

# Reconnecting McDowell Subcommittees (March 2016)

SUBCOMMITTEE	GOAL	CURRENT PROJECTS
<b>EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION</b>	<p><b>Education.</b> This the centerpiece of our effort. We aim to capture the aspirations of the community for enhanced learning opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued and expanded family outreach (media and in person) to provide parents and caregivers with resources to help them support their children’s literacy, language, and vocabulary development</li> <li>Educate and expand on home visits to all families with 0-5 children – based on national model of Parent Teacher Home Visit Project</li> <li>• Early Childhood Fair – will take place on April 15 at Welch Armory               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 28 resource and community providers that have signed up for tables</li> <li>○ There will be 8 student learning stations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Through an MOU with WVU Extension service, the Energy Express program will be offered for 5 weeks during the summer for students K-5 (current pre-k – 4). The program offers summer reading instruction and nutrition education and support. This program will tentatively be offered at all 7 elementary schools in the area.</li> <li>• Develop early childhood plan</li> </ul>
<b>K-12 INSTRUCTION</b>	<p>Our pledge is to create a new reality of educational excellence— schools that will launch McDowell County children on a lifetime of achievement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional development for teachers on instructional strategies</li> <li>• More books in the home</li> <li>• Campaign blitz about early literacy and absenteeism</li> <li>• Establishing and delivering a quality training program for substitutes</li> <li>• Bring K-3 students on college campus visits, have college students emphasize the important of readers</li> <li>• Create competition at each schools among K-3 students to reimagine how to use buses in an educational well working with post-secondary engineering students</li> <li>• Create role models at home, GED centers in Walmart Stores</li> <li>• Get college athletes in local colleges and high school students to promote attendance</li> <li>• Obtain time waivers for teachers to they have time for professional development and collaboration</li> </ul>
<b>COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS</b>	<p><b>Services for students and their families.</b> McDowell County’s economic situation has produced an array of social and health-related problems, with only limited services available to address them. We commit to develop a plan for such services at public school sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch a community schools strategy – with wraparound services – at __ schools</li> <li>• Health teachers and schools personnel complete professional development on teen pregnancy prevention</li> <li>• Bring restorative dental services to students</li> <li>• Research ER visits for dental issues and pain and subsequent opioid use</li> <li>• Promote and schedule LARC training for interested providers</li> <li>• Plan a teen summit</li> <li>• Seek grants to promote physical activities in schools</li> <li>• Through McDowell County, schools will provide a meal to anyone under age 18</li> </ul>

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and other accessible locations throughout the county.

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**TECHNOLOGY**

Transportation, technology and other issues. Distances, limited roads, and mountainous terrain make isolation a fact of daily life in McDowell county.

**TRANSPORTATION**

We will work to find new transportation alternatives, to expand broadband capacity and internet adoption, and to improve cellular phone service—all of which will give members of the community, and particularly the county’s young people, new access to recreational activities, online learning and other services.

- Every middle schools student received a laptop in fall 2015
- Working on “bring your own device” strategy/policy
- 75% of kids from middle schools have access. Need to increase.
- Work on extending bus service to War, laeger, and Bradshaw
- Support efforts to expand transportation in general for student/family access to school and community supports and services.
- Will be launching ‘books on the bus’ where students will have access to brand new books to read during their long commutes

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**HOUSING**

**Housing.** McDowell County’s shortage of adequate housing is a barrier to recruiting the teachers needed to staff the county’s classrooms. Lack of housing forces young people to look outside the county for places to live when they finish high school. We will marshal public, private and nonprofit group resources to expand McDowell County’s housing opportunities.

- Demolition of building scheduled for March-April 2016. Construction of Renaissance Village, housing for teachers, to follow

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**JOBS & ECONOMY**

**Jobs and economic development.**

Too many of McDowell County’s young people must leave the county to find economic opportunity—and jobs. Any serious effort to improve the well-being of the county’s children must include economic development.

- Hatfield and McCoy Seminar on entrepreneurship
- McDowell County Jobs Expo - April 28-29 in Welch
- Recruit team to attend Innovation Challenge Workshops