The Mercer County Board of Education met in special session at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday, November 7, 2019, in the Mercer County Technical Education Seminar Center, Princeton, WV.

Members present were Paul Hodges, Gilbert Bailey, Mary Alice Kaufman, Greg Prudich, and Deborah S. Akers, Secretary. Jacinda Santon Smith was absent.

NEW BUSINESS

Student Disciplinary Hearing
Board Memo #133

The student disciplinary hearing was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Mr. Hodges. He advised this would be a closed hearing, and the Board then went into closed session for the hearing.

Mr. Kermit Moore, Board Attorney, represented the administration. Ms. Kimberly Miller, Bluefield Middle School Principal, appeared before the Board to represent the school concerning the proposed recommendation to expel a male student-for the following charge:

Threat of bodily injury with a firearm made toward another student

Neither the student, nor his representatives were present for the hearing. Testimony was taken. Exhibits 1 through 8 were filed by the Board Attorney, Mr. Kermit Moore. The hearing was concluded at 6:09 P.M. at which time the Board reconvened in open session.

On motion of Mr. Prudich, seconded by Ms. Kaufman, and by a 4-0 vote, the Board upheld the Superintendent's recommendation that the student be expelled for one full calendar year for threat of bodily injury with a firearm made toward another student. His actions were in violation of Mercer County Policy J-18 and WV Code 18A-5-1a(c) and WVDE Policy 4373.

Employee Disciplinary Hearing and Personnel Action
Board Memo #134

The hearing was called to order at 6:18 P.M. Mr. Kermit Moore, attorney, represented the administration. Susan Johnson and her significant other were present. The witnesses were sequestered in another room and the Board then went into closed session for the hearing. The hearing was concluded at 7:06 P.M. at which time the Board reconvened in open session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Mr. Prudich, seconded by Mr. Bailey, and by a 4-0 vote, the Board withdrew into Executive Session from 7:07 P.M. to 7:24 P.M. according to WV Code 6-9A-4(b)(2) matter relating to personnel issue.
At 7:25 P.M., the Board reconvened in open session. On motion of Mr. Prudich, seconded by Mr. Bailey, and by a 4-0 vote, the Board confirmed Susan Johnson’s suspension from October 30, 2019, through the date of the hearing and upheld the Superintendent’s recommendation to extend Ms. Johnson’s suspension through November 29, 2019. The suspension is without pay, from her cook position at PikeView Middle School. Ms. Johnson may return to work on Monday, December 2, 2019. The reason for this action was insubordination.

**Employee Disciplinary Action**
Board Memo #135

On motion of Mr. Prudich, seconded by Mr. Bailey, and by a 4-0 vote, the Board confirmed Daniel Hodges suspension without pay for two days, November 4 and 5, 2019, from his teaching position at PikeView Middle School. Mr. Hodges agreed to accept the suspension and waived his right to a hearing on this matter.

The reason for this action was that he did not follow proper procedures in the administration of medication to a student. His actions are a violation of Mercer County Policy J-13, Administration of Medication and Special Health Care Plans.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Nothing further appearing, Mr. Hodges adjourned the meeting at 7:28 P.M.

Deborah S. Akers, Secretary