

BUENA VISTA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD
BUENA VISTA, VIRGINIA
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M.
September 22, 2022
W. P. RAMSEY EDUCATIONAL CENTER

ATTENDANCE: School Board Members – Teresa Ellison, Wayne Flint, John Rice, Mac Felts, Lisa Kerr and John Roberts. Absent – Roy Mohler. Also attending were Dr. Tony Francis, Gennifer Miller, Sherrie Wheeler, David Lawhorne and Aniyah McCoy.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence were observed.

Need to amend the Agenda - Action Items to change the meeting day for the October meeting and schedule a meeting for Nov/Dec. Mac Felts made the motion to approve the amended agenda. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Recognitions

2022-2023 School Board Student Representatives.

Aniyah McCoy is the daughter of Robert & Tamika McCoy of Buena Vista. Aniyah has a 3.7443 GPA and has a class rank of 11. She has earned 14 dual enrollment courses through Mountain Gateway. Aniyah has participated in drama, color guard, softball and cheer. Aniyah is vice president for student council and a member of the National Honor Society. Plans to attend JMU for a bachelor's in nursing. She plans to be part of the marching band and color guard while in college. Aniyah wants to pursue graduate studies in nursing at JMU.

David Lawhorne is the son of Craig & Ruthie Lawhorne of Buena Vista. David has a 4.1438 GPA and has a class rank of 1. David has earned 7 dual enrollment courses. He is involved in the Environmental club, member of National Honor Society and the interact club. He is currently the president of the Student Council. David has participated in indoor & outdoor track and cross country. David works at Project Horizon. David also plans to attend JMU and pursue a degree in Kinesiology. Also plans to pursue graduate studies in physical therapy. David would like to study abroad and join some type of service organization offered at the University.

Senior of the Month

Logan Baker - September Senior of the Month – Logan is the son of Debbie & Jon Baker of Buena Vista. Logan has a 3.728 GPA & has a class rank of 13. He has taken dual enrollment classes. Logan is involved in the Environment Club and Spanish Club. He is the manager of the volleyball team at SVU. Logan wants to travel to Australia and go diving on the great barrier reef. He plans to pursue a career as a physical therapist and attend SVU for a degree in Kinesiology.

Employee of the Month

Karen Walker – September Employee of the Month – Karen is a SPED paraprofessional at Kling Elementary. She is a team player and always willing to help with other Kling events. She has a bachelor

degree in education and has previously worked as a SPED teacher. She is a valuable member of the Kling family.

Presentations

Bereavement Leave – Like to offer bereavement leave for staff. Other schools in our area offer bereavement leave. We do not have bereavement leave for staff. Employees have to use sick leave. We would like to establish new bereavement guidelines:

Staff may request up to 3 days of bereavement leave with pay following the death of an immediate family member. Employees will receive 3 days of bereavement leave per contract year. If more than 3 days are needed the employee will have to use their sick leave. There are no State guidelines for bereavement leave. It is up to each division to decide how they want to handle bereavement leave.

Rockbridge Area Special Education Advisory Council – new members – In your packet there is a recommendation for the appointment of two members for a two-year term to the Rockbridge Area Special Education Advisory Council. Haley Harris – Mountain Gateway Community College and Deborah Moore – Rockbridge Area Early Intervention Special Ed. (RAISE program) Seeking the Board's approval tonight to add these two members.

Tuition Assistance Program – Under our current tuition regulation, BVCPS pays up to \$1,000 in tuition cost per college-level course for teachers. Dr. Francis would like to recommend increasing this amount from \$1,000 to 1,200 per course. Asking that you vote on this regulation at the next meeting.

Graduation Date – Asking the Board to approve May 27, 2023 at 9:00 AM as the Graduation Date for 2022 – 2023 school year. Graduation will be held at VMI.

Staff Directory – You have a copy of the most up-to-date staff directory for whole division. Asking the Board to approve the directory tonight.

Welcome of Visitors – no one wished to speak.

Consent Agenda

Lisa Kerr made the motion to approve the consent agenda that includes Minutes from 8-25-2022 Regular School Board Meeting, August vendor payments and August payroll. It was seconded by Mac Felts and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Actions Items

Eliminate the local graduation requirement for CTE courses. John Roberts made the motion to approve the elimination of the local graduation requirement for 2023 – 2024 school year. It was seconded by Mac Felts and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Teacher Evaluation Plan – Mac Felts made the motion to approve BVCPS Teacher Evaluation Plan. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Rockbridge Area Education Advisory Council – new members. John Roberts made the motion to approve the appointment of Haley Harris and Deborah Moore. It was seconded by Lisa Kerr and passed by a vote of 6-0

Graduation date – John Roberts made the motion to approve May 27, 2023 at 9:00 AM at VMI as the 2022-2023 Graduation date. It was seconded by Lisa Kerr and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Staff Directory - Mac Felts made the motion to approve the staff directory as presented. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Changes to School Board Meetings - Mac Felts made the motion to approve moving Oct 27, 2022 meeting to October 26, 2022; schedule the Nov/Dec School Board meeting on December 8, 2022; schedule the Finance Meeting on Oct 25, 2022 at 4:30 and the Nov/Dec Finance Meeting on December 6, 2022. It was seconded by Lisa Kerr and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Informational Items

Policy Committee Report – No policy updates at this time.

