

August 10, 2011

TO: Principals

FROM: James E. McDaniel, Division Superintendent

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTION TAKEN AT AUGUST MEETING

1. The Board approved the Resolution for School Bus Leave Purchase as presented.
2. The Board recognized the following students with Certificates of Recognition:

STATE JUNIOR BETA

- Krystina Culley (Dan River Middle School), elected Jr. Beta State President
- Jarret Stowe (Tunstall Middle School), elected Jr. Beta State Secretary
- Joshua Arthur (Gretna Middle School), elected Jr. Beta State Reporter
- Meagan L. Collins (Dan River Middle School), placed 2nd in the Colored Photography Competition
- Samantha Shelton (Tunstall Middle School), placed 1st in the Cross Stitch Competition
- Zachary McBride (Gretna Middle School), placed 1st in the Essay Competition
- Essence Patrick (Gretna Middle School), placed 2nd in the Hand-Made Jewelry Competition
- Landon Holley (Tunstall Middle School), placed 3rd in the Math Competition
- Kalie Carothers (Tunstall Middle School), placed 1st in the Poetry Competition
- Zachary Wilson (Gretna Middle School), placed 2nd in the Poetry Competition
- Autumn Womack (Gretna Middle School), placed 3rd in the Sketching (Pastels or Charcoals) Competition
- Chase Pruitt (Gretna Middle School), placed 1st in the Social Studies Competition
- Austin Canavan (Tunstall Middle School), placed 2nd in the Social Studies Competition
- Tunstall Middle School, placed 1st in the Songfest Competition
- Gretna Middle School, placed 3rd in the Songfest Competition
- Cornecia Clark (Gretna Middle School), placed 3rd in the Speech Competition
- Dan River Middle School placed 1st in the T-Shirt Competition
- Gretna Middle School placed 2nd in the T-Shirt Competition
- Meagan L. Collins (Dan River Middle School), placed 3rd in the Watercolors Competition
- Tunstall Middle School placed 3rd in the Wreath Competition
- Tunstall Middle School placed 1st in the Campaign Skit Competition

- Gretna Middle School placed 2nd in the Campaign Skit Competition

STATE SENIOR BETA

- Jasmine Lovelace (Gretna High School), elected Sr. Beta State President
- Kelsey Adams (Gretna High School) placed 2nd in the Acrylic Painting Competition
- Gretna High School placed 1st in the Banner Competition
- Daniel Nuckols (Gretna High School), placed 2nd in the Colored Pencil Drawing Competition
- Gretna High School, placed 2nd in group talent competition
- David Andrew Mills Scurry (Tunstall High School), placed 2nd in math competition
- Mary Hammock (Gretna High School), placed 2nd in Oratory Competition
- Alexander Crews (Gretna High School), placed 1st in the Science Competition
- Gretna High School placed 1st in Convention Sweepstakes
- Matthew Marstin (Gretna High School) received a \$500.00 Senior Scholarship
- Allison Irby (Gretna High School), placed 2nd in the Black and White Photography-Group Competition
- Naomi Spradlin (Gretna High School), placed 3rd in the Colored Photography-Group Competition
- Taylor Shelton (Gretna High School), placed 3rd in the Original Design Textiles Competition
- Kelsey Adams (Gretna High School), placed 1st in the Unclassified Crafts Competition
- Rebecca Owens (Gretna High School), placed 3rd in the Woodworking Competition

NATIONAL JUNIOR BETA CLUB

- Zachary McBride (Gretna Middle School) – placed 2nd in the Essay Competition

NATIONAL SENIOR BETA CLUB

- Kelsey Adams (Gretna High School), placed 3rd in the Acrylic Painting Competition
- Gretna High School placed 8th in the Banner Competition
- Alexander Crews (Gretna High School), placed 9th in the Science Competition

STATE FFA COMPETITION

- Megan Melton (Chatham Middle School), placed 1st in the State FFA Creed Speaking Career Development Event
- Blake Ricketts (Chatham Middle School), placed 1st in the State FFA AgriScience Demonstration Career Development Event
- Quin Motley (Chatham Middle School), placed 1st in the State FFA AgriScience Demonstration Career Development Event

3. Ms. Kate Wells, President of the Pittsylvania Education Association (PEA), addressed the Board to remind them of the job the staff is doing in practicing skills and providing a vital public service to the students of Pittsylvania County Schools. She also stated that the PEA has advocated for quality instruction for students, adequate funding for schools and excellent work conditions for employees. She assured the Board that the PEA will continue to stand up for public education, the school system, the students and the employees. She stated that the PEA looks forward to working with the Board again this year.
4. Ms. Debbie DuBuke, Field Representative of the Woodmen of the World, gave a brief description and background of the organization. She indicated that the Woodmen of the World would like to donate 21 outdoor flags (4' X 6') for the schools and School Board Office, 19 indoor flags (5' X 8') and 900 Patriot Handbooks (50 for each school).

