

**BUENA VISTA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD
BUENA VISTA, VIRGINIA
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M.**

October 26, 2022

W. P. Ramsey Education Center

ATTENDANCE: School Board Members – Present: Teresa Ellison, Wayne Flint, John Rice and Mac Felts. Absent: Lisa Kerr(vacation), John Roberts and Roy Mohler (attending child’s sporting event). Also attending were Dr. Tony Francis, Gennifer Miller, Sherrie Wheeler, David Lawhorne, Aniyah McCoy and Sandra Mohler.

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

The Agenda was amended as follows: Dr. Francis - Under Recognitions I would like to add David Lawhorne presentation of his letter jacket. He was not able to attend the Awards Ceremony. Mac Felts made the motion to approve the amended Agenda. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Recognitions

October, 2022 Senior of the Month

MaKyra Wallace

October, 2022 Employee of the Month

Carrington Balsler

VSBA – Awards

Following School Members received Awards of Recognition:

Wayne Flint

Mac Felts

Sandra Mohler

Following School Board Member received an Award of Distinction:

Teresa Ellison

Letter Jacket presentation

David Lawhorne – David’s parents presented him with his letter jacket.

Presentations

Title III – Grant is for a total of \$1,084.42. Plan to spend \$200 on Rosetta Stone software and \$884.42 on ELD Books and content level support materials. Used to help students who are English language learners.

SSO Grant Application – We were approved for two SSO positions in the amount of \$75,000 for a 9-month time frame. One for Enderly and the High School. The School division would be responsible for \$13,880.44 to cover benefits. The City will manage the funds and we will have to request reimbursement. The City had to approve this grant before we could apply.

Recruitment & Retention Support Grant – We received a \$30,000 grant to provide incentives to new employees and/or to provide continuing education support for current employees pursuing Virginia licensure. These funds will support the purchase of items needed for coursework (textbooks, materials and supplies). This grant will help 12 of our teachers. Recipients must stay with the division for 3-years. If they leave before the 3-year period, they are required to reimburse BVCPS the funds they received.

Budget Timeline – Survey will go out to employees around the first of November. The survey will be used to determine needs and priorities for the upcoming school year. Budget Committee will be composed of building principals and central office staff. The committee will analyze the survey data and provide input on the budget based on priorities. Share goals and priorities with the Board. The committee will help develop a draft budget and share with the Board. A work session will be held with the Board to identify areas that need to be addressed based on priorities and goals.

Jan/Feb Board Meeting-Present first budget draft and work session to revise the first draft

March – Public hearing on the budget March 28, 2023. Get approval of the budget at the regular Board Meeting. March 31, 2023 –budget to City Council for approval.

Survey Questions – Do you think we need to modify the number of teachers and/or support staff?

How important is it to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to all employees in FY 2024?

How important is it to complete the pay bands this year?

How important is it to maintain health premiums at the current cost without diminishing coverage?

What should be our highest budget priority related to staffing and compensation?

Welcome of Visitors – no one wished to speak.

Consent Agenda

Wayne Flint made the motion to approve the consent agenda that includes Minutes from the 9-22-2022 Regular Board Meeting, September vendor payments and payroll. It was seconded by Mac Felts and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Actions Items

Bereavement Leave – Mac Felts made the motion to approve adding 3 days of bereavement leave for employees effective Oct 26, 2022. It was seconded by Wayne Flint and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Tuition Reimbursement – John Rice made the motion to approve increasing tuition reimbursement from \$1,000 to \$1,200 per course. It was seconded by Mac Felts and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Nutrition Pay Proposal – Wayne Flint made the motion to approve the Nutrition pay increase as proposed. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Title III Grant – Mac Felts made the motion to approve the Title III grant application. It was seconded by Wayne Flint and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Budget Timeline – Wayne Flint made the motion to approve the budget timeline as presented. It was seconded by Mac Felts and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Informational Items

Policy Committee Report – Dr. Miller reviewed the October, 2022 VSBA policy updates. A copy of the changes is included in School Board Members folders for their review.

Finance Committee Report – Finance Committee met Tuesday, to approve bills and payroll. We are 25% through the budget year and we have only spent 16% of our budget.

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

Student Representative Report – SOL testing is underway. Academic awards were held last night. 94 students were awarded medals for A-B honor roll and 16 seniors were awarded academic letter jackets. The College Fair was held on Nov 19th. Volleyball team made the playoffs this year. Football team has the potential to make the playoffs. Band and Color Guard finished 1st in the Classic Completion. Color guard finished 2nd in the Lynchburg Classic completion. Marching Band and Drum Majors also finished 2nd. Cross Country – Kovyk Chandler finished 1st and Middle School runner also finished 1st. PMHS Drama is performing the Miracle Worker and will complete Nov 2nd drama completion. Juniors receive their class rings. Just finished Homecoming events. CTE will visit Modine on Nov 1st and 8th. Red Ribbon week will be held next week. After school clubs will meet every 2 weeks.

