

BUENA VISTA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD
BUENA VISTA, VIRGINIA
Budget Public Hearing
5:00 P.M.
June 29, 2023

W. P. Ramsey Education Center

ATTENDANCE: School Board Members – Present: Teresa Ellison, John Rice, Mac Felts, John Roberts, Wayne Flint and Lisa Kerr. Absent: Roy Mohler – family activity. Also present: Dr. Tony Francis and Sandra Mohler.

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

Mac Felts made the motion to approve the Agenda. It was seconded by Wayne Flint and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Recognitions:

Employee of the Month – Ricky Armstrong – May

Presentations:

PMHS Dress Code – Dr. Jones

Due to concerns regarding the current dress code, a committee was formed to come up with a new dress code. Committee members included parents, students and teachers. After discussion and reviewing dress codes from several school divisions, a new proposed dress code was reached. The new dress code being presented tonight has positive language and is gender neutral. Dr. Jones proceeded to go over the new Dress Code for 2023-2024 school year. Superintendent will send a copy to the attorney, just to make sure everything is good. The Board will vote on this at the next meeting.

Strategic Plan Update

This plan includes changes and highlights achieved goals. VA Literacy Act goes into effect in 2024-2025 FY and changes were made to include these standards in the plan. Dr. Francis went through the plan and explained the changes and achievements. This will be voted on at the July meeting.

ESSER III Grant

23-24 will be the last year of this grant. The summary will be posted this on the website for public comment. We have \$626,219.72 left for 23-24 school year. Plan to use for salaries and benefits for 8 positions and for cleaning supplies. We focused our ESSER funds on salaries and benefits to add support for our students. After June 30, 2024 we will not have any ESSER funds available. We will have to find a way to absorb these positions into our regular budget next year. Hopefully, the state will lift the support cap and that will make more money available. The success coach positions will be eliminated. Mac Felts questioned how can we eliminate the success coaches when our students are in dire need? We should be hiring more. Dr. Francis – if we get additional funding from the state or the city we could.

VVASS

Virginia's Visualization and Analytics Solution is a web-based tool that displays measures of students' academic growth over time based on SOL testing date, diagnostic reports for student groups, and student projections to help educators improve student achievement and inform classroom instruction. Help educators make decisions regarding curriculum changes, ID and support long-term student goals, help reveal trends of student groups in need of additional support. Parents received a copy of the Student Assessment Summary and a letter. VVAS provides a lot of valuable information.

MOU-Sheriff's office

MOU agreement for the 2023-2024 school year. This agreement needs to be approved every year. We will post this on the website for public comment and the Board will vote on it at the July meeting.

Welcome of Visitors – Huge Henderson made comments regarding LGBTQ curriculum. He would like to discuss and work with the Board on this issue.

Mac Felts made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda that included Minutes for the May 25, 2023 Regular School Board Meeting and vendor and payroll payments. It was seconded by Wayne Flint and passed by a 6-0 vote.

Action Items

- A. Wayne Flint made the motion to approve the Safe Return to Learning Plan. It was seconded by John Rice and passed with a 6-0 vote.
- B. Mac Felts made the motion to approve the Superintendent Designees. It was seconded by Lisa Kerr and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Informational Items

Policy Committee Report – May VSBA policies updates. Updates include many code changes and minor word changes. A few have options, which the Board decides on which option best suits our division. I would like to present changes for two local regulations first. GBO-R Retirement Issues. Delete section starting "as of July 1st, 2008". Coaching stipends are no longer allowed by VRS. Removes allowing coaching supplements to be used to calculate leave payouts. Section D Fiscal Management-small purchasing regulations. Outlines the procedures that should be followed when purchasing items or for maintenance projects under \$200,000.

Dr. Francis presented all policy changes to the Board. If you have any question, please feel free to contact Dr. Miller, myself or a policy committee member.

Finance Committee Report – Finance Committee met Tuesday, all vendor and payroll payments were approved. We are 92% through the school year and we have spent 78% of our budget.

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

Superintendent's Report

BPA health insurance update. We met with BPA and they give us the status of our health plan. We have paid all of the money Jefferson paid for us when we started with them. We are starting to build up our reserves and we are heading in a good direction. Like to have a couple of months' payment in our reserve account for emergencies.

School Board Retreat – Need to decide if the Board wants to have a retreat either Saturday, Aug 5th or 12th. Think it over, decide which date will work with your schedule. The Board will vote on it at the July 27th meeting. We could also schedule it during the week.

VSBA Upcoming Conferences – Included a post card from the VSBA, which has information on 3 upcoming conferences. If anyone would like to attend any of these conferences, please contact Mrs. Mohler.

Instructional Report – Like to congratulate both Enderly and Kling for receiving the Continuous Improvement Exemplar Performance Award from the Virginia Department of Education. Both schools demonstrated an increase in the combined rate for two or more student groups in reading and math for each of the past three years (2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2021-2022), with a total increase across the 3 years of ten points or more.

Sped/Nurse Report – A hard copy of the SPED report is in your packet. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Juli Gibson. There will be a Youth Wellness Exams, Immunizations, Middle & High School Sport Physical will be held at various locations in Buena Vista and Rockbridge County. All Students are welcome to all clinics. No Nurse Report as Ms. Kelly is off during the summer months.

Maintenance Report/Transportation/HR

Transportation purchased a truck. The truck only had 55,000 miles on and Mr. Buchanan got a really good price. Used end of the year money.

Mac Felts made the motion to go into Closed Session for the consideration and discussion of personnel matters as it relates to Superintendent Evaluation, Performance, Appointments, New hires, Resignations and Retirements according to {State Law § 2.2-3711 (A) (1)} It was seconded by Wayne Flint and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to adjourn Closed Session. It was seconded by John Rice and passed with a 6-0 vote.

The 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 hire Victoria Spence as Paraprofessional effective school year 23-24 for the Buena Vista City Public School System, subject to a successful background check. It was seconded by Lisa Kerr and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mach Felts made the motion to hire Autumn Feyereisen as a part-time Drama Coach effective school year 23-24, subject to a satisfactory background check. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to hire James MacCauley as a Substitute Teacher, effective school year 23-24, for the Buena Vista City Public School System, subject to a satisfactory background check. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to hire Norma Saunders as a Substitute Teacher, effective school year 23-24, for the Buena Vista City Public School System, subject to a satisfactory background check. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to hire David Foshay as a Volunteer Football Coach, effective the fall of 23, pending a satisfactory background check. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Lisa Kerr made the motion to hire John Snider III as a Football Coach effective for Fall Sports 23-24. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Lisa Kerr made the motion to hire Moria Miller as a Teacher, effective the school year 23-24. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Lisa Kerr made the motion to hire Karen Walker as a Substitute Teacher effective the 23-24 school year. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Lisa Kerr made the motion that we approve Summer Help that includes Jackson Brockenbrough, Ellis Hill, Trey Orren, Trey Secrist and John Snider. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Lisa Kerr made the motion to approve the resignations of Rebecca Conley, Jacob Zimmerman and Josh Sears effective June 1, 2023. It was seconded by John Roberts and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Lisa Kerr mad the motion to approve the resignation of Joshua Holsinger effective June 30, 2023. It was seconded by John Rice and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mac Felts made the motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by John Rice and passed with a 6-0 vote.

Teresa R. Ellison

Teresa Ellison, Chairman

July 27, 2023

Date

Sandra Mohler

Sandra Mohler, Clerk

7/27/2023

Date