

BUENA CITY SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

August 23, 2018

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

Ms. 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

Dr. Keeler said that he had changes to the Agenda tonight. Under Action Items "B" to approve math text books should be Grade two thru five. Mr. Flint made a motion to the Action Items for approval of the textbooks be changed to approve grades two thru five. The motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other board members present voted yes.

Recognitions

Senior Class Representatives - Dr. Keeler said he would like to recognize our senior class board representatives, Celeste Doxey and Josh Chapman. This is the biggest senior class since I have been here. There are over 100 kids in this class. I don't remember whether it was the sixth or seventh grade but I went on a trip to an Island with you. I almost fell off the boat because it was rocking so much. You have

grown a lot since then. He said that Josh was in his second year of being with us and he plays basketball. Celeste is probably one of the most talented young ladies that I have ever seen. She can act and is a leader in our band. He said he wouldn't be surprised if you didn't win America's Got Talent someday. I want to thank both of you for accepting this position.

Presentations

Dr. Keeler started showing us a power point of what had been done. Dr. Keeler said our Middle School has been thru a lot of changes in the past year. The gym has been completed and now has the old bleachers from the high school installed in it. Two rooms have been turned into a Café and the kids will learn culinary experiences in the other room they are learning everyday life skills. Debbie and Claudette have redone the entrance to the school and they now have furniture and plants on it. The kids enjoy going out there and talking or reading. The 23rd street side of the school has been cleaned up and doors, windows and trim have been painted. The yellow on the curbing around both sides of the school have been freshly painted. The boys went to the high school and painted the curbing and redid the lines on the parking lot. They also updated the bathrooms at the high school.

2018-2019 Health Insurance Presentation - We have been accepted into the "Captive". There were seven school systems accepted in the first year. He said about thirty are on the waiting list to get in. We will become a member of the captive starting October 1st until June 30th. We will only be in it for 10 months. We will start with the insurance running on a fiscal year from July 1st to June 30th. The seven divisions will bring in around 14 Million Dollars. Our reinsurance rate is more competitive. We have a chance to come out with a profit at the end of the year that can be used for end of the year spending. New equipment, buying a car or whatever we have the need for. We are

five years in. We have not had a rate increase in five years. This year we are going to offer a clinic for all of our employees. They come here with Doctors and Nurses and we get to participate for 250 points and take that off our deductible. They check our heart, check for pre diabetes and a lot of other tests. Preventative health care is a big deal. You can call the Healthiest You phone number and talk to a doctor in just a few minutes and they will call a prescription in for you. We just got our first check back from express script for about \$6,000.00 and have another check coming up for \$20,000.00. If we would have stayed with Healthy Choice we would have paid 1.8 million dollars. About \$800,000.00 more than we are paying now. A lot of divisions are facing the same thing. He wanted to thank Mr. Flint for making us go do this. It has saved this division hundreds of thousands of dollars. We have been blessed having Chuck and Jim helping us.

Public Comment

Mrs. Baker read the guidelines for making public comment. There was no public comment.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Flint made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes of the previous meeting and payment of the bills. The motioned was second by Mr. Rice. All other board members present voted yes.

Action Items

Policy Updates -

BDA Regular School Board Meetings -Policy updated to reflect the Code.

BDD - Electronic Participation in Meetings from Remote

Locations. Policy updated to reflect Code change.

CMA - Quality Profiles. Policy renamed and updated to reflect the Standards of Accreditation.

GCCB - Employment of Family Members. Option 1. This was updated at the last meeting but was updated to add changes in organization and editorial changes.

GCDA - Effect of Criminal Conviction or Founded Complaint of Child Abuse or Neglect. This was updated at the last meeting but had typographic errors by the VSBA.

IL - Testing Programs. This was updated at the last meeting but was updated.

JGD/JGE - Student Suspension/Expulsion. (Option 1) Was updated at the last meeting but had a typographic error.

JH/CH - School Meals and Snacks. Updated to reflect the Code change.

KKA - Service Animals in Public Schools. Policy updated to clarify procedures for requesting permission to bring service animals onto school property.

Ms.Cobb said we also had our new Organizational Chart that was included in your packet. This is to reflect the removal of the Assistant Superintendent and the addition of Director of Administration, Supervisor of Secondary Education and Supervisor of Elementary Education. We also have our attendance policy for this year which is included in your packet. The first portion is from policy JEA page two and if you go to page four the Attendance /Truant Procedures and it is a

reflection of Policy JED. Mr. Roberts said the attendance procedure is something we need to discuss as far as is this something we want to adopt. I feel we will get held to the fire for if we go thru with this. Is this something we want to follow? If we go thru with this we need this to be a Policy, right now it is not a Policy. We need to discuss this. Ms. Ellison said some of this is in JED and some of is not. Am I correct? Our attorney has looked over the first four steps and given it his ok. Dr. Keeler said the Standards of Accreditation will hold us accountable with this as part of Accreditation. Attendance was good last year. This policy keeps us in line with what we need. Ms. Wheeler said if you miss 18 days you are a truant. Ms. Ellison said this was discussed at a meeting she was at today. Dr. Keeler said we have excused absences. It the kids that just don't want to come to school. Things have changed and you have to report more n Power School. Mr. Roberts said that we have a policy then we have something to stand on and the parents also sign that they have seen and read the same. This should be Policy JED-R. The board discussed this further. At the end of the discussion they decided that the Note section needed to be reworded.

A motion was made by Ms. Flint to approve the Policy as presented and the Attendance Policy with revisions as discussed. Ms. Ellison asked the question, were we approving JEA and JED-R with the updates that we made. I am just clarifying what we are doing. Mr. Roberts second the motion. All other members present voted yes.

