

BUENA CITY SCHOOL  
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

April 23, 2020

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

Ms. Ellison 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.

Mr. Ellison asked Mrs. Buchanan to do a roll call so that it was noted that we have a quorum present to hold a meeting. Mr. Flint, Mr. Rice, Ms. Ellison, Mr. Roberts and Mrs. Kerr were present. Ms. Ellison said that we had a quorum and we could continue with the meeting.

### **Agenda**

Dr. Keeler wanted to some items under the Action Items. They were Letter E, Resolution of school board policies and letter F, which would be a called meeting for a budget workshop for the school board. Ms. Ellison said that she would like to remind the board that when we have a motion and a second you will have to say your name so Mary Kaye can get that information in her minutes. She asked if we had a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Rice made the motion and Wayne Flint second the motion. A roll call was completed, and all members present verbally voted yes.

### **Recognitions**

Dr. Keeler said he would like to recognize the 68<sup>th</sup>, 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> Seniors of the month for Parry McCluer High School.

April senior of the month. Autumn Hanson has been chosen as Parry McCluer High School's Senior of the Month for April 2020. Autumn is the daughter of Eric and Abby Hanson of Buena Vista. During Autumn's high school career, she has taken 12 college classes from both Dabney S. Lancaster Community College and Southern Virginia University. Autumn is a member of the National Honor Society. Autumn is extremely involved in performing arts. She has participated in four musicals and four One Acts. She has also won First Place Actress at several One Act competitions. Autumn has been an active member of the Marching Band during high school. She has served as Color Guard captain for 2 years. In choir, Autumn has performed as a Soprano for five years and served as Soprano captain for 2 years. Autumn was named to the district chorus in 2017, 2018, and 2019. She also was named to the all-state chorus during her junior year. Autumn is a member of the varsity soccer team where she has played for four years. During her junior year, she served as co-captain. She was named captain for her senior year. Outside of school, Autumn still remains connected to her music. She conducts the music for her ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. She was also chosen to sing the National Anthem at the dedication of the bridge near Glen Maury Park. After high school, Autumn will go to SVU to major in Music Education. Following her undergraduate studies, she plans go to culinary school and fulfil her dream of becoming a pastry chef.

Ella Floyd has been chosen as Parry McCluer High School's Senior of the Month for May 2020. Ella is the daughter of Craig and Leslie Floyd of Roanoke, Virginia. Ella resided with her aunt, Cindy Shumate, in Buena Vista during her time at PMHS. Ella is extremely involved in both fine arts and performing arts at Parry McCluer High School. She is member of the art club and she participates in the choir. Ella earned the lead role in this year's musical, Thoroughly Modern Mille. Ella also serves as historian of the senior class. During the fall and winter athletic seasons, Ella served as a Varsity cheerleader where she enthusiastically cheered on the Blues! This past summer, Ella graduated from the rigorous VCU Summer Arts Intensive, which prepared her for acceptance in college. Ella has been accepted into the Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts and plans

to double major in fine arts and psychology. After finishing her undergraduate program, she hopes to pursue a graduate degree and either begin marketing for music groups or become an art therapist.

Colton Staton has been chosen as Parry McCluer High School's Senior of the Month for June 2020. Colton is the son of Jamie and Monica Staton of Buena Vista. Colton is a member of the Student Council Association. For the past four years, he has served as the treasurer of his class. Colton was an active member of the varsity football team for two years where he played the position of lineman. In eighth grade, Colton participated on the outdoor track team where he threw the shot put and discus. He continued with the outdoor track team through his 9th through 12<sup>th</sup> grade years, but also threw shot and discus on the indoor track team during those years as well. In track, he placed all-state both his junior and senior years. After high school, Colton plans to attend Liberty University and major in exercise science.

