

**PENDLETON COUNTY SCHOOLS - TENTH COUNTY BOARD MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2007**

The Pendleton County Board of Education convened in Regular Session on Tuesday, December 11, 2007, at the Brandywine Elementary School. The following members were present: J. D. Wilkins, President; Dr. Kevan Hoover, Vice-President; Grey Cassell, Teresa Bowers and Richard Gillespie. Central Office Staff present: Douglas Lambert, Superintendent; Donald Bucher; J. P. Mowery and Nancy Blankenship. Also present was Lincoln Propst and Mr. & Mrs. Gene McConnell.

- Upon a motion by Mr. Cassell, seconded by Ms. Bowers, the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 6:01 to conduct a student expulsion hearing. The board returned to regular session at 6:22 P.M. Upon the Superintendent's recommendation and a motion by Mr. Cassell seconded by Ms. Bowers, the Board voted unanimously to expel Student #07/08-03 for one year.
- Mr. Paul Clayton conducted a tour of the new Brandywine Elementary School addition from 6:25 - 6:40 P.M.
- At 6:45 P.M., Mr. Lambert and the Board of Education recognized a Brandywine Elementary student for academic achievement.
- The Board enjoyed a dinner prepared by the Brandywine Elementary School Staff / PTO and then met with the Brandywine Elementary School LSIC / Faculty Senate from 6:45 - 8:15 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT:** President Wilkins called the official board meeting to order at 8:25 P.M.

***Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation:*** Mr. Lambert led the *Pledge of Allegiance* and Mr. Wilkins led the group in prayer.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. Gene McConnell came before the Board and formally withdrew his proposal to name Pendleton County Middle/High School for Sgt. Clinton Hedrick as he does not want Sgt. Hedrick's name to be involved in a county controversy.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

**The minutes of the November 13, 2007 Board Meeting and Executive Session:** Mr. Lambert requested that the minutes of the November 13, 2007 Board Meeting be corrected on Page 3 of 5. The correct policy numbers are T.10.12 Student Transportation and T.10.1.3 Guidelines for Curricular and Extra-Curricular Trips. Upon the Superintendent's recommendation and a motion by Mr. Cassell, seconded by Dr. Hoover, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as corrected

**EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONNEL:**

**Employment of Personnel:** Jeffrey Shaver - Head Track Coach - PCM/HS. Upon the Superintendent's recommendation and a motion by Mr. Gillespie, seconded by Ms. Bowers, the Board voted unanimously to approve the employment of the above personnel.

**FINANCE:**

**Bills Presented for Approval Month Ended November 30, 2007:** Mr. Mowery presented the bills

for approval for the month ended November 30, 2007, in the amount of \$915,546.24. Upon Mr. Lambert's recommendation and a motion by Ms. Bowers, seconded by Mr. Cassell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Bills as presented.

**Treasurer's Report Month Ended November 30, 2007:** Mr. Mowery gave a Treasurer's Report for the month ended November 30, 2007, and explained the receipts, disbursements, fund balance, accounts payable and cash and investment amounts. Upon Mr. Lambert's recommendation and a motion by Dr. Hoover, seconded by Mr. Gillespie, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

**November Budget Supplements:** Mr. Mowery presented budget supplements in the amounts of: #105-\$9,879.00; and #106-(\$637.00). Upon Mr. Lambert's recommendation and a motion by Mr. Cassell, seconded by Ms. Bowers, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Budget Supplements as presented.

**Budget Transfers:** There were no budget transfers presented.

**Conflict of Interest Questionnaire:** Mr. Mowery gave the Board Members and Mr. Lambert "Conflict of Interest Questionnaires," which they are required to complete each year to be filed with the auditors. Everyone completed their questionnaires and returned them to Mr. Mowery.

**Long Distance Information:** Mr. Mowery gave the Board Members information and a breakdown on long distance costs for the Board. After the E-rate discount, the final cost the Board for long distance phone calls is approximately 1 cent per minute.

**Enrollment Update:** Mr. Mowery gave the Board Members enrollment charts by school from FY 99 to FY 08 showing the gradual decline in number of students. Pendleton County has lost 211 students since FY 99. He also gave them a chart on Kindergarten students showing a 25% decline in student population over the same years.

**Financial Update:** Mr. Mowery gave the Board Members handouts showing number of professional and service employees 96/97 - 08/09. He also gave them charts showing the projections of WV Educators eligible for retirement based on age and experience in the upcoming years, charts showing expenditures, revenues, taxes, bonding potential, excess levies in effect, Title I, enrollment, enrollment factors, and student density by county. He also gave the Board Members charts showing that 56.89% of Pendleton County Teachers have 21+ years of experience while 13.245% of service personnel have 21+ years of experience. Mr. Mowery, Mr. Bucher and Mr. Lambert presented to Board ways to deal with the deficit. There have been substantial cuts for the past two years. There was discussion about the Entry Mountain Property and the Kline Property. Mr. Gillespie asked for a list of positions that we didn't have in previous years.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There was no old business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**School Building Authority's Approval of School Safety Access Plan:** Mr. Lambert gave the Board Members a copy of correspondence from the School Building Authority stating that they had approved the School Safety Access Plan for Pendleton County in the amount of \$40,562.00. Mr. Lambert told the Board that Mike Hammer and Doug Simmons had worked on changing the locks on the schools over the Thanksgiving Break.

