



Governor Signs McDowell County Bill

Gov. Bob Wise announced Thursday (Jan. 29) that he had signed **House Bill 4111**, the “McDowell County Schools” bill that transfers to the W. Va. Board of Education the authority to accept funds from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The state board must take action conveying the land by March to get the funds, according to legislative sources. On Jan. 20, the McDowell County Board of Education rejected \$41 million in federal funding. The Legislature unanimously passed a measure last week to give the state the authority to override the 3-2 county vote.

“This bill saves the \$41 million that will be combined with \$12 million from the School Building Authority to construct schools in McDowell County,” Wise said. “We simply could not let this opportunity pass by.”

The acceptance of the money is contingent upon moving schools out of the flood plain. It also will avoid the forced closure of several schools by the State Fire Marshal because of fire code violations.

“Our children’s education must continue to be our top priority,” Wise added. “Some schools in McDowell County are insufficient, substandard, unsafe and unhealthy. Our students deserve 21st century schools that are designed to prepare them for higher education and a more demanding work force.”

Wise’s action follows just a week after the Legislature’s passage of the measure, which originated in the House Education Committee Jan. 22—the bill was the first adopted this legislative session, after the Legislature suspended its rule requiring a bill be read

on “three separate days.” Such a rule suspension is rare this early in a regular session.

Legislators, as Wise, were concerned about the loss of funds and privately hoped the McDowell school board would reconsider its earlier decision when that body met Tuesday. According to various press accounts, one member of the McDowell board alluded to county healing, but no member made the motion to reconsider.

The proposed plan calls for a new high school to consolidate Big Creek and Iaeger high schools; a new elementary school for Panther and Iaeger elementary; and a new elementary school consolidating students from Bartley and Bradshaw Schools.

Under terms of **HB4111**, the state board, when intervening in a county’s operation, would assume title of board property. WVBE officials assumed that was the case, but the corps desired more definitive legal language, according to HEC testimony last week.

W. Va. School Boards Association Executive Director Howard M. O’Cull, Ed.D., reports receiving “several” telephone calls and e-mails in regard to the legislation, with some county board members wondering about any prospective impact of the bill on “all boards.” According to O’Cull, who has confirmed this information with W. Va. Department of Education attorneys, only boards subjected to state takeover are affected by the bill’s provisions. Thus, it will affect only McDowell and Lincoln counties until or unless another state takeover occurs, said O’Cull.

See **McDOWELL BILL** on page 3

Overview

STATS

Day of Session:	17
Days Remaining:	43
Bills Introduced (not including House Carryover Bills):	491
Education Bills (WVSBA Count):	116

INSIDE

- Committee Adopts Substitute Bill.....2
- 2005 Public Education Budget Presented.....3
- Text of Raglin’s NCLB Forum Remarks.....4
- Administrator’s Perspective.....5
- Opinion: Fire Violations ‘Unacceptable’.....6
- Active Bills.....6

QUOTE

“I know it’s politically popular, but it simply cannot work under the budget constraints we’re facing.”—*Senate Finance Chairman Walt Helmick (D-Pocahontas) discussing the governor’s proposal to limit bus travel times for students.*

Conference Meeting Attendance Nears 200

About 190 county board members, superintendents and school administrators have pre-registered to attend the W. Va. School Boards Association’s 2004 Winter Conference to be held Feb. 13/14 in Charleston (Marriott Hotel – Town Center), according to conference registrar Shirley Davidson.

The program commences officially at 1:00 p.m., Fri., Feb. 13 with a presentation by noted educational thinker Jamie Vollmer, who will discuss how educational entities, especially school boards, can achieve greater community connectivity. “This program works well with the premise of **Senate Bill 522**, and the goal of creating greater links with communities,” said WVSBA Executive Director Howard M. O’Cull, Ed.D. He also said Vollmer is a well-received presenter who last visited the state in September to talk to a W. Va. Education Association group.

See **WINTER MEETING** on page 3

Committee Okays WVDE Substitute Bill

The House Education Committee, meeting Thursday (Jan. 29) adopted a committee substitute for **House Bill 4130**, a measure that requires the employment of a “highly qualified” substitute teacher to perform duties of a teacher who is attending a meeting or professional development sponsored by the W. Va. Department of Education.

