

**BUENA CITY SCHOOL BOARD**  
**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

**October 25, 2018**

Board Members Present: Wayne Flint, Teresa Ellison, John Rice, Brooke Baker, Roy Mohler and John Roberts. Also present were Dr. John Keeler, Superintendent and Mary Buchanan, Clerk of the School Board. Student Representative Josh Chapman was also present. Absent: Lisa Kerr and Celeste Doxey.

Mrs. Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and thanked everyone for being at the meeting. We had the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

**Agenda**

Mrs. Baker asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Mr. Flint made the motion that we approve the Agenda and Mr. Rice second the Motion. All other board members present voted yes.

**Recognitions**

Senior of the Month - Dr. Keeler said Isaac Armstrong has been chosen as Parry McCluer High School's Senior of the Month for October 2018. Isaac is the son of John and Carol Armstrong of Buena Vista. Isaac is the vice-president of the National Honor Society and secretary of the Student Council Association. He also participates in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and is currently a member of the Teacher's for Tomorrow Class. He is completing a mentorship with Southern Virginia University in the Sports Information office where he gets the opportunity to assist at athletic events.

Isaac is an active member of the cross country, basketball, and soccer teams. He has run on the cross country team for 3 years and played on the varsity boys' basketball team for 3 years. On the basketball team he was second team all-conference in 2017-2018. Isaac has played on the varsity boys' soccer team for 4 years and received all-conference honors in his freshman, sophomore, and junior seasons. In addition to coursework and extracurricular activities, Isaac finds time to participate in Boy Scouts of America in which he will soon become an Eagle Scout after recently completing his Eagle Scout project of painting the Glen Maury Park Office Building. Isaac is an active member in the Buena Vista community and is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. After high school, Isaac plans to serve a two-year mission for his church and then attend Southern Virginia University to play basketball. Isaac is well-respected by the administration, faculty, coaches, and students of Parry McCluer High School.

Employee of the Month - Dr. Keller said the employee of the month is Mrs. Kelly Linkenhoker. He asked her to come forward. He told her we tell the truth 99 % of the time. We had to lie to get you to come tonight. She was hired in July of 2018 to be our new Assistant High School Principal. She drives from Blacksburg. She drives a three-hour round trip in a work day. She is

a ball of enthusiasm at the high school. Kids pick up on that. You can be firm with the kids but you also can be fair and kids trust you. The most impressive thing I have seen her do was when we gave away free school supplies and she greeted everyone who came in. She put the parents and the children at ease when they came into the building. The children followed her around and she took their picture by the board. Dr. Keeler presented her with a plaque and a gift card.

PMHS Golf Team - Dr. Keeler called the Coach and Golf team to come forward. He talked to them about their wins and told them how good they were. Quite a few of the students will graduate in the spring. He gave each student a certificate. Coach Fix said that they had a good group of kids. They played hard and they came back in the end. He hated to see the Seniors leave. Coach Fix said he had several new players for next year and things were looking good.

School Board Members – VSBA Awards – Dr. Keeler said each year the Virginia School Board Association recognizes board members for their commitment and participation in the VSBA School Board Academy. Teresa Ellison – Award of Distinction, John Rice – Award of Excellence, Wayne Flint- Certificate of Recognition, Kristi Baker-Certificate of Recognition and Mary Kaye Buchanan - Certification of Recognition. Mrs. Graham said that Dr. Keeler also received an Award of Distinction.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Superintendent's Budget Schedule - November 2018 School Board Meeting – Budget Goals & Priorities, January 2019 School Board Meeting - 2019 - 2020- First Draft of Budget, February thru March 2019 – Schedule Work Sessions with the Board as needed, March 2019 - Public Hearing on Budget, March 28, 2019 - School Board Approval of 2019-2020, School Budget and March 29, 2019 – Send 2019-2020 School Budget to City Council. Dr. Keeler said to remember how long the budget was strung out. This is the second year of the biennium and the only thing could be the Governor making some adjustments. I should have something from the Governor by the January meeting. The advisory council will be meeting on Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Superintendents Goals for 2018-2019 - To receive full division wide accreditation. This past year we got a close. We have been working hard to make this happen. The next goal is to secure land for a new school site. To develop a working plan as to what that would look like. Take input from the board and the community. The last goal is to increase teacher and staff salaries/and or benefits. We have not had an increase over the past 5 years. He said he is very proud of the health benefits. Now that we are part of the captive we will have better benefits. In November we will have a team of Doctors and Nurses come in and do blood work. We will save money. Those are my three goals. I will be giving you a sheet later for my evaluation.

