

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

**PRESENT:** Dr. Ellen R. Miller, Board Chair  
Mr. Eddie H. Ryder, Board Vice-Chair  
Mrs. Rhonda R. Grimm, Board Member  
Mr. William K. Manion, Board Member  
Miss Jessica Ryder, Student Liaison  
  
Mrs. Carlyn Sue F. Hirsh, Division Superintendent & Clerk  
Mrs. Sharon P. Fry, School Board Deputy Clerk

Mr. Ryder, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all members except Mrs. Lowry who was unable to attend due to a conflict and Dr. Miller who arrived at 5:35 p.m. **15-16: 094  
CALL TO ORDER  
CLOSED MEETING**

**On motion by Mrs. Grimm and seconded by Mr. Manion, the Board (3-0 vote) convened in a closed meeting at 5:31 p.m. to conduct student discipline hearings, consider a student’s non-resident status, the appointment of specific personnel, and review quarterly discipline reports.** **15-16: 095  
CLOSED MEETING  
AND CERTIFICATION  
OF CLOSED MEETING**

**On motion by Mr. Ryder and seconded by Mrs. Grimm at 7:00 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.** **15-16: 096  
CERTIFICATION OF  
CLOSED MEETING**

Dr. Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence, and reflected on the upcoming Veteran’s Day holiday. **15-16: 097  
CALL TO ORDER  
PUBLIC MEETING**

**On motion by Mr. Manion and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (4-0 vote) approved the agenda as presented.** **15-16: 098  
APPROVE OR  
AMEND AGENDA**

- Bonnie Lee, parent, suggested that future School Board and public forum meetings be broadcast (webcast or teleconference) for parents who have young children and are unable to attend. **15-16: 099  
PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Melinda Hooker, BCHS Band Director and parent, addressed the Board regarding the band uniform fundraiser currently underway. Mrs. Hooker provided a sample band uniform and detailed design and options. She said the cost is approximately \$50,000 to purchase ninety uniforms. Thus far, the band has raised approximately \$22,000. Mrs. Hooker said one third of the money, \$17,000 is due by January 31<sup>st</sup> in order to lock-in the current year costs and avoid a 3% increase. Mrs. Hooker said the Bath County High School Band has a lot of parental and community support and she thanked everyone.
- Bonnie Lee addressed the Board again and posed the following question: What are the School Board and the County going to do to help (Band uniform fundraiser)? Mrs. Lee requested the item be added to the agenda at the next meeting.

**15-16: 100  
PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Miller called to order the Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan at 7:14 p.m.

**15-16: 101  
CALL TO ORDER  
PUBLIC HEARING**

Mrs. Hirsh and Mr. Lancaster (Director, Technology, Testing & Administrative Services) presented the 2015-2021 Bath County Public Schools Comprehensive Plan proposal.

**15-16: 102  
PRESENTATION  
OF DIVISION 2015-2021  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

- Vision: Focus on every child, every class, every day.
- Mission: Bath County Public Schools will provide for the overall educational needs of all students with the highest standards possible and will be the schools of choice for Bath County citizens.

Objectives and actions were presented for the following six goals:

- #1 All students will be prepared for active participation in society and ready for post-secondary education (college or trade school) or work, including military service.
- #2 Our schools will partner with families and the community to meet the academic, physical, social, and emotional needs of every student.
- #3 Policy, personnel, and resources will be aligned to meet the goals and objectives of the Division.
- #4 Staff and students will demonstrate the character traits of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship.
- #5 Financial resources will be used responsibly.
- #6 Well maintained, safe, and accessible facilities will be provided for school and community use.

Mrs. Bonnie Lee and Mr. Brian Secoy addressed the Board during public comments on the Comprehensive Plan.

