

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, February 6, 2012, in the George M. Edwards Conference Room of the Board of Education Office, 111 Fayette Avenue, Fayetteville, West Virginia. Those present were:

Pat Gray	President
Steve Bush	Vice-President
David Arritt	
Leon Ivey	Members
Dwight D. Dials	Superintendent
Dr. Serena Starcher	Associate Superintendent
Ron Cantley II	Director of Operations
Jean Cavalier	Director of Elementary Schools
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. Gray following with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Arritt. All members were present.

**RECOGNITIONS/REPORTS:**

Mr. Dale Arrington presented 2012 Fayette County Spelling Bee winners. He gave special thanks to the following people who helped make the Spelling Bee a success: Mr. Dials, Board of Education members, Margaret Pennington, Jean Cavalier, Gary Hough, Kelvin Holliday, David Seay, Wendy's managers James Kincaid, Jr. and Peggy Morton, and Central Office secretaries. The winners are as follow:

<u>Elementary:</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Ian Bibb – Mountain View Christian
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Elijah Counts – New River Elementary
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Michael Fox – Valley Elementary
<u>Grades 4-8:</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Isaiah Turner – Collins Middle
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Tristan Swafford – Mountain View Christian
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Tyrik Banks – Valley High

Mr. Arrington thanked the parents and students for their participation and wished them luck in the State Spelling Bee in Charleston.

Mr. Cantley gave a follow-up report on the Energy Management Contract. He distributed documents including OEPA audits with their recommendations for improvement, previous Board Meeting minutes, a master plan for energy conservation, a preliminary schedule of the energy savings project, and recent and pending improvements on facilities. He also redistributed a copy of the Power Point Presentation on the Performance Contract and Energy Management Program that was given by Jeff Brown from Omega at the

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February 3, 2012 meeting. He reported all contracts entered into have been under the guidance of counsel from the West Virginia Department of Education. He also explained the KOREnergy program which generates income by reducing energy usage on demand. He distributed copies of checks received in October for \$7,650 and in December for \$5,474.63 from KOREnergy for our successful participation. Mr. Cantley said, "I have never been treated better than I have been treated in Fayette County and somebody said how mean were they to you in the other place?"

Mr. Arritt asked if we borrowed the money and was it from the Bank of Mount Hope.

*Mr. Cantley stated the Bank of America and Bank of Ozarks are involved.*

Mr. Arritt stated if the rate of interest was three percent it could amount to \$25,000 per month on \$10 million dollars. He restated that he is against the lease purchase agreement stating that he, nor Mr. Dials, will be here in fifteen years. He asked how Mr. Dials could sign something in Charleston that the Board of Education is responsible for. He asked what was wrong with asking the public to pass a bond for the money. He questioned who the responsible party will be for keeping track of how much money we are saving with the gas and water bill.

Mr. Arritt asked what kind of interest are we paying.

*Mr. Cantley responded 4.5 percent.*

Mr. Dials responded that Fayette County Board of Education will maintain the data base and it will be closely watched by all parties involved. He stated this discussion would not be taking place if the rusted-out units had been fixed years ago and now it is a necessity in order to maintain heating, cooling, and air quality for our students. Mr. Dials said the energy management performance contract is the only way to address the years of neglect of the units without taxing the citizens of Fayette County. He further explained the recent legislature change from ten to fifteen years on financing which allows the Board to use efficiency as a solution to pay the bill.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Staunton Black**, concerned citizen and parent, presented questions concerning the new/proposed curriculum for Fayette County Schools. (See Attachment)

*Mr. Dials responded the need for the updated curriculum is because of our inability to "measure up". He stated we are not only being compared countywide, but also statewide and internationally, and we don't want to be last or in the bottom two or three.*

Mr. Gray asked Dr. Starcher if she would respond to Mr. Black's questions at the next meeting.