The bill’s purpose, according to committee testimony, is to limit the substitute costs incurred by county boards when teachers are required to attend various WVDE meetings or staff development functions, thus making them absent from regularly assigned instructional duties.

Under bill provisions, a teacher wouldn’t be required to attend the meeting/professional development sessions unless the WVDE employs or reimburses a county for employment of a highly qualified substitute teacher.

There is no indicated fiscal note in that funds would be taken from WVDE programmatic areas or counties wouldn’t have to send teachers.

During the past several months some legislators, county superintendents, county board members, teachers and others have complained about teacher absences due to WVDE meetings, particularly in regard to the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

There is no companion Senate measure.

In other House Education action this week:

Standards

- A subcommittee headed by Del. Larry A. Williams (D-Preston) has met over the last few days to discuss ways in which various standards, policies, rules and regulations of the Office of Education Performance Audits and W. Va. Board of Education

may be consolidated or placed into conformity with the federal No Child Left Behind Act. According to testimony Tuesday (Jan. 27), OEPA officials seek to consolidate about 20 standards and possibly more, with a House subcommittee studying ways in which to narrow the number of WVBE policies—a process the state board has begun. The subcommittee met again Thursday, with the hopes of getting a bill drafted for consideration early next week. The legislation emanated from meetings held last fall to consider various paperwork requirements that affect principals and school administrators.

NCLB

- An HEC subcommittee, headed by Del. Brady Paxton (D-Putnam) is considering various aspects of the federal No Child Left Behind Act, especially matters regarding costs of implementation. Paxton presented subcommittee members with a listing of various materials, records and comments regarding NCLB.

Calendar

- Another HEC subcommittee is discussing the school calendar. It would appear, based on its first meeting, that the group is leaning toward consideration of a calendar that would concentrate on completion of a set number of school minutes, which would vary by grade configuration, rather than concentrating on completion of a set number of instructional days. Various concerns were raised, including the notion there would be a differing employment contractual term and instructional term—leading a representative of the W.Va. School Service Personnel Association to predict considerable overtime for these workers. A draft proposal, developed by HEC staff, would remove the beginning and ending dates of the school term (given the minutes emphasis) and would make other modifications, including a provision that would require the first school semester to be completed by the winter holiday break. That notion didn’t set well with Del. Mary Poling (D-Barbour), a retired math teacher, although Del. David Perry (D-Fayette), a strong supporter of the minutes-concept, supported the ideal. Several other related issues were discussed, with brief testimony provided by W. Va. School Boards Association and W. Va. Association of School Administrators’ representatives. The subcommittee is to meet again next week. During 2003-2004 interim legislative meetings, “Subcommittee B,” which studied the school calendar, made no official recommendations, although the draft legislation shared with the committee Jan. 27 mirrors testimony given to the subcommittee, including that of WWSBA representatives.

According to several committee members, the ‘standards bill’ is likely to cause the greatest amount of debate, including OEPA’s role and the role of various other entities, including the state board.

WVDE staff provided extensive materials to the committee, as did OEPA, along with recommendations made by a group of educators and administrators who met last fall.

In other legislative action this week, State Superintendent of Schools David Stewart appeared before the Senate Education and Finance Committees to discuss the state board’s budget for the next fiscal year. (See report on adjacent page.)

The SEC also received a report regarding the governor’s Honors Academy.

The Legislature provides county board of education members, state policymakers, school administrators, and others information, opinion and commentary regarding West Virginia legislative issues. This publication does not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions or policies of the WWSBA, unless specifically stated.

