

December 14, 2011

TO: Principals
FROM: James E. McDaniel, Division Superintendent
SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTION TAKEN AT DECEMBER MEETING

1. The Board approved the following overnight field trip:

SCHOOL(S)	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	DATES
Dan River High	Rotary Youth – RYLA Seminar	The Inn at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA	December 2-4, 2011

2. The Board designated Dr. Jeffrey Early, Dr. Lillian D. Holland, Mr. Donald R. Johnson, Mrs. Clarissa T. Knight and Mr. Rickey W. Parker to sign all Virginia Department of Education correspondence, reports, documents, requisitions and other official correspondence in their area of responsibility in the absence of the Division Superintendent for a period beginning January 1, 2012, and ending December 31, 2012.

The Board designated Mr. Donald R. Johnson to represent the school system in the absence of the Division Superintendent for a period beginning January 1, 2012, and ending July 31, 2012.

The Board designated Mrs. Clarissa T. Knight to represent the school system in the absence of the Division Superintendent for a period beginning August 1, 2012, and ending December 31, 2012.

3. The Board granted approval to conduct the Parents' Resource for Drug Education (PRIDE) survey to students in grades 8, 10 and 11 during the months of January and February, 2012. This survey will provide up-to-date statistics to assist in securing funding for programs, determining why student behaviors occur by examining risk and protective factors and meet the accountability of federal and State agencies for programs to be evidence-based.
4. The Chairman introduced a new staff member, Ms. Amy Warren, Project Case Manager working with the FAMIS Program, and the School Board Member-Elect for the Chatham/Blairs District, Mr. W. Wayne Robertson.
5. The Chairman asked for any comments relative to the 2012-2013 school budget. Mr. Doss, Chairman of the Budget Committee, indicated that the division has not received any information regarding funding from the

State. It is anticipated that this information will be provided from the Governor's Office prior to December 22, 2011.

6. There was no public input for the 2012-2013 budget proposal.
7. Ms. Jasmine Lovelace, Student Representative from Gretna High School, introduced the Character Word of the Month for December which was "Courtesy."
8. The Board recognized the Gretna High School Hawks Football Team as the 2011 Group A, Division 2, State Football Champions. Each of the following coaches and students received a Certificate of Excellence:

Coaches:

Mr. Kevin Saunders, Head Coach

Assistant Coaches: Braxton Blackstock, George Clarke, Casey Hall, Stanley Hall, Cole Simpson, Jacob Taylor and Stacy Ward

Team Members:

Laquiton Lamar Bain	DeShea Miller
Finis Leroy Barlow	Shantre' Ramon Miller
Ethan Lee Barnes	Kevin Terrell Moorman
Javon Antonio Bennett	Tay Quon Lamar Oakes
Jalani Maurice Brooks	Coleman Richard Osborne
Jason Niko Canare	Ryan Wayne Overby
Jeremiah Irvin Chambers	Devontae Deshea Pannell
Tevin O'dell Clements	Jeffrey Rashad Pannell
Charles Zachary Edwards	Malcolm Dashaun Pannell
Kaylan Wayne Gilbert	Trevante Anton Payne
Jared Dalton Glass	Devontae Lamar Reed
Matthew Logan Glass	Nicholas Carter Reynolds
Virgil Pierre Glass	Dyon RayShun Rosser
Spencer Ryan Hall	D'Mitrius Terrell Stone
Tony Dimitri Hall	Rayquan Latrelle Stone
Rory Alomar Haskins	Rayshaun Lee Taylor
Cameron Ray Jefferson	Andrew William-Omar Wilson
William David Lilly	
Briston Jovon Lovelace	

9. There was no presentation from the PEA due to the illness of Ms. Kate Wells, President of the Pittsylvania Education Association (PEA).
10. Ms. Joyce Wright, Principal of Mt. Airy Elementary School, and several of the students from Mt. Airy Elementary School sang an appreciation song to Mr. Burton and presented him with a gift.

11. The Board adopted a resolution in recognition of the years of service for Mr. J. Samuel Burton. The resolution was read and presented to Mr. Burton.
12. The Superintendent presented a framed picture of the entire School Board to Mr. Burton.
13. The Student Representatives provided an overview of their experiences at the VSBA Annual Convention held November 16-18, 2011. The Representatives indicated that they learned ways to be more effective and to be a vital resource to other students and received ideas from other representatives. They also enjoyed the fun activities outside of the conference.

The Board members also expressed their experiences at the VSBA conferences and the amount of knowledge that has been gained by attending these workshops as well as the bond that has developed between the Board members.

14. Dr. Lillian D. Holland, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, reviewed the draft of the 2012-2013 school calendar. The latest calendar proposal is very similar to the 2011-2012 school calendar. Changes in the 2012-2013 calendar proposal include more Teacher Professional Days in the Spring semester to ensure that make-up days are available if needed to be beneficial for instructional purposes. Feedback and comments will be received through December 16, 2011. The Calendar Committee will meet on December 21, 2011, to finalize discussions relative to a calendar recommendation to be presented to the School Board for approval at its January 10, 2012, meeting.

