upon motion by Mr. Bush, second by Mr. Ivey, carried 5 to 0.

At approximately 8:25 p.m. Mr. Newman announced the return to open session.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:

Public Hearing (Proposed Nuttall Middle School Matter)	Monday, December 12, 2011* Nuttall Middle School Gymnasium <i>Alternate date: December 14, 2011</i>	6:00 p.m.
Public Hearing (Proposed Danese Elementary School Matter)	Tuesday, December 13, 2011* Danese Elementary School Gymnasium <i>Alternate date: December 15, 2011</i>	6:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting	Monday, December 19, 2011 Board of Education Office	6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion by Mr. Ivey second by Mr. Arritt, carried 5 to 0, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

President

Secretary/Superintendent