W.Va. School Boards Association
PO Box 1008
Charleston, WV 25324
(304) 346-0571
(304) 346-0572 fax

WWSBA.ORG

William J. Raglin (Kanawha), President
wjraglin@charter.net

Howard M. O’Cull, Ed. D., Executive Director, Editor
hocull@wvsba.org

Jason B. Keeling, Executive Assistant
jkeeling@wvsba.org

Honors Academy discussed

2005 Public Education Budget Presented

By Jason B. Keeling

At \$30.5 million, the W.Va. Department of Education's 2005 budget request is around \$5.3 million less than allocated in the 2004 fiscal year. More reductions are possible, according to Senate Education Chairman Robert Plymale (D-Wayne). At the committee's Jan. 28 meeting, he instructed State Schools Superintendent David Stewart to compile a listing of education-related projects originated within and funded through the Legislature's Budget Digest.

Some programs funded through the digest may not necessarily support the state's constitutional mandate to deliver a "thorough and efficient" education system, according to Plymale, who said a review of such unclassified spending was merited.

Enrollment

West Virginia's K-12 student population has declined by 16.5 percent since 1987, from 333,962 to 278,931. In the same period, the number of professional educators funded through the school aid formula has decreased 16 percent (from 24,593 to 20,644), with service personnel decreasing by 17 percent (from 14,803 to 12,266), and administrators decreasing by 28 percent (from 1,860 to 1,339). Since 1993, total funds allocated to public education as a percent of the state's general revenue has decreased from 57 percent in 1993 to 52 percent in 2004. These figures were provided by the WVDE.

Joe Panetta, director of the WVDE's office of school finance, reviewed the various steps of the school aid formula for senators, characterizing the funding mechanism as "one of the most equitable in the country" in terms of funds distribution.

"A little bit of inequity comes into play" when considering local excess levies, he said, although he clarified that the W.Va. Supreme Court has declared excess levies constitutional.

The Wise administration's 2005 education budget recommendation was \$1.3 million lower than the department's request.

Honors Academy and Arts School

At a Jan. 29 SEC meeting, Secretary of Education and the Arts Kay Goodwin praised the Governor's Honors Academy and Governor's School for the Arts as some of the state's best educational investments.

The honors academy commenced under the Rockefeller administration in the early 1980s and was expanded to include the school for the arts by the Caperton administration.

The programs are composed of three week sessions each year hosted by a college or university in the state, allowing student participants from across West Virginia to strengthen their education and get to know each other, in addition to dispelling any negative perceptions students may have about the state, said Goodwin.

Deputy Secretary of Education and the Arts Jay Cole was an honors academy participant in 1989. He said he planned to go out of state for higher education, but after lectures from a W.Va. University history professor at the academy, realized education in-state could be equally rewarding. The experience "allow[ed] me to finally see my state for the first time," he said.

Josh Saul, a Lincoln County native and 1994 school for the arts graduate, was equally enthusiastic. He said the school was "probably the most transforming experience I've had in my life," describ-

ing the responsibility and sense of adulthood he gained in addition to his exposure to the arts. He said the school truly enriches the lives of those who attend.

Goodwin said the programs are one of the best examples of public and higher education working together.

The WVDE will make its budget presentation to the House Finance Committee Feb. 10.

— Keeling is WVSBA executive assistant.

McDOWELL BILL

continued from page 1

Several press reports regarding the bill's provision also have been skewed, according to reports O'Cull has received, including one report that the bill only affects McDowell school property in a flood plain.

"The bill features two sections of amended Code, one of which relates to all county board property in takeover counties, and another relating to properties specifically within a flood plain. Thus, all board properties in takeover counties would be affected," he said.

The WVBE intervened in McDowell County in 2001.

Dr. Mark A. Manchin is McDowell County Schools Superintendent.

WINTER MEETING

continued from page 1

This year's program also features a Thursday evening 'cracker barrel' session, slated for 7:45 p.m. for those persons who arrive early for the conference. The 'cracker barrel' session will be preceded by a WVSBA Executive Board meeting. That meeting is open to the membership.

Legislative visitations are scheduled for Friday morning, beginning at 8:45 a.m.

Workshops relate to a Parkersburg faith-based initiative, the federal No Child Left Behind Act, and a report regarding a successful \$50 million bond effort in Monongalia County.

A major session, slated for Saturday morning (Jan. 14), relates to school facility policy in wake of NCLB and the governor's pronouncements regarding support for "small and rural schools."

The conference also will include the FY05 Annual Business Meeting, and features exhibits as well.

