

State of West Virginia_
County of Nicholas to wit:

The Nicholas County Board of Education of the County of Nicholas, West Virginia met in a special session on Monday, January 9, 2017 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Nicholas County Board Office, 400 Old Main Drive, Summersville, WV 26651.

The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a student disciplinary hearing, discussion and possible action to obtain data and assistance that may be needed to update the Board’s CERP, including but not limited to reconsidering and/or clarifying action taken at the Board’s last meeting to amend its contract with ZMM. Hear, discuss and possibly take action to further explore or approve any changes to the school district’s CERP made by the Superintendent as directed by the Board at its meeting of December 12, 2016. Approve the demolition bids for RMS, RHS, and SMS, and correct camera bids for the schools.

Educating and Preparing Students for Success After High School

Present for the meeting were:

- Dr. Gus Penix, President
- Mr. Fred Amick, Vice-President
- Mr. Phil Berry, Member
- Mr. Darrell White, Member
- Mr. A.J. Rogers, Member

Dr. Donna Burge-Tetrick, Superintendent

1. Call to Order along with a moment of reflection:

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Dr. Gus Penix.

2. Conduct Student Disciplinary Hearings:

a. **6:30 p.m. ~ Male ~ 201662014 NCHS 9th Grade**

***started at 6:31**

Upon motion by Mr. Fred Amick, seconded by Mr. Phil Berry, the board unanimously consented to close the regular session and go into executive session as indicated under Item 3, as per the School Laws of WV 6-9A-4, "The disciplining, suspension or expulsion of any student in any public school or public college or university, unless such student requests an open meeting."

Present for the meeting were:

- Dr. Gus Penix, President

Mr. Fred Amick , Vice-President

Mr. Phil Berry, Member

Mr. Darrell White, Member

Mr. A.J. Rogers, Member

Dr. Donna Burge-Tetrick, Superintendent

Ms. Kandi Rapp, Principal at NCHS

Vickie Nutter, Attendance Director and Social Services

Kathy Sibbett, Director of Special Education and Student Services

Grandfather

Upon motion by Mr. Phil Berry, seconded by Mr. Darrell White, the board unanimously consented to close the executive session and return to regular session. *ended at 6:58 p.m.

Superintendent Burge-Tetrick stated that after review of the infractions, current information and school records of the student the Nicholas County Board of Education agreed to the following action.

It is recommended that student #201662014 be expelled for one calendar year, required to have a risk assessment now and prior to returning to school, counseling per risk assessment; he is assigned to homebound instruction. The student shall not be permitted on school property without written permission from the superintendent. A review of the student's education placement will be conducted before the beginning of the 2017 – 2018 school year.

Mr. Fred Amick moved to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. A.J. Rogers and carried unanimously.

Dr. Penix asked to have the agenda amended to add the extended contract with Jeff & Michelle Thomas for the walk way at the Beaver site. Upon motion by Mr. A.J. Rogers, and by Mr. Phil Berry, the board unanimously consented to amend the agenda.

3. Delegation:

- a. John Estep came before the board to express his gratitude and say that he was the one that started the conversation of the board needing to hire a FEMA Consultant. He also stated that he supports the board in whatever decision they make.

4. Information/Action item:

- a. Reconsider previous action of camera purchases:

Mr. Chris Hanshaw, Technology Coordinator came before the board to explain there had been a mistake made in the required pixels with the camera bids. Therefore he asked the board to reconsider the bids due to a significant difference in price from \$50,892.00 to \$35,538.23 (\$15,353.77 difference).

Upon motion by Mr. Darrell White, and second by Mr. Phil Berry the board unanimously consented to resend the bid with New Tech that was approved on January 3, 2017.

Upon motion by Mr. Fred Amick, and second by Mr. A.J. Rogers the board unanimously consented to approving the camera bid with Security Camera Warehouse.

- b. Approve Student Transfer:
NCHS ~ M ~ 10th grade ~ transferring to RHS

Upon motion by Mr. Darrell White, and second by Mr. Phil Berry the board unanimously consented to the student transfer.

- c. Approval of the demolition bid for RMS, RHS, SMS.

No action at this time, tabled until the January 23, 2017 meeting.

- d. Approval of extending contract with Jeff and Michelle Thomas for the walkway at RHS/Beaver location.

Upon motion by Mr. Darrell White, and second by Mr. A.J. Rogers, the board unanimously consented to extending the \$1000.00 per month contract with Mr. & Mrs. Thomas for the walkway, which will be reimbursable from FEMA.

- e. Discuss and possibly take action to obtain data and possibly update the board's CEFP to amend its contract with ZMM.

Mr. Kevin Hess stated that according to legal counsel the current contract from 2009 contains the proper wording, therefore, by motion from Mr. Fred Amick, and second by Mr. Phil Berry the board unanimously consented to resend the board action on January 3, 2017 to amend the boards' contract with ZMM to assist with the annual updating of the CEFP.

- f. Hear, discuss and possibly take action to further explore or approve any changes to the school district's CEFP made by the Superintendent as directed by the Board at its meeting of December 12, 2016.

Dr. Burge-Tetrick came before the board and all attending to explain the preliminary data that had been gathered on the population/enrollment, budget, personnel, curriculum, demographics, and transportation for Nicholas County

Schools. She stated that under the circumstances that we are faced with, we must examine the existing landscape to ensure we are making the best use of our resources.

She stated the preliminary report of overall student enrollment has dropped over the last five years at a rate of 1.09% average per year and is not projected to increase over the next five years. The total projected enrollment for 2016-17 school year is 3,795; the projected total enrollment for 2027-28 school year is 3,364.

