

**RITCHIE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
RITCHIE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE
HARRISVILLE, WV
JUNE 22, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Ritchie County Board of Education was called to order on Monday, June 22, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. by President Dr. Torie Jackson.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Present: Dr. Torie Jackson, President
Mrs. Betsy Wells, Vice-President
Mrs. Misty Ingram-Keen
Mr. Denny Nelson
Mr. Ryan Reed

Administrative Staff Present: Mr. James G. Brown, Superintendent and Mrs. April Haight, Director of Instructional Services and Personnel.

*All Board Members, Administrative Staff and Newspaper Representatives remained six feet apart to meet social distancing requirements.

AGENDA ITEMS TO BE TABLED OR REMOVED

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mrs. Ingram-Keen moved, seconded by Mr. Reed, to table the following agenda items. Motion passed unanimously.

- L3.a Multi Categorical LD/BD/MI Special Education Teacher Including Autism at Ritchie County High School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- L3.b Multi Categorical LD/BD/MI Special Education Teacher Including Autism at Ritchie County High School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- L3.c Multi Categorical LD/BD/MI Special Education Teacher Including Autism at Ritchie County High School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- L3.d English / Language Arts Teacher and/or Reading Specialist at Ritchie County Middle School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- L3.e English / Language Arts Teacher at Ritchie County Middle School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- L3.h Sign Support Specialist/Classroom Instructional Aide Itinerant Countywide Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- L3.i Assistant Cheerleading Coach at Ritchie County Middle School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- L3.j Assistant Cheerleading Coach at Ritchie County High School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- L3.k Athletic Coordinator at Ritchie County Middle School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- L3.m SAT Coordinator at Ritchie County High School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- L3.n English Language Arts Coordinator Countywide Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year

MINUTES

Mr. Nelson made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Wells to approve the preliminary minutes of the regular meeting of June 08, 2020. Motion passed unanimously.

DELEGATIONS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mr. Reed moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells that the Board enter executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel. Motion passed unanimously and the Board entered executive session at 6:02 p.m.

Mrs. Wells made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Ingram-Keen, to re-enter regular session at 6:38 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNITIONS

None

RITCHIE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION “WE RISE TOGETHER”

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mrs. Wells moved, seconded by Mr. Reed to accept the Ritchie County Board of Education Resolution “We Rise Together”. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown presented the Board with a copy of the “We Rise Together” resolution. This resolution was initiated by the West Virginia Education Association. It revolves around what can be done at the federal level to support school districts and school personnel in light of all the factors surrounding COVID 19. The resolution was signed by each board member and Superintendent Brown. A copy will be forwarded to the WVEA, Governor Justice and all members of the United States House of Representatives and Senate representing the families of our District.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Brown reviewed the following information:

West Virginia Department of Education Graduation Ceremony Guidance

- We have finalized our graduation plans in respect to the guidance document provided by the West Virginia Department of Education titled Graduation Considerations
- Graduation ceremonies for West Virginia schools are permitted starting June 22, 2020, in outdoor venues only
- Outdoor events must be structured to allow for appropriate social distancing and other safety measures to be in place
- Six feet of social distancing is required
- Face masks or coverings are strongly encouraged
- The document listed various other safety precautions to follow

Ritchie County High School Graduation Guidelines 2020

- Graduates will receive four tickets per family for seats located on the home bleachers. They will also receive two overflow tickets for additional guest seating located on the away bleachers. Students are not allowed to give their tickets to other graduates.
- Graduation ceremonies will be held August 9th at 2:00 p.m. at the Ritchie County High School football field. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be rescheduled for 6:00 p.m. that evening.
- Gates will open at 1:00 p.m.
- Ellenboro Fire Department will manage traffic flow and park vehicles
- Families will be directed to enter one of the two ticket gates.
- Families will wait to be seated and will sit every other row and maintain 6 feet between families
- Graduates will be seated on the football field six feet apart and are encouraged to wear face masks
- At the conclusion of the ceremony, families will be dismissed one row at a time
- Handshakes and hugs are not permitted during the ceremony and are highly discouraged elsewhere
- The graduation ceremony will be broadcast on 93R and Facebook Live

West Virginia Department of Education Re-entry to School Guidance

- The Re-entry to School Guidance document provided several school re-entry scenarios and considerations for school re-entry
- Mr. Brown has scheduled a conference call with the neighboring school districts of Wirt, Doddridge, Pleasants and Tyler to determine their thoughts on re-entry to school
- We will be taking our lead from the state department and local health department
- Currently we are focusing on sanitization of schools. Panhandle Cleaning is scheduled to start sanitizing the schools soon.
- Mr. Brown will be meeting with the principals on Friday to talk about re-entry for teachers
- Right now there are not too many specifics regarding a school re-entry plan. Additional detailed guidance will be provided for district decision making.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Mrs. April Haight, Director of Instructional Services and Personnel reviewed the following information:

