

**MINUTES**

**Board of Education for the County of Mingo**

110 Cinderella Road, Williamson, WV 25661

There was an Amendment to this agenda.

a. Personnel Actions, 1. Service Personnel, a. Abolish Position, b. Create Position  
See last item of the consent agenda. Lines 303-309.

Regular Meeting

November 19, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

**I. Call to order**

President Tom Slone called the meeting to order. The time was 5:01 p.m.

**All Board Members were present:** Tom Slone, President; David Jewell, Vice President; John W. Preece, Braydan Goff, and Deanna Wellman. Superintendent, Dr. Johnny Branch was in attendance.

**Members of the Press in attendance:** Josh Brown of the Williamson Daily News

**Central Office Staff in attendance:** Patrick Billips, Director of Technology; Beth Daniels, CSBO / Treasurer; (Chief School Business Officer); William Hensley, Director of Maintenance; Robert Channell, Director of Transportation; Mark Dean, Director of CTE/Secondary/Post-Secondary Learning; Kay Maynard, Director Child Nutrition & Wellness; Virginia Taylor-Mounts, Technology Integration Facilitator; Christie Tilley, Coordinator of Parent Involvement; Leah Wireman, Director of Human Resources

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Jewell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Before the meeting got started, Mr. Slone requested to make corrections to two sets of the minutes – the header at the top read Agenda and it should have read Minutes. The corrections were made.

**III. Ceremonial Oath of Office for newly elected Board of Education Member – Deanna Wellman**

The Ceremonial Oath of Office was given by Nancy Slone; Notary, and Executive Secretary to the Superintendent.

**IV. Delegations**

Lori Murray, an Organizational Development Specialist from WVEA spoke regarding the PEIA Resolution.

**V. Out-Of-State Field Trip(s)**

**a. Item one –Burch Pre K-8 School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip**

Christina Jewel presented the school trip. There were questions and answers.

Mr. Preece made the motion to approve the field trip. Mr. Goff seconded that motion. The vote was 5/0, ayes had it, so ordered.

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45 There was a question regarding schools reporting back to the Board after fundraising was complete.  
46 That would not be necessary once the trip was approved by the Board, and the school followed all the  
47 necessary steps. They would submit the trip to the Central office for final approval.  
48

49 **VI. General Considerations**

50 **a. Discussion and possible action regarding a Resolution Urging the State of West Virginia to**  
51 **Stabilize the Public Employees Insurance Agency (PEIA)**

52 Dr. Branch read the PEIA Resolution.  
53

54 Mr. Preece made the motion to approve the PEIA Resolution. Mr. Goff seconded that motion.  
55 Dr. Branch read the resolution. The vote was taken and it passed 5/0. The members signed the  
56 resolution.  
57

58 **b. Discussion and possible action regarding the Apex Contract Extension – Finance**

59 Mrs. Daniels addressed the Board. A five-year contract with Apex had been signed February 5, 2019, by  
60 Superintendent Don Spence. Apex was to have built a cell tower on property owned by the Board. That  
61 tower had not been built. Apex wanted to re-new the contract with the same terms.  
62

63 Mr. Preece made a motion for the Superintendent to re-negotiate the contract for more money. Mr.  
64 Goff Seconded. President Slone took the vote 5/0.  
65

66 **c. Discussion and possible action regarding Content Standards for Middle School Career**  
67 **Explorations – Lesia Sammons**

68 Mark Dean made the presentation. He explained that in order to use career codes for Career  
69 Exploration there must be locally adopted standards. The Middle School Career Explorations introduces  
70 students to hands-on lessons. The courses were Career Cluster Exploration, Research, Self-assessment,  
71 and Real-World Connections. Mr. Preece had comments.  
72

73 Mr. Goff made the motion to approve the standards. Mr. Preece seconded that motion. The vote taken  
74 was 5/0, the ayes had it, so ordered.  
75

76 **VII. Departmental Updates**

77 **a. Human Resources Update – Leah Wireman**

78 Mrs. Wireman had a handout regarding employee attendance. All numbers were in the 90% range. She  
79 explained the chart. There were questions and discussion.  
80