For more information, please contact Davidson: sdavidson@wvsba.org.

The Legislature

WATCH FOR THE LATEST ON EDUCATION LEGISLATION.

Text of Raglin's NCLB Forum Remarks

The following is the prepared text of W. Va. School Boards Association President William J. Raglin's remarks at a House Education Forum Jan. 21 relating to the federal No Child Left Behind Act:

Mr. Chairman, Committee Members, I am Bill Raglin, President of the W. Va. School Boards Association. I am also president of the Kanawha County Board of Education.

My remarks this afternoon are being delivered on behalf of our association, a statewide organization representing each of the state's 55 school boards.

First, on behalf of the school board members in West Virginia, I am pleased to be here. Indeed, I am pleased that the purpose of this forum, in your own words, is to: give us an "opportunity to productively work together in order to find the best way to accomplish" the goal of ensuring that no child is left behind.

Years ago when I finished high school and went on to college many of my classmates did not. Some went to the military. A few into government employment, but others, unprepared, were essentially left behind. This scene has been played out for years, all across this state and country. Yes, I can say there have been some children left behind—unable or unprepared to compete for jobs, many relegated to welfare dependency, others destined to spend much of their life in prison or succumb to substance abuse. In short, for segments of our population, after leaving our public schools, life was all downhill and the fruits of our great nations, to them rotted on the vine.

Nearly everyone would agree that we are leaving many children behind. But we have not always agreed on why this has happened. More importantly, we have not had a national priority to solve the problem in the way we decided for instance to go to the Moon in one decade. I submit to you that a similar commitment to leaving no child behind would have a bigger payback to this nation than reaching the Moon or going to Mars. Making the benefits of living in the greatest nation on earth accessible to all is, also, the right thing.

With any federal edict of this magnitude such as NCLB...It's probably equivalent to Public Law 94-142 or the original Elementary and Secondary Education Act...there's going to be significant change in the landscape of the status quo.

NCLB: 'Shaken Everybody Up'

That's really where we are with No Child Left Behind: It's shaken everybody up...from school board members to the public. Frankly, a shaking or two doesn't hurt such a slowly changing organization as public education. But, in that shaking up, we've got several things to work out:

1. Is No Child Left Behind an unfunded mandate? Right now, that depends on whom you ask. How much will it cost? Are there "real" costs in new dollars? What's the cost in the future? These questions need answered...should they be answered by an independent group of persons? That way, we can keep an independent analysis of cost. We wouldn't want the feds to answer the question. Do we want the state Department to do so?
2. Does the state No Child Left Behind plan, as adopted by the state Board of Education, go beyond what No Child Left Behind required, costing the state additional moneys, and giving

counties additional rules and regulations? Our members would like to see this question answered. Along these lines, some believe that our state special education regulations exceed federal law. Again, is this the case with No Child Left Behind?

What about testing?

3. What of testing and assessment? Do our testing regulations exceed federal mandates? Could it be that our own state-driven tests are causing the teacher anxiety and concerns...not No Child Left Behind per se?
4. What does No Child Left Behind change? What new changes in law are necessary? Who's cataloging these changes? What about personnel laws? We know what we won't accept, in terms of student achievement, what are we going to reject in terms of inferior performance by employees, school boards, school administrators and others? That's another facet of the question. Again, who's making a list of the outdated laws, policies, rules and regulations that should be revised because of No Child Left Behind.
5. Let's not assume that federal programs are fully funded: Does anyone here think special education is fully funded, for instance? Despite the best intentions of legislators, both at the federal and state levels, new programs always cost more dollars than planned. Can we let go of some things?

Educational Summit

6. Let's have an all-state educational summit. No Child Left Behind can be the catalyst. Let's bring together all the parties in public education and agree upon a blueprint for the future. The state school board, working with the Legislature, can bring this about.
7. Let's use No Child Left Behind to get more public involvement, let's begin anew to serve our students and parents. You see, parents can be energized by No Child Left Behind...it's that link that's been missing. As long as we do things as usual, however, we aren't going to reach parents...parents who are marginalized and not connected to the schools.
8. Finally, no matter your politics, No Child Left Behind-type legislation resonates with the public. The public wants to become involved in our schools, in the education of their children, and in being supporters of education. Sadly, some parents don't get the connection. If we, at all levels of government, show parents that they can make a difference in our public schools; that the education of children is our highest priority; and, that public education is open and accessible, we will have done our job.

