

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

**February 28, 2019**

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

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 if any changes needed to be made to the agenda. Dr. Keeler said under Action Items we need to add item D the Art trip to Washington DC for PMHS. Mrs. Buchanan said she had a date wrong on the School Calendar on the Agenda and it was corrected. Mr. Roberts made the motion to approve the agenda with the additions and corrections and second by Mr. Flint. All other board members present voted yes.

**Recognitions**

February Senior of the Month – Ashlyn Jayla Baker has been chosen as Parry McCluer High School's Senior of the Month for February 2019. Jayla is the daughter of Chuck and Brooke Baker of Buena Vista.

Jayla has maintained A/B honor roll for the past three years. She is a member of the National Honor Society. She is in her second year of the Teachers for Tomorrow program and is working in the Pre-School program under the direction of the Special Education teacher, Stacey Funkhouser. Jayla is an active member of the girls' basketball and softball teams. She has played on the varsity girls' basketball team for 3 years and was a member of the two-time state championship team. Jayla is also a 3-year member of the varsity softball team and serves as the pitcher and first baseman. In her junior year, she received first-team all-district and first-team all-region honors. In addition to her coursework and extracurricular activities, Jayla enjoys spending time

with her friends and dedicating her extra time to better herself in her athletic abilities. Jayla is well-respected by the administration, faculty, coaches, and students of Parry McCluer High School. After high school, Jayla plans to attend either Radford University or James Madison University to major in biology. Her goal is to become a physician's assistant.

January Employee of the month –Dr. Keeler said this employee of the month wears many hats for us. He became certified in Alice Training, football coach and he is one of the best discus coaches I have ever seen. He is an excellent example of what a teacher should be. He heads up our Fellowship of Christian Athletes and when I see kids around him I understand why they like him. He asked Danny to come forward. We want to thank you for your outstanding service to the kids and to Parry McCluer schools.

Be A Blue Recognition - We have a lot of donations from a lot of people but it takes people behind the scenes to do the planning and work. He asked Mike Hamilton to come forward. He graduated from PMHS in 1982 and served as a Virginia State Trooper for 26 years and reached the rank of Master Trooper. Mike is now a Minister in Buena Vista and has been a Blues fan for many years. Mike and Kelly's older son Kelly graduated in 2011 and he played on our very successful basketball team in 2011. His younger son Spencer, you can't miss him, he is about 6 foot 6 inches tall. He was a member of the JV team this year. We started the W & L bleacher project about ten months ago. Mike Hamilton and Mike Cartolaro have taken care of everything. They check the bleachers after each ball game. Dr. Keeler said on the behalf of the School Board we want to say thank you. He presented him with a plaque.

Band Recognition - Dr. Keeler asked Shannon Light the Band Director to come forward. He thanked her for all she had done for the band and the chorus. They come some far and won so many competitions. He was very thankful for her, the band the chorus. He had the band members that were present to come forward. He gave all of them certificates.

National School Board & Clerk Recognition - Dr. Keeler presented certificates from the Virginia School Board Association our board members, Clerk and Deputy Clerk. He thanked everyone for what they do for the school system. He had a plaque made for the school board members with their names on it.

### **Presentations**

**Superintendent's 2019-2020 Budget Review** - Dr. Keeler gave us an update of the budget process. He had figures of what they propose to give us and was checking on a few other things. We got a 2% raise last year so we will get 3% raise this year. He wants another Prek teacher. He would like to combine classes and move 1 kindergarten teacher down and make them a Prek teacher. We need to get our numbers up. We need to get 80 kids every year. We are absorbing the 8 percent health insurance increase. I have one nurse and she is stretched too thin. We need a trainer. I am hoping that I can find a trainer that also can help the nurse. We have capital improvements that need to be done. We need painting and carpet at several schools. Our summer workers are doing a lot of our work for us in the summer. We need film done on the Enderly windows for safety. We are going to have to make sacrifices to get things. We have people retiring that we may not replace. If we get the extra PreK children, we should be able to keep at least 90% of them and that will help us next year. I am looking at doing a half day kindergarten. We are hoping to get a new elementary guidance counselor. I have been waiting for the Senate and House go give us a budget, but they have not reached an agreement yet. Our templates will not be available until the first part of March. He handed out the requests of what each school wants, staff needed and spoke about repairs, replacements and painting that had been done. Also, we are encouraging our teachers and staff to take training if it is available.

**2019-2020 Calendar Presentation** - Dr. Keeler went over the two Calendars that will be voted on. The same 183-day schedule with an August start date and a May ending date. One calendar has exams before Christmas break and the other after Christmas break. I will be going to all the schools and talking about the calendar and the budget.

Ms. Ellison said that the option two is the same as the school system that she works in. The teachers and students like Option Two. It lets them end the six weeks before the beginning of next year. Ms. Wheeler said if anyone wants to see the demonstration of the window covering they could go to 3m.com/school safety. Ms. Ellison wanted to ask a question about the school budget. We talked about the insurance and the captive plan. Dr. Keeler said that he hoped to make some money off of the reinsurance and that money could be used anywhere we needed it. We get a refundable discount on the drugs. She asked about how much funding we will be getting from the state.

### **Public Comments**

Mrs. Baker read the guidelines for Public Comment. There were no comments.

### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Flint made a motion to approve the consent agenda which includes the minutes of January 2<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and the payment of bills and this motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other board members present voted yes.

### **Action Items**

**Set Date for Budget Workshop Meeting** - After a short discussion the Budget Workshop meeting was set for March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5:30 in the Superintendent's Office. Mr. Roberts made a motion to hold the Budget Workshop Meeting on March 14, 2019 and the motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other members present voted yes.

**Set Date for Public Hearing** - After a short discussion the Public Hearing was set for 5:00 p.m. on March 28, 2019 before the regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Rice motion to hold the Public Hearing on the 2019-2020- Budget at 5:00 p.m. on March 28, 2019 right before the board meeting and the motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other members present voted yes.

**Adopt Alice Training** - Dr. Keeler said we had the Alice training for all schools. Troy Clark and Danny Cole were the instructors. Troy and Danny worked with all the teachers. We are ahead of the game now. I need to talk to the parents. Officer Ramsey and Buzzard are also trained in this. We need to move forward now. Ms. Ellison made a motion to proceed and adopt the Alice School Safety Training for Buena Vista City Public Schools. All other members present voted yes.

**Art Trip to Washington DC** - Dr. Keeler said the request was made on 2-27-2019 to go to Washington DC National Gallery of Art – The East Building. They would like to go March 26<sup>th</sup>. They will leave 6:00 a.m. and return to the high school about 8:00 p.m. Transportation will be provided by a BVCPS school bus. There will be 15 students and 3 adults. The adults are Krista Staton, Eilzabeth Keller and Melissa Cobb. They will take the bus to Vienna and catch the Metro to ride into DC. This is a cultural experience for our students. The students have been learning about art history and some students have attended this trip for the last four years. Dr. Keeler read what they would be seeing, discussing and asking questions about. The trip is no expense to the students or the schools. Mr. Flint made a motion to approve the DC trip and the motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other members present voted yes.

## **Information Items**

**Policy Committee** – Ms. Cobb said that they just receive policy updates today. They would be scheduling a Policy meeting.

**Finance** - Mr. Flint said the committee met Tuesday and payment of bill was approved. We are 58% through our calendar year and we have spent 52% of our budget and we are in good shape.

**Student Representatives** – Josh Chapman and Celeste Doxey gave a report of what the students have been doing, a sports team update and a update on the band/chorus events.

**School Board Reports** - Ms. Ellison said we have a valley regional meeting coming up on April 24<sup>th</sup>. There were no other reports by board members.

**Superintendent's Report** - Dr. Keeler hopefully we are playing for a State Championship on March 9<sup>th</sup> in Richmond, Virginia. W &L be at the Ramsey Center doing free tax returns on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Art gallery opens on March 12<sup>th</sup>. We have a Superintendent's Advisory Committee on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Kindergarten registration starts March 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at Kling. Foundation meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>. I need to present a final budget on March 18<sup>th</sup> and I will take to the City on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Spring break coming up. Mrs. Clark said on March 12 they will be having their Dr. Seuss event. I have 150 people coming to this. March 22<sup>nd</sup> we will have our first ever Musical production. It is called go fish. March 27<sup>th</sup> I will be hosting the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals for the Valley District will be meeting here. We will be having dinner and round table discussions.

**Instruction Report** – Ms. Wheeler said tomorrow she will be meeting with the administrators to put the final touches on the academic review information for the division, each school's improvement plan as well as the compressive plan.

**Special Education and Nurses Report** - Mrs. Gibson talked about the large number of kids at Kling. This number includes Early Childhood group. She didn't want to alarm the board with the large number of students. Ms. Wheeler said the dental hygiene kits came in today. We got 425 kits.

**Transportation and Maintenance** – Dr. Keeler said that Transportation has looking for a bus driver. We lost Scott More and he will be hard to replace. The Transportation Department has pitched in together to take Scott's route at different times. We have run smoother than anytime I have been here. We still have leaks that come up when it rains. We patch them the best we can. We have had boiler issues at the Middle School.

**MR. FLINT MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL MATTERS AS IT RELATES TO APPOINTMENTS, RESIGNATIONS, RETIREMENTS, STAFFING AND SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION ACCORDING TO {STATE LAW § 2.2-3711 (A) (1) AND THE DISCUSSION OF ACQUISITION 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.**

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

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

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

Mrs. Kerr made a motion to accept the resignation of Adrienne Crowder effective March 1, 2019. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other board members present vote yes.

Mrs. Kerr made a motion to accept the resignation of Becky McKenzie, middle school reading specialist, at the end of this school year. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other board members present vote yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to hire as a volunteer coach Savannah Vri for girls' soccer and Ahayli Nakamoto for girls' soccer, pending satisfactory background checks. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other board members present vote yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve Christian Rice and Emily Jacobson as paid soccer coaches pending satisfactory background checks. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other board members present vote yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve Brandi Dominquez as an employee in the School Nutrition Department pending satisfactory background check. The motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other board members present vote yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve Lisa Harris and Kilee Ferguson as substitutes pending satisfactory background checks. The motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other board members present vote yes.

Mrs. Kerr made a motion that we give Dr. Keeler permission to pursue dual enrollment opportunities with Southern Virginia University. Mr. Flint second the motion. All other board members present vote yes.

Mr. Flint made a motion to adjourn and the motion was 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