

The Bath County School Board met in a Continued Meeting on Monday, February 17, 2014 at 5:30 P.M. at the School Administration Building.

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Catherine D. Lowry, Board Chair  
Dr. Ellen R. Miller, Board Vice-Chair  
Mrs. Rhonda R. Grimm, Board Chair  
Mrs. Amy R. Gwin, Board Member  
  
Mrs. Carlyn Sue F. Hirsh, Division Superintendent & Clerk  
Sharon P. Fry, School Board Deputy Clerk

Dr. Ellen Miller, Board Vice-Chairman, called the continued meeting (February 4, 2014) to order at 5:31 p.m. with all members present except Mrs. Lowry and Mr. Manion. Dr. Miller led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and called for a moment of silence. Mrs. Lowry arrived at 5:32 p.m. **13-14: 191  
CALL TO ORDER  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
AND MOMENT OF  
SILENCE**

On motion by Mrs. Gwin and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (4-0 vote) amended the agenda by adding Item 6.-A1 – Fall Instructional Personnel Report and Item 6.-E. - School Calendar – Make-up Days to the Superintendent’s Report – Presentations/Information. **13-14: 192  
APPROVE OR  
AMEND AGENDA**

There were none to be heard. **13-14: 193  
PUBLIC COMMENTS**

In recognition of School Board Appreciation month, all three principals distributed gifts to Board members on behalf of their students. **13-14: 194  
GOOD NEWS IN BATH  
COUNTY PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS**

Mr. Paul Lancaster, Director Technology, Testing & Administrative Services, provided background information and a summary of the SY 2012-2013 final dropout report for grades 7-12. Mr. Lancaster reported 2 dropouts, down from the prior year’s report of 6 dropouts. Mr. Lancaster said the state dropout rate for last year was 1.26%, approximately twice Bath County School’s annual rate of .62%. **13-14: 195  
2012-2013 FINAL  
DROPOUT REPORT –  
MR. LANCASTER**

Mr. Lancaster presented a summary of the IPAL report. The report summarized class sections taught by Highly Qualified Teachers and by teachers Not Highly Qualified for core academic subject areas; and a summary of the class sections taught by teachers properly endorsed and by teachers not properly endorsed for non-core academic subject areas. Mr. Lancaster said 100% of the 152 sections reported in Bath County Schools were taught by a Highly Qualified Teacher. According to Mr. Lancaster, only one new teacher is listed on the non-core section as not properly endorsed, however, his provisional license is now in place and will be reflected on year-end reports. According to Mrs. Hirsh, the smaller the schools get, the more flexibility is needed with staff and their endorsements. She said she is a proponent of add-on endorsements for middle school content areas.

**13-14: 196  
FALL 2013-2014  
INSTRUCTIONAL  
PERSONNEL (IPAL)  
REPORT – MR.  
LANCASTER**

Mrs. Hirsh updated the Board on an academic review recently held at VES on December 12 and 13, 2013. The review was conducted by the Office of School Improvement (OSI). As a result of the audit, Mrs. Hirsh said essential actions were identified to promote academic achievement this year. Mrs. Hirsh said it is a process that one school is going through, but all schools can benefit. Mrs. Hirsh said principals are working together in an effort to enhance achievement in all three schools. School principals provided updates on school improvement activities underway.

**13-14: 197  
SCHOOL  
IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
IMPLEMENTATION –  
PRINCIPALS**

Ms. Coffman, Valley Elementary Principal, said the first part of the plan includes a focus on lesson plans where the greatest and quickest impact can be made. The School Leadership Team has developed a new format for lesson planning to be sure everything on the DOE lesson plan tool rubric is included. Teachers have started implementing the lesson plan with essential tools. A follow up meeting with the OSI consultant will be held Thursday with professional development on connecting written and assessment curriculum to teachers. She said VES is making lots of progress and teachers now have access on the server to the previous and upcoming year for students in grades and teachers have been very cooperative and helpful. In the future, teachers can access student writing information for the previous and upcoming grades as it is stored on the server.

