

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

**November 29, 2018**

Board Members Present: Wayne Flint, Teresa Ellison, Lisa Kerr, Brooke Baker and John Rice. Also present were Dr. John Keeler, Superintendent, Sherrie Wheeler, Director of Administration, and Mary Buchanan, Clerk of the School Board. School Board representative Josh Chapman and Celeste Doxey were also present.

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**

Ms. Baker asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Dr. Keeler said he needed to add D to the Action items, the approval of Policies KJ and KQ. Ms. Ellison made a motion to add the two policies to the action items. Mr. Flint second the motion. All other members present voted yes.

Dr. Keeler said he would like to have the Middle School Choir to come forward. Mrs. Gilbert said that she would like us to welcome Mr. Kevin Haynes who is our new Music Director at the Middle School. He has done a tremendous job with our children. We have our choir members and our sixth grade students who have only been doing our music class for eleven days. They played and sang several songs.

**Recognitions**

November Senior of the Month – Makenna Smith has been chosen as Parry McCluer High School’s Senior of the Month for November 2018. Makenna is the daughter of Cam and Stephanie Smith of Lexington.

Makenna is a member of the National Honor Society. She is currently enrolled in the AP Computer Science Principles course and through this course she is completing a mentorship with Kling Elementary School where she helps kindergarteners with coding and keyboarding.

Makenna is an active member of the girl’s basketball and softball teams. She has played on the varsity girls basketball team since 9<sup>th</sup> grade and has played on the varsity softball team since 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Makenna received the 2017 Unsung Hero Award for girls’ basketball. She was placed on the district all-tournament team for the 2017-2018 district tournament. She also is a two-time state champion for girls’ basketball. Makenna played on the 2016 state champion softball team. She earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-district in softball during the 2017 season. In 2018, she earned 1<sup>st</sup> team all-district and 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-region on the softball team. In addition to Makenna’s coursework and extracurricular activities, she enjoys spending time with her 5-year old sister, Emersyn. After high school, Makenna plans to attend a four-year college to major in nursing and is undecided as to whether she will play sports at the collegiate level.

December Senior of the Month - Sophia Dryden has been chosen as Parry McCluer High School’s Senior of the Month for December 2018. Sophia is the daughter of Brent and Deidra

Dryden of Buena Vista. Sophia attended Jackson River Governor's School for two semesters during her junior year and completed six college enrollment courses. She is currently enrolled in Calculus at Southern Virginia University. Sophia is a member of the National Honor Society. Sophia is an active member of the cross country, indoor track, outdoor track, and tennis teams. She previously played on the girl's basketball team during her 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade years and played soccer in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. She received the MVP award for soccer, cross country, and indoor and outdoor track. She has received all-state recognition for cross country for three seasons. She also received all-state recognition for outdoor track for two seasons and won the state championship 2-mile race her junior year. In indoor track she received all-state recognition her junior year. During her freshman year of tennis, she and her doubles partner were state runner-ups. Sophia is a member of The Church for Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and is an active member of their youth group. Sophia has served humanitarian missions in the Dominican Republic and Cambodia. While in the Dominican Republic, she worked in orphanages administering camps that teach the English language. In Cambodia, Sophia was a children's dental assistant with her father. After high school, Sophia plans to serve an eighteenth month mission for her church. She also plans to attend a four-year school to study wildlife biology and run cross country and track.

Employee of the month - Dr. Keeler asked Debbie Gilbert to come forward. We would like to recognize the employee of the month. Mike Cartarolo to come forward. Once a blue always a blue is a statement made by Parry McCluer graduates near and far. This employee has traveled many miles and made his home in my cities like Orange, Bristol and Altavista. It has been a home away from home for him and his family. These localities have had the pleasure of getting to know him. He is a 1978 graduate of Parry McCluer High School where he played basketball and baseball. He continued his education at Emory and Henry where he played college basketball and he decided he wanted to pursue a coaching career. After many years of being away he came back and brought his talents back to our school system. His wife bleeds blue too. Mike has a good work ethic and he is loyal and is not afraid to tackle any job. He is a wealth of knowledge. He sometimes is a hand man for the schools. He rises to any and all challenges. He has been a blessing to our school system. This summer Debbie and Mike arranged for the transition of new seats for the High School and Middle School. . Keeler said that he was sorry he had to tell a fib to get you to come tonight.