The Chairman indicated that the layout of the proposed calendar was much easier to read and follow. Appreciation was expressed to Ms. Tonda Finney, Executive Administrative Assistant for Instruction, for her work in developing this layout.

15. Mrs. Ann Cassada, Director of Secondary Education, provided information on the graduation audit for the Class of 2011. Each school year students are tracked in terms of completing the appropriate number of verified credits needed for graduation. For the seniors in the Class of 2011, all students received the verified credits for graduation.
16. The Superintendent provided the following reports:
 - Notes of appreciation for the bonus have been received from many staff members and schools. These notes were provided to the Board.

- A thank you note was received from the Patrick County School Board for allowing them to use the School Board Office facilities.
- Pittsylvania County Schools were recognized for having the highest rate of participation in the State for the American Heart Association's Jump Rope for Heart and Hoops for Heart for 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. Appreciation plaques were presented to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. These plaques will be displayed in a prominent area in the School Board Office.
- A question was raised at a recent Teachers' Advisory Council meeting relative to the feasibility of recording School Board meetings. After a favorable discussion, it was determined that a single camera with sound would be set up beginning with the January, 2012, meeting. The recordings will be posted on the website.
- A concern was also raised at a recent Teachers' Advisory Council meeting relative to more communication and visibility of the School Board members in the schools. It was felt that the recording of the School Board members may help with communication. However, School Board members were encouraged to attend school events if possible. It was noted that some of the school activities are scheduled on the same night as Board meetings. The Superintendent also indicated that during the second semester of the 2011-2012 school year he will be visiting every classroom in the school district. This information will be provided to the Teachers' Advisory Council at its next meeting in January, 2012.
- The school system collected a total of \$14,750.00 for the United Way campaign. Congratulations were expressed to the following schools for having the highest total contributions: Kentuck Elementary School, Tunstall Middle School, Tunstall High School and the School Board Office. Congratulations were also expressed to Chatham Middle School for having the highest percentage of increase in contributions.
- The Fall Standards of Learning (SOL) writing assessment scores have been received. Chatham High School students had a 91% pass rate; Dan River High School – 92%; Gretna High School – 90% and Tunstall High School – 92%. The overall division percentage was 92%.
- Congratulations were expressed to Mr. Rickey Parker for receiving a \$12,800 grant from the JT Minnie Maude Charitable Trust grant for the Dark Sky Mobile Observatory Project.

- The Presidential primary elections will be held on March 6, 2012, and June 12, 2012. There are nine (9) elementary schools and three (3) high schools serving as polling places. The Superintendent will be meeting with Ms. Jenny Lee Sanders, Pittsylvania County Registrar, to discuss and review a strategic place in the schools for the polling areas because schools will be in session on March 6, 2012.
 - The latest VSBA Newsletter included pictures from the recent VSBA Annual Convention. Ms. Tyrombia Womble, Mr. Morris Stowe and Mr. Neal Oakes were included in these pictures.
 - Upcoming VSBA conferences includes the following:
 - VSBA Southern Regional Forum (which includes the Regional Art Contest) will be held on April 24, 2012, at Dan River High School (The Superintendent noted that the Student Representatives will be actively involved in this activity.)
 - VSBA Orientation for New School Board Members, January 30, 2012, at the Richmond Marriott, Richmond, Virginia
 - VSBA Legislative Conference, January 30-31, 2012, at the Richmond Marriott, Richmond, Virginia
17. The Board by unanimous vote of all members present approved the second and final reading of the following School Board policy:
- ◆ JED-PC, Student Absences/Excuses/Dismissals
18. Information was provided relative to pay raises for School Board members. The School Board members cannot have a salary higher than the local governing body, and any action for increases in salary must be approved prior to July 1 of an election year.
19. The Board approved the first reading of the following School Board policy:
- ◆ JO-PC, Student Records
20. The Board approved the 2012-2018 Comprehensive Plan as presented.
21. The Board approved a partnership for Pittsylvania County Schools with the Wellness Works Program through the Danville Regional Medical Center to provide assistance to the employees in explaining the health insurance provided by the school system and other benefits.
22. The Board scheduled the School Board 2012 reorganizational meeting on Monday, January 2, 2012, as follows:

Swearing-In Ceremony beginning at 9:00 a.m.
School Board 2012 Reorganizational Meeting beginning at 9:15 a.m.
School Board Orientation Session beginning at 9:30 a.m.

23. The Board scheduled the January Disciplinary Committee meeting on Monday, January 9, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. at the School Administration Office, Chatham, Virginia.

The Chairman selected the following individuals to serve on the January Disciplinary Committee:

Mr. W. Neal Oakes, Chairman
Mr. Don C. Moon
Mr. R. Todd Sanders
Mr. Calvin D. Doss, Alternate

24. The Board discussed the criteria used to determine the payment of bonuses to employees. There was no action taken.