

The Bath County School Board met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. following a Closed Meeting at 5:30 P.M. at Bath County High School.

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Catherine D. Lowry, Board Chair  
Dr. Ellen R. Miller, Board Vice-Chair  
Mrs. Rhonda R. Grimm, Board Member  
Mrs. Amy R. Gwin, Board Member  
Mr. Saul Pasco, Student Liaison

**DRAFT**

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

Mrs. Cathy Lowry, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. with all members present except Mr. Manion. **13-14: 254  
CALL TO ORDER**

**On motion by Mrs. Grimm and seconded by Mrs. Gwin, the Board (4-0 vote) convened in a closed meeting at 5:35 p.m. to consider an employee resignation, a coaching appointment, other personnel matters, and a student discipline issue. 13-14: 255  
CLOSED MEETING  
AND CERTIFICATION  
OF CLOSED MEETING**

**On motion by Mrs. Grimm at 7:04 p.m., the Board came out of the closed meeting and certified (3-0 vote-roll call, Dr. Miller absent) 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. 13-14: 256  
CERTIFICATION OF  
CLOSED MEETING**

Mrs. Lowry called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and called for a moment of silence. **13-14: 257  
CALL TO ORDER FOR  
PUBLIC MEETING**

**On motion by Mrs. Gwin and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (4-0 vote) approved the agenda as presented. 13-14: 258  
APPROVE OR  
AMEND AGENDA**

- Margo Oxendine distributed a letter from Anne Adams, The Recorder publisher, regarding consideration of an eighth grade spelling bee for BCHS students. According to the letter, The Recorder offered to sponsor and pay all costs for an eighth grade spelling bee to be associated with the Scripps National Spelling Bee including study materials, pronunciation lists, etc. The Recorder offered the services of Margo Oxendine who said she is willing to coordinate the spelling bee, secure the judges, procure a pronouncer, and attend to any other details Mrs. Rowe may need in order for the high school to present the spelling bee. **13-14: 259  
PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Division-Wide Spelling Bee Winner – Gabrielle Reed**  
(Gabrielle was unable to attend the March meeting due to snow)

**13-14: 260  
GOOD NEWS IN  
BATH COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Mrs. Hirsh recognized **BCHS BETA Club Winners** for their accomplishments at the March 21-23 convention in Richmond, VA

- Third Place in Math - **Coty Walton**
- Quiz Bowl team finalists - **Alex Cambata, Austin Hall, Saul Pasco, Coty Walton**
- Talent finalists - **Alex Cambata and Saul Pasco**
- First Place in Black and White Photography - **Jessie O’Conner**
- Second Place in Color Photography - **Avery Chestnut**

Mrs. Hirsh recognized **Kim Lancaster**, as president-elect of the Virginia State Reading Association for her efforts in coordinating an outstanding conference in Roanoke, VA on March 20-22. Mrs. Hirsh said Bath County Schools had an excellent presence at the conference.

**On motion by Dr. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Gwin, the Board (4-0 vote) approved the consent agenda as presented:**

**13-14: 261  
APPROVE  
CONSENT AGENDA**

- **Minutes**  
February 17, 2014 Budget Work Session, February 18, 2014 Joint Budget Work Session, March 4, 2014 Regular Meeting, and March 18, 2014 Called Meeting/Budget Work Session.
- **Claims**  
Mr. Justin Rider, Business Manager, presented an overview of expenditure summary and an un-reconciled March 2014 revenue summary. General Fund Payroll - 67903-67914, 67922-67933, Direct Deposit - 2085-2088, Bills - 67515 - VOID, 67915-67921, 67934-68010, and Food Service Payroll - 10320-10324, 10325-10329, Bills - 10330-10338, Direct Deposit - 2085-2087.
- **Reports**  
Attendance  
February 2014 ADM: BCHS 246.53, MES 109.20, VES 230.53, for a total of 586.26. Mrs. Hirsh reported an ADM (average daily membership) of 582 students as of March 31, 2014, slightly less than the 605 budgeted amount. Mrs. Hirsh provided student withdrawal information for the current school year.  
Cafeteria, February 2014  
Maintenance, February/March 2014  
Transportation, March 2014