Volleyball Team - Dr. Keeler asked all the members of the team to come forward. They had a record of 9-10. I am proud of them. Most of them are coming back next year. He called each girl present to come forward and receive a certificate.

Girls Cross Country Team - Dr. Keeler said is tough to see them on some courses because they are in the woods. Chris Polukius said this team was very good. Dr. Keller called the girls up one by one and gave them a certificate and told where they placed in the State. Dr. Keeler said that we had 3 of our girls in the top 15.

Boys Cross Country - We have 4 of our boys in the top 15. We were very close to a win. He called them up one by one and gave them a certificate and told where they placed in the State.

Coach Polukius said that this was one of our best years. Dillion is the fastest kid I have ever coached. We had a lot of injuries. I have changed in the 15 years that I have been here. I have more support from the Dr. Keeler, Administrators and parents that I have ever had, and I thank them.

### **Parry McCluer Middle School Educational Plan**

Mrs. Gilbert said that we had a very good year for us but moving forward I want it to an excellent year for us. I set three goals for our school. The first one is to make PMMS a place where students are eager to come to school and learning is fun. The second thing is when we look at our SOL scores last year we made accreditation, but we did fall behind in our reading scores. We want to supply certain readers with the opportunity to increase their scores. The third one is to create a building that is aesthetically pleasing as well as warm and inviting to the students and the public. We have added programs chorus. We added PE everyday for every student. We have two new PE people. We have a safety class. Mrs. Robey teaches this class. Our independent class created product and demonstrated it, collected data and then they had outsiders come in and judge it. This new 12 weeks is a simulated based class. They have made crafts. They made cards for meals on wheels and senior citizens. They learned to wash clothes. They have a fit for life room with equipment. Technology Classes - We now have two new classes. Ms. Way had a video of the projects that they classes and projects that they have already done. They are working on video games now. They had to pick their topic and do research. Blue Café - Mrs. Robey has the children cooking two days a week, Tuesday and Thursday and the meals are served to staff and to the public that they have invited. Increasing Reading Growth - We now have separate reading in their RTI program. All students get 80 minutes of reading and language arts a day. We have some targeted kids that will get 130 minutes of reading daily. Some of the children read to us. Goal number three to make the building appealing. We have decorated the front of the school for different seasons, planted flowers and add furniture. We are getting new carpet for the middle school from Mohawk. We are sprucing up the building. The Café did the Home Town Hero Breakfast. We have a 96.9 per cent attendance rate. We have people coming and talking about drugs and what a healthy relationship is.

### **Budget Goals and Schedule**

Dr. Keeler said that they would like to be able to give a raise. A raise is given to everyone. I want to hire an additional nurse. A home game trainer for all sports, home and away. VRS expects no increase at this time. We will find out later. I expect no increase in health insurance. We were the first school to do the health assessment provided by BPA. We had 94 employee or spouses come in and it this. Capitol Improvement Projects are: PMMS auditorium, foyer and

library. First draft of the budget will be on January 24<sup>th</sup>. February 28<sup>th</sup> final budget. March 28<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing and March 29<sup>th</sup> Budget to City Council.

### **Public Comments**

Mrs. Baker read the opening statement on the agenda advising what the public could and could not do during public comments. She also told 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? Lisa Perry of the News Gazette said that she has covered board meeting for many years that more fun at this meeting than she has had in years.

### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Flint made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 25, 2018. Approval of vendor payments of \$223,374.55 and payroll payments of \$740,163.84. This motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other board members present voted yes.

### **Action Items**

School Board Reorganization Meeting /Date - Dr. Keeler said that we need to set a date in January for this. After a short discussion the date of January 2, 2019 was chosen. The meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's office. A motion was made by Ms. Ellison to approve the Reorganization Meeting Date and the motion was second by Mr. Rice . All other board members present vote yes.

