

The Bath County School Board met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. following a Closed Meeting at 5:30 P.M. at Bath County High School.

PRESENT:

Dr. Ellen R. Miller, Board Chair
 Mr. Eddie H. Ryder, Board Vice-Chair
 Mrs. Catherine D. Lowry, Board Member
 Mrs. Rhonda R. Grimm, Board Member
 Mr. William K. Manion, Board Member
 Mr. Tanner Bradley, Student Liaison

Mrs. Carlyn Sue F. Hirsh, Division Superintendent & Clerk
 Mrs. Sharon P. Fry, School Board Deputy Clerk

- Dr. Ellen Miller, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. with all members present. **14-15: 141
CALL TO ORDER**
- On motion by Mrs. Lowry and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (5-0 vote) convened in a closed meeting at 5:33 p.m. to consider the resignation, appointment, employment status of specific personnel; salaries of specific personnel, and conduct student discipline hearings. **14-15: 142
CLOSED MEETING
AND CERTIFICATION
OF CLOSED MEETING**
- On motion by Mr. Ryder at 7:18 p.m., the Board came out of the closed meeting and certified (5-0 vote-roll call) that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed; and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered. **14-15: 143
CERTIFICATION OF
CLOSED MEETING**
- Dr. Miller called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. **14-15: 144
CALL TO ORDER FOR
PUBLIC MEETING**
- On motion by Mr. Ryder and seconded by Mr. Manion, the Board (5-0 vote) amended the agenda to include *Item 10.F. - Broadband Support for Teacher Devices.* **14-15: 145
APPROVE OR
AMEND AGENDA**
- On motion by Mrs. Lowry and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (5-0 vote) approved the consent agenda as presented: **14-15: 146
APPROVE
CONSENT AGENDA**
- Minutes
 - January 6, 2015 Regular Meeting and Budget Work Session
 - January 15, 2015 Called Meeting and Budget Work Session

- **Claims**

An overview of expenditure summary and a reconciled January 2015 revenue summary were provided for Board review. General Fund Payroll- 69024-69035, 69041-69052, Direct Deposit - 2131-2134, Bills – 69036-69040, 69053-69124, Food Service Payroll – 10510-10514, 10515-10519, Direct Deposit – 2131-2133, Bills – 10520-10527.

- **Reports**

- Attendance

December 2014 ADM: BCHS 260.20, MES 109.00, VES 207.00, for a total of 576.20.

- Cafeteria, December 2014

- Maintenance, January 2015

- Transportation, January 2015

14-15: 146 (Con't.)

APPROVE

CONSENT AGENDA

There were none to be heard.

14-15: 147

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mrs. Hirsh presented certificates to Mrs. Rowe, Mrs. Hicklin and Ms. Coffman in recognition of School Principals Appreciation Week, January 25-31, 2015 as declared by Governor Terence R. McAuliffe.
- Mrs. Hirsh recognized school counselors during National School Counseling Week, February 2-6, 2015.
- On behalf of BCHS Mertz Career & Technical Center, Mr. Ed Ozols accepted a certificate in recognition of Career and Technical Education Month as proclaimed by Governor Terence R. McAuliffe. Mr. Ozols, BCHS technology teacher, provided an update on a recent robotics competition at Orange County High School. He said the robot "9192" was designed to pick up balls, place them in goals and then move the goals around. Mr. Ozols and Mr. Grubbs are preparing students for participation in the Kid Wind Challenge to be held in March. Programming students designed an application which School Board members can download to their phones in appreciation of Virginia School Board Appreciation Month.
- Mrs. Hirsh recognized School Board members in celebration of Virginia School Board Appreciation Month as declared by Governor Terence R. McAuliffe and Virginia School Board Association. School Board members received gifts from principals, staff and students in recognition of School Board Appreciation Month.
- Mrs. Hirsh and Dr. Miller congratulated the BCHS Academic Bowl team as they were district champs, conference runner-ups, and qualified for regional competition. Mrs. Hirsh commended coach, Amber Yohe, and team members: Conner Allstock, Travis Braxton, Sophia Bulgarelli, Steve Gardener, Austin Hall, Nevada Kershner, Utah Kershner, Mason Keyser, Aaron Loan, Brianna Negrete, Saul Pasco, Alex Pritt, Gabbi Reed, and Austin Tuley.
- School Spelling Bee Winners