Mr. Saul Pasco provided an update on MES, BCHS, and VES academic and athletic events. Mr. Pasco acknowledged the FBLA regional conference members who qualified for state competition: Allison Swearingin, Daniel Hevener, Jackson Retzlaff, Ryan Woodzell, Meghan Brown, Jordan Ford, Kara Kincaid and Katie Via.

**13-14: 262  
STUDENT  
REPRESENTATIVE’S  
REPORT**

Mrs. Hirsh said there were no items for presentation.

**13-14: 263  
SUPERINTENDENT’S  
REPORT –  
PRESENTATIONS /  
INFORMATION**

In response to the offer by Ms. Oxendine for an eighth grade spelling bee, Mrs. Hirsh addressed the proposal. Mrs. Hirsh said she had previously discussed an eighth grade spelling bee with the administrative team and decided that students would have an opportunity to participate next year. Mrs. Hirsh asked BCHS Principal, Sarah Rowe, to work with The Recorder staff on spelling bee planning.

On motion by Mrs. Gwin and seconded by Dr. Miller, the Board (4-0 vote) approved the appointment of **Terry Bradley as BCHS track coach.**

**13-14: 264  
ACTION FOLLOWING  
CLOSED MEETING**

On motion by Mrs. Grimm and seconded by Mrs. Gwin, the Board (4-0 vote) **accepted the resignation request of Lisa Rexrode, VES cafeteria worker, (effective 4/14/14), and authorized the Superintendent to accept resignations and advertise for open positions as they may occur.**

Mrs. Hall, Director, Special Education, Pupil Personnel Services, & Preschool updated the Board on 2014-15 Special Education Annual Plan changes.

**13-14: 265  
SPECIAL  
EDUCATION ANNUAL  
PLAN – JANE HALL**

**On motion by Mrs. Gwin and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (4-0 vote) approved the submission of the Special Education Annual Plan as presented.**

The following VSBA policy revisions were presented for 1<sup>st</sup> readings for editorial reasons or to correct technical errors: DA, DGD, DJA, DK, GAA, Deletion of GBB, GBD, GBLA, GCBEA, JC, JFCJ, JL, KA, KBE, KD, KGB, KJ, KL, KLB (Option 1), Deletion of KM, KMA, and KQ.

**13-14: 266  
VSBA POLICY UPDATES,  
FEBRUARY 2014 (FIRST  
HALF) – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

**On motion by Mrs. Gwin and seconded by Dr. Miller, the Board (4-0 vote) adopted the following policy revisions and deletions: DA, DGD, DJA, DK, Deletion of GBB, GBD, GBLA, GCBEA, JC, JFCJ, KA, KBE, KD, KGB, KJ, KL, KLB (Option 1), Deletion of KM, KMA, and KQ with the exception of GAA – Staff Time Schedules, and JL- Fundraising and Solicitation. (GAA and JL will be presented for approval in a 2<sup>nd</sup> reading at the May meeting.)**

On motion by Mrs. Gwin and seconded by Dr. Miller, the Board (4-0 vote) **approved a field trip request for MES 7<sup>th</sup> grade students to visit Colonial Williamsburg & Virginia Beach, VA on May 8-9, 2014.**

**13-14: 267  
CONSIDERATION OF  
OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIPS**

Mrs. Jane McMullen, CTE Coordinator and BCHS Business Teacher, outlined standards met and a plan of action to address standards not met. She also described components of the annual application for federal CTE funds.

