



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

Dr. Mark R. Jones
Division Superintendent

August 9, 2017

TO: Principals

FROM: Mark R. Jones, Ed.D., Division Superintendent

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTION TAKEN AT AUGUST MEETING

1. The Board accepted the following donations:
 - Donations from TurningPoint Energy
 - Kentuck Elementary School - \$5,000.00
 - Dan River Middle School - \$5,000.00
 - Dan River High School - \$5,000.00
 - STEM or Pittsylvania Career & Technical Center – Solar Farm Model
 - Donations for Mt. Airy Elementary
 - Hurt Pentecostal Holiness Church - \$150.00
2. The Board authorized the application for the Title I, Part C, Education of Migratory Children grant for 2016-2017.
3. The Board authorized the application for the Summer Virginia CyberCamp 2017 grant.
4. The Board recognized the following National SkillsUSA winners:
 - Andrew Williams, a student at Gretna High School, received 19th place in CNC Milling Specialist Event
 - Jacob Bowles, a student at Gretna High School, received 7th place in CNC Technician Event
 - Matthew Conner, a student at Chatham High School, received 8th place in CNC Turning Specialist Event
 - Jenna Rowland, a student at Chatham High School, received 10th place in Job Skill Demo A Event
 - Heath Doss, a student at Gretna High School, received 17th place in Industrial Motor Controls Event
 - Tyler Riddle, a student at Chatham High School, received 15th place in Mechatronics Event
 - Jonathan “Seth” Woodson, a student at Tunstall High School received 15th place in Mechatronics Event

5. The Board also recognized the following State FFA Winners:
 - Jerry Early, a student at Tunstall High School, recognized as State FFA Proficiency Award Champion
 - Savannah Childers, a student at Tunstall High School, recognized as a 2017 recipient of the Virginia FFA State Degree
 - Megan Pollok, a student at Tunstall High School, recognized as State FFA Agriscience Demonstration Career Development Event Champion
6. The Board recognized Ms. Paige Hines, teacher at Tunstall Middle School, as the 2017 Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year. A “Teacher of the Year” watch, donated by Herff-Jones, was presented to Ms. Hines.
7. The Superintendent presented the VTSS (Virginia Tiered Systems of Support) Leadership Award of Distinction in Implementation of Leadership Team to the School Board. The award was received by only 25 of 132 school systems in the State of Virginia in recognition of the VTSS work being accomplished by the school divisions.
8. Ms. Faith Stamps, representing the Boys’ and Girls’ Club, expressed appreciation to the Board for the partnership with STEM in providing a site for the area Boys’ and Girls’ Club. She also presented a request to survey the Mt. Airy Elementary School parents to determine the feasibility of a before/after-school childcare program.

The Board approved the request by the Boys’ and Girls’ Club to conduct a survey of the Mt. Airy Elementary School parents to determine the feasibility of a before/after-school childcare program.

9. Mr. Roger Maxfield, Vice President of Government Relations for the Pittsylvania Education Association (PEA) and a teacher at Chatham High School, addressed the Board. He provided the following comments from the PEA:
 - PEA has been pleased with the efforts of the compensation salary study and asked the Board to continue with the recommendations of the study.
 - PEA has attempted to improve morale and hosted a Danville Braves game recently.
 - Mr. Henry Walker, President of the PEA, will attend the upcoming Legislative Breakfast.
 - Appreciation was expressed for the cooperation of the Board during the last school year.

Mr. Maxfield also expressed excitement about the upcoming school year and the great things that are happening in the schools.

10. Mr. Troy Simpson, Chairman of the Pittsylvania Career & Technical Education Advisory Council, presented the annual report of the Council to the Board. He provided an overview of the highlights and accomplishments of the Career & Technical Education students and programs. He also presented the following recommendations for the 2017-2018 school year:

- Provide full funding for the career and technical education and adult education budget as submitted by the director of these programs.
- Work to increase the funding for CTE consumable allocations during the next budget process. This adjustment will allow our teachers to be funded similarly to other programs in the region.
- Work to increase dual-enrollment opportunities for similar classes offered by the community college system.
- Provide support to expand opportunities for students in Health Occupations – Nursing Assistant, Emergency Medical Technician, and Technology Programs at Pittsylvania Career and Technical Center.
- Provide support to revitalize the Horticulture Program at the Pittsylvania Career and Technical Center to provide opportunities for students seeking this pathway.
- Work to enhance and expand the facilities at the Pittsylvania Career and Technical Center to help promote and increase opportunities for our students.
- Provide support and funding for additional CTE teachers in the middle schools and high schools to support the increasing enrollment.
- Work to provide funding for Industry Certifications that will be required of all students graduating with a standard diploma.
- Work to increase the awareness of the importance of Career and Technical Education and the programs offered to the students in Pittsylvania County.
- Provide support to Career and Technical Education Programs to ensure students are College and Career Ready with the skills and knowledge to be successful.