Adoption of Math Text Books for Grades 2 thru 5 - Mr. Clark presented his adoption for grades 3 thru 5. Teachers, PTO members and parents looked at two different books. We are recommending Pearson's textbooks. These books will last us for six years. He also explained the additional things that will come

with the textbook. Ms. Ellison said this is what we have used in the past. Dr. Keeler said the cost is about \$25,000. Ms. Ellison said how much do we have in the Textbook account. Dr. Keeler said about \$80,000.00. He said he had to buy some books for high school CTE but no near that amount. He recommended that we adopt these books. Mrs. Clark that said these books and training materials are used from grade 2 thru 5. The cost for 2nd grade will be approximately \$6,000.00. Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve the Pearson Series Math Textbooks for grade 2 thru 5. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other members present voted yes.

Information Items

Finance - Mr. Flint said the committee met Tuesday. We have used 6% of the budget and reviewed all the bills and payroll. Mr. Roberts asked how we ended up last year. Mr. Flint said not good. We had \$5,000.00 left. Ms. Ellison said that it is good that we did not go over the budget.

Policy Committee - Mrs. Baker said that we just went over everything.

Student Representatives - Celeste said everything was going well and the students have been positive. Josh said talked with Ms. Cobb about bringing back school spirit. We are going to hand out wrist bands and hope to have just a student section at games that cheer the players on. We will be working on other things to do. Mr. Mohler said that this a good idea.

Additional School Board Reports - Ms. Ellison went to the Board of Directors meeting today and they were talking about things that we have already talked about in our meetings. They were Portrait of a graduate, CTE, course work that we need to be having at this point and time and truancy. New levels for accreditation were explained. I was asked to represent the VSBA at a very important meeting last month. It was about Senate subcommittee looking at the condition of schools in

Virginia. The age of the schools and safety of the buildings and whether they are appropriate for 21st Century teaching and learning. Senators were there. They intend to find solutions for funding schools. We have a school that was built in 1923 and it needs help. The Superintendent of Floyd got up and said that we are in a building where the original part was built in 1917. Dr. Carol Cash did a study in the mid 80's in Buena Vista about rural schools. Dr. Keeler said he was glad Teresa went and he hoped she got on a committee. Dr. Keeler recently became certified in the Alice training. Mrs. Baker said she wanted to move forward with the "Alice" program. She also said she saw where Anna Graham implemented this program in her schools. Mr. Mohler complimented everyone on everything that has been done to get the schools looking good. No other members had anything else to report. Mr. Roberts asked if we need to designate an area for students to sit in.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Keeler told the board that he had enclosed a fall sports schedule in their packet. We got our second 21st Century grant which gives us \$200,000.00 per year to continue a lot of things that we were doing and expand on others. Only 20 school divisions out of 133 that got a 21st Century Grant. The preliminary report is out and it told what each subject had done. The Elementary schools had an excellent year. Scores went up. We educate everyone. Our high school lets student try different things. I took the Alice training and I learned a lot. Officer Ramsey has been trained. It is an opportunity for our children to survive any incident. We are going to fight back, barricade the doors or throw something at them. Sherrie said she was meeting with the Chief of Police and some officers tomorrow. Mr. Roberts asked if a School Board Member could be there. Ms. Baker said Manassas Park School system said it took them 3 years to implement Alice. Mr. Flint made a motion for the

Superintendent to proceed with the Alice program. The motion was second by Mr. Mohler. All other members present voted yes.

Instruction Report - Ms. Wheeler said she just sent off a new SRO Grant to have an additional school resource officer. The highest per cent of incident reports came from the Middle School. We are waiting to see how much we are getting from an equipment grant.

Special Education and Nurses Report - Mrs. Gibson said her report was in their packet. She said she had done the Alice training video. The Nurse Report will start with our September meeting. She has been busy. This will all be in her report.

Transportation and Maintenance - Dr. Keeler said that he has gone over maintenance with the updates he gave earlier. He said this is the second connective year that he did not get a single complaint from parents. The presentation I gave had the maintenance report this month in for the first few weeks. Bucky and his staff have done a great job. Mr. Roberts asked if they done something with that ugly bus that they have. He was talking about a recent bus we bought from Rockbridge.

MR. FLINT MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL MATTERS AS IT RELATES TO APPOINTMENTS OF TEACHERS, SUBSTITUTE TEACHER, RESIGNATIONS, EMPLOYEE ASSIGNMENTS AND EMPLOYEE PREFORMANCE AND DISCUSSION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT {State Law § 2.2-3711 (A) (1)} AND DISCUSSION OF ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY AND DISPOSITION OF REAL PROPERTY ACCORDING TO {State Law § 2.2-3711 (A) (3)}. THE MOTION WAS SECOND BY MR. MOHLER.

Mr. Flint made a motion to come out of executive session and the motion was second by Mr. Rice.

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

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

Mrs. Kerr made a motion to accept the resignation of Brookney Coleman and Lindsey Henderson from the Buena Vista City Public School system. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other board members present vote yes.

Mrs. Kerr made a motion that we hire Garrett Turner as a Paraprofessional and Robyn Burch as Pre School Paraprofessional for the Buena Vista City Public Schools pending background checks if necessary. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other board members present vote yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve /Sharon Creamer, kelvin Keiser, Hunter Martin and Deina Coleman as substitutes for the Buena Vista City Public Schools pending satisfactory background checks if necessary. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other board members present vote yes.

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