Technology Department - Donna Frazier said that they are working on the new website and social media site. She had a few updates. Students are helping work on this. This is a project to inform and engage our community. 2017-2018 school year on face book we have reached 20,189 people. School started in August we have already reached 35, 860 people. On our division page we have reach 11,020 last year. Since August thru October we have 7,022 people looking at our division site. We had a live streaming of the Academic awards and we had 1, 800

views. We had 3,000 people engage but did not watch the full video. Information is getting out. Lisa Clark said her Facebook page is doing well. She took picture of pumpkins that had been decorated for Halloween and it reached 916 people in one day. She said that she tries to update her calendar every other week. As of today we had 993 people look at the calendar. I did a video post of a 1<sup>st</sup> grade project and there were a lot of animal posters and other student activities. That post reached over 1,000 people in two days. I took pictures of spirit week and we had a twin day and we had 2, 267 view this. We did one of our teachers in a meeting and 700 people viewed that. Mrs. Frazier said we have an Instagram account and we previous had 198 followers and today we had 325. We are in the process of dealing with all of our social media. This is a learning project with our students. We are working on app development. I am open to suggestions.

### **Public Comments**

Mrs. Baker read the opening statement on the agenda advising what the public what they could and could not do and how to request being added to the executive session. Public citizens are allowed to make comments but we can't have discussion of personnel or students in a public meeting. Does anyone have any comments? There were no comments.

### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Flint made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and this motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other board members present voted yes.

### **Action Items**

Superintendents Goals for 2018-2019 – Motion to approve by Ms. Ellison and a second by Mr. Flint. All other board members present voted yes.

Set Date of November School Board Meeting - After a short discussion the date of November 29, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Ramsey Center was chosen. A motion to approve the November 29<sup>th</sup> date was made by Ms. Ellison and second by Mr. Roberts. All other board members present voted yes.

Approve Title IV Grant - Dr. Keeler said the Title IV Grant was new this year and we were awarded \$19,483.82. A grant to provide all students with access to a well rounded education or approve school conditions for student learning and or improve the use of technology. To approve academic achievement and digital literacy for our students. He said that any grant that is under \$30,000 we have the flexibility to use is one of those areas. If it exceeds \$30,000 we have to go by percentages. IV would like to hold on to what we have got. It is early in the year and we will see what we might need to us this for. A motion to approve the Title Grant was made by Mr. Flint and second by Ms. Ellison. All other board members present voted yes.

## **Information Items**

**Policy Committee Report** - Ms. Ellison said this is not the time of the year we get anything.

**Finance committee Report** - Mr. Flint the committee met yesterday and approved the payment of the bills. He said we are 25% thru the school budget year and we have spent 19% of the budget. We are in good shape.

**Student Representative Report** - Mr. Chapman said that they had a pep rally after our last meeting and the teachers had a lip sing battle and a spirit stick competition. Both boys and girls won Pioneer District this week. Volleyball had a great season. The first nine weeks has ended. You can see on the Superintendents report that the attendance rate is just under 97 per cent which is really good. We are having an antidrug week. We had an assembly on Monday. Someone spoke on the new trends in tobacco. The academic awards were Tuesday and 20 students received jackets and 108 students received medals for honor roll. The junior class had a booth at Mountain Days. Band has swept thru awards in companions.