81 **b. Superintendent Update on Instructional Leadership- Dr. Branch**

82 Dr. Branch gave the presentation. He had a handout of the Goals adopted. He shared information  
83 regarding Monthly Data meetings he had with Principals. He reported what was being done to bring up  
84 student scores.  
85

86 **c. Wellness and School-based Health Update-Kay Maynard, Tonya Hagy, Dr. Branch**

87 Mrs. Maynard addressed the Board regarding several items. Grant equipment had been purchased and  
88 staff had been trained on the School Based Health. The Backpack grants were still ongoing and  
89 backpacks were being sent home each week. Thanksgiving baskets had been packed and delivered. The  
90 Game Changers grants had been received and positions would be posted. An indoor facility in West  
91 Virginia was growing strawberries; every school had fresh strawberries delivered that day. Dr. Branch

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92 shared that two mobile exam rooms would be visiting our schools. Gilbert Pre K-8 would be our next  
93 physical clinic location. The first Wellness meeting took place last week.

94

95 **d. Transportation Update- Rob Channel**

96 Mr. Channell, the new Transportation Director, gave an in-depth report on things going on in the county  
97 that effected transportation since school started. There had been many things!

98

99 **e. Maintenance Report - William Hensley**

100 Mr. Hensley gave the report. He noted 21 projects that had been completed from the CEFP in the last  
101 two years (2022-2024); \$16 million had been spent getting those projects completed. Lenore received a  
102 new roof, Tug Valley High and Williamson Pre K-8 received HVAC upgrades. There were renovations to  
103 the auditoriums at Tug Valley High and Burch Pre K-8, new intercom/communication systems were  
104 installed in all our schools, lighting at Williamson had been completely re-done, new ceiling tiles and  
105 track was installed at Tug Valley High School, new restrooms had been installed at Dingess Elementary,  
106 Tug Valley High, Burch Pre K-8 and Gilbert Pre K-8. There were questions and discussion.

107

108 **f. Treasurer's Report - Beth Daniels**

109 Mrs. Daniels addressed the Board. She gave the report. The finance department's Financial Efficiency  
110 Standards score-card for FY 2024 received a perfect score! There were questions and discussion.

111

112 **VIII. Consent Agenda**

113 **a. Approval of Minutes**

- 114 **1. Minutes of October 1, 2024**
- 115 **2. Minutes of October 4, 2024**
- 116 **3. Minutes of October 11, 2024**
- 117 **4. Minutes of October 15, 2024**
- 118 **5. Minutes of October 18, 2024**
- 119 **6. Minutes of October 31, 2024**

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121 **b. Bills, Transfers, Supplements**

122 **1. Payment of Bills**

123 Bills presented for approval through November 12, 2024. The invoice list is available for  
124 review during public hours two business days prior to the meeting.

Fund	Amount
Fund 11	\$ 795,380.41
Fund 41	\$ 72,361.26
Fund 51	\$ -
Fund 61	\$ 1,427,000.67
Fund 71	\$ 192,456.70

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**2. Budget Transfers**

Budget Transfers presented for approval

Transfers	
1	\$ 8,500.00
2	\$ 10,544.21
3	\$ 32,750.00
Total	\$ 51,794.21

**3. Budget Supplements**

Budget Supplements presented for approval

Supplements	
1	\$ 6,000.00
2	\$ 4,000.00
3	\$ 56,692.00
4	\$ 14,000.00
5	\$ 200,822.00
6	\$ 5,000.00
7	\$ 1,538.00
8	\$ 13,842.00
Total	\$ 301,894.00

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**c. Personnel Actions**

**1. PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL**

**a. New Employment into Existing Position**

- i. Carissa Barker Substitute Teacher MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- ii. Elizabeth Adkins Substitute Teacher MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- iii. Tiffany Sammons Substitute Teacher MCS (effective November 20, 2024)