Like other federal mandates, there are many things that could be changed to more effectively achieve the overall objectives given to us in the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Rather than oppose NCLB—we have universal agreement on the objectives—let's work collectively to change or fine tune the act. Indeed, the result will be an educational system, in all states, school districts and localities that meets needs of every student. Not only would no child be left behind, but no child would be denied the opportunity to move ahead.

Again, Mr. Chairman Mezzatesta, you hit the nail on the head: "The one thing we all agree is that no child should be left behind..."

Let's get to work seeing that's the case. This forum can be our vehicle and occasion for such. Thank you.

HEC Considering Several Policy Matters

By Dr. Martha Dean

House Education is courageously tackling the calendar issue again this year. A subcommittee headed by Delegate William G. Hartman (D-Randolph) met Tuesday (Jan. 27) to allow input into the process.

There was a drafted bill on the table for discussion that included several changes. It is significant that the bill contains a provision that "banked time" is defined as any instructional time that exceeds the mandated 315, 330, and 345 minutes that define the required instructional day. These minutes could be counted toward meeting the required instructional term (currently 180 days). The bill did not have a number yet and is originating in committee. I spoke with Delegate Hartman today and he is proceeding with the drafting of the bill with the intent to move it out of committee onto the floor.

'Beginning/Ending Dates'

All the professional organizations were present at the meeting and it is clear that the teachers' associations do not want to open up the calendar to begin earlier or end later. The current proposal would remove the mandated earliest starting date, but would retain the 43-week requirement from the beginning to the ending date for the 200-day employment term. The bad weather we are experiencing at this time with many counties missing several days of school already is raising the level of concern about the number of days of instruction students will receive again this year. I think that they believe that by changing the requirement to minutes instead of days, it will be easier for counties to meet the minimum amount of time students are required to be in school without converting non-instructional days or adding days to accomplish this. There was also some interest in having the first semester end before Christmas.

Paperwork

There has been a committee meeting periodically since the ending of last year's legislative session working on the concerns of principals that paperwork requirements are excessive and need to be streamlined. On Tuesday, a second subcommittee met to discuss the paperwork issue and to hear from the W. Va. Department of Education and Office of Education Performance Audits concerning proposals they might have to reduce the amount of paperwork. Both agencies presented a list of proposals with that goal in mind. OEPA brought a list of 20 indicators in Policy 2320 that could be eliminated. The subcommittee considered that list, but were emphatic that there could be more work done to streamline the accountability process of OEPA.

Yesterday I met with Kathy Williamson of WVDE and Dr. Donna Davis of OEPA in an attempt to see if there were other items that could streamline paperwork. Today we are meeting with HEC's Chairman Jerry Mezzatesta (D-Hampshire) with a new and improved list. Thanks to all the superintendents who responded to my request for information. I think we are addressing all those concerns either through the proposed legislation or working with the SDE to take a look at their requirements.

Manchin Tribute

The regular session of the House on Tuesday included a tribute to former Delegate A. James Manchin. It was quite impressive. Most of the Manchin family were in attendance, included Secretary of State and gubernatorial candidate Joe Manchin and Dr. Mark A. Manchin, McDowell County Schools Superintendent. Others who I recognized in the audience were Dr. Carl Friebel, Harrison County Schools Superintendent; Dr. Jane Reynolds, Taylor County Schools Superintendent; John Myers, former superintendent of Marion County Schools, and Vic Gabriel, Harrison County Schools. The tribute was outstanding and recognized A. J.'s energy and dedication to this state through his many years of public service. Mark gave an outstanding "thank you" on behalf of the family to the Legislature for the event of the day and for making A. James' last years the "best of his life".