**Additional School Board Reports** - Ms. Ellison said Monday and Tuesday of this week she had two different trainings that she went to. The first one was training in Title IX Sexual Harassment present by Brad and Nicky, our Board Attorneys. I attended the 2018 Summit on Teacher retention on Tuesday. They talked about all day about what school divisions can do and teachers staying in their profession. They had Superintendents, principals, VEA representatives, State Board of Education President and two members of the House of Delegates present during this time. Mr. Mohler said that Tuesday nights Academic Awards were really good. The kids had a wonderful time. The carpet looks wonderful on the gym floor and I want to give a shout to Mohawk and Junie Snider for this donation. No additional school board reports.

**Superintendent's Report** - On October 30<sup>th</sup> I will be participating in the mock interviews with the career tech at the high school. We interview the kids that want to be teachers. We will be celebrating Halloween at the Ramsey Center. We will be giving out candy from 3:30 to 6:00 pm. November 7<sup>th</sup> we have a Blues Education meeting at 5:00 p.m. They funded all 6 of our grant request this year for about \$2,700 which is the most that they have seen since I have been here. I really appreciate them doing this for our teachers. November 12<sup>th</sup> thru the 16<sup>th</sup> we will have a BPA Clinic in our schools. We will start with the Central Office and move on to each school system. November 13<sup>th</sup> thru 16<sup>th</sup> we have four members attending the VSBA Conference in Williamsburg. We will be closed on the 21<sup>st</sup> for Thanksgiving Holiday. A Finance meeting has been scheduled for November 27, 2018 and a School Board meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup>. I have a meeting on the captive on December 6<sup>th</sup>. The Christmas parade is on December 6<sup>th</sup>. On December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> I am in Roanoke for a conference. December 13<sup>th</sup> we have the High School and Middle School Christmas Concert together at the High School. On December 14<sup>th</sup> we will have our Hero's Breakfast at the Ramsey Center. Christmas holidays are December 19<sup>th</sup> thru January 2<sup>nd</sup>. I am proud of our attendance right now. During the first quarter we are at 96.49 percent. Middle school is 97.12 per cent, Enderly has 96.81 per cent, High School 96.65 per cent and Kling is 95.4 percent. Dr. Keeler said happy kids come to school. We have a lot of good things going on in our division.

**Instruction Report/Corrective Action Report** - Dr. Keller said that he didn't have anything new to report but I am really proud of what we are doing in technology. DOE is still talking about our presentation for our new class.

**Special Education and Nurses Report** - Mrs. Gibson said that she nothing further to add and asked the board if they had any questions.

**Transportation and Maintenance** - Dr. Keeler said one of our old vans with 313,000 miles on it blew up. Bucky was with it. We had to buy another van. This time we went first class. We bought a 2006 van with 130,000 miles on it. Bucky got us a deal. If you have to buy a car check with Bucky, he can find you a deal. Maintenance is working on leaks. Enderly now has a leak.

**MR. FLINT MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL MATTERS AS IT RELATES TO PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS AND DISCUSSION OF THE SUPERINTENDENTS EVALUATION ACCORDING TO {STATE LAW § 2.2-3711 (A) (1)} AND ALSO DISCUSSION OF ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY AND DISPOSITION OF REAL PROPERTY ACCORDING TO {State Law § 2.2-3711 (A) (3)}. MR. RICE SECOND THE MOTION. ALL OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED YES.**

Ms. Ellison made a motion to come out of Closed Session and the motion was second by Ms. Kerr. All other members present voted yes.

Mrs. Buchanan read a form of the Certification and the board was polled:

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| Mr. Roberts | Yes |
| Ms. Ellison | Yes |
| Mr. Flint   | Yes |
| Mr. Rice    | Yes |
| Mr. Mohler  | Yes |
| Ms. Baker   | Yes |

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve the resignations of Kyle Richardson and Kristy Driscoll. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other members present voted yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve Hilda Radick and Michelle Poluikis as employees in the Buena Vista City Public Schools pending satisfactory background check. The motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other members present voted yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve Etta King, Susan Olson and Cierra Amber Staton as substitutes for Buena Vista City Public Schools pending satisfactory background check. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other members present voted yes.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Flint and second by Mr. Rice. All other members present voted yes.

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Brooke Baker, Chairman

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Mary Buchanan  
Clerk of School Board