The Board accepted the donation of flags and handbooks from the Woodmen of the World.

5. The Board recognized Ms. Hollie Jennings, new Assistant Principal at Chatham High School, and welcomed her to the school system.
6. Mr. Eric Reynolds, Legal Counsel for the Community Policy and Management Board (CPMB), addressed the Board. Also present were Ms. Sherry Flanagan, Chairman of the CPMB, and Ms. Amy Rice, Comprehensive Services Act (CSA) Coordinator. Mr. Reynolds gave an overview of the responsibilities of the CPMB and addressed issues and changes related to the recent State audit. He assured the Board that the CPMB was not violating any regulations or State/federal laws. He also indicated that changes were required to ensure accountability for all agencies.
7. Mr. Donald R. Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Business, provided a history of the high school renovation/revitalization project. A high school study was completed in January, 2005, which indicated that a \$90 million project including the upgrade to Chatham High School athletic fields was needed. The Board of Supervisors requested the amount be reduced to \$70 million. The bids at that time came in under budget; however, the Board of Supervisors determined not to use the additional funds to complete additional projects. The money was used toward the debt service. In March of 2010, a signed change order to complete the storage buildings and base project was provided by Blair Construction for \$1,688,465. This was not approved by the Board of Supervisors. The bid that has been received for the high school revitalization project is \$2,008,000 over budget which is \$319,535 more than the change order which had been proposed by Blair Construction in March of 2010.
8. The Superintendent provided the following reports:

- The current edition of Dewberry’s magazine features Chatham High School and the renovations that have been completed. A copy of the magazine was shared with the Board members.
- Tunstall High School has been recognized as a “High Performing School” in Virginia which allows a waiver of accreditation for the school. There were only 54 out of over 2,000 high schools in the State receiving this waiver. There were only 19 out of 132 school divisions with a school that was recognized, and only 16 out of 436 high schools were acknowledged.
- The Virginia School Boards Association will be recognizing the Pittsylvania County School Board Student Representatives in its November, 2011, Newsletter. The Student Representatives will answer questions concerning their service which will be published in this newsletter. Congratulations were expressed to the Student Representatives.
- The 2010-2011 suspension report was discussed. The number of suspensions dropped by 44 for the 2010-2011 school year. This is the eighth time in the last nine (9) years that the number of suspensions has dropped.
- A summary report for out-of-zone transfer requests for the 2011-2012 school year was provided to the Board. Requests for transfer are continuing to be received, and an updated report will be provided at a later time.
- Discussions have been held with Mrs. Ann Cassada, Director of Secondary Education, concerning the declining gate receipts and the possibilities for funding needed athletic materials. Additional information will be collected and brought to the Board as necessary.
- Upcoming VSBA conference includes the following:
 - VSBA Annual Convention, November 16-19, 2011, Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, Virginia

9. The Board approved the addition of the following videos with permission to use the video at a grade level beyond the designated grade if needed:

- a. 10th grade – Sex Facts Teens and STDs
- b. 9th grade – Sexting – Sex Plus Text Equals Trouble
Love Puts on Sneakers
- c. 8th grade – Am I Normal? Teens and Emotional Health
- d. 7th grade – Avoiding the Teen Pregnancy Trap
Bullying: There’s Always a Way Out
- e. 6th grade – Brush up on Hygiene
Advertising: The Media and Your Health

10. The Board approved the following individuals to serve on the Sick Leave Bank Committee for the 2011-2012 school year:
 - Jane Nichols, Payroll Supervisor
 - Cynthia Mills, Teacher at Chatham High School
 - Terry Payne, PEA Representative
 - Carolyn M. Harris, Principal of Union Hall Elementary School
 - Joyce Logan, Administrative Assistant for Instruction

11. The Board waived the first reading and approved the following School Board Policy:
 - JFC-PC, Student Conduct

12. The Board approved the low bid meeting specifications for bread products.

13. The Board declared all bids received over budget and awarded Blair Construction as low bidder meeting specifications per the base bid for the high school revitalization project, directed the Superintendent to negotiate with Blair Construction in order to bring the project within budget and once the project is at budget or below, authorized the Superintendent to sign a contract with Blair Construction so that work on the project may begin promptly.