Mrs. Rowe, BCHS Principal, said reading and math remediation efforts have been implemented. After review of Smart Goal data, remediation in math has shown a huge payoff. After conferring with Ms. Coffman, BCHS tweaked their lesson plans and staff members are using the same format which were revised to meet secondary needs. BCHS saves documents online so student information can be accessed from school and home. On Thursday, Mrs. Rowe plans a differentiated instruction in-service based on change of pacing.

Mrs. Allison Hicklin, MES Principal, introduced the new lesson plan document to staff members. At mid-year, grade level meetings were held with teachers to determine progress of students within each group. Teachers are identifying students who are having difficulty in more than one subject area and those who would benefit for referral to child study. Mrs. Hicklin said safety nets are in place to be sure no one falls between the cracks.

Mrs. Hirsh reminded those in attendance of Parent/Teacher Conferences scheduled on February 20, 2014.

**13-14: 197 (Con't.)  
SCHOOL  
IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
IMPLEMENTATION**

Mrs. Hirsh provided an outline of major 2013-14 Professional Development opportunities for staff including: Formative/Summative Assessment Class #3, Differentiation of Instruction, PBIS, VDOE – Math & English Workshops, WVPEC K-8 English Workshop, Math Support: Observation/Feedback/Survey/Workshops, Division Pacing Guides – Math, K-3 Reading Support Comprehension Strategies, Leveled Readers, etc., VSRA (reading) Conference, and VCTM (mathematics) conference. Mrs. Hirsh said special education, technology, and head start staff opportunities have been provided as well.

**13-14: 198  
PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
OPPORTUNITIES**

Mrs. Hirsh gave a brief report on state legislation that may impact 2014-15 school and budgets. Mrs. Hirsh outlined VSBA 2014 Legislative Priorities including: a balanced assessment and accountability system, reduction in the number of SOL tests, local school division control of SOL testing windows, an increase in the state Standards of Quality funding, increased flexibility in local use of SOQ funding, allow local school boards to set the school calendar for their division – Labor Day waiver, a repeal of the statewide A-F grading system, the control of schools to the local school boards and repeal of the Opportunity Education Institution. Mrs. Hirsh said budgets from the house and senate were approved on Sunday, Feb. 16 and DOE should have templates by the end of this week. Mrs. Hirsh said it is too soon in the budget process to know the effect on the school budget.

**13-14: 199  
LEGISLATION  
IMPACTING  
EDUCATION**

Mr. Lancaster confirmed that Bath County Schools have missed fourteen (14) days due to inclement weather in the current school year. Referencing Virginia Code: § 22.1-98, Mr. Lancaster said the Code provides an option to either make up days (180) or hours (990) to meet the school schedule requirement. Mr. Lancaster provided the following information to Board members:  
Bath County Schools plan for a 185 day instructional calendar, thus fulfilling the make-up requirement for the first five days missed. VA Code also requires that for every two days missed after the first five, one school day is made up or hours are made up to reach the 990-hour requirement. Bath County Schools has chosen to build in make-up days six through ten at the end of our school year, typically providing enough instructional hours to account for up to fifteen days missed. When schools are closed beyond ten days, additional days/hours are added as necessary to meet the 990-hour state requirement. Virginia's 140-hour minimum requirement for high school verified credits is a factor in years with more inclement weather, a calculation must be done to ensure that this requirement is met for each period of the school day. Senior commencement is not scheduled prior to the 140-hour minimum standard date.

**13-14: 200  
SCHOOL CALENDAR –  
MAKE-UP DAYS –  
MR. LANCASTER**

No items were presented.

13-14: 201  
ITEMS FOR BOARD  
MEMBERS/  
CORRESPONDENCE

There were none to be heard.

13-14: 202  
PUBLIC COMMENTS

**Mrs. Grimm**

- Thanked principals and students for the goodies.
- Thanked the Superintendent and Administrators for information furnished at the Board meeting.

3-14: 203  
ITEMS BY BOARD  
MEMBERS

**Mrs. Gwin**

- Thanked everyone including the children for the goodies.
- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**Dr. Miller**

- Thanked everyone for the presents. Enjoyed reading the cards, notes and poems.

**Mrs. Lowry**

- Thanked everyone for the reports and presentations and the goodies.

The Board adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

13-14: 204  
ADJOURNMENT



CATHERINE D. LOWRY, CHAIRMAN



CARLYN SUE F. HIRSH, CLERK