Finance Committee Report – Finance Committee met Tuesday, bills were approved and we are 16% through the current year and we have only spent 8% of our budget.

Additional School Board Reports – no additional reports at this time.

Superintendent’s Report - Model policies on transgender changes. Governor Youngkin presented his model policy. They have to be posted for public comment for 30 days. We will get legal counsel once the policy goes into effect.

Instructional Report – SOL data – SOL scores were figured using an average of the last 3 years. **Reading** pre-pandemic 78% passed and post- 73% passed. Writing there was a 11-point drop – pre-pandemic 76% pass rate and post-pandemic 65% passed. Working on getting scores above state averages. Getting students ready to take SOLs this coming spring. **Math** pre-pandemic 78% passed and post-pandemic 66% passed. Work to do in this area also. Made some teacher changes. Science –we are holding our own. History – pre-pandemic 80 and post-pandemic 63% passed. All schools are accredited. High School and Enderly made it on the 3-yr average. Could create some concern depending on this year’s testing scores. Middle School met all accreditation requirements. Need to work on 8th grade writing SOLs. First time they are taking a writing test. Scores need to go higher. Dr. Miller and Dr. Francis have begun teacher observations. Working to get TalentEd in place once the Teacher Evaluation plan is approved. Dr. Nicely and Dr. Clark are working on literacy training. They just got back from Richmond and will return to Richmond in May. Enderly had a community cleanup day. 45 people helped with painting and cleaning. Glad for the support.

Special Education/Nurse Report – Reports are in your packets.

Transportation/Maintenance Report/HR Reports –

Capital Improvement updates: Received quotes for the lifts at Enderly. Getting quotes for the perimeter fencing at EHES. A/C unit has been installed at the Ramsey Center. All locks have been installed at Enderly and Kling. Waiting on the installation of the fence and gates at the Middle School. Paving has been completed at the Bus lot, field house and the back parking lot at the High School. Roof has been completed at the Ramsey Center.

The SSO grant - looks like we will be approved for two security officers for the High School and Enderly. The Sheriff Department approached us to see if we would like to get an SSO through their department. We will work with the Sheriff's Department. Hope to have an SSO at all schools.

The Recruitment and Retention grant – We received notification that we will receive \$30,000. Help teachers pay tuition for classes, books, and fees to help them complete their license. Monday is a professional development day. Crase training will be held for all staff. Crase replaces Alice training. Teaches staff to fight back instead of hiding. All 3 school divisions in the area are working together on this. Because we are working together more people will respond to help if ever there is a situation in our area.

Hall of Fame – Oct 7 during half time the inductees will be introduced. Oct 8 banquet at the High School. Mr. Felts has done a great job of getting silent auction items. Get your tickets. Donnie Holt – class of 56; Tommy Dickinson – class of 61; Mike Gwen – class of 64 (member of the Spotswood Hall of Fame as a coach and Bridgewater as a student) BB Manuel; and Mike Catrolaro.

John Rice made the motion to go into Closed Session for the consideration and discussion of personnel matters as it relates to performance, appointments, new hires, resignations and retirements according to {State Law § 2.2-3711 (A) (1)} and for the consideration and discussion of student matters as it relates to scholastic records according to {State Law § 2.2-3711 (A) (2)}. It was seconded by Mac Felts and passed by 6-0 vote.

Motion was made by Mac Felts to adjourn Closed Session. It was seconded by Lisa Kerr and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Certification was read and the Board was polled.

Mr. Felts – yes

Mr. Roberts – yes

Mrs. Kerr - yes

Mr. Flint - yes

Mr. Rice – yes

Ms. Ellison – yes

Mac Felts made the motion to approve Harry Shaffer as a custodian for the school year 2022-2023. It was seconded by Lisa Kerr and passed by a vote of 6-0.

Mac Felts made the motion to approve Melissa Marshall as a substitute teacher effective October 1, 2022 for BVCPS school system subject to a successful background check. It was seconded by Lisa Kerr and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to approve Zachery Byrd as a paraprofessional effective October 1, 2022 for the BVCPS school. It was seconded by Lisa Kerr and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to approve Troy Royer as a Bus Driver effective October 1, 2022, subject to a successful background check. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Lisa Kerr made the motion to approve the appointment of Sadona Schley as a Custodian effective October 3, 2022. It was seconded by Mac Felts and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Lisa Kerr made the motion to approve the appointment of Adam Gilbert as PMMS Athletic Director. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Lisa Kerr made the motion to accept the resignation of Sean Suggs as a Custodian at PMHS effective September 30, 2022. It was seconded by Mac Felts and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to adjourn the meeting effective 8:34 pm. It was seconded by Lisa Kerr and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Teresa Ellison, Chairman

Date

Sandra Mohler, Clerk

Date

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Teresa R. Ellison

Teresa Ellison, Chairman

26 October 2022

Date

Sandra Mohler

Sandra Mohler, Clerk

10/26/2022

Date