Mid-Year Retreat - After a short discussion a meeting date of January 19, 2019 was set . The will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Ramsey Center. A motion was made by Ms. Ellison to approve the Mid-Year Retreat Meeting Date and the motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other board members present vote yes.

Approval of the 2019-2020 Budget Schedule - Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve the Budget Schedule as presented and Mrs. Kerr second the motion. All other board members present vote yes.

Policy KJ and KQ - Changes in policies - Ms. Cobb said that this concerns live streaming our ball games. Dr. Keeler, Mrs. Frazier and I met on November 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss the financial loss we were having at these events. The school board attorney looked at our polices and added what we could and could not do for advertising. We need to look at these and decide to adopt. We need to meet to see what kind of advertising we want, contract, etc. Mrs. Frazier showed us how many views video got. It was several thousand. We are just asking for a decision on the policies. Mr. Flint made a motion to approve policies KJ and KQ and the motion was second by Ms. Ellison.

## **Information Items**

Policy Committee – Ms. Cobb said no that there were no other policies to present at this time. .

Finance - Mr. Flint said the committee met Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. and reviewed all the bills and payroll at this time we 33% into our budget and have spent 27% of our budget.

Student Representatives – Mr. Chapman said that they were going to talk about November and December events. We had an Academic met with Covington and Narrows. SCA corn hole tournament. The principals had a turkey hunt. They put turkeys around the school and if you found one you got a prize. We will be doing the 12 days of Christmas in December. This is done the 12 days before Christmas break. Each day is a different theme. Ms. Doxey said the gallery was open the 3<sup>rd</sup> thru the 6<sup>th</sup> of December. We had several band completions and we did very well. We have our Christmas concert on December 13<sup>th</sup> at the High School. Mr. Chapman said all sports did very well.

## **School Board Reports**

There were no additions school board reports.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Keeler said Santa Claus would be at the Ramsey Center after the Christmas parade. There will be singing, hot chocolate and free book provided by the Blues Education Foundation. Blues Education Foundation meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December. The Hero's Christmas Breakfast will be in December. Schools will be closed for winter break. January 3<sup>rd</sup> is the first day back. I will be in Richmond for the VASS Conference on January 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> and again on January 14<sup>th</sup> for the Capitol Conference. We have the dates for the Reorganization meeting and the Retreat. January 22<sup>nd</sup> Finance meeting and the School Board meeting on January 24<sup>th</sup>.

Instruction Report - Ms. Wheeler said Chief Hartman sent her an Email and said that he would have 10 officers here and would need 6 to go plates for the dispatch. The Chief will be introducing their new puppy "Blue". On the 13<sup>th</sup> of December Melissa and I will go to an academic review meeting in Roanoke. The high school has started the first steps of their school improvement plan. The administrators have been working together to do the final adjustments for the six year compressive plan.

## **Special Education and Nurses Report**

Mrs. Gibson said that she did not have anything to add to her report but the Nurse's had been so busy she did not have a report but you would have an update in January.

## **Transportation and Maintenance**

Dr. Keeler said that they purchased another van. The new Big Blue bus is completed. He said a blower went at the high school and it cost \$7,000 to fix it.

**MR. FLINT MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL MATTERS AS IT RELATES TO ADMINISTRATIVE EVALUATION INCLUDING THE SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION AND THE SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT ALL ACCORDING TO {STATE LAW § 2.2-3711 (A) (1) AND FOR THE DISCUSSION OF ACQUISITION AND DISPOSITION OF REAL PROPERTIES ACCORDING TO STATE LAW § 2.2-3711 (A) (3). MS. ELLISON SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED YES.**

Ms. Ellison made a motion to come out of executive session and the motion was seconded by Mr. Rice.

Mrs. Buchanan read the Certification and the board was polled:

Ms. Ellison	Yes
Mr. Rice	Yes
Mr. Flint	Yes
Ms. Kerr	Yes
Ms. Baker	Yes

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

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Broke Baker, Chairman

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Mary Buchanan  
Clerk of School Board