The Board accepted the report from the Pittsylvania Career & Technical Education Advisory Council with recommendation to be forwarded to the appropriate staff for review and possible consideration.

11. Mr. Mike Hutson, Director of Maintenance & Facilities, provided a report of the summer maintenance projects. These projects included the following:
- Replaced storm drains at the front of Chatham Elementary School
 - The Arch was reinstalled at Dan River High School
 - The ramp going over to the football bleachers was reworked at Dan River High School
 - Replaced a failing section of sewer line behind the school at Dan River High School
 - Tracks at the high schools were repaired and resealed with an asphalt based rubber sealer
 - Renovated the kitchen, installed new sewer lines and new quarry tile floors and painted at Kentuck Elementary School
 - Started the design process to replace the underground potable water tank and installed a new above-ground system with booster pumps at Kentuck Elementary School
 - Resealed split faced block around the gym and cafeteria to stop water infiltration at the middle schools
 - Paved the bus lot at Stony Mill Elementary School

- Repaired and repaved the back lot at the kitchen at Chatham Elementary School
- Completed many smaller projects throughout all the schools such as painting, tile work, carpet, electrical work
- Completed 3900 work orders in the past year and performed a lot of preventative maintenance during the summer

Mr. Hutson expressed appreciation to the maintenance crew and the School Board for support in maintaining the schools. He also asked the Board to keep maintenance of the buildings in mind when discussing budget issues for next year.

Mr. Henderson commended Mr. Hutson for having the field mowed at Whitmell School for an area Bible School that wanted to use the field.

12. Mrs. L. Ann Cassada, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, presented the 2015 Annual Performance Report (APR) and Revised State Performance Plan (SPP) for Pittsylvania County Schools. Based on 2015-2016 submitted data, the Virginia Department of Education has designated Pittsylvania County Schools as meeting and exceeding State requirements.
13. The Board reviewed the following desk reports:
 - 2017-2018 opening activities
 - 2017-2018 salary schedule information
 - Elementary/middle schools summer program
 - Secondary schools summer program
 - Sick Leave Bank Annual report
 - Career & Technical Education certification summary for 2016-2017
 - English Learners report
 - Report on use of school facilities
14. The Superintendent reported on the following items:
 - School division personnel have been invited to attend the Back to School event at Moffett Memorial Baptist Church on Thursday, August 10, 2017.
 - The Governor has announced the 2017 VIP (Virginia Index of Performance) program awards for advanced learning and achievement. The following awards have been received by Pittsylvania County Schools:
 - VIP Board of Education Excellence Awards – Chatham Elementary School and Union Hall Elementary School
 - VIP Board of Education Distinguished Achievement Awards – Tunstall High School, Chatham High School, Stony Mill Elementary School, Dan River High School, Southside Elementary School and Hurt Elementary School
 - The school division also received the Distinguished Achievement Award. Pittsylvania County Schools was one of fifteen divisions in the State to receive this award.

- The preliminary Standards of Learning test results have been returned. The unofficial report shows 18 of 18 schools are fully accredited. An official report should be released soon.
 - Sol Systems has indicated that there has been a delay in obtaining a grading permit from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). It is anticipated that the grading will be completed by the middle of September.
 - The schools are fully staffed, and a smooth opening for the 2017-2018 school year is anticipated.
 - The Legislative Breakfast has been scheduled for Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the STEM Academy.
 - The Board members were reminded of the following upcoming VSBA conferences:
 - Legislative Advocacy Conference, September 28, 2017, Doubletree by Hilton, Charlottesville, Virginia
 - VSBA Annual Convention, November 15-17, 2017, Williamsburg, Virginia
15. The Board approved the Request for Special Project for the playground renovation for Southside Elementary School.
 16. The Board approved the request for the addition of a JV Soccer Program at Tunstall High School contingent upon appropriate participation level.
 17. The Board approved the amendments to the 2017-2018 school budget as presented.
 18. The Board approved the request from Averett University for Pittsylvania County Schools to serve as a collaborative partner for the capacity-building grant available through the National Science Foundation (NSF) Robert Noyce Division.