- Millboro

Winner-Catherine Dupoise, Runner-Up-Vaden Lewis, and 3rd Place-Hannah Pritt

- Valley

Winner-Kaylen Harmon, Runner-Up-Ethan Scott, 3rd Place-Courtney Hoover

BCHS - 8th Grade Participants - Tyler Bryant, Emma Marshall, Gabby Reed, Christopher Clark, Kelsey Newberry, Haley Terry, Dylan McCombs, Billy Baldwin, and Judith Hiner will participate in a spelling bee on February 4, 2015. Winners to be announced.

The Division Spelling Bee will be held on February 16, 2015, 6:30 PM, at Millboro Elementary School.

14-15: 148

GOOD NEWS IN BATH
COUNTY SCHOOLS

- In recognition of School Board Clerk Appreciation Week, February 16-20, 2015, Mrs. Hirsh presented a certificate to Mrs. Fry for her services as Deputy Clerk to the School Board. Dr. Miller presented a certificate to Mrs. Hirsh in recognition and appreciation to Mrs. Hirsh for her service as Clerk of the School Board.

**14-15: 148 (Con't.)
GOOD NEWS IN BATH
COUNTY SCHOOLS**

Mr. Tanner Bradley presented a brief report of upcoming events.

**14-15: 149
STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVE'S
REPORT**

Mr. Paul Lancaster, Director Technology, Testing & Administrative Services, provided background information and a summary of the SY2013-2014 final dropout report for grades 7-12. Mr. Lancaster reported 0 dropouts, down from the prior year's report of 2 dropouts. Mr. Lancaster said the state dropout rate for the rest of the commonwealth last year was 1.22%.

**14-15: 150
2013-14 FINAL
DROPOUT REPORT –
MR. LANCASTER**

Mrs. Hirsh asked principals to provide a midyear progress report on the continuous improvement process in their schools.

Mrs. Allison Hicklin, Millboro Elementary School Principal, listed the following focus areas: K-4 classes-small group guided reading lessons, writer's workshop for grades K-7, interactive achievement, and preparation/transition of students to online SOL testing. Mrs. Hicklin said the mid-year math assessment went well and everyone is progressing.

**14-15: 151
SCHOOL
IMPROVEMENT PLAN
IMPLEMENTATION**

Crystal Coffman, Valley Elementary Principal, said school staff have been working on student climate and culture, the power of positive thinking. Ms. Coffman said the PBIS team has identified monthly focus themes including organization and respectfulness thus far. The classroom teachers reinforce themes and students are active participants. Ms. Coffman referenced "unpacking" of curriculum, strategies to improve SOL scores, teacher resources, book studies, vertical teams, limiting disruptive behavior, school leadership team data collection, and an effort to improve the learning environment at VES.

Mrs. Sarah Rowe, Bath County High School Principal, identified weaknesses especially in Math and English programs and remediation continues within the classrooms. Mrs. Rowe said mid-term exams were given prior to the holiday break and students spent two weeks of remediation upon returning to school. Mrs. Rowe continues to use interactive achievement, integration of math testing, a bridge class between Math 8 and Algebra, teachers meet in professional learning teams, vertical teaming, PBIS reward presented today, and veteran teachers assigned to 8th grade English.

Mrs. Hirsh said the Kid Wind Challenge program is based on 8th grade math skills. Mr. Ozols explained math skills required, the hands-on approach, and real world application in the challenge for students.

