



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

Dr. Mark R. Jones
Division Superintendent

November 9, 2016

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

1. The Board approved the following overnight field trips:

SCHOOL(S)	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	DATES
Chatham High	Wrestling – Regional	Grundy, VA	February 9-11, 2017
Chatham Middle	BETA – Jr. State Convention	Williamsburg, VA	February 7-9, 2017
Dan River High	BETA – State Convention	Williamsburg, VA	February 9-11, 2017
Gretna High	Cross Country – State Competition	The Plains, Manassas, VA	November 11-12, 2016
Pittsylvania Career & Technical Center	SkillsUSA State Competition	Fredericksburg, VA	April 28-30, 2017
Tunstall High	Cross Country – State Competition	Manassas, VA	November 10-11, 2016

2. The Board approved the donation of \$3,717.05 from Kentuck Baptist Church to purchase volleyball equipment (poles, nets, antenna, pads) for Dan River High School (copy filed in Donations Book at School Board Office).
3. The Board recognized Logan Mills, a student at Chatham High School, for placing 4th in the Eastern Regional FFA Creed Public Speaking Event and placing 1st in the Eastern Regional FFA Safe Tractor Operator’s Career Development Event.
4. An opportunity for public input for the 2017-2018 school budget proposal was provided. There were no speakers. Mr. Sanders, Chairman of the Budget Committee, indicated that it is anticipated to be another tedious budget season.
5. Mr. Frank Blevins, Student Representative from Dan River High School, presented the Character Word of the Month for October which was “Respect.”
6. The Board adopted a Proclamation recognizing the week of November 14-18, 2016, as American Education Week.
7. Mr. Henry Walker, President of the Pittsylvania Education Association (PEA) and Teacher at Chatham High School, addressed the Board. He expressed appreciation for

allowing him to attend the recent Legislative Breakfast and asked the Board to consider adopting a resolution in support of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Mr. Walker also discussed current legislative concerns for State health insurance, Statewide virtual schools and school vouchers.

8. The Superintendent reported on the following items:

- Congratulations were expressed to the schools and students for recent increases in SAT scores.
- Ms. Amaia Jones, a senior at Dan River High School and Culinary Arts student at the Pittsylvania Career & Technical Center, has been selected as the SkillsUSA District III Vice-President for the 2016-2017 school year.
- Appreciation was expressed to the staff of the Pittsylvania Career & Technical Center for their work on the recent dedication ceremony for its Industrial Maintenance Program.
- The following teachers were recognized as W!SE (Working in Support of Education) Gold Star Teachers: Ms. Heather McDowell, Dan River High School; Mr. Matthew Beard, Tunstall High School; and Ms. Michelle Carter, Tunstall High School.
- The school system has partnered with The ARC to offer internships to students to provide valuable work experience that may lead to valuable employment opportunities.
- The gifted staff and Central Office administrators held a STEAM (Science, Technology, English, Arts and Math) event on Saturday, November 5, 2016. There were 65 gifted students attending from the ten (10) elementary schools and four (4) middle schools.
- Lapel pins were presented to the Board members in recognition of Tunstall High School as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School award recipient. Members were invited to attend a faculty meeting at Tunstall High School on Tuesday, November 15, 2016, to celebrate.
- The Board members were reminded of the following upcoming VSBA conference:
 - VSBA Annual Convention, Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, Virginia, November 16-18, 2016

9. The Board approved the second and final reading of the following School Board policies:

- GBJ-PC, Employee Insurance
- GCE-PC, Part-Time and Substitute Professional Staff Employment

- GCPB, Resignation of Staff Members

10. The Board tabled the first reading of School Board Policy GBO-PC, Retirement System, until the December 13, 2016, Board meeting. A request was also made to determine if there would be a possibility of a waiver from the 26-week break in service requirement under the Affordable Care Act.
11. The Board approved the recommendation for the following individuals to serve as hearing officers as required by School Board Policy GBM, Professional Staff Grievances, and GBMA, Support Staff Grievances:
 - Mr. James McDaniel, Retired Division Superintendent
 - Mrs. Clarissa Knight, Retired Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
 - Mrs. Wanda Vaughan, Retired Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
12. The Board approved the Easement Agreement for drainage vault at the Waste Water Treatment Facility at Dan River High School as presented and authorized the Superintendent to sign and execute as necessary.
13. The Board approved the use of school facilities as requested by the Boys' and Girls' Club.
14. The Board approved the request for special project to construct an outside classroom at Gretna High School contingent upon availability of fundraising monies.
15. The Board adopted the Resolution for the National Anthem as presented.
16. The Board approved the Easement for Right of Way to allow Dominion Virginia Power to plant a pole by the road on the corner of the Chatham High School property and run an underground line onto an adjacent property.