Substitute Bill

There was one bill considered at the morning meeting of the Education Committee on Thursday. It was **House Bill 4130** which requires a "highly qualified and fully certified substitute teacher to perform the duties of a teacher who is in attendance of a meeting or professional development function held by or at the direction of the department of education". It further provides that the state department pay the wages of the substitute. The bill was approved and passed out to the second reference: House Finance Committee.

—Dean is W. Va. Association of School Administrators executive director. She served as superintendent in Webster and Wetzel counties and as a Regional Education Service Agency director.

Wisdom

'Chief aim of the legislator...'

"Shall we try to find a common basis of asking of ourselves what ought to be the chief aim of the legislator in making laws and in the organization of a State—what is the greatest good, and what is the greatest evil. . . Can there be any greater evil than discord and distraction and plurality where unity ought to reign? Or any greater good than the bond of unity? There cannot. And there is unity where there is community of pleasures and pains—where all the citizens are glad or grieved on the same occasions of joy and sorrow? No doubt. Yes; and, where there is no common but only private feeling a state is disorganized—when you have one half of the world triumphing and the other half plunged in grief at the same events happening to the city or the citizens. . ." — Plato (*The Republic, V – Contrast of the Ideal and the Actual State.*)

'Will be working with counties' Fire Code Violations—'Unacceptable Level'

By Sterling Lewis Jr.

We have a very serious problem in our schools across the state. The number of state fire code violations is at an unacceptable level. We have never had a situation in which we have had a loss of life in our educational facilities. However, it does appear that counties are not taking these violations seriously. I would hope that a long hard look will be taken at the problems that could arise if we were to ever have a fire in any of the buildings in our state.

A number of counties have a good record of resolving their violations, but a greater number are not attempting to resolve theirs. We find more often than not, that a lot of problems are house-keeping—problems that can be taken care of very easily. The others are problems that will take money to fix and the county boards of education are lagging behind.

As state Fire Marshal, I will be working with these counties that

have a poor record on violations. It is my sincere hope that the W. Va. Board of Education will take a positive step in helping the counties to improve the safety of the students they serve.

We always state that education is our future. It is my hope we can all work together to provide the safest possible schools in order to ensure that our students achieve the goals that will help them reach that future.

NOTE: Lewis mentioned this issue during House Education's Jan. 22 discussion of legislation relating to McDowell County Schools.

—Lewis is State Fire Marshal, a position he has held since 2002. Prior to 2002, he served for 26 years as a Raleigh County school teacher. He is a former captain of the Beaver Volunteer Fire Department, and a member of the House of Delegates, serving from 1988-'90. He also has served as an assistant to House Speaker Bob Kiss (D-Raleigh).

Active Bills

Senate

Senate Bill 196. Eliminates the mandatory order of activities regarding Instructional Support and Enhancement Days. Originated in and passed Senate Education Committee 1/15/04. Passed Senate 1/21/04. Referred to House Education Committee.

House of Delegates

House Bill 2268 (carryover bill). Relates to employment of retired teachers as substitute teachers in "areas of critical need and shortage." There are other provisions. House Education Committee adopted 1/15/04. Passed House 1/21/04. Referred to Senate Education Committee.

House Bill 2323 (carryover bill). Creates an office of personnel within the state Department of Education (using existing personnel). House Education Committee adopted 1/15/04. Referred to House Finance Committee (Second reference may be waived.)

House Bill 4037. Relates to transfer of juvenile records between and among school districts, with certain restrictions on the sharing of information as well as detailed descriptions of information to be transferred between districts. Matters relating to records of students transferring from out-of-state referred to subcommittee. Original bill would have provided an appropriation of at least \$8 million for alternative education programs. The first \$2 million would have been distributed to counties based on net enrollment with the remainder being distributed in competitive grants for pilot or innovative programs. Amended and passed House Education Committee 1/22/04. Passed House 1/28/04. Referred to Senate Education Committee.

House Bill 4039. Relates to contracts for non-educator athletic and

extracurricular coaches. Would allow these individuals to continue coaching without position being posted yearly if serving in position for three or more consecutive years. Referred to full House. House Education Committee adopted 1/15/04. Passed House 1/21/04. Referred to Senate Education Committee.