**Carolyn Arritt**, concerned citizen and retired teacher, asked the Board to consider scheduling renovations at Meadow Bridge High School during the summer in order for the school not to experience construction distractions from learning and testing. Ms. Arritt stated her displeasure of the State takeover in Fayette County Schools stating the motto of West Virginia, "Mountaineers are always free", is no longer true. She requested citizens contact the Legislature to let them know there are no checks and balances for the State Board of Education. Ms. Arritt asked Board members to change their minds on consolidation and renovation the rest of this year and possibly keep Danese Elementary open for another year.

**Terry Abbott**, Board Member applicant, stated his strongest concern is to improve academics in Fayette County Schools. He said he will listen to everyone's concerns and will make decisions on what will help all students in Fayette County the most.

**Lou Jones**, Board Member applicant, stated her concerns are with the future of the children in Fayette County. She stated she will do everything she can to work with Mr. Dials and Board members as Mr. Newman's replacement.

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**Craig Petry**, Board Member applicant, expressed his concerns for all students in Fayette County to receive the quality of education that will make them a contributor to society. He stated his qualifications and said his heart and roots are based in the Fayette County School system.

**BOARD ACTION:**

Upon motion by Mr. Ivey, second by Mr. Bush with a vote of 4 to 0 the following items were approved:

- A. Approval of Minutes:  
January 23, 2012 – Regular Meeting

**ITEMS FOR BOARD REVIEW:**

**Personnel Changes** – (See Attachments)

**Board Bills** – (See Attachments)

**BOARD COMMENTS:** *(not all inclusive)*

**Mr. Bush** thanked the speakers for their comments. He congratulated the Spelling Bee winners. He expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Cavalier, Mr. Hough, Mrs. Pennington and Dr. Starcher for their efforts. He also expressed his appreciation to Carolyn Arritt for her love of children. He reported on a recent meeting at the Oak Hill Baptist Church for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the WVU Fellowship of Christian Athletes stating the WVU Mountaineer attended the meeting. He thanked Dianne Muncy for obtaining tickets for members of FCA. Mr. Bush extended his condolences to Judy Lively and her family on the recent loss of her father, James Hall.

**Mr. Arritt** read a recent article from the Charleston Gazette regarding Kanawha County school board voting to place a five-year extension of the \$44 million-a-year excess levy on the May 2012 primary ballot. He reported Fayette County's levy expires in 2014 and reported the cost of \$77,864.80 paid to the County Commission to run the last bond election. He asked if we were going to place a bond on the primary ballot in May so we don't have an extra cost by running it another time.

*Mr. Dials responded there has been no decision to run a bond.*

**Mr. Arritt** also commented on recent discussion and an article regarding the "stone" building that was sold by the Board of Education to the City of Fayetteville for ten dollars. He reported the City is going to receive money through grants to replace the roof. He stated his disappointment that we did not write a grant for the roof repair which would have allowed us to use the building for storage. He reported Fayette County receives \$1 million per year through the levy for maintenance and questioned why we haven't been upgrading our buildings with these funds. He complimented the Maintenance Department stating we have many good employees. He requested a copy of the state aid formula.

**Mr. Ivey** reported on attending the State Science Bowl. He stated Oak Hill High School entered two teams with sixteen total schools participating. He reported it was an invaluable academic experience for the students with two wins and two losses. He congratulated the Spelling Bee winners. He thanked the speakers and Board member applicants for their desire to get involved. Mr. Ivey stated he was not against the City of Fayetteville obtaining the "stone" building because all property here is part of the tax payer's domain and they should be given first priority. He said vacated buildings should be occupied so they do not get vandalized. He also reported on the \$1 million dollars received for maintenance from our levy would not cover two HVAC units for our schools. He reported when older HVAC units go down some parts must be manufactured due to their age.

