WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §18-9-3A

§18-9-3a. Preparation, publication, and disposition of financial statements by county boards of education.

(a) The county board of every county, within 120 days after the beginning of each fiscal year, shall prepare on a form to be prescribed by the State Auditor and the state superintendent of free schools, and cause to be published, a statement providing the following information:

(1) The receipts and expenditures of the board during the previous fiscal year arranged under descriptive headings;

(2) The name of each firm, corporation, and person who received more than $250 in the aggregate from all funds during the previous fiscal year, together with the aggregate amount received from all funds and the purpose for which paid; and

(3) All debts of the board, the purpose for which each debt was contracted, its due date, and to what date the interest thereon has been paid.

(b) The financial statement shall be published either:

(1) As a Class I-0 legal advertisement in compliance with the provisions of §59-3-1 *et seq*. of this code, and the publication area for such publication shall be the county; or

(2) On the county board's website: *Provided*, That the county board shall, prior to publishing a financial statement on the county board's website for the first time after the effective date of the changes made by the amendments to this section enacted during the regular session of the Legislature, 2021, hold a public hearing at which interested persons may express their views on whether the county board should publish the statement as a Class I-0 legal advertisement or on the county board's website: *Provided, however*, That upon publishing a financial statement on the county board's website for the first time after the effective date of the changes made by the amendments to this section enacted during the 2021 regular session of the Legislature, public notice of the availability of such website posting shall be published once a week in a qualified newspaper of general circulation for two successive weeks.

(c) The financial statement, if published as a Class I-0 legal advertisement, shall not include the name of any person who has entered into a contract with the county board pursuant to the provisions of §18A-2-2, §18A-2-3, §18A-2-4, and §18A-2-5 of this code.

(d) The financial statement, if published on the county board's website, shall remain posted on the county board's website at least until publication of the next annual statement, and shall, in addition to the information required in subsection (a) of this section, include:

(1) The name of every person who has entered into a contract with the county board

WV Legislature

pursuant to the provisions of §18A-2-2, §18A-2-3, §18A-2-4, and §18A-2-5 of this code, and amounts paid to each;

(2) Budget estimates; and

(3) A list of the names of each firm, corporation, and person who received less than $250 from any fund during such fiscal year showing the amount paid to each and the purpose for which paid.

(e) The county board shall pay the cost of publishing the financial statement, if published as a Class I-0 legal advertisement, from the maintenance fund of the board.

(f) As soon as is practicable following the close of the fiscal year, but no later than 90 days after the end of the fiscal year, a copy of the published statement herein required shall be filed by the county board with the State Auditor and with the state superintendent of free schools.

(g) The county board shall transmit to any resident of the county requesting the same a copy of the published statement for the fiscal year designated, supplemented by a list of the names of all school personnel employed by the board during such fiscal year showing the amount paid to each, and a list of the names of each firm, corporation, and person who received less than $250 from any fund during such fiscal year showing the amount paid to each and the purpose for which paid.

(h) The changes made by the amendments to this section enacted during the regular session of the Legislature, 2021, shall be effective for financial statements for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2023.

WV Legislature