



PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY SCHOOLS
 P.O. Box 232 • 39 Bank Street S.E. • Chatham, Virginia 24531

Dr. Mark R. Jones
 Division Superintendent

December 14, 2016

TO: Principals
 FROM: Mark R. Jones, Ed.D., Division Superintendent
 SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTION TAKEN AT DECEMBER MEETING

- The Board approved the following overnight field trips:

SCHOOL(S)	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	DATES
Chatham Elementary	BETA – Jr. State Convention	Williamsburg, VA	February 8-9, 2017
Chatham High	Wrestling – Duals	Strasburg, VA	January 20-21, 2017
Chatham High	Wrestling - State Competition	Salem, VA	February 16-18, 2017
Dan River High	Wrestling – Regional	Grundy, VA	February 10-11, 2017
Dan River High	Wrestling – State	Salem, VA	February 17-18, 2017
Dan River Middle	BETA – Jr. State Convention	Williamsburg, VA	February 7-9, 2017
Tunstall High	Wrestling – Interscholastic Competition	Lynchburg, VA	January 6-7, 2017
Tunstall High	Wrestling – State Competition	Salem, VA	February 16-18, 2017
Tunstall High	Robotics	Blacksburg High School	March 3-5, 2017
Tunstall High	Robotics	Deep Run High, Glen Allen, VA	March 24-26, 2017
Tunstall Middle	BETA – Jr. State Convention	Williamsburg, VA	February 7-9, 2017

- The Board approved the donation from Mrs. Frankie Thomas of a chest-type freezer (valued at \$225.00) to be used for ice cream for students at Stony Mill Elementary School.
- The Board designated the following individuals 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, 2017, and ending December 31, 2017:

Mrs. L. Ann Cassada, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services
Dr. Jeffrey B. Early, Assistant Superintendent for Operations
Dr. Lillian D. Holland, Assistant Superintendent for Administration
Ms. B. Teresa Petty, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

4. The Board designated Dr. Lillian D. Holland, Assistant Superintendent for Administration, to represent the school system in the absence of the Division Superintendent for a period beginning January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017.
5. An opportunity for public input for the 2017-2018 school budget proposal was provided. Mr. Mark Moore, Director of Parks & Recreation for Pittsylvania County, addressed the Board to request the continuation of the Joint Usage Agreement between the Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors and the Pittsylvania County School Board with each appropriating \$15,000.00 to be used for facilities improvement for the coming school year. He also provided an update on the Middle Schools' Parks Project.
6. The following administrative interns were introduced:
 - Ms. Katie Hawker, teacher at Tunstall Middle School
 - Elizabeth Hoskins, teacher at Dan River Middle School
 - Jessica Gardner, guidance counselor at Chatham High School
 - Jennifer Gibson, teacher at Twin Springs Elementary School
 - Jessica Waller, teacher at Chatham Middle School
7. Ms. Erin Mayhew, Student Representative from Gretna High School, presented the Character Word of the Month for December which was "Courtesy."
8. Mr. Henry Walker, President of the Pittsylvania Education Association (PEA) and Teacher at Chatham High School, addressed the Board. He expressed appreciation for allowing PEA members to serve on the Calendar Committee, Salary Taskforce and the Grading and Reporting Committee. He also indicated that Dr. Willie Sherman is serving on the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL). Items of discussion for the coming months include the cost and rates for State health insurance, weekly planning time, duty free lunch and total contracted days. It was noted that approximately one-half of the school divisions across the State are paying bi-monthly. A financial analysis study for Pittsylvania County Schools conducted by the Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis was provided and discussed. This study indicates that Pittsylvania County Schools is funded 60% below the State average.
9. Mr. Frank Blevins, Ms. Sarah Goard, and Ms. Erin Mayhew, Student Representatives, provided a report on their recent trip the VSBA Annual Convention in Williamsburg, Virginia.
10. Dr. Lillian D. Holland, Assistant Superintendent for Administration, provided an update on the status of the Compensation Study being conducted by Evergreen Solutions. Several draft reports have been provided from Evergreen Solutions and additional feedback has been submitted. It is anticipated that a report along with recommendations

will be available in January, 2017. The school division has also requested a phase-in schedule for any changes in compensation which will also be presented to the Board for review.