### **Presentations**

2020 – 2021 Budget - Dr. Keeler said that presented our budget after the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting to the City. They have the opportunity to look at it as well and get back to us. We have now been six weeks into this pandemic, and it has affected our State funding and also may affect our City funding. He went over our budget goals. We got cut in State funding \$296, 728 dollars and projected local cuts of maybe \$200,000 dollars. This did change our goals. The 2 per cent raise is out. The VRS rate increase we will have to pay. There is a Ten percent health insurance increase. The cost will be passed on to the employee's this year. The new LPN program is on hold. The new sped position is on hold. The dance class and athletic trainer class are both on hold. Blue Hole Café' is on hold. Writers workshop is on hold. He said he would like to get together next week to discuss the budget.

### **Public Comments**

Ms. Ellison read the guidelines for public comments. There were no comments.

## **Consent Agenda**

Ms. Ellison asked for approval of the consent agenda. Which included the March 5<sup>th</sup> called meeting, March 12<sup>th</sup> called meeting and March 19<sup>th</sup> called meeting and the March 26<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing and Regular meeting. Also the vendor and payroll payments. Mr. Rice made the motion and the motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other board members present voted yes. A roll call was completed and all members present verbally voted yes.

## **Action Items**

VSBA Policy Updates - Ms. Cobb said that we had policy updates from February 2020. She read thru the updates which consisted of policy updates, code changes, legal updates, were cross references or a deleted policy. Most of the policies were changed from passive to active voice. We did discuss policy the payroll policy. This is our local payday schedule and we were asked to review this. The words that were removed were the last Friday of the month. We were being paid on the fourth Friday of the month and this has been changed to the last Friday of the month. We will now be paid on the last day of the month.

Ms. Ellison asked for a motion to approve the VSBA Policy updates. Mr. Flint made the motion and Mrs. Kerr second the motion. A roll call was completed and all members present verbally voted yes.

Title VI-B Grant - Mrs. Gibson gave us the details of the grant. The Grant is for \$235,542.00. We have cut four paraprofessional positions to be able to hire a Special Education Teacher. This grant will cover four paraprofessionals. Ms. Ellison asked for a motion for the approval of the Title VI-B Grant. Mr. Flint made the motion and Mr. Rice second the motion. A roll call was completed and all members present verbally voted yes.

Preschool 619 Grant – Mrs. Gibson said the Preschool 619 Grant is a smaller grant and it pays a portion of salary benefits for a paraprofessional in an early childhood special education classroom. Ms. Ellison asked for a motion for the approval of the Title VI-B Grant for the coming year. Mr. Flint made the motion and it was second by Mrs. Kerr. A roll call was completed and all members present verbally voted yes.

Perkins Grant - Mr. Gibson said that the grant estimate was for \$23,700.00. This grant will be used for supplies, purchase of new equipment, purchases drones and field trips. Ms. Ellison asked for a motion to approve the grant. Mr. Flint Rice made a motion to approve the Perkins Grant and the motion was second by Mrs. Kerr. A roll call was completed and all members present verbally voted yes.

Resolution on Suspension of School Board Policies - Ms. Ellison read the Resolution. She asked for a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Flint made the motion and Mrs. Kerr second the motion. A roll call was completed and all members present verbally voted yes.

Budget Workshop - Dr. Keeler said that we need to have a budget work shop meeting. After a discussion the zoom meeting was set for April 30, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. The motion was made by Mr. Flint and second by Mr. Roberts. A roll call was completed and all members present verbally voted yes.

### **Information Items**

Policy Committee –Ms. Cobb had no further updates.

Finance - Mr. Flint said the committee met Tuesday and reviewed all the bills and at this time we are 75% into the budget and we have spent 71% of the budget.