~~**b. Transfer into Existing Position**~~

- ~~i. Kimberly Sheppard substitute teacher MCS to Teacher / Grade 6 WK8 (effective November 20, 2024)~~

**c. Resignation**

- i. Edith Michelle Ford Teacher / Special Education MCHS (effective December 2, 2024)
- ii. Jordan Phillips Counselor KK8 (effective November 15, 2024)
- iii. Payton Rowe Speech Language Pathologist (effective January 3, 2025)

**d. Request for Leave of Absence**

- i. Gabriel Varney Teacher / Health & PE TVHS October 31-December 20, 2024
- ii. Craig Hart Teacher / Agriculture TVHS (FMLA) (10-7-2024 to 04-7-2024 2025 6-Months not to exceed 60 days) (Intermittent)

**e. Retirement**

- i. Mark Whitt Teacher / Driver Education MCHS (effective November 13, 2024)
- ii. Regina Crosley Teacher / Special Education MCHS (effective November 1, 2024)

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**f. Three Step Pay (Math, Special Education and Speech) for 2024-2025**

- i. Tammy Runyon LK8

**2. PROFESSIONAL EXTRACURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS**

**a. New Employment for School year 2024-2025**

- i. Gina Hicks Homebound Instructor MCS
- ii. Krystal Varney Homebound Instructor MCS
- iii. Erika Preece Assistant Coach / girls basketball KK8 (effective November 20, 2024) (pending certification)
- iv. Jared Lester Coach / Baseball GK8 (effective November 20, 2024)
- v. Isaac Williamson Coach / Baseball LK8 (effective November 20, 2024)
- vi. Calvin Duncan Assistant Coach / Boys basketball MCHS (effective November 20, 2024) (paid)

**b. Resignations**

- i. Deanna Wellman Assistant Coach / Cheer TVHS (effective November 8, 2024)
- ii. Chrystal Lackey Coach / Softball LK8 (effective October 21, 2024)
- iii. Marsha Deskins SAT Chair KK8 (effective October 16, 2024)
- iv. David Varney Assistant Coach / boys basketball BK8 (effective October 31, 2024)

**3. SERVICE PERSONNEL**

**a. New Employment into Existing Position**

- i. Brandi Steele LPN / Aide WK8 (effective October 28, 2024)
- ii. Charlotte Ferguson Substitute Custodian MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- iii. Tyler Lester Substitute Custodian MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- iv. Jonathan Manuel Substitute Custodian MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- v. Joseph Stacey Substitute Custodian MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- vi. Kyle Trujillo Substitute Custodian MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- vii. Abigail Chafins Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- viii. Erika Preece Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- ix. Carolyn Dillard Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- x. Balise Moore Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- xi. Katrina Newsome Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- xii. Brianna Pennington Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- xiii. Ava Williams Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- xiv. Jessica Williams Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- xv. Katlynn Williams Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- xvi. Katherine Williamson Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)
- xvii. Franklin Brewster Substitute Cook MCS (effective November 20, 2024) (pending completion of training)
- xviii. Amanda Brown Substitute Cook MCS (effective November 20, 2024) (pending completion of training)

**b. Transfer into Existing Position**

- i. Ellen Newsome Aide / Autism Mentor Itinerant LK8 to Aide / Autism Mentor Itinerant LK8 (effective July 1, 2025)

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- 213 ii. James Napier Custodian III MK8 to Custodian III MK8 (effective November 20,
- 214 2024)
- 215 iii. Jennifer Totten Cook III GK8 to Cook II MCHS (effective November 20, 2024)
- 216 iv. Lillie Rollyson Aide/ Autism Mentor MK8 to Cook II GK8 (effective July 1, 2025)
- 217 v. Annette Toler substitute cook MCS to Cook II GK8 (effective November 20,
- 218 2024)
- 219 vi. Caitlin Clevenger substitute aide MCS to Aide / ECCAT LK8 (effective November
- 220 20, 2024)

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222 **c. Resignation**

- 223 i. Helen Gore Substitute Cook MCS (effective October 14, 2024)
- 224

225 **d. Request for Leave of Absence**

- 226 i. Tonya Jones Aide / ECCAT MK8 October 30, 2024 – November 30, 2024
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228 **e. Retirement**

- 229 i. Teresa Ann Bevins Coordinator of School Support Services (effective January 30,
  - 230 2025)
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232 **f. Rescind**

- 233 i. Brandi Steele LPN / Aide WK8 (effective October 21, 2024) (From October 15,
  - 234 2024 board meeting (date correction)
- 235

236 **g. Termination**

- 237 i. Joyce Burton Aide / Autism Mentor MCHS (effective November 20, 2024)
- 238

239 **4. Mingo County Schools Volunteers**

240 **a. Volunteers**

- 241 i. Christa Baisden
- 242 ii. Miranda Ball
- 243 iii. Savannah Belcher Salmons
- 244 iv. Frances Blackburn
- 245 v. Matthew Brumfield
- 246 vi. Cassie Brumfield
- 247 vii. Erica Cantrell
- 248 viii. Tabitha Chambers
- 249 ix. Kaitlen Clark
- 250 x. Brittney Cline
- 251 xi. Sabrina Cook
- 252 xii. Amy Craddock
- 253 xiii. Lora Curry
- 254 xiv. Aerial Paige Daniels
- 255 xv. Jonna Dillon
- 256 xvi. Chelsie Elkins
- 257 xvii. Kayla Elkins
- 258 xviii. Tiffany Evans
- 259 xix. Promise Fannin
- 260 xx. Billy Haney

- 261 xxi. Tiffani Hawks
- 262 xxii. Marsha Hensley
- 263 xxiii. Aundrea Horn
- 264 xxiv. Shayla Kissinger
- 265 xxv. Daplin Marcum
- 266 xxvi. Fred Marcum
- 267 xxvii. Angela Marcum
- 268 xxviii. Stephanie Maynard
- 269 xxix. Alvie Meddings
- 270 xxx. Cassandra Morgan
- 271 xxxi. Elizabeth Nawrocki
- 272 xxxii. Barbara Noe
- 273 xxxiii. Haley O'Brien
- 274 xxxiv. Sherry Perry
- 275 xxxv. Kayla Pruitt
- 276 xxxvi. Sammelyey Queen
- 277 xxxvii. Felicia Roberts
- 278 xxxviii. Eric Roberts
- 279 xxxix. Kaitlyn Simpkins
- 280 xl. Kyla Smith
- 281 xli. Pamela Surber
- 282 xlii. Natalie Taylor
- 283 xliii. Kimberly Thompson
- 284 xliv. Nancy Tiller
- 285 xlv. Belva O Tomblin
- 286 xlvi. Pamela Trout
- 287 xlvi. Hannah Warden
- 288 xlvi. Grace Williams
- 289 xlix. Cassandra Williamson
- 290 l. Mary Wolford
- 291 li. Jerrica Baisden
- 292 lii. Mary Belcher
- 293 liii. Ashley Bucci
- 294 liv. Jenna Bryant
- 295 lv. Cayla Canterbury
- 296 lvi. Jessica Davis
- 297 lvii. Jessica Sears
- 298 lviii. Kayla Stanley
- 299 lix. April White
- 300 lx. Heather Anderson
- 301 lxi. Jenna Bryant

302

303 **Amendment Added to Agenda**

304 **a. Personnel Actions**

305 **1. SERVICE PERSONNEL**

306 **a. Abolish Position**

307 I. Custodian III DES

308 **b. Create Position**

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309 i. Custodian IV DES  
310 *End Consent Agenda*  
311  
312 Mrs. Wireman had one item to strike from page two of the agenda. ~~C. Personnel Actions, 1-~~  
313 ~~PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL, b. Transfer into Existing Position, i. Kimberly Sheppard substitute teacher~~  
314 ~~MCS to Teacher / Grade 6 WK\* (effective November 20, 2024).~~ (Lines 144-146)  
315  
316 There was a date correction on page three of the agenda. Item d. Request for Leave of Absence,  
317 ii. Craig Hart Teacher / Agriculture TVHS (FMLA) (10-7-2024 to 04-7-2024 2025, 6-Months not to exceed  
318 60 days Intermittent) The date was corrected to read 04-7-2025.  
319  
320 Items pulled from the agenda were:  
321 Mr. Preece – page 3, two items for Erica Preece. 2. Professional Extracurricular Assignments, a. New  
322 Employment for School year 2024-2025, iii. Erika Preece Assistant Coach / girls basketball KK8 (effective  
323 November 20, 2024 (pending certification) AND 3. SERVICE PERSONNEL, a. New Employment into  
324 Existing Position, viii. Erika Preece Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)  
325  
326 Mrs. Wellman pulled – page 3, b. Resignations, i. Deanna Wellman Assistant Coach / Cheer TVHS  
327 (effective November 8, 2024)  
328  
329 From Page four - item g. Termination, i. \_\_\_\_\_ Aide / Autism Mentor \_\_\_\_\_ (effective November 20, 2024)  
330 was pulled.  
331  
332 With the exception of the pulled items Mr. Jewell made the motion to accept/approve the consent  
333 agenda items. Mr. Preece made the second. The motion was approved with a vote of 5/0.  
334  
335 Mr. Preece left the room at 6:55 p.m.  
336 The items pulled by Mr. Preece were voted on.  
337 From page 3, two items for Erica Preece. 2. Professional Extracurricular Assignments, a. New  
338 Employment for School year 2024-2025, iii. Erika Preece Assistant Coach / girls basketball KK8 (effective  
339 November 20, 2024 (pending certification) AND 3. SERVICE PERSONNEL, a. New Employment into  
340 Existing Position, viii. Erika Preece Substitute Aide MCS (effective November 20, 2024)  
341 Mr. Jewell made the motion to accept those items. Mrs. Wellman made the second. The vote of 4/0.  
342 Mr. Preece re-entered the room at 6:57 p.m.  
343  
344 Mrs. Wellman left the room at 6:57 p.m.  
345 Mr. Jewell made the motion to accept Mrs. Wellman’s resignation. (See page 3, b. Resignations, i.  
346 Deanna Wellman Assistant Coach / Cheer TVHS (effective November 8, 2024) Mr. Goff made the second.  
347 The vote was 4/0.  
348 Mrs. Wellman re-entered the room at 6:57 p.m.  
349  
350 Mr. Goff made a motion to go into executive session for item g. from page 4 of the agenda. Mr. Preece  
351 seconded that motion. The vote to go into Executive session was 5/0.  
352 The time was 6:58 p.m.  
353



354 At 7:03 p.m. Mr. Preece made the motion to return to Regular session. Mr. Goff seconded that motion.  
355 The motion passed with a vote of 5/0. President Slone announced that no decision had been made  
356 during executive session.

357  
358 Mrs. Wireman spoke regarding the pulled item from page four - item g. Termination, I. Joyce Burton  
359 Aide / Autism Mentor MCHS (effective November 20, 2024) and filled in the blanks.

360 Mr. Preece made the recommendation to approve the termination. Mrs. Wellman made the second.  
361 The vote taken was 5/0. The ayes had it, so ordered.

362  
363 **IX. Board Member Comment Period**  
364 Board members had comments about the October 15, 2024, Regular meeting, and asked to schedule a  
365 Special meeting. After discussion, a meeting was set for December 2, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting  
366 would be held to address and amend Board Goals, consideration and possible action to rescind the  
367 motion passed by the Board at the meeting held October 15, 2024, regarding the extension of the  
368 Superintendent's contract. A Board member listed concerns for just over twenty-minutes and requested  
369 to have them placed them on the agenda for the Special Meeting on December 2, 2024.

370  
371 **X. Superintendent's Update.**  
372 There was no update.

373  
374 **XI. Adjournment**  
375 Mr. Jewell made the motion to adjourn.  
376 The time was 7:34 p.m.

377  
378  
379 *Next Regular Meeting*  
380 December 17, 2024