**13-14: 268  
CAREER & TECHNICAL  
EDUCATION ANNUAL  
PERFORMANCE REPORT  
(APR) FOR SY 2012-2013**

**On motion by Dr. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Gwin, the Board (4-0 vote) authorized submission of an application/plan for CTE Perkins Funds by April 30, 2014 as requested.**

Informational items for Board members included: SY2013-14 BCHS, MES, and VES fundraiser request calendar for Board review per policy JL, VSBA Valley Regional Forum on April 23, 2013 in Staunton, VA, and VSBA June 6, 2013 School Law Conference in Richmond, VA.

**13-14: 269  
ITEMS FOR BOARD  
MEMBERS/  
CORRESPONDENCE**

- Mr. Steve Shaver, BCHS basketball/assistant football coach, thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with high school students. He said it was great to get to know these young men and interact with them throughout the athletic seasons.

**13-14: 270  
PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Mrs. Grimm**

- Congratulated all students on their accomplishments in spelling bees, all area marching band, FBLA, BETA club, and the tennis/athletic teams. Very proud of the kids in Bath County Schools as they have amazing talents in all categories.
- Longaberger Bingo MES fundraiser is scheduled on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM at the Millboro Fire Department. Proceeds go toward the purchase of a poster printing machine for MES.
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade Bingo fundraiser to be held at MES.
- Thanked teachers, staff, and administrators for their hard work on a daily basis and information shared at Board meetings.
- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**3-14: 271  
ITEMS BY BOARD  
MEMBERS**

**Mrs. Gwin**

- Congratulated BETA Club, FBLA members, Gabrielle Reed, District Band students on their recent successes; and adults who support them.
- Thanked The Recorder and Ms. Oxendine for their support of an eighth grade spelling bee and welcomed volunteers. Said the Board was a couple of steps ahead as conversations regarding the spelling bee had been held in recent weeks.
- Received a call from a parent asking if 15 minutes could be added to the school day throughout the year as we look forward to the future. This change would bring an approximate change of six less school days. Mrs. Hirsh said extending the length of the school day impacts students, teachers and their coverage. Mrs. Hirsh said she would share this information with administrative staff.

**Mr. Saul Pasco**

- Thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

**Dr. Miller**

- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
- Congratulated all students on their recent accomplishments.
- Previously had the privilege of chaperoning a FCCLA trip. If the opportunity arises, she encouraged individuals to volunteer in the capacity of a chaperone.

**Mrs. Lowry**

- Distributed BCHS lanyards to Board members saying the lanyard has generated a lot of comments in and out of the county.
- Expressed appreciation to Mr. Pasco for the update on school activities.
- Great things are happening in our schools and all Board members are huge advocates.

**Mrs. Lowry**

- She and Mrs. Hirsh attended a recent conference in Wytheville, VA. Mrs. Lowry provided a summary of conference topics which included: Communities in Schools, Mental Health and Schools, and Religious Exemptions in Virginia.

**3-14: 271 (Con't.)  
ITEMS BY BOARD  
MEMBERS**

**The Board adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.**

**13-14: 272  
ADJOURNMENT**

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**CATHERINE D. LOWRY, CHAIRMAN**

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**CARLYN SUE F. HIRSH, CLERK**

**The Bath County School Board met in a Joint Budget Work Session with the Board of Supervisors on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. at School Administration Building.**

**PRESENT:**

**Mrs. Catherine D. Lowry, Board Chair  
Dr. Ellen R. Miller, Board Vice-Chair  
Mrs. Rhonda R. Grimm, Board Member**

**DRAFT**

**Mr. Kevin Fry, Board of Supervisors Vice-Chair  
Mr. Cliff Gilchrest, Board of Supervisors Member**

**Mrs. Carlyn Sue F. Hirsh, Division Superintendent & Clerk  
Mr. Ashton Harrison, Bath County Administrator  
Sharon P. Fry, School Board Deputy Clerk**

