

The Bath County School Board met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 4, 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
Mr. William K. Manion, Board Member
Mr. Eddie H. Ryder, Board Member
Mr. Tanner Bradley, Student Liaison

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

Mrs. Cathy Lowry, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m. with all members present except Mr. Manion who arrived at 5:45 p.m. **14-15: 073
CALL TO ORDER**

**On motion by Dr. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (4-0 vote, Manion arrived at 5:45 p.m.) convened in a closed meeting at 5:41 p.m. to discuss the appointment and resignation of specific personnel, the licensure of specific personnel, correspondence, and Family Medical Leave Act for employees' serious health conditions, and compensation of specific employees. 14-15: 074
CLOSED MEETING
AND CERTIFICATION
OF CLOSED MEETING**

**On motion by Dr. Miller at 7:04 p.m., the Board came out of the closed meeting and certified (4-0 vote-roll call, Mr. Manion absent from 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: 075
CERTIFICATION OF
CLOSED MEETING**

Mrs. Lowry called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. **14-15: 076
CALL TO ORDER FOR
PUBLIC MEETING**

**On motion by Dr. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (4-0 vote, Manion absent) amended the agenda with the addition of *Item 11 - F. Bath County High School Zone.* 14-15: 077
APPROVE OR
AMEND AGENDA**

There were none to be heard. **14-15: 078
PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Mrs. Hirsh presented the following VSBA Academy certificates to Board members: Award of Achievement and Bronze Pin to Dr. Miller, Awards of Excellence and Silver Pins to Mrs. Grimm and Mr. Manion, and an Award of Honor and Gold Pin to Mrs. Lowry.
Mrs. Lowry presented a VSBA Award of Distinction and Starfish Pin to Mrs. Hirsh.

**14-15: 079
GOOD NEWS IN BATH
COUNTY SCHOOLS**

On motion by Dr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (5-0 vote) approved the consent agenda as presented:

**14-15: 080
APPROVE
CONSENT AGENDA**

- **Minutes**
October 7, 2014 Regular Meeting.
- **Claims**
An overview of expenditure summary and a reconciled October 2014 revenue summary were provided for Board review. General Fund Payroll - 68744-68756, 68761-68733, Direct Deposit - 2119-2122, Bills – 68757-68760, 68774-68839, Food Service Payroll – 10451-10455, 10456-10460, Direct Deposit – 2119-2121, Bills – 10461-10470.
- **Reports**
Attendance
September 2014 ADM: BCHS 255.91, MES 107.95, VES 206.14, for a total of 570.00.
Cafeteria, September 2014
Maintenance, October 2014
Transportation, September & October 2014

Mr. Tanner Bradley provided a brief report of events at BCHS including a recent junior class Halloween fundraiser, PSAT, trip to JMU and Bridgewater sponsored by Talent Search, and parent/teacher conferences. Mr. Bradley said CTE work place testing begins today and a career fair will be held at BCHS next week.

**14-15: 081
STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVE’S
REPORT**

Mrs. Hirsh reviewed pupil-teacher ratios (K-7) and grade enrollment (8-12) summaries as reported to the VDOE in the Fall 2014 SCR Student Record Collection Report/Financial Verification based on September 30 counts. Mrs. Hirsh said the division-wide ratio is below the 1 to 18 ratio in grades K-3, and Bath County Schools qualified for class size reduction funding.

**14-15: 082
REPORT OF PUPIL /
TEACHER RATIOS –
MRS. HIRSH**

Mr. Lancaster, Director of Technology, Testing & Administrative Services, provided an update on a program where 10” Kuno tablets have been issued to students and teachers in grades six through nine. Mr. Lancaster explained security safeguards in place for students. According to Mr. Lancaster, homework is downloaded to the tablet during the school day. Mr. Lancaster said parents decide whether they want their child to access internet at home or elsewhere. Mr. Lancaster reported engaging experiences for students and teachers in classrooms and said we’re headed toward further expansion next year.

**14-15: 083
STUDENT TABLET
INITIATIVE UPDATE –
MR. LANCASTER**

On motion by Mrs. Grimm and seconded by Dr. Miller, the Board (5-0 vote) approved the appointment of a **BCHS Weightlifting position to Larry Grubbs.**

**14-15: 084
ACTION FOLLOWING
CLOSED MEETING**

On motion by Mrs. Grimm and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (5-0 vote) **authorized the superintendent to accept an anticipated resignation.**

Mrs. Hirsh referenced a revised FY2015-2016 Budget/CIP Development Calendar indicating CIP requests due to the County Administrator’s office on January 9, 2015. Mrs. Hirsh met with Mrs. Sherry Ryder today and the school may have an additional month to submit their requests due to implementation of a new planning commission system for rating CIP projects.

