

**BUENA CITY SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
September 26, 2019**

Board Members Present: Wayne Flint, Teresa Ellison, John Rice, Roy Mohler, Lisa Kerr and John Roberts. Also present were Dr. John Keeler, Superintendent, Sherrie Wheeler, Director of Administration and Mary Buchanan, Clerk of the School Board. Student Representatives Holden Kerr and Hayden Secrist were present.

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

Agenda

Mr. Flint made a motion to accept the agenda as presented and Mr. Rice second the Motion. All other board members present voted yes.

Recognitions

Senior of the Month - Holden Kerr has been chosen as Parry McCluer High School's Senior of the Month for September 2019. Holden is the son of Travis and Sherry Kerr of Vesuvius. Holden is in his second year at the Jackson River Governor School. He has a 4.19 GPA. Holden is a member of the National Honor Society and serves as the vice-president of the senior class. He also serves as a student representative on the school board. Holden participates in the Outdoor club. He assists Ms. Cobb as a leader on the principal's advisory committee. In the summer of 2019, Holden attended Boys State for a week at Radford University. He also participated in the National Student Leadership Congress in Washington D.C. Holden is an active member of the varsity football team and serves as team captain. His positions are tight end, defensive end, and recently, fullback. He received the Bobby Williams award for the past two years on the football team. Holden runs the 4x800 meter relay and 500 meter dash on the indoor track team. In the spring he transitions to the track and field team where he runs the 4x800 meter relay, 4x400 meter relay, and the 400 meter dash. He and his teammates placed second in the state in the 4x800 meter relay this past season. Holden is completing a mentorship with Delegate Ronnie Campbell at this time. He assists the campaign by participating in door-knocking activities and event set-up. After high school, Holden plans to attend a four-year university and major in either pre-medical studies or pre-law studies with a political science emphasis.

Employee of the Month - Dr. Keeler said Jessica Brotherson was the Employee of the Month. He said she is an outstanding teacher. This is her second year with us as a Spanish Teacher. I judge the caliber of teaching by the interest of the kids. You are the best Spanish teacher since I have been here. She had a virtual tour yesterday and the children were all interested in it. You can engage every student. I hope you stay with us for a long time.

Presentations

Dr. Keeler 2019-2020 Budget Goals - He would like to see many things happen. I want to take a look back. It was a good idea to move the 5th grade back to Enderly instead of Middle School.

They settled down more. It was a good idea to move the second grade back to Kling. We made sure that we had a sound foundation in reading. We made moves in the middle school in math and reading. We had to make sure that we had a good foundation in those areas. We had a good math teacher and a good reading teacher. Why not let them teach both. We had the highest math and reading scores this year. We started teaching in teams. Teri Beverley and Danny Cole in chemistry and algebra. Carrie Crawford and Chris Polikius teach sixth and seventh grade math. Chrystal Camden, a paraprofessional, is teamed with Allison Clark in the fifth grade. It was a good idea to improve our gyms. We have the best looking High School gym. The auditorium at the Middle School has been painted a carpeted. We started looking at areas that need improving. We need to improve 3rd grade reading. We are going back to testing that we have done in the past. In the year 2019-20 we want to achieve full accreditation in all of our schools in our district. Begin transition into project based assessments. Explore the possibility for the standards based rating to be implemented for the 2020-21 school year. This is a brand new concept. We have to get everyone ready. You will get a letter grade and you will be shown where your child weakness is. We have 41 PreK students that will be coming into our system. We have to get the student numbers to keep on coming up. We want to continue to do our best to have the best health insurance that we can have. We have had one rate increase in the last five years. We are the only school division in Virginia that can say that they have done that. Health insurance is forcing some division to stop having health insurance. We want to continue to give a raise. The raise this year was the first raise that the State has funded in fifteen years. Money is supposed to be in the State budget to fund again next year. We hope that it stays in the budget. The final goal is to getting the news about our schools out to social media. Donna Frazier is the engineer behind this. Chris Floyd is doing articles and has a sports information portal.

Public Comments

Mrs. Kerr read the opening statement on the agenda advising what the public 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 including the minutes and the payment of the bills. The motion was second by Ms. Ellison. All other board members present voted yes.

Action Items

2020 Graduation Date - Dr. Keeler said the 2020 graduation date is Saturday, May 23rd at VMI. He did not know the exact time. Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve the graduation date of May 23, 2020 as presented.

Mr. Flint second the motion. All other board members present voted yes.

VSBA Policies

Ms. Cobb said that she had two policies to approve. They are JHCF – Local Wellness. These are our goals for our Nutrition Department and physical activities for the year. KBE Our web site does not collect cookies but our school messenger service does. Mrs. Frazier said that there

is nothing to worry about. Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve the Buena Vista City Schools Internet Policy and the Local Wellness Policy.

Mr. Mohler second the motion. All other board members present voted yes.

October Finance Meeting - After a short discussion the date of October 23, 2019 was set for the Finance Meeting. Mr. Rice made a motion to approve the October 23, 2019 date and the motion was second by Ms. Ellison. All other board members present voted yes.

November/ December School Board and Finance Meetings - After a short discussion the School Board meeting was set for December 12, 2019.

A motion was made by Mr. Flint and second by Mr. Rice approving the date as discussed. All other members present voted yes.

The Finance meeting for November/ December will be on December 10, 2019. Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve the Finance meeting date and the motion was second by Mr. Mohler.