Mrs. Cathy Lowry, School Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. with all School Board members present except Mr. Manion and Mrs. Gwin. **13-14: 273  
CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Lowry led the Boards in the Pledge of Allegiance. **13-14: 274  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Lowry led the Boards in a moment of silence. **13-14: 275  
MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**On motion by Mrs. Grimm and seconded by Dr. Miller, the Board (3-0 vote) approved the agenda as presented.** **13-14: 276  
APPROVE OR  
AMEND AGENDA**

There were none to be heard. **13-14: 277  
PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mrs. Hirsh said the Board of Supervisors acknowledged a Local Government Education Week resolution during April 1-7, 2014. Mrs. Hirsh said the Virginia Association of School Superintendents supported the idea as well. In an effort to promote student awareness of local government, Mr. Cliff Gilchrest spent time at MES with 7<sup>th</sup> grade students and Mrs. Claire Collins led the VES Civics class in a mock Board of Supervisors meeting. Mrs. Hirsh said student feedback was very positive. Mrs. Hirsh extended appreciation to Board of Supervisors members who recently visited the schools. **13-14: 278  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
EDUCATION WEEK**

Mr. Gilcrest said he and Mr. McWilliams previously met with Mr. Dennis Cropper and Ms. Sherry Walters at a meeting in Rockbridge County regarding prevention services for Bath County. Mr. Gilcrest said the meeting was very productive and informative. Mr. McWilliams met with Mrs. Hirsh and recommended that School Administration meet with RACS to explore prevention services for Bath County Schools. Ms. Rebecca Textor, Prevention Services Program Manager for Rockbridge Area Community Services, is scheduled to meet with the School Administrative team on April 29, 2014 at 10:30 AM at the School Administration Building. Mrs. Hirsh said the purpose of the meeting is to provide information regarding services offered.

**13-14: 279  
RACS – PREVENTION  
SERVICES FOR BATH  
COUNTY**

Mr. Justin Rider, Business Manager, shared worksheets presented to School Board on March 18, 2014 highlighting the following information:

**13-14: 280  
FY2014-2015 SCHOOL  
BOARD BUDGET**

- 15% increase in Health Insurance Costs – an increase of \$130,006 with a slight decrease in food service.
- Changes in Virginia Retirement System Costs - VRS rates, VRS Group Life, VRS Retiree Health Care Credit at a cost of approximately \$176,000.
- Teacher Salary Scale Revisions – Year 2 of teacher salary scale revision – total cost - \$238,884.

Current Budget Plan

- One additional Special Education Teacher - \$60,762 including fixed charges for FY2014-2015.
- 2% salary increase for regionally comparative positions. - \$38,898 including fixed charges for FY2014-2015.
- Continue the phasing-in of salary scales for positions not regionally comparative over a three year period (Year 2 of 3) - \$32,516 including fixed charges for FY2014-2015.
- Governor's change in VRS rates for employment classifications resulting in an increase of nearly \$176,000.
- Governor's Introduced Biennial Budgeted Revenues are based on 575 students.

Budget discussion and questions included, but was limited to:

- Cost of total personnel including fringe benefits.
- Teacher rank after a 7% salary increase last year.
- Teacher salary scale revision worksheet. On year 2 of a 3 year plan.
- Last years' information regarding regional teacher comparison presented. The regional teacher comparison slide to be updated with current year information and forwarded to Mr. Harrison.
- FY2013-2014 average per pupil projected expenditures for operations - \$17,392. Additional information is located on the website.
- School Division Report Card: the target is to spend 65% on instruction and Bath County Schools spent 58% last year.

- FY2013-14 student withdrawal information update. Next year state revenue will decrease as the FY2014-15 budget is based on a student projection of 575.
- Difficulty in attracting young teaching personnel to our rural school division. Starting teacher salary and social opportunities are two areas impacting applicant decisions to teach in the division.
- Bath County Schools has implemented an online advertisement and application process.
- Conservative figures used for revenue projections.
- Analysis of football program expenditures.
- Technology budget update included: reimbursable grant requirements, VES computer lab replacement, and year 2 of student issued tablets that do not require internet access at home.
- Digital textbook materials have not been considered for Bath County Schools as it requires internet access/service at students' home.
- Fifty percent of students are required to be directly certified in order to qualify for a free state funded lunch program. Bath County Schools does not meet this requirement.
- Decrease in Maintenance and Transportation categories.

