



BATH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: INFORMATION { } ACTION { X } CLOSED MEETING { }

SUBJECT: SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT - ACTION

School Zone Signage – Valley Elementary School

BACKGROUND: The Board approved the administration’s recommendation to replace the flashing school zone signage and replace it with standing school proximity signs at Valley Elementary School. The recommendation was due to excessive repair and replacement costs, and after consultation with VDOT personnel.

Following Board action, a written request was submitted to VDOT.

On December 14, a letter was received from Susan Hammond, Residency Administrator, recommending that the flashing signs not be removed.

Further clarification was requested and the attached e-mail confirms our present understanding that the current speed limit would remain at 45 mph if the signage is changed as approved.

RECOMMENDATION: Consideration needs to be given to safety in the school zone when considering whether or not to move forward with replacing the flashing signs or not.





Sue Hirsh

From: Justin Rider
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 2:57 PM
To: Sue Hirsh
Subject: School Zone Signs @ Valley Elementary School

Please see response below.

Justin S. Rider
Business Manager
Bath County Public Schools
(540) 839-2722

From: Hammond, Susan (VDOT) [<mailto:Susan.Hammond@VDOT.Virginia.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 2:54 PM
To: Justin Rider
Subject: RE: School Zone Signs @ Valley Elementary School

Justin,

You are correct in your statements. The non-flashing school zone sign that designate hours would not be acceptable due to the significant change in speed. We can upgrade the pedestrian signs to the florescent yellow/green signs for better visibility. This is something I can address now. Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Susan

Susan Hammond
Residency Administrator
Lexington Residency
540-462-6990

From: Justin Rider [<mailto:justinr@bath.k12.va.us>]
Sent: Friday, January 25, 2013 11:28 AM
To: Hammond, Susan (VDOT)
Subject: School Zone Signs @ Valley Elementary School

Susan,

Thank you for your response on December 14th. The letter was shared with the School Board on our regular meeting on January 7, 2013. Some items of clarification need to be resolved before a final action can be taken, hopefully on February 5th.

It is our understanding that removal of the flashing school zone signs can be removed simply by School Board action.

The following conversation follows our phone discussion yesterday:

If a decision is made to remove the flashing signs, the speed limit would revert 24/7 to the 45 m.p.h. posted speed limit. The only state recognized signage that would remain would be the pavement markings that are currently present as well as pedestrian crossing signs. A non-flashing school zone sign between the hours of --:-- to --:-- is not recognized by the state to reduce the speed limit in the school zone.





Please acknowledge if our understanding is correct or if there are other options available for school zones.

Thank you!

Justin S. Rider
Business Manager
Bath County Public Schools
P.O. Box 67
Warm Springs, VA 24484
(540) 839-2722 phone
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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

811 Commerce Road
Staunton, VA 24401-9029
www.VirginiaDOT.org

DEC 2012
Received
Bath County
School Board

GREGORY A. WHIRLEY
COMMISSIONER

December 14, 2012

Sue Hirsh
Division Superintendent
Bath County Public Schools
P. O. Box 67
Warm Springs, VA 24484

Dear Ms. Hirsh,

I am in receipt of your letter regarding the School Board's decision to remove the flashing schools zone signs on Route 220 for Valley Elementary School. I understand the problems that have been on-going with these signs and appreciate the Board's consideration for long range issues.

The signs were installed through the School Board under a Land Use Permit over ten years ago. Without the school zone in place at this location, the posted speed limit will remain at its current posting of 45 MPH. I do not recommend the removal of the zone due to the adjacent residential neighborhood; however, this action is within the scope of the School Board's decision.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Susan Hammond
Residency Administrator