**15-16: 103  
PUBLIC HEARING ON  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

The public hearing adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

**15-16: 104  
ADJOURN  
PUBLIC HEARING**

**On motion by Mr. Ryder and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (4-0 vote) adopted the Division 2015-16 Comprehensive Plan as presented.**

- Band Competitions  
Lynchburg Classic, October 10, 2015  
1<sup>st</sup> place-Color Guard, 2<sup>nd</sup> place-Percussion, Music, Drum Major & Overall.  
Powhatan Fall Classic, October 24, 2015  
2<sup>nd</sup> place – Color Guard, 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Percussion and Visual Performance
- Academic Recognition Banquets  
VES on October 27, 2015 and MES on November 10, 2015
- The Virginia Tech Alumni Association – Alleghany Highlands Chapter donated books as a part of the *Hokies for Literacy Program*. On October 28, 2015, books and stickers were presented to MES and VES third grade students.
- Veterans Day Celebration at VES - all Veterans in the community were invited to lunch.
- VSBA Academy Awards

|                                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Dr. Miller, Mrs. Grimm, Mr. Ryder | Award of Excellence  |
| Mrs. Lowry                        | Award of Honor       |
| Mrs. Hirsh                        | Award of Distinction |
- Recognized 5 recent graduates from BCHS who received scholarships from the Community College Foundation – Brittany Chestnut, Katie Hostetter, Allison Swearengin, Kaitlyn Fitzgerald and Misty Lowry.

**15-16: 105  
GOOD NEWS IN  
BATH COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**On motion by Mrs. Grimm and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (4-0 vote) approved the consent agenda as presented:**

**15-16: 106  
APPROVE  
CONSENT AGENDA**

- **Minutes**  
September 15, 2015 Closed Meeting and Joint Work Session, October 6, 2015 Regular Meeting, October 15, 2015 Closed Meeting, October 22, 2015 Work Session – Comprehensive Plan
- **Claims**  
Mr. Justin Rider, Business Manager, presented an overview of expenditure summary and a reconciled October 2015 revenue summary. General Fund Payroll - 70030-70041, 70046-70057, Bills – 70042-70045, 70058-70122, Direct Deposit - 2175-2178, Food Service Payroll 10672-10676, 10677-10681 Direct Deposit – 2175-2177, Bills – 10682-10690.
- **Reports**
  - Attendance  
September 2015 ADM: BCHS 246.81, MES 109.86, VES 184.86 for a total of 541.53.
  - Cafeteria – August and September, 2015
  - Maintenance, October 2015
  - Transportation, October 2015

Miss Jessica Ryder mentioned the generous amount of donations toward Band uniforms and expressed her gratitude. She said it would be nice for all the athletes to come together at the end of the year for recognition.

**15-16: 107  
STUDENT  
REPRESENTATIVE'S  
REPORT**

Mrs. Hirsh reported on basic pupil-teacher ratios in grades K-7 based on homeroom teacher to class size. Mrs. Hirsh said this report does not include staff support at elementary schools as this information will be available next month. Mrs. Hirsh referred to BCHS and noted that the report reflects first quarter ratios by class section. In closing, Mrs. Hirsh said Bath County Public Schools continue to appreciate and enjoy generally low pupil-teacher ratios.

**15-16: 108  
REPORT OF  
PUPIL/TEACHER RATIOS**

The Virginia Association of Career and Technical Education (Virginia ACTE) has developed several documents that outline facts and figures, along with issues, pertaining to CTE in Virginia. Issues and Solutions for Career and Technical Education in Virginia for 2015-2016 presents critical issues facing CTE programs, in particular those experienced by students and employers. A copy of this report can be viewed online at

**15-16: 109  
CTE REPORT –  
MERTZ STAFF**

[http://www.virginiaacte.org/documents/2015-16/issues\\_solutions2015-16.pdf](http://www.virginiaacte.org/documents/2015-16/issues_solutions2015-16.pdf).