**13-14: 280 (Con't.)  
FY2014-2015 SCHOOL  
BOARD BUDGET**

According to Mr. Rider, the FY2014-15 budget included an increase of \$703,833 resulting in a 6.74% increase over the current year budget. Of these funds, he said approximately \$549,000 would go toward personnel related expenses and approximately \$155,000 for increases in non-personnel expenses.

Mr. Rider provided a detailed explanation of non-personnel expenses and answered questions posed by Board members.

Mrs. Hirsh said of 132 Virginia school divisions, Bath County Public Schools rank 118<sup>th</sup> in starting salary, 109<sup>th</sup> at five years' experience, 92<sup>nd</sup> at 10 years' experience, 86<sup>th</sup> in 15 years' experience, 91<sup>st</sup> at 20 years' experience and 104<sup>th</sup> at 25 years' experience. Mr. Lancaster, Director of Technology, Testing and Administrative Services, said these ranks do not reflect VRS percentages and make Bath County Schools salaries look higher than actuals. Prior to Year 1 of the teacher salary scale revision, Bath Schools ranked ninth regionally in beginning salary and last for five, ten, twenty and thirty years of experience.

In closing, Mrs. Hirsh said copies of worksheets presented tonight and all requested information will be forwarded to Mr. Harrison.

Mrs. Lowry asked if consideration had been given to joint CIP projects such as parking lot paving projects.

**13-14: 281  
CIP REQUESTS**

Mrs. Hirsh said the BCHS parking lot is full when community events are scheduled at the BCHS auditorium. When revenue figures look better, Mr. Harrison said joint projects would be worth considering.



Mrs. Hirsh referenced the Joint Work Session in February when discussion of unanticipated revenue was discussed. Mr. Gilcrest and Mrs. Hirsh remembered discussion to possibly add a line to the budget for state and federal unanticipated funds. Mr. Fry said no firm decision had been made by the Board of Supervisors.

**13-14: 281 (Con't.)  
CIP REQUESTS**

The Bath County Schools CIP request for FY2014-15 included:

Priority 1	School Bus Replacement (2) 65 Passenger with cameras	\$ 181,196
Priority 2	Auditorium Project (BCHS) Dehumidification only	\$ 67,772
Priority 3	Restroom Project BCHS Boy/Girls Locker Rooms, Public Restrooms	\$ 68,202
Total		\$ 317,170

Mr. Harrison addressed school 2014/2015 CIP projects totaling \$317,170. He said that revenue projections are not strong and he is projecting a million dollar deficit for the next two years.

Mrs. Hirsh said the schools are challenged as they do not have a target number on which to build the budget or CIP. She said it was difficult to determine the year projects should be placed. Mrs. Hirsh said she would have liked to include the BCHS parking lot, but addressed the BCHS auditorium humidity, BCHS restrooms and two buses to get back on a replacement cycle.

Mrs. Hirsh provided background information regarding previous efforts to combine county and school transportation/ground maintenance programs. Board members discussed savings in lawn care on equipment, maintenance, fuel, and staffing if a joint program existed. The possibility of joint snow removal was also discussed.

**13-14: 282  
JOINT PROGRAMS –  
GROUNDS  
MAINTENANCE,  
TRANSPORTATION**

Dr. Miller asked if the county had any recommendation or adjustment to the school budget. According to Mr. Fry, the Board as a whole had not come to terms yet.

**13-14: 283  
OTHER**

Mrs. Hirsh said a public hearing will be held at the Courthouse on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The first adoption of the county budget (including school budget) and tax rate is scheduled on May 13, 2014.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

**13-14: 284  
ADJOURNMENT**