- Presented an update on the number of jobs posted since May 1, 2020. There are 14 positions remaining to be filled.
- Certifications expiring June 30, 2020 - there are just a few employees who have not yet renewed their certification. They are finishing classes and / or waiting to pay the certification fee.
- Collecting all Coaching, Professional and Service Employee performance evaluations

- 100% of the staff has completed the required Preventing Childhood Sexual Abuse Training. Certificates of completion have been printed, filed in personnel files and copies sent to the work locations.
- Working on updating job descriptions
- WVEIS End of Year Collections are complete and certified by the superintendent
- WVEIS data files are verified and ready for the July promotion
- Alternative Education Plan / Grant was submitted on June 17, 2020
- iPads are being updated weekly with “fun” apps
- Continuing to co-manage and update webpage with Mrs. Sonya Haught
- Safe Schools page is updated and ready for the August 7, 2020 online staff training

POLICY REVIEW

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mr. Nelson moved, seconded by Mr. Reed that the Board approve the following policies as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approve New Policy 7090 Secondary School Activities Commission and Participation by Homeschooled Students
- Approve New Policy 1060 Charter Schools
- Waive Reading and Approve New Policy 7190 Exemption to Compulsory School Attendance Requirement for Homeschooled Students
- Waive Reading and Approve Policy 4190 Regulations for the Education of Students with Exceptionalities
- Waive Reading and Approve Reviewed Policy 5180 Personal Leave Incentive Program
- Waive Reading and Approve Reviewed Policy 5200 Employment of Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage
- Waive Reading and Approve Reviewed Policy 6010 Parent Involvement Policy

CONSENT ITEMS

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mrs. Wells moved, seconded by Mrs. Ingram-Keen, that the Board approve the following consent items. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approve Out-of-County Student Transfers to Ritchie County for the 2020-2021 school year
- Approve Jim Brown, Superintendent of Schools Professional Evaluation Goals for the 2020-2021 School Year

PERSONNEL

Resignations

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mr. Reed moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells, to accept the following resignation. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approve the resignation of Rachel Shealy, Art Teacher at Creed Collins Elementary School and Harrisville Elementary School effective June 22, 2020.

Resignations Submitted after Publication of the Agenda

None

Employments or Transfers and Rescissions

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mr. Nelson moved, seconded by Mrs. Ingram-Keen, that the Board approve the following employments or transfers and rescissions. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approve Wendy Johnson, Alternative Education Teacher at Ritchie County Middle School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- Approve Heather Lafferre, Preschool Special Needs Teacher at Creed Collins Elementary School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
- Approve Joanna Cokeley, Interventionist / Tutor for After School Extended Learning at Ritchie County Middle School Effective for the 2020-2021 School Year
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ADDENDUM

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mr. Reed moved, seconded by Mr. Nelson, that the Board approve the following employment. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approve Courtney Alexander, English / Language Arts Teacher at Ritchie County High School effective for the 2020-2021 school year

INDUCEMENT RESOLUTION

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mrs. Ingram-Keen moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells, that the Board approve the Inducement Resolution of the Board of Education of the County of Ritchie as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

- A. **Consideration of and Possible Action on an Inducement Resolution of The Board Of Education of the County of Ritchie (The “Board”) (I) Authorizing the Preparation of a Bond Election Order, that Will Order an Election to Be Held for the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters of Ritchie County School District all Questions Connected With the Contracting of a Debt and the Issuing of Bonds, to be Considered by the Board, (ii) Stating the Reasonable Expectation of the Board to be Reimbursed for Certain Authorized Expenditures in Connection With the Proposed Bond Election and Bond Issuance, (iii) Authorizing and Approving the Engagement of Bond Counsel In Connection Therewith and (iv) Authorizing and Approving Certain Other Matters and Actions In Connection Therewith**

ALLOWED AND AUTHORIZED PAYMENT OF BILLS

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mr. Nelson moved, seconded by Mr. Reed, that the Board approve and authorize payment of the following bills. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approve Payment of Bills in the Sum of \$178,064.16

FINANCIAL REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL

Upon recommendation of the superintendent, Mrs. Wells moved, seconded by Mrs. Ingram-Keen, that the Board approve the following Financial Requests. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approve Budget Revision Requests: Transfers in the amount of \$33,000.00 and \$198,441.00 Supplements in the amount of \$470,364.00
- Approve submission of Proposed Major Improvement Project (MIP) to the West Virginia School Building Authority for bathroom renovations at Ritchie County Middle / High School
- Approve City Construction, Bid of \$74,408.00 for the Door / Security Access Project at the Board of Education Office

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING

None

BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Nelson noted that he was happy that Dr. Jackson and Mrs. Wells will remain on the Board for the next four years.

Dr. Jackson and Mrs. Wells will be sworn in at the statutory meeting on Monday, July 06, 2020. The first action of this meeting will be to elect a Board President to serve a two-year term.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 6, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Ritchie County Board of Education Office.

Individuals who wish to attend this meeting virtually must request a link by emailing RCSBOARDMEETING.ritchie@k12.wv.us by Thursday, July, 2 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Mrs. Ingram-Keen moved, seconded by Mrs. Wells, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:20 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.