Actual Enrollment /WVU Projected in 1997-98 5,004 were enrolled, in 1998-99 school year the actual number of students enrolled were 4,777, and the WVU projected amount for that same year was 4,644 a difference of -133 students. In this 2016-17 school year the projected number of students was 4,286, however the actual number enrolled is 3,795 a difference of -491 students.

Population continues to drop in 1990 there were 26,775, in 2010 it was 26,233 (1% loss). As for our budget the total expenditure per child in **2006-2007** was Richwood Middle School \$6,716.12, Summersville Middle School \$6,122.89, Nicholas County High School \$5,526.00, and Richwood High School \$5,137.35. Compared to **2015-16** total expenditure per child was Richwood Middle School \$7,520.13, Summersville Middle School \$6,099.83, Nicholas County High School \$5,906.26, and Richwood High School \$6,872.50. She explained that each student is funded by the WV State Dept. of Education at approximately \$5,800 each. The flood did not cause this decline; this has been expected for years.

Dr. Burge-Tetrick then explained that 86% of NCBOE's budget is comprised of personnel salaries. We have always made up the difference for the declining enrollment by cutting personnel. However, this creates understaffing, split grades, and reduction of curriculum offered; along with adding to the individual work load of all employees.

She then moved on to the difference in curriculum between the schools, and the fact that only 17.5% of high school students are enrolled in Career Technical Education. The low enrollment there is due to the lack of program offerings that interest students, location of the Career Center, and communication barriers between the feeder schools and the center.

She presented actual transportation drive times between different areas in the County and gave the WV State Law recommended times: 22.1.1 states that for elementary students a recommended (30) minute drive, 22.1.2 middle intermediate / junior high school students (45) minute drive, and policy 22.1.3 for high school students a (60) minute drive.

Superintendent Burge-Tetrick then stated when considering the data, "I feel that it is necessary to consolidate services in order to provide an equal and quality education to each student in Nicholas County." Closure Proposed in CEFPA Amendment: High Schools to be closed – Richwood HS and Nicholas County HS, Middle Schools to be closed – Richwood MS and Summersville MS, and Career Technical Center – to be closed and included to the new comprehensive High School. New Comprehensive High School to be composed of the existing

Richwood HS, Nicholas County HS and Career Technical Educational Facility, New Middle School to be composed of Richwood MS and Summersville MS.

“This recommendation will change the landscape of Nicholas County the long practiced traditions. I hope that the final decision ensures the best for all the students in Nicholas for years to come, because that's who it's about. Sometimes I feel like people forget that... Our decisions impact their lives.”

Board President, Dr. Gus Penix stated, at the meeting on December 12, 2016, the Board directed the Superintendent to review the school district's Comprehensive Educational Facilities Plan and propose, at tonight's meeting, any amendments to the CEFP that she thinks the Board should consider.

“We have now received the Superintendent's proposals. As I understand it, the Superintendent has asked us to consider closing Nicholas County High School, Richwood High School and the Nicholas County Career Technical Center, consolidating them into one comprehensive high school. The Superintendent has also asked the Board to consider closing Richwood Middle School and Summersville Middle School, consolidating them into a new middle school. Under this proposal, both new schools would be located on one campus.

We are not in a position to make a final decision on either of those suggestions at tonight's meeting. However, I believe the responsible course is for the Board of Education to explore and carefully consider the Superintendent's recommendations.

West Virginia school laws and West Virginia Board of Education policy lay out a process of notice and hearings that county boards of education must follow prior to making any decision to close or consolidate schools and amend the school district's CEFP. Only after that process is completed may the school board vote on whether to close and consolidate schools.

In suggesting we explore and further consider the Superintendent's recommendations, I do not mean that the Board should not also consider other options that have been presented at previous meetings. We must keep open the options of not closing Richwood High School and Richwood Middle School, but rather relocating and rebuilding them. For those to remain viable options, in view of upcoming FEMA deadlines, I understand that the School Building Authority advises that we, at the same time, perform assessments of potential relocation sites for the Richwood schools during the period leading up to the hearings on the Superintendent's proposal of closing and consolidating schools in the county.”

For those reasons, Board President, Dr. Gus Penix made the motion that:

1. We direct and authorize the Superintendent to immediately proceed with all site assessments that the West Virginia School Building Authority deems necessary to preserve the option of relocating and rebuilding, rather than closing, Richwood High School and Richwood Middle School in accordance with SBA and FEMA guidelines, so that they are timely performed and this option is not lost; and
2. In accordance with West Virginia Code 18-5-13a and West Virginia Board of Education Policy 6204, we direct the Superintendent to prepare and bring to the Board of Education, at a future regular or special meeting, with the usual advance

notice to the public and news media, written reasons and supporting data for the proposals she has made regarding Nicholas County High School, Richwood High School, the Nicholas County Career and Technical Center, Richwood Middle School and Summersville Middle School, together with a proposed schedule for the public hearings.

The motion was second by Mr. Phil Berry, the board unanimously consented to approve the motion.

- 4. Superintendents Information:
None at this time.
- 5. Adjournment:

Upon motion by, Mr. Darrell White, seconded by Mr. A.J. Rogers, the board unanimously consented to adjourn this special meeting of the Nicholas County Board of Education. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The next meeting will be a regular meeting which will be held on Monday, January 23, 2017, beginning at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting routine business. The meeting will be held at the Nicholas County Board of Education, 400 Old Main Drive, Summersville, WV 26651.

Dr. Gus Penix, President NCBOE _____

Dr. Donna Burge-Tetrick, Superintendent _____

Kim Waybright, Recording Secretary Nicholas County Schools

An executive session could be called for Item 1, 2, 3 or 4, as per the School Laws of WV 6-9A-1-12*