**Request for Early Graduation:** Mr. Lambert presented a request from Stephanie Steckel to graduate from Pendleton County Middle/High School at the end of her 11th grade year in school this coming May, 2008. All graduation requirements will be met by the end of the 2007-2008 school year. Upon Mr. Lambert's recommendation and a motion by Mr. Gillespie, seconded by Dr. Hoover,

the Board voted unanimously to approve the request for early graduation.

**Parent Request for Extended Student Absence:** Mr. Lambert presented a request from Krissy O'Neal for an extended absence for her children from Franklin Elementary School due to her being at John Hopkins Hospital for a month. Upon Mr. Lambert's recommendation and a motion by Ms. Bowers, seconded by Mr. Cassell, the Board voted unanimously to approve the request due to the length of leave.

**Superintendent's Designee at Board Meetings:** Mr. Lambert presented a copy of Attorney Harry Rubeinstein's legal opinion on the appointment of a designee to act in the absence of the Superintendent. Upon Mr. Lambert's recommendation the Board agreed unanimously for Donald Bucher to be Mr. Lambert's designee at the Board Meetings in his absence. Mr. Lambert explained that there is also the possibility of video or phone conferencing in the event of the occurrence of this situation.

**Request from Wayne Hedrick to Solicit Funds from the Public to Technology Equipment:** Mr. Lambert presented a request from Wayne Hedrick to solicit funds from the public for technology equipment for the schools. There was discussion about the looming budget deficit and there not being money to upgrade or add technological equipment in the schools. Upon Mr. Lambert's recommendation, it was the general consensus of the Board to approve Mr. Hedrick's proposal with the addition that the public is made aware of where the money is going and what it is going for.

**Request from CHS Preservation, Inc. to remove restriction from deed regarding allowing alcohol on premises:** Mr. Lambert presented a request from the CHS Preservation, Inc. to remove the restriction from the deed regarding allowing alcohol on the premises. There was discussion about the request. The unanimous consensus of the Board was to table action on this request and for Mr. Wilkins to go to the CHS Preservation, Inc. to get explicit details and clarification on the request.

**Chamber of Commerce Proposed Reach-Out Program:** Mr. Willie Innes had made a presentation on the Chamber of Commerce Proposed Reach-Out Program during the BES LSIC/Faculty Senate Presentation. This item will be on the next board agenda.

**School Aid Formula Bill:** Mr. Lambert gave the Board Members a copy of the Summary of Proposals for the School Aid Formula Bill. He also gave them copies of draft letters to be sent to Legislators in support of the School Aid Formula Bill and requested that all Board Members write letters to the Legislators.

**John Ruddle Property:** Mr. Lambert presented a proposal from John Ruddle for an exchange of a triangle of property adjoining Mr. Ruddle's (38' x 34' x 51'6") in exchange for Mr. Ruddle installing a storm ditch drain on the Board's property. Mr. Lambert will check with Jerry Moore on the legality of such a trade. There was also discussion about the possibility of selling or auctioning off that triangle of property.

#### **OTHER INFORMATION ITEMS/BOARD ISSUES:**

**Attendance Report - 3rd Month:** Mr. Lambert gave the Board Members a copy of the Attendance Report for the third month as prepared by Debra Jackson, Attendance Director.

**Bowles Rice List of Upcoming Guidelines for Personnel Actions:** Mr. Lambert gave each of the Board Members a copy of the "Upcoming Deadlines for County Board Personnel Actions" as prepared by Bowles, Rice, McDavid, Graff & Love, LLP.

**Alumni Class Picture Information:** Mr. Lambert gave the Board Members a handout showing what some other groups are doing about alumni pictures. Mr. Lambert has asked Charles Hedrick for recommendations regarding placement of the pictures at the High School.

**Christmas Get-Together:** The annual Christmas Get-Together will be held on Monday, December 17th at Seneca Caverns Restaurant at 6:30 P.M. The cost will be \$12.00 per person.

**Conference/Meeting Update:** Mr. Lambert told the Board Members that he and Mr. Mowery were in Charleston on Monday, December 10 and met with Legislators. Mr. Lambert and Mr. Mowery will be attending the State Superintendent's Legislative Committee Meeting in Charleston on Tuesday, December 18. Mr. Lambert and Mr. Wilkins will be attending the South Branch Vocational Career Technical Center Administrative Council Meeting on Friday.

The next meeting of the Pendleton County Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2007 at the North Fork Elementary School at 6:00 P.M. Upon a motion by Ms. Bowers seconded by Dr. Hoover the Board Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 P.M.

*These Minutes have been posted to the Pendleton County School web site as a convenience and source of information. They are not intended to take the place of the original documentation. Please contact the Board Office directly should you need to reference the originals.*