**14-15: 085
CONSIDERATION OF
CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT PLAN
DRAFT #1 FOR FY15-20**

Current items on CIP list:

- School Bus Replacement (2 ea.)
- BCHS Auditorium Project-Curtains & Carpet (*may not meet \$30,000 CIP minimum*)
- Parking Lot Project (BCHS)-(*may be deleted if Board of Supervisors fund project outside of the school budget*)
- Vehicle Replacement (Truck)
- Restroom Project – Boys & Girls Locker Rooms & Public Restrooms - (BCHS, MES, VES)
- Gym A/C (BCHS, VES)
- Football Field Crowning (BCHS)
- Home Bleacher Railings (BCHS) (*recently added*)

Mrs. Hirsh said the Board of Supervisors expressed verbal support for the BCHS parking lot project and eight RFP responses have been received. She and Mr. Rider, Business Manager, reviewed the RFP’s and plan to conduct interviews on the top two to three companies as quickly as possible. Mrs. Hirsh said this project may be removed from the list. Mrs. Hirsh added BCHS (Home) Bleacher Railings citing safety issues. BCHS Locker Replacement and Playgrounds were removed from the list as they have been completed with school funds. Other items included for discussion: upgrade to the concession stand/equipment, purchase of a standard route bus and a bus with a/c and storage, lights on baseball/softball fields, shelter for visiting football teams during games.

Mrs. Hirsh asked principals to identify other items at their schools that may need to be included on the list. The Board plans to continue discussion at their December meeting.

The Board reviewed the following VSBA Policies in a 1st reading: BBFA – Option 1, BDDF, DGC, DGC-R, EFB, FE, FF, FFA, FG, JFG, JHCH, JO, KFB, KH, KKA, LC, LC-E, and LC-R.

**14-15: 086
VSBA POLICIES –
1ST READING**

During discussion, the Board was not unanimous on staggered terms and did not take a stand.

**14-15: 087
CONSIDERATION OF
SCHOOL BOARD
STAGGERED TERMS**

On motion by Dr. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (5-0 vote) approved the **appointment of Eddie Ryder as representative to the County Insurance Committee.**

**14-15: 088
APPOINT A
NEW BOARD
REPRESENTATIVE TO
COUNTY INSURANCE
COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Hirsh said Mr. Cliff Gilchrest, Board of Supervisor member, and Mrs. Sherry Ryder, County Planner & Zoning Administrator recently attended a regional Virginia Department of Transportation meeting. They were approached by Susan Hammond, VDOT Regional Administrator regarding the county’s six year plan which included the establishment of a school zone at BCHS near Charger Lane on Route 220. Mrs. Hirsh met with Mr. Gilchrest and Mrs. Ryder and they presented a proposal which included solar paneled school zone flashing lights, reduced speed limit, and road markings in the area. Mrs. Hirsh said the sign would be programmable so it could be changed on early release days and during changes in the school calendar. The proposal is that the Board of Supervisors fund this project outside of the school budget. Mrs. Hirsh said this was a nice and welcome surprise as the schools tried to do this a long time ago. Mrs. Lowry asked who is responsible for maintenance of the signs as there have been expenses related to VES school zone signs. Mr. Ryder said he believed “congested area” signs are more appropriate on nights when there are athletic events. Mrs. Hirsh said she thought the flashing lights and reduced speed zone during arrival and departure from school might slow traffic and help reduce accidents. Mrs. Hirsh plans to speak with Mrs. Ryder regarding questions posed by Board members.

**14-15: 089
BATH COUNTY HIGH
SCHOOL ZONE**

Informational items for Board members included a report by Fiscal Analytics, Ltd, entitled “Virginia Economic and Budget Trends and the Impact on K-12 School Funding and a Recorder article detailing BCHS student participation in First Tech Challenge, a robotics competition among teams of high school students.

**14-15: 090
ITEMS FOR BOARD
MEMBERS**

Mrs. Sarah Rowe, BCHS principal, addressed the Board in support of a school zone at the bottom of the hill. Mrs. Rowe said student drivers traveling Rt. 220 South turning onto Charger Lane have to cross Route 220. In an effort to provide for their safety, she asked the Board to support the proposal.

**14-15: 091
PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mrs. Grimm

- On the CIP request, she asked about a weather shelter for the visiting football team and amended her request to include visiting team, band and the home team.
- A Bath County CSI (Community School Involvement) organization has been formed. The organization is similar to PTA, PTO and CFE without the dues.

**14-15: 092
ITEMS BY BOARD
MEMBERS**

- SOL Banquets for MES & VES are scheduled for Thursday. Asked principals to let students know she is very proud of all their hard work.
- Both schools had very successful Fall Festivals. She said it was a great way to involve kids and community.
- Looking forward to the upcoming annual VSBA conference.
- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**14-15: 092 (Con't.)
ITEMS BY BOARD
MEMBERS**

Mr. Ryder

- Visited VES today and the terrazzo cafeteria floors don't look pretty anymore due to construction to repair drains. Complimented cafeteria staff as their space was spotless and he said the ladies are doing a great job.
- During a walk-through of the schools today, he said teachers had students engaged in classroom activities.

Mr. Manion

- Thanked those in attendance/employees for taking time to attend the meeting tonight.

Dr. Miller

- Thanked everyone for coming tonight. Attended school lunch week and enjoyed lunch at all three schools.
- Going into budget time and CIP time, money may be tight and might be an issue. Asked those in attendance/community to come forward with any ideas for the CIP plan.
- Planning to attend the VSBA convention and hope to bring back wonderful ideas.

Mrs. Lowry

- Thanked everyone for the things they do. Some things we know about, and others we do not. Have great staff and children and asked staff to continue to show devotion to all our children.
- Visited VES for lunch and it was great.
- Attended recent SOL banquet.
- Thanked Mr. Bradley for his report on activities within the schools.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

**14-15: 093
ADJOURNMENT**