Mrs. Hirsh and Mrs. Hall, Director of Special Education, Pupil Personnel Services, & Preschool, updated the Board on efforts to implement a mental health first aid & suicide prevention program at Bath County Schools. Mrs. Hall distributed brochures, entitled, "What every teacher should know about preventing youth suicide" to Board members. Mrs. Hall said the schools are working with Rockbridge Area Community Services and information will be distributed to staff and "safeTALK" training will be provided during preschool teacher workdays in August.

14-15: 152
MENTAL HEALTH
FIRST AID & SUICIDE
PREVENTION –
MRS. HALL

Mrs. Hirsh, Mr. Ryder, and Dr. Miller attended a recent VSBA conference in Richmond, VA and presented a brief overview.

14-15: 153
VSBA CAPITAL
CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. Justin Rider, Business Manager, said the caboose bill is available and he waiting for the March 31 ADM number in order to determine revenue. Mr. Rider said additional information should be available by the February 10th work session.

14-15: 154
2015-2016
BUDGET UPDATE

A motion was made by Mr. Manion effective January 1, 2016 that the salaries of the school board members be budgeted to be the same as the Board of Supervisors, \$400 per month.

During discussion, Mr. Manion said he would not be running for School Board in the upcoming election. He reiterated the January 1, 2016 implementation of the proposed salary increase saying this motion would not affect the current Board. Board members expressed different opinions regarding the salary increase and suggested the item be tabled until the next budget work session.

After Board discussion, Mr. Manion withdrew the motion.

Mrs. Lowry said teachers have approached her regarding access to the school wifi. She asked Mr. Lancaster to explain the process. Mr. Lancaster said schools have limited bandwidth in each building. Staff who can show that their personal mobile devices connected to our network result in a significant benefit for students are allowed to connect to school wifi. Mrs. Lowry asked if additional funds for bandwidth expansion should be included in the upcoming budget. Mr. Lancaster said everything is being done to increase bandwidth within a reasonable price at all three schools. He said the limit is what companies can do at the price point. Mr. Lancaster said he made significant strides at BCHS today to increase broadband. He plans to attend a Bath County Tele-Communication committee meeting tomorrow regarding additional broadband service and improved cell service for businesses, schools, and individuals.

14-15: 155
BROADBAND SUPPORT
FOR TEACHER DEVICES

- On motion by Mrs. Lowry and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (2-3 vote, Grimm, Manion, Miller opposed) considered suspension for Student A for the second semester (93 days) and revoked the out of county status. **Motion defeated.**

14-15: 156
ACTION FOLLOWING
CLOSED MEETING

- **A substitute motion** by Mr. Manion and seconded Mrs. Grimm, the Board (2-3 vote, Grimm, Manion, Miller opposed) to suspend student A for 93 days/remainder of the school year and that out of county status not be revoked. **Motion defeated.** **14-15: 156 (Con't.) ACTION FOLLOWING CLOSED MEETING**
- **A substitute motion** by Dr. Miller to suspend Student A for 364 days and out of county status not be revoked. **Motion died for lack of a second.**
- The Board revisited the original motion:
On motion by Mrs. Lowry and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (3-2 vote, Grimm, Manion opposed) suspended Student A for the second semester (93 days) and revoked the out of county status. Motion passed.
- **On motion by Mrs. Lowry and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (5-0 vote) suspended Student B for the second semester, 93 days, with no participation in graduation exercises.**

On motion by Mrs. Lowry and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (5-0 vote) approved an overnight VES 7th grade field trip to Virginia Beach and Williamsburg, VA on June 2-3, 2015. **14-15: 157 OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP**

Informational items for Board members included: revised 2015 School Board Meeting Schedule, letter and CIP plan to Sherry Ryder, County Planner, and VSBA/WVSBA Conference on March 27, 2015 at Wytheville, VA. **14-15: 158 ITEMS FOR BOARD MEMBERS**

Ms. Kim Manion, MES 4th grade teacher, previously presented cookies to the School Board members. She said the cookies were made by her students; taste tested by them, involved various measurements in the process, and SOL math skills. **14-15: 159 PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mrs. Lowry

- Celebrated Principals, School Counselors, CTE staff, Clerks tonight and appreciate the great job by all. **14-15: 160 ITEMS BY BOARD MEMBERS**
- Thanked everyone for the gifts received in honor of School Board Appreciation Month.
- Thankful for the opportunity to work with great people, don't always agree, but know our hearts are in the right place.
- Wonderful students, great spellers, academic bowl, athletics, and the staff are completely devoted to children.
- Many good things go on daily in our schools and she is blessed as a parent, a Board member and a community member.
- Glad we're trying to be proactive regarding mental health and student suicide prevention.