House Bill 4040. Makes changes in statute relating to reference for overall rating of satisfactory on previous two years' evaluations, making statutory change to "previous two evaluations." House Education Committee adopted 1/15/04. Passed House 1/21/04. Referred to Senate Education Committee.

House Bill 4045. Requires state superintendent of schools to receive evidence that a county superintendent has given bond with good security pursuant to W. Va. Code §6-2-10. Passed House 1/21/04. Referred to Senate Education Committee.

House Bill 4081. Requiring county school boards to post the position of county superintendent for at least 30 days prior to making an appointment. Requirement would not apply for a reappointment or interim appointment. Passed House 1/27/04. Referred to Senate Education Committee.

House Bill 4111. This is the so-called "McDowell County" measure. It relates to property ownership in school boards having been intervened or taken over by the state, including disposition of properties in flood plains. Signed by Governor 1/29/04. Adopted by House and Senate 1/22/04.

House Bill 4130. Providing for the employment of a highly qualified and fully certified substitute teacher to perform the duties of a teacher who attends W. Va. Department of Education meetings or development sessions. A teacher would not be required to attend such unless the WVDE employs or reimburses the county for the substitute. Amended and passed House Education Committee 1/29/03. Referred to House Finance Committee.

MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND

WVSBAs
**WINTER
CONFERENCE**

February 13/14
Charleston Marriott Hotel

Contact WVSBA Conference Registrar Shirley Davidson at
sdavidson@wvsba.org or (304) 346-0571 for details.

**Bringing People and
Ideas Together to Make
Education an Adventure!**

**Facilitating productive uses of
technology through:**

- Educational Consulting
- Technology Training
- Partnership Building



the **EdVenture** group

63 Wharf Street • Suite 200 • Morgantown, WV 26501
Tel. 304.296.9021 • www.theEdVenturegroup.org

Milk Makes the Grade!

Milk's the answer to:

- Healthy Vending
- Revenue for Schools
- More students eat more meals in school cafe, so more \$!



Ask for the...

*New Look
of
School Milk*

at your school!

Contact:
ADADC Mid East
June Wedd
614-890-5529
jwedd@drink-milk.com

Sound Bites

“We can move every child in West Virginia to a higher level of student achievement...”—*Dr. Stephen Paine, deputy superintendent of schools.*

“Any help I can get to have the governor sign that bill, help me.”—*McDowell Del. Emily Yeager discussing House Bill 4111, legislation relating to McDowell County Schools. (The governor signed the legislation Jan. 29.)*

“How many schools would you have to build to prevent those longer rides?”—*Sen. Finance Chairman Walt Helmick discussing the governor’s proposal relating to bus travel times.*

“This is not something that I ever planned and certainly don’t intend to do for my entire life.”—*House Speaker Bob Kiss (D-Raleigh), announcing that he will seek his ninth—and final—term for the Legislature.*

“There’s more money for (federal program) Title I, but there are more requirements.”—*Dr. Pam Cain discussing funding for the federal No Child Left Behind Act.*

2004 Legislative Calendar

- √ **First Day:** January 14, 2004: First day of session. (WV Const. Art. VI, §18).
- Twentieth Day:** February 2, 2004: Submission of Legislative Rule-Making Review bills due. (WV Code §29A-3-12).
- Forty-first Day:** February 23, 2004: Last day to introduce bills in Senate. Does not apply to originating or supplementary appropriation bills. (Senate Rule 14) Does not apply to Senate resolutions or concurrent resolutions.
- Forty-fifth Day:** February 27, 2004: Last day to introduce bills in House of Delegates. Does not apply to originating or supplementary appropriation bills. (House Rule 91a).
- Forty-seventh Day:** February 29, 2004: Bills due out of committees in house of origin to ensure three full days for readings.
- Fiftieth Day:** March 3, 2004: Last day to consider bill on third reading in house of origin. Does not include budget or supplementary appropriation bills. (Joint Rule 5b).
- Sixtieth Day:** March 13, 2004: Adjournment at Midnight. (WV Const. Art. VI, §22).

The Legislature

West Virginia School Boards Association
PO Box 1008
Charleston, WV 25324