Connecting Career Preparation to the Workforce is a fact sheet that provides information that illustrates how Virginia is preparing high school students for college and careers. In 2014-2015, CTE students earned more than 128,850 nationally recognized and Virginia Board of Education approved industry credentials. A copy of this document can be viewed online at <http://www.virginiaacte.org/documents/2015-16/factsheet2015-16.pdf>.

Mrs. Rowe, BCHS principal, thanked the Board for the opportunity to provide a CTE report. Mrs. Rowe, Mrs. McMullen, Mr. Grubbs, Mr. Altizer, and Mr. Ozols provided an overview of current programs offered at Mertz Career and Technical Center. Reports for Mrs. Hodge, Culinary Arts, and Mr. Pritt, Auto Mechanics were presented in their absence.

On motion by Mrs. Grimm and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (4-0 vote) granted **permission for a non-resident student to remain at MES** for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year.

**15-16: 110  
ACTION FOLLOWING  
CLOSED MEETING**

On motion by Mr. Manion and seconded by Mr. Ryder, the Board (4-0 vote) approved the appointment of **Haley Woodzell as BCHS Instructional Aide**.

On motion by Mr. Ryder and seconded by Mr. Manion, the Board (4-0 vote) approved a **long term suspension of 364 days, with conditions, for student A**.

On motion by Mr. Manion and seconded by Mrs. Grimm, the Board (4-0 vote) approved an **overnight BCHS Band field trip to Myrtle Beach, S.C. on March 23-26, 2016.**

**15-16: 111  
APPROVAL OF  
OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP**

In an effort to increase funding in Bath County Schools for English Language Learners for the SY 2015-2016, Mrs. Hall, Director, Special Education, Pupil Personnel Services & Preschool, recommended disbandment of the existing local consortium agreement and joining the Department of Education’s Statewide Title III consortium for ELL.

**15-16: 112  
VIRGINIA TITLE III  
STATEWIDE  
CONSORTIUM  
APPLICATION FY 2015  
MRS. HALL**

On motion by Mr. Ryder and seconded by Mr. Manion, the Board (4-0 vote) **granted approval to join the Virginia Department of Education’s Title III Statewide Consortium for English Language Learners (ELL) for the 2015-2016 school year.**

Informational items for Board members included a packet of information for the VSBA annual Williamsburg Conference on November 17-20, 2015.

**15-16: 113  
ITEMS FOR BOARD  
MEMBERS/  
CORRESPONDENCE**

- Mrs. Rowe, BCHS principal, extended an open invitation to Board members to visit the high school. She suggested they have lunch, visit in the classrooms/shop areas, and attend games/competitions. Mrs. Rowe said she would welcome an active PTA organization as well.
- Debbie Chaplin, VES teacher, thanked Mrs. Hirsh on her recent role as volunteer in the schools; assistance in the VES library at parent night, relay for life festival, served lunch in the VES cafeteria and helped in a MES trunk or treat activity.

**15-16: 114  
PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Miss Ryder**

- Appreciative of community support in athletic and academic endeavors.

**15-16: 115  
ITEMS BY BOARD  
MEMBERS**

**Mrs. Grimm**

- Proud of staff, teachers and students.
- Thanked School Administration staff for all they do.
- Thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**Mr. Manion**

- Thanked staff and all those in attendance at the meeting.

**Mr. Ryder**

- A lot of effort and planning goes into the Comprehensive Plan. The goals and objectives should be positive. Don’t set goals so high that you can’t meet them.

**Dr. Miller**

- Thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and welcomed public input.
- Addressed the request for funding of band uniforms saying the Board has to look at everything prior to committing money. As a band parent and fan, personally supports the uniform fundraiser.
- In advance, congratulated School Board candidates.
- Congratulated all those mentioned in Good News.

**15-16: 115 (Con't.)  
ITEMS BY BOARD  
MEMBERS**

The Board adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

**15-16: 116  
ADJOURNMENT**

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**DR. ELLEN R. MILLER, CHAIRMAN**

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**CARLYN SUE F. HIRSH, CLERK**