Mrs. Grimm

- Thanked everyone, including students, for their thoughtfulness and recognition of School Board members. Thanked staff members for all the things they do on a daily basis.
- *“Unfortunately, it is with great disappointment and regret that I resign from my position as a Bath County School Board representative, effective immediately, due to personal business. I have enjoyed serving on the Board for the Williamsville district. It has been an honor and a pleasure to work with and for Bath County Public Schools and to represent Williamsville and our other districts.”*

**14-15: 160 (Con’t.)
ITEMS BY BOARD
MEMBERS**

Mr. Ryder

- Visited schools today and was invited into a classroom at MES and VES. Spoke with students and really enjoyed the visit. He said students asked questions about School Board responsibilities and school funds. Enjoyed lunch at VES.
- While in Richmond at the VSBA conference, he visited Senator Deeds and Legislator Ben Cline. He referenced the composite index reminding everyone that 80% of Bath County Public School funds come from local funds/people in the community.
- Thanked everyone for the gifts in recognition of School Board Appreciation month.

Mr. Manion

- Thanked staff, reporters, and student representative for their attendance at the meeting.
- Thinks everyone puts in a double effort in our school division. Good students in the system and they need to be commended.

Dr. Miller

- Thanked everyone for the goodies, especially the wooden magazine racks from Mr. Altizer’s class.
- Appreciate the hard work of the staff, School Board office and individual schools.
- Thanked Mr. Ozols for the wonderful presentation including STEM activities at BCHS.
- Urged everyone to attend budget work sessions as public input is important and asked the public to convey their priorities to Board members.
- Goal setting/comprehensive plan is on the horizon. Public input is needed to determine the direction of our schools. The meeting schedule is to be announced at a later date.
- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight.

**On motion by Mrs. Lowry and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (5-0 vote) convened in a closed meeting at 8:58 p.m. to consider a resignation, appointment, and employment status of specific personnel.
(Mrs. Grimm departed the meeting at 8:58 p.m.)**

**14-15: 161
CLOSED MEETING
AND CERTIFICATION
OF CLOSED MEETING**

On motion by Mrs. Lowry at 10:05 p.m., the Board came out of the closed meeting and certified (4-0 vote-roll call) that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed; and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered.

**14-15: 162
CERTIFICATION OF
CLOSED MEETING**

On motion by Mrs. Lowry and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (4-0 vote) did not release Teacher A from contract.

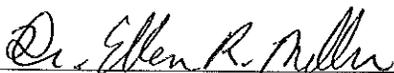
14-15: 163
ACTION FOLLOWING
CLOSED MEETING

On motion by Mrs. Lowry and seconded by Mr. Manion, the Board (4-0 vote) approved the following teacher, bus driver, and coaching appointments as listed:

MES Teacher	Dodie Bayne
Bus Driver	Billy Grimm
<u>Spring Coaching</u>	
<u>Baseball</u>	
Head Varsity	Kris Phillips
Assistant Varsity	Joey Altizer
J.V.	Danny Sifford
<u>Tennis</u>	
Coach	Mike Bollinger
Volunteer	Kirby Smith
<u>Soccer (Boys)</u>	
Coach	Roderick Ottey
Volunteer	Steve Gardner
<u>Soccer (Girls)</u>	
Coach	Mark Hall

The Board adjourned the meeting at 10:06 p.m.

14-15: 164
ADJOURNMENT



ELLEN R. MILLER, CHAIRMAN



CARLYN SUE F. HIRSH, CLERK