



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

Dr. Mark R. Jones
 Division Superintendent

October 11, 2017

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

1. The Board approved the following overnight field trips:

SCHOOL(S)	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	DATES
Gretna Middle	BETA – Jr. State Convention	Norfolk, VA	February 12-14, 2018
Gretna Middle	BETA – Jr. National Convention	Savannah, GA	June 12-16, 2018
Gretna High	Cross Country – State	The Plains, VA	November 10-11, 2017
Tunstall High	Golf – Regional	Draper Valley	October 1-2, 2017
Tunstall High	Golf – State	TBA	October 9-10, 2017
Tunstall High	FFA – VT Block & Bridle Judging	Blacksburg, VA	February 23-24, 2018
Tunstall High	Robotics – Central VA FRC Event	Glen Allen, VA	March 9-11, 2018
Tunstall High	Robotics – Hampton Roads FRC Event	Portsmouth, VA	March 16-18, 2018
Tunstall High	Robotics – Southwest VA FRC Event	Blacksburg, VA	March 23-25, 2018
Tunstall High	Robotics – Chesapeake District Championship	Lynchburg, VA	April 4-7, 2018 (Spring Break)
Tunstall High	Robotics – World Championship	Detroit, MI	April 24-28, 2018
Tunstall High	FFA – State Convention	Blacksburg, VA	June 18-21, 2018
Tunstall High	FFA – National Convention	Indianapolis, IN	October 24-28, 2017
Tunstall Middle	BETA – National Leadership Summit	Williamsburg, VA	November 2-3, 2017

2. The Board accepted the following donations as recorded in the Donations Book file at the School Board Office:

- Donations for the Dan River High School
 - Mr. Jerry Echols – donation of \$700.00 for the football program
 - Fraternal Order of Eagles of Danville-Pittsylvania County – donation of \$5,000.00 for the baseball scoreboard
- Donation for Stony Mill Elementary School
 - The Tabernacle – donation of \$1,000.00 to purchase shoes, underwear and simple clothing that will be used for students when needs arise

3. The Board approved the 2018-2019 Budget Calendar as presented.
4. The Board approved the membership of the Special Education Advisory Committee for 2017-2018 as follows:

Brosville Elementary – Scott Richardson
Chatham Elementary – Hannah King
Gretna Elementary – Jeanne Younger
Hurt Elementary – Vacant
Kentuck Elementary – TBA
Mt. Airy Elementary – Ginger Patterson
Southside Elementary – April Miner
Stony Mill Elementary – Brandi Cousins
Twin Springs Elementary – Jodi Stone
Union Hall Elementary – Latoya Myers
Chatham Middle – Barbara Sloan
Dan River Middle – TBA
Gretna Middle – Nickicia Rosser
Tunstall Middle – Stephany Bryant
Chatham High – Olivia Grekos
Dan River High – Felicia Edmunds
Gretna High – Stephanie Jagoda
Tunstall High – Shelia Elliott
Regional Alternative – Vacant

Consultants

Ann Cassada, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services
Ketina Wright, Special Education Coordinator

5. The Board approved the VSBA Policy Services Agreement as presented.
6. The Board granted approval to conduct the Parents' Resource for Drug Education (PRIDE) survey to students in grades 8, 10 and 11.
7. The Superintendent recognized Union Hall Elementary School as a National Blue Ribbon School. The following individuals were present: Mrs. Carolyn Harris, retired Union Hall Elementary School Principal, Ms. Denise Williams, Teacher, Ms. Deborah Adams, Administrative Assistant, and Ms. Melanie Stowe, Teacher. Four (4) representatives will attend the National Blue Ribbon ceremony in Washington, DC on November 6 and 7, 2017. Also, a celebration will be held at Union Hall Elementary School for the entire staff to attend.
8. The Superintendent presented Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) awards to the Board members as follows:
 - Award of Recognition – Mr. Burton, Dr. Miller, Mr. Moon, Mr. Sanders, Dr. Jones and Mrs. Hancock
 - Award of Honor and gold pin - Mr. Oakes
 - Mr. Doss and Mr. Henderson will also receive the Award of Recognition

9. Ms. Talarra Stone, Student Representative from Chatham High School, presented the Character Word of the Month for October which was “Honesty.”
10. Mr. Henry Walker, Teacher at Chatham High School/President of the Pittsylvania Education Association (PEA) addressed the Board to express appreciation for the opportunity for the Blue Grass classroom program. He also provided items which the school system should be proud, such as all 18 schools being fully accredited, proceeding with the Evergreen Compensation Study, having two (2) National Blue Ribbon schools in the last two (2) years, having dedicated staff, having collaboration between the PEA and the School Board, and the smooth transition period for the Superintendent. However, there are also issues and challenges, such as lack of funding, unfunded mandates, vouchers, the homeschool bill, information technology upgrades, safety and security concerns, lack of information relative to ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act), cuts in programs, the need to work with at-risk and credit recovery program to help to close the achievement gap, dual enrollment opportunities with Danville Community College and the need for middle school sports programs.
11. The Board reviewed the following desk reports:
 - Breakfast State Funding Award
 - School Lunch Week (October 9-13, 2017)
 - No Kid Hungry Campaign update
 - Homebound annual report
 - Report on Earthquake Drill
 - Annual Safety Audits
 - On-time graduation rate
 - 2017-2018 First Semester Exam Schedules
 - 2017 Influenza Vaccine Clinics
 - Student Computer Update
 - Incredible Years (IY) Parenting Program
 - Report on Use of School Facilities
 - Drinking Water Notice for Kentucky Elementary School
12. The Superintendent reported on the following items:
 - Each Board member received a pin in recognition of the 100% accreditation of all 18 schools.
 - A copy of the State Report Card for Pittsylvania County Schools was provided. The information on the Report Card includes accreditation status, federal graduation indicator, student achievement by proficiency level (reading performance, writing performance, math performance, science performance and history performance), percent of kindergarten students meeting literacy benchmarks, number of recently arrive English language learners exempted from State reading assessments, Fall Membership by grade and subgroup, diplomas and completion percentage, four-year span for on-time graduation rate, and advanced program information for number and percentage of students enrolled in advanced programs.

- The SOVA Career Choice Expo was held on September 27-28, 2017, at the Olde Dominion Agriculture Complex, Chatham, Virginia. This Expo exposes students in grