

The McCreary County Board of Education met in Special Session on February 28, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the Board of Education Central Office. Chairman Stephens welcomed everyone then called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call. Present were: Dustin Stephens, Deborah Gibson, Nelda Gilreath, Lori Foster, Braxton King and Interim Superintendent, Ronald "Sonny" Fentress. Also present were: the media, school system staff and interested parties.

**Mission Statement:** The McCreary County School System will provide a safe, supportive environment to meet the individual needs of all students and ensure they are college and career ready.

### **APPROVE AGENDA - #10187**

A motion was made by Mrs. Nelda Gilreath and a second by Mrs. Lori Foster to approve the agenda as presented. Members voted as follows:

Gilreath – AYE; King – AYE; Foster – AYE; Gibson – AYE; Stephens - AYE

### **COMMUNICATIONS - #10188**

#### **A. Prayer**

Preacher - Braxton King

#### **B. Pledge of Allegiance**

MCHS - Cadet Lt. Colonel Caleb Kink

#### **C. Reports**

##### **1. Superintendent News**

VFW - Teacher of the Year Award

District 11 Commander, Danny Delaughter-presented awards.

Tara Tucker - Grades K-5

Megan Chitwood - Grades 6-8

At this time, Interim Superintendent, Sonny Fentress, introduced Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) District 11 Commander, Danny Delaughter. Commander Delaughter introduced Quarter Master, Thomas Corder. Commander Delaughter shared with the Board that the VFW was presenting Teacher of the year awards to two teachers from Pine Knot Elementary School. These teachers are teaching Americanism and Patriotism in their classroom along with the general studies. These teachers were nominated by students; District 11 is made up of 6 surrounding counties; these teachers are picked at the local level, then the district level, then the state level and then the national level. Quarter Master Corder read the proclamation and presented a certificate to both teachers: Tara Tucker (for Grades K-5) and Megan Chitwood (for Grades 6-8).

## Gear UP Presentation- Ashley Waters

Interim Superintendent Fentress introduced Ms. Ashley Waters, Gear-Up Academic Specialist. Ms. Waters shared the annual presentation with the Board. She shared with the Board that this is a six year program. She shared the activities and information that the students can use toward being Career and College ready. She shared that Gear-Up has paid the ACT fee for all 10th Graders.

### **2. McCreary Central High School**

Student Achievement (Academics and Extra-Curricular)

At this time, Interim Superintendent Fentress introduced Ms. Sharon Privett, Principal, at McCreary Central High School. Ms. Privett shared some of the things that have been going on at the high school: District Tournament, Spirit Week, etc. She also shared a video showcasing the student's activities.

### **3. McCreary Academy**

Student Recognition

At this time, Interim Superintendent Fentress introduced Ms. Sunshine Canada, Administrator at McCreary Academy. Ms. Canada shared with the Board that she will recognize her students next month. She gave an update on the number of students served by the Academy and the number of students who have transitioned back to the regular setting. She reviewed the services that the Academy provides: behavior and credit recovery.

### **4. McCreary County Middle School**

Student Recognition

At this time, Interim Superintendent Fentress introduced Mr. Todd Waters, Principal at McCreary County Middle School. Mr. Waters recognized the Cheerleading Team and Student of the Month for February for both Teams for both grade levels (7th and 8th).

### **5. Whitley City Elementary School**

Power Point updating on Student progress and activities

At this time, Interim Superintendent Fentress introduced Mr. Foster Jones, Principal at Whitley City Elementary School. Mr. Jones shared a power point recognizing students of the month and Cheerleaders. He shared some of the activities the students have been involved in: Dr. Seuss week. He shared the report on the School Nurse visits. He shared activities that the FRYSC have been doing. He gave an Academic update and instructional focus update.

## **6. Pine Knot Elementary School**

Recognizing Student of the Month for January and February

At this time, Interim Superintendent Fentress introduced Ms. Rebecca Blakley, Principal at Pine Knot Elementary School. Ms. Blakley recognized the Teachers of the Year from her school that were recognized by the VFW. She recognized the students that participated at the KMEA. She recognized the Counselor Choice Award students and the Students of the Month for January and February.

### **D. Superintendent's Report on Personnel/Employment Authorization**

Recommend the Board acknowledge receipt of Superintendent's Report on Personnel/Employment Authorization.

## **APPROVE ACTIONS BY CONSENT - #10189**

A motion was made by Mr. Braxton King and a second by Mrs. Nelda Gilreath to approve the Actions by Consent as presented. Members voted as follows:

Gilreath – AYE; King – AYE; Foster – AYE; Gibson – AYE; Stephens – AYE

### **4.A. Acknowledge Superintendent's Report on Leaves of Absences**

Recommend the Board acknowledge receipt of Superintendent's Report on Leaves of Absence

### **4.B. Approve Minutes**

Recommend the Board take action on the minutes from the following past regular and special called board meetings:

Regular - January 24, 2019

Special - February 1, 2019

### **4.C. Approve Payment of Bills and Claims**

### **4.D. Approve School Trips:**

#### **4.D.1. McCreary Central High School**

Cheerleading - Mar. 14th-18th, 2019 - Myrtle Beach, SC (National Cheer Competition)

### **4.E. Approve Monthly Financial Report for January 31, 2019**

### **4.F. Approve 2019-2020 SBDM Allocation**

### **4.G. Approve Revised BG 19-181 for McCreary Central High School Bleacher Replacement to Reflect Actual Costs**

### **4.H. Approve Procure Agreement**

### **4.I. Approve Part-time Speech Therapist at Pine Knot Elementary School**

### **4.J. Approve Tele-SLP Replacing First Tele-SLP Therapist**

**4.K. Approve Wide Area Network (WAN) Fiber Connectivity Bids**

Recommend the Board take action on the Wide Area Network (WAN) Fiber Connectivity bids and award the bid to: Access Cable Inc.

Bids:

Access Cable Inc.

Cytranet

WanRack

**4.L. Approve Amend Job Description for the Mental Health Therapist position - Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)**

Amend Job Description for the Mental Health Therapist position - Licensed Clinical Social Worker LCSW to allow both the Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) and the Licensed Clinical Counselor (LPCC) licensure requirement.

**4.M. Ratify Acting Superintendent, Ronald "Sonny" Fentress' Contract**

**APPROVE SHORTENED SCHOOL DAY FOR (2) INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS - #10190**

A motion was made by Mrs. Lori Foster and a second by Ms. Deborah Gibson to approve the shortened school day for (2) individual students. Members voted as follows:

Gilreath – AYE; King – AYE; Foster – AYE; Gibson – AYE; Stephens – AYE

**DISCUSS SPECIAL EDUCATION REGARDING SPEECH SERVICES - #10191**

At this time, Ms. Amelia Strunk, Director of Special Education, gave an update on the Speech services for the elementary schools and that all services will be caught up before the end of the school year. She also shared that she has some contacts for SLP who are interested in working in our district for the next school year.

**DISCUSS SOCCER FOR THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS - #10192**

At this time, Mr. Rob Jones, Athletic Director, shared with the Board that little leagues are usually handled by the Parks and Recreation. Mr. Jones said he would find out how many may be interested in having a league and Mr. Braxton King, Board Member, said that The Lord's Gym may be able to help if there is a need for Little League Soccer.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS - #10193**

At this time, Melissa Maxwell asked to address the Board. She shared the concern of some citizens that attended a meeting the evening before regarding Michael Cash and asked the Board to consider everything when making their decision. Ms. Darlene Price addressed the Board. Ms. Price shared with the Board that she would like for the Board to take into consideration everything regarding Mr. Cash: Pine Knot Job Corp, Emails sent,

Referee incident, video. She read a list of things she would like for the Board to do. There were comments and concerns made by other interested parties.

**APPROVE ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO KRS 61.810 (1)(f) - Discussions which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee - #10194**

A motion was made by Ms. Deborah Gibson and a second by Mr. Braxton King to approve entering into executive session pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1)(f)-discussions which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee at 8:08 p.m. Members voted as follows:

Gilreath – AYE; King – AYE; Foster – AYE; Gibson – AYE; Stephens – AYE

**APPROVE RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - #10195**

A motion was made by Ms. Deborah Gibson and a second by Mrs. Lori Foster to approve returning to open session at 8:27 p.m. Members voted as follows:

Gilreath – AYE; King – AYE; Foster – AYE; Gibson – AYE; Stephens – AYE

**APPROVE TAKE ACTION REGARDING PERSONNEL - #10196**

A motion was made by Ms. Deborah Gibson and a second by Mrs. Lori Foster to approve taking action regarding personnel. Members voted as follows:

Gilreath – AYE; King – AYE; Foster – AYE; Gibson – AYE; Stephens – AYE

Chairman Stephens read the motion regarding personnel: I make the following motion:

1. To approve the settlement agreement and release that the Board Attorney negotiated with counsel for Mr. Cash and which Mr. Cash has signed.
2. To authorize the Board Chair to sign the settlement agreement and release on behalf of the Board.
3. To declare a vacancy in the office of the Superintendent the earlier of Mr. Cash qualifying for disability retirement or July 1, 2019, whichever first occurs; and,
4. To authorize the Board Chair to contact the Kentucky School Board Association to get a proposed contract to bring back to the Board in order to begin and conduct the search for a new Superintendent.

Board Attorney, Mr. Crawford, read the Considerations in the settlement:

A. Mr. Cash will be granted a suspension with a leave of absence from his duties from February 4, 2019 until he is approved for KTRS teacher disability retirement or until June 30, 2019, whichever first occurs.

B. During the suspension with leave, Mr. Cash will be permitted to use his accumulated annual leave, to be followed by using accumulated sick leave if supported by a doctor's statement.

C. Mr. Cash will tender his resignation as Superintendent effective the earlier of being approved for KTRS teacher disability retirement or June 30, 2019, whichever first occurs, but with a waiver of his rights pursuant to KRS 161.662, KRS 161.770 and as otherwise provided under the Teacher Tenure Act.

D. The Board agrees to rescind and withdraw from Mr. Cash's personnel file the February 4, 2019 letter of suspension without pay and revise it to a suspension with leave of absence.

E. No further action against Mr. Cash concerning the events leading to the investigation would be imposed upon him by the Board or reflected in his personnel record.

F. Upon execution of this agreement, the Board will terminate the investigation of Mr. Cash.

**APPROVE NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURN - #10197**

A motion was made by Mr. Braxton King and a second by Mr. Dustin Stephens to approve the next meeting of the McCreary County Board of Education for Monday, March 25, 2019, at the Board's Central Office and to adjourn. Members voted as follows:

Gilreath – AYE; King – AYE; Foster – AYE; Gibson – AYE; Stephens – AYE

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**Chairperson**

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**Secretary**