11. The Superintendent reported on the following items:

- Congratulations were expressed to Chatham Middle School for earning the BETA School of Distinction Award.
- The schools have been involved in many activities in the past few weeks. These activities included
 - Science Fairs at Brosville Elementary School and Union Hall Elementary School
 - Veterans' Day activities
 - The JROTC students and instructors participated in the annual Veterans' Day activities at the D-Day Memorial. A special tribute was made to the late Captain Roderick Henderson. A memorial brick was dedicated in his memory for his commitment and service.
 - Dan River Middle School held its second annual Reach for the Gold event in honor of National Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month. A total of \$4,700.00 was raised for the Claire Parker Foundation. Tunstall Middle School also raised \$4,610.00 for this foundation.
 - Dan River Middle School sponsored a canned food drive for God's Storehouse. There were 1,132 items weighing more than 1,200 pounds collected for the food pantry.
 - The following Twin Springs Elementary School students will participate in the 2017 American Choral Director's Association's National Honor Choir: Chase Snead (Tunstall Middle School), Gracie Wood (Tunstall Middle School) and Luke Clatterbuck (Chatham Middle School).
 - The Fraternal Order of Eagles (FOE) – Piedmont Aerie 4420 recently provided Thanksgiving dinners for 26 families and contributed 50 bags of Christmas gifts for students. Appreciation was expressed to the Order for their generous donations.
 - A team from Gretna High School recently placed first in the Quiz Bowl Competition hosted by the Virginia DECA District 6.
- Congratulations were expressed to Cameron Lee, a senior at Dan River High School. Cameron was an All-State Medalist in the Group AA State Cross-Country meet and finished 13th in the State.
- Appreciation was expressed to staff for the 2016-2017 United Way contributions. A total of \$ 15,521.62 was received. The following schools/facilities were recognized as top contributors:
 - Elementary Schools – Kentuck Elementary School - \$1,400.00 / Total Per Capita - \$17.07

- Middle Schools – Dan River Middle School - \$1,333.75 / Total Per Capita - \$16.47
 - Secondary Schools – Tunstall High School - \$2,362.68 / Total Per Capita - \$21.58
 - Other Groups – School Board Office – \$1,505.00 / Total Per Capita - \$36.71
 - SkyRocket Per Capita Award for highest increase in contributions – Mt. Airy Elementary School at 212%
- The Superintendent and Dr. Jeff Early, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, attended a meeting relative to computer coding. The discussion centered around providing coding experiences in the curriculum for students in elementary through high school grades. This information will be reviewed with the instructional staff as it relates to job opportunities in cyber security and computer programming.
 - A team from Pittsylvania County Schools attended the Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports (VTSS) Aligning Practices: Where the Rubber Meets the Road conference in Roanoke, Virginia. Many of the practices in Pittsylvania County schools were listed as enhancements for this program. Pittsylvania County Schools has made great strides in implementing these practices in the schools.
 - The Board members were reminded of the following upcoming VSBA conference:
 - VSBA Capital Conference, January 23-24, 2017, Richmond Marriott, Richmond, Virginia
 - VSBA New Chairmen/Board Member/Superintendent Orientation, January 24, 2017, Richmond Marriott, Richmond, Virginia
 - VSBA Southern Regional Forum, April 25, 2017 (CHECK DATE – April 25 or April 27), (Location TBA - Lynchburg)
12. Under unfinished business, the Superintendent provided a report on the possible revisions to School Board Policy GBO-PC, Retirement System. At this time, a letter has been submitted to Congressman Robert Hurt requesting a waiver of the provision of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that requires a newly retired/resigned employee to have a 26-week break in service before returning to work. It was noted that there may be changes to this Act under the new leadership.
 13. The Board approved the 2017-2018 school calendar as presented.
 14. The Board scheduled the 2017 reorganizational meeting on Thursday, January 5, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at the School Board Administration Office.
 15. The Board scheduled the January, 2017, Disciplinary Committee meeting on Monday, January 9, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. The Chairman appointed the following individuals to serve on the Committee: Dr. Miller, Chairman, Mr. Sanders, Mr. Henderson and Mr. Burton will serve as alternate.

16. The Board approved the revised 2017-2018 budget calendar with one change: the time for the January 5, 2017, meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.
17. The Board approved the addition of the following Career & Technical Education Courses for the 2017-2018 school year:
 - a) Computer Network Hardware Operations I (8542) for Grade 11 or 12 (High School Credits - 1.5 semester I and Dual Enrollment Credits from DCC - 4 credits)
 - b) Computer Network Hardware Operations II (8543) for Grade 11 or 12 (High School Credits - 1.5 semester II and Dual Enrollment Credits from DCC - 5 credits)
 - c) Cyber Security and Cyber Forensics Infusion Units (Dual Enrollment Credits from DCC - 2 credits)
18. The Board approved the following changes in the Career & Technical Education Program for the 2017-2018 school year:
 - Restructure the Criminal Justice program from a two-year program to a one-year program
 - Teach Criminal Justice I (8702) 1st semester and Criminal Justice II (8703) 2nd semester
 - Create two pathways: Criminal Justice – Law Enforcement Specialization or Criminal Justice – Crisis Intervention Specialization
19. The Board approved the summer training program at the Career & Technical Center sponsored by English Construction Company, Inc. and its sister companies, Southside Materials, Virginia Carolina Paving and Adams Construction at no cost to students or the school division.
20. The Board approved the first reading of School Board Policy IKH-PC, Grading System, as presented.
21. The Board adopted the resolution for Equity for Pittsylvania County Schools as presented.