Superintendent's Report - We lost a member of our staff – Mrs. Tutt. She has worked with us at the Middle School. Please keep Mr. Tutt in your thoughts.

Model policies on transgender changes. The 30-days for public comment will end in a few days. The public comment will be extended another 30 days due to some legal challenges. I will keep you informed. We did not adopt the model policy, we adopted the VSBA policy.

Re-organizational Meeting – We will need to set a date for the re-organizational and retreat in January, 2023. Maybe we could combine both meetings into one. Saturday, January 14th is a good date. Vote on it at the next meeting. Like to add that the One School, One Book event was extraordinary.

Instructional Report – A lot of time and effort was put into the One Book, One School event. Students K-7th grade read The Mouse and the Motorcycle. Had a lot of help from the custodial staff. Had a huge turnout. Parents and kids really enjoyed it. Thinking about reading the Lion, Witch and Wardrobe for next year and including the High School students. It will be One District and One Book. Received some grants – PE equipment – each school will receive PE equipment. Library grant was awarded to Kling and Enderly. Each school will receive \$5,000. Family engagement PD will start in January. Will include 8 training sessions. Planning assessment guidelines for SPED and will present to the Board later. Parent/Teacher conferences will be held tomorrow evening and Friday morning. Middle School will have student lead conference.

Special Education/Nurse Report – Reports are in your packets. Contact Mrs. Gibson if you have any questions.

Transportation/Maintenance Report/HR Reports –

Nutrition Department - Nutrition will have a Federal review for the B.E.S.T. program. They have not been notified of a date yet. Still short 4-5 people. For Halloween, Nutrition staff are preparing Boo Bananas, Candy Corn Fruit and Spooky One Eyed Pizzas.

Maintenance Report – Maintenance has been very busy. Middle School - the gate is up at 24th Street. We are still waiting for the gate for the 23rd street entrance. Trees have been cut down at Kling.

HR report – Several openings – Administration Assistant, history teacher, aide, custodian and nutrition workers.

Intrado Safety Shield for Schools – All area schools will be adding School Safety and Alerting System. Each school office will have a panic button, which will go directly to 911 when the alert button is activated. Later a panic button alert will be installed on every teacher’s laptop or phone. This system also aligns with our school message system. Division wide training will be held in February.

CRASE – Civilian Response to Active Shooter Event – Professional Development was held on September 26, 2022 for the CRASE program. It focused on advanced law enforcement rapid response training. Crase is fixed on the ADD Strategy – Avoid, Deny and Defend. More active hands on training for each school will be conducted at a later date.

Sidewalk at the High School – Board members requested we look into putting a sidewalk along the street going up to the high school. We have two options – 1) VDOT Infrastructure grant – need to submit a Letter of Intent by July 1, 2023. VDOT manages the application and award process. 2) VDOT transportation Set-Aside Grant. We have submitted an application and are waiting on whether we will be awarded any funds. VDOT will send someone to survey the area, see what is needed and determine the cost for small rural communities.

Wayne Flint 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)}. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by 4-0 vote.

Motion was made by Wayne Flint to adjourn Closed Session. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Certification was read and the Board was polled.

Mr. Felts – yes

Mr. Flint - yes

Mr. Rice – yes

Ms. Ellison – yes

Mac Felts made the motion to hire as Substitutes for Buena Vista City Public Schools System Sarah Sorrels, Laurie Huger, Chloe Mohler, Ethan Davis and Quintessa Conner subject to satisfactory background checks effective November 1, 2022. It was second by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to hire Joshua Bowen as a substitute teacher for BVCPS effective November 8, 2022 subject to a successful background check. It was seconded by Wayne Flint and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to hire Kadance Garrish as a Success Coach for BVCPS effective November 1, 2022 subject to a satisfactory background check. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to appoint Ashley Loughhead as a Teacher for PMMS effective 10/3/2022. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to accept the resignation of Katie Chittum, Teacher at PMMS effective September 28, 2022. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to accept the resignation of Cory Stout as a Success Coach at PMHS effective 10/14/2022. It was seconded by Wayne Flint and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to accept the resignation of Hayley Moore, Nutrition worker effective October 14, 2022. It was seconded by Wayne Flint and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to accept the resignation of James Dotson, Teacher at PMHS effective October 31, 2022. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to accept the resignation of Logan Clark, Nutrition at PMHS effective October 26, 2022. It was seconded by Wayne Flint and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to approve the winter sport coaches as presented to the School Board on October 26, 2022. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to approve the retirement of Mary Ruley, Assistant to the Superintendent effective January 15, 2023. It was seconded by Wayne Flint and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to approve the retirement of Lisa Clark as Principal at Kling effective July 1, 2023. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Wayne Flint made the motion to adjourn the meeting effective 7:34 pm. It was seconded by John Rice and passed by a 4-0 vote.

Teresa R. Ellison
Teresa Ellison, Chairman

12-08-2022
Date

Sandra Mohler
Sandra Mohler, Clerk

12-8-2022
Date