School Board Reports – No reports at this time.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Keeler said that the Senior of the Month celebration is still going to be on May 19<sup>th</sup>. It will be a virtual celebration. We asked our seniors to present a video of them talking about the teacher or coach that they want honored. We are going to do that prior to the 19<sup>th</sup> and then we are going to have it where we can present it on the media where we all can enjoy it. Sometime later on we can have a banquet to honor them. May 26<sup>th</sup> we will have our finance meeting at 5 p.m. in the Superintendent's office. On May 28<sup>th</sup> we will have the school board meeting and that will be zoomed at 6:00 p.m. Our retirement banquet has been postponed from the May date and we will see if we can schedule that sometime during the summer. PMHS graduation is in the

works. We are putting this together. We think we have a plan to do this in the City of Buena Vista. We will let you know the plans in the near future. Summer school, if it happens, will be July. Administrators are working on that. We have applied for the CARES ACT. Stimulus money. We should get some of that money. We have also applied for FEMA assistance. The State Superintendent has announced that will continue through the summer. As of yesterday we have served over 26,000 meals. We are doing about 1,800 meals every two days. Our cafeteria folks have done a great job and are serving a good quality food. AS long as the USDA allows us to do this we will continue doing this thru the summer. The Blue Hole Café' has won the VSBA Showcase of Success award. This is one of the most enjoyable projects that we have done. Debbie Gilbert has done a great job getting donations. Also a great thank you to Lowes for all they did for us. Mrs. Frazier has been checking into getting WI FI connections in several places at our schools so that students that need this will be able to use it. Dominion Power is going to help with the connections for free.

Instruction Report – Ms. Wheeler said that Dr Keeler did a very good fact sheet that went out to everyone. In the fact sheet it explained about the learning packets that went out to each of the students. Learning packets went out on Monday and they will get them back on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Clark said she and Mrs. Linkenhoker met today and went over the end of the year curriculum that many of the teachers did not get too. We started make some changes to the curriculum guide and setting some focus points for starting up next year and for summer school instruction.

Dr. Keeler has had the administrators thinking about what will happen if the students can't come back in the fall and to be ready for that. Having a plan of action. Everyone has been working hard.

Special Education and Nurses Report -. Mrs. Gibson said all her staff has been working with general education teachers on things in the packets for their students. We also have been calling the families every week. We are helping in

any way we can help. WE are maintaining federal timelines with meetings. A lot of zoom meetings going on. All spring testing has been postponed.

Transportation / Maintenance Report - Dr. Keeler said that transportation is using vans to deliver meals 3 days a week. Our maintenance staff is working on keeping our schools clean. The middle school staff has painted the wood all the way through the school land also did the administration offices. Mohawk gave us carpet. We have enough carpet to do all the hallways in the whole building. Ss soon as the governor gives some direction beyond June 10<sup>th</sup>, we will do some more summer cleaning.

**MR. FLINT MOVED THAT WE GO INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL AS IT RELATES TO EMPLOYMENT, ASSIGNMENTS, PROMOTIONS, PERFORMANCE, DEMOTION, SALARIES, DISCIPLINE AND RESIGNATIONS ALL ACCORDING TO {STATE LAW § 2.2-3711 (A) (1) AND DISCUSSION OF THE ACQUISITION AND DISPOSITION OF REAL PROPERTY ACCORDING TO {STATE LAW § 2.2-3711 (A) (3)}. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. RICE. A ROLL CALL WAS COMPLETED AND ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VERBALLY VOTED YES. .**

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

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

Mr. Roberts	Yes	Ms. Ellison	Yes
Mr. Flint	Yes	Ms. Kerr	Yes
Mr. Rice	Yes	Mr. Butler	Yes

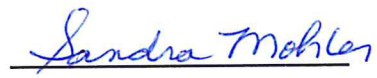
Mrs. Kerr made a motion to accept the resignation of Shannon Light as an employee with the Buena Vista City Public Schools. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. A roll call was completed, and all members present verbally voted yes.

Mrs. Kerr made a motion to hire Trevor Stalnaker as an employee with the Buena Vista City Public Schools pending satisfactory background check. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. A roll call was completed, and all members present verbally voted yes.

Mrs. Kerr made a motion to hire Adam Miller as an employee with the Buena Vista City Public Schools pending satisfactory background check. The motion was second by Mr. Flint. A roll call was completed, and all members present verbally voted yes.

Mr. Flint made a motion to adjourn and motion was second by Mr. Rice. A roll call was completed, and all members present verbally voted yes.

  
Teresa Ellison, Chairman

  
Mary Buchanan  
Clerk of School Board