Information Items

Finance - Mr. Flint said the committee met Tuesday and reviewed all the payment of the and income. We are 16% into our budget year and we have spent 13% of the budget.

Policy Committee - Ms. Cobb said the policy committee has no new business at this time.

Additional School Board Reports - No additional school board reports.

Student Representatives - Holden said that the end of the first 9 weeks is coming soon on October 15th. The Principal's Advisory Committee met and had Pizza with the Principal. They discussed new ideas for the school year. The Junior Class Ring Ceremony was successful. We also had 40 students attend the college fair at Rockbridge County High School.

Haden said that the Marching Band had a successful showcase at PMHS on September 17th with 3 other high schools and SVU performed.

The marching band earned 4th place at their competition on September 21st. The Color guard got 1st place in the completion. The BV Art contest will be occurring soon.

Holden said all the students got ice cream sundaes on September 6th due to meeting the student section quota of 150 students for the Rockbridge football game. Volleyball beat Highland.

Varsity football made great improvements in their game against James River. Cross Country continues to excel in their meets. Trevor Wright got 6th in the golf district tournament and earned a spot in the regional tournament.

Superintendent's Report - September 24th – VSBA Conference on Legislative Advocacy – Chesterfield, VA. Teresa and I attended that on Monday. September 25th – Golf District Tournament - @ Vista Links. September 27th - Hall of Fame Reception – 5:30 pm @ the Pavilion at the Football Field (before the game starting @ 7:00 pm – PM vs Fort Chiswell). We will be honoring the 1979 State Championship Team and the five inductees into the hall of fame. JJ's Meat Shak power washed our pavilion and put a protective stain on it. September 28th – Hall of Fame Banquet - @ PMHS Gymnasium – Doors open at 5:00 pm. Dinner at 6:00 pm. This is the second year we will be doing a silent auction. Charlie Manuel has supplied us with several baseballs signed by hall of fame members. We will auction off old pictures. September

30th & October 1st – Superintendent’s Conference – Virginia Beach. October 9th – Flu Shots – Will be given to all BVCPS employees that care to have them. October 12th – Vista Links Cross Country Race – for BVCPS students. Books for Blues will be giving out books. Each child will receive a medal. October 12th – Mountain Day – Downtown Buena Vista. October 15th – Region 5 Superintendents Meeting – 10:00 am – Greene County. October 15th – End of First 9 weeks grading period. October 20th & 21st – VASS Fall Conference - Charlottesville . October 22nd – Blues Academic Awards– 6:00 pm – at PMHS Gymnasium. This is the 11th year we have done this. Eleven of our seniors will receive jackets. October 24th – School Board Meeting - 6:00 pm – @ Ramsey Center. October 24th – Parent/Teacher Conferences – All Schools – 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm. October 25th – All Schools – 8:00 am – 12:00 noon. November 27th -29th – Thanksgiving Holidays.

Dr. Keeler asked Kelly Linkenhoker to talk about map testing that they have done. She said that they started with the second and third grades. We can test language, reading and math. The scores can tell you where the student is and where they need to be at the end of the year. We can take that data and the testing will show us what they need to complete to get to the level that they should be. For example, we can look at second-grader’s math scores and see what we need to do to have them ready for third grade math. We are giving these tools to the Best program and will share this information with parents at parent –teacher conferences.

Instruction Report/Corrective Action Report - Ms. Wheeler said that they had a lot of testing going on now. We will see how we are doing in a couple of months.

Special Education and Nurses Report - Mrs. Gibson said everything was going smoothly. Referrals are rolling in. Lots of meetings and paperwork to do.

Transportation and Maintenance - Transportation is doing a great job. The first of the year has gone smoothly. Maintenance has had boiler issues at the high school. That has been common place for the past few years. We are constantly looking for new to us vehicle with the lowest mileage possible. We have several that need to be replaced.

MR. FLINT MADE A MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL MATTERS AS IT RELATES TO PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONEL PERFORMANCE ACCORDING TO {STATE LAW § 2.2-3711 (A) (1) AND ALSO FOR 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.

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

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

Mr. Roberts	Yes
Ms. Ellison	Yes

Mr. Flint	Yes
Mr. Rice	Yes
Mr. Mohler	Yes
Ms. Kerr	Yes

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve Gabriel Clark as a paraprofessional with Buena Vista City Public Schools pending satisfactory background checks as needed.

The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other members present voted yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve James Hickman and Ginger Lanier as transportation employees with Buena Vista City Public Schools pending satisfactory background checks as needed.

The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other members present voted yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve Carol Perry as the secretary at Enderly Heights Elementary School with Buena Vista City Public Schools.

The motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other members present voted yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve Mitzi Staton as a part time employee with Buena Vista City Public Schools.

The motion was second by Mr. Flint. All other members present voted yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion to approve Kaelyn Reid and Jean Alcantaro and Patsy Mundy as school nutrition workers in the Buena Vista City Public Schools pending satisfactory background checks.

The motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other members present voted yes.

Ms. Ellison made a motion that we authorize Dr. Keeler to pursue a part time LPN position with Buena Vista City Public Schools.

The motion was second by Mr. Rice. All other members present voted yes.

Mr. Flint made a motion that we authorize Dr. Keeler to pursue the acquisition of real property and the disposition of real property. Mr. Rice second the motion.

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

Lisa Kerr, Vice Chairman

Mary Buchanan
Clerk of School Board