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

**Mr. Dials** asked for everyone to keep the word "management" in mind because the program is based on using energy management to pay the bill. He stated we are trying to get things fixed and move forward. He reported on \$321,000 that has been committed to Meadow Bridge because they have a boiler that cannot be repaired again. He responded to Mr. Arritt's comments regarding the "stone" building stating we cannot replace a roof on a building being used for storage instead of an occupied school building.

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**BOARD COMMENTS:** *(not all inclusive)*

Mr. Gray thanked the speakers, the Spelling Bee winners and their parents for attending and for their participation. He gave a brief update on the most recent RESA 4 Regional Council meeting reporting discussion of the WVDE audit and core curriculum. He distributed a letter in support of removing the RESA “caps” that are currently in law.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING:**

*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 7:43 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Bush, second by Mr. Ivey, carried 4 to 0, the Board agreed to convene in executive session following a 10-minute break to conduct student discipline hearings.

Board Ratification – Superintendent Dials’ recommendation for ratification of the placement of four students in alternative school placement and two students in Homebound placement was approved upon motion by Mr. Ivey, second by Mr. Bush, carried 4 to 0.

Student A120206 – Superintendent Dials’ recommendation that Student A120206 be expelled from Fayette County Schools for the remainder of the second semester of 2011-2012 school term and for the first semester of the 2012-2013 school term, was approved upon motion by Mr. Ivey, second by Mr. Arritt, carried 4 to 0.

At approximately 8:40 p.m. Mr. Gray announced the return to open session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR DISCUSSION OF PERSONNEL MATTER:**

*In accordance with 6-9A-4 (2) (A) 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 consider: Matters arising from the appointment, employment, retirement, promotion, transfer, demotion, disciplining, resignation, discharge, dismissal or compensation of a public officer or employee unless the public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee requests an open meeting.”*

At approximately 8:41 p.m., upon calling for the vote to convene into executive session for the purpose of discussion for Board member applicants, Mr. Ivey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Arritt and carried 4 to 0.

At approximately 9:13 p.m. Mr. Gray announced the return to open session.

**BOARD ACTION:**

Mr. Gray asked for a motion to open the floor for the purpose of voting for a Board member to fill the remaining term of Mr. Leon Newman. Mr. Arritt made a motion to open the floor for nominations, seconded by Mr. Bush and carried 4 to 0.

Mr. Arritt nominated Lou Jones stating Mrs. Jones knows the position having worked for Fayette County Schools for over 35 years. He said she has a degree from WV Tech and is interested in education. Mr. Bush seconded Mr. Arritt’s nomination for Lou Jones. Upon call for the vote for Lou Jones to fill the vacant Board seat, Mr. Arritt and Mr. Bush voted yes and Mr. Gray and Mr. Ivey voted no.

A motion was made by Mr. Gray to nominate Dr. Stephen Brown for the Board seat. Mr. Gray stated Mr. Brown is the Dean of the College of Business at WVU Tech and holds a Ph.D. in History from West Virginia University and M.A. in History from Marshall University. He explained Dr. Brown would be an ideal interim candidate because he did not file to run for the Board of Education in the upcoming election which would take the politics out of the hands of the Board and allow the voters to decide. Mr. Ivey seconded Mr. Gray’s

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nomination of Dr. Stephen Brown with the vote resulting in Mr. Gray and Mr. Ivey voting yes and Mr. Arritt and Mr. Bush voting no.

Mr. Ivey commented they are all good candidates but it did not look like they could agree.

Mr. Gray stated the Board members were deadlocked.

Mr. Dials reported the State Superintendent of Schools will appoint someone to fill the vacant Board member seat.

**FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:**

Regular Meeting	Monday, February 20, 2012 Fayetteville High School	6:00 p.m.
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<b>Special Meeting:</b> LSIC Mount Hope Elementary School	Monday, February 27, 2012 Mount Hope Elementary School	6:00 p.m.
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**ADJOURNMENT:**

Upon motion by Mr. Arritt, second by Mr. Ivey and carried 4 to 0, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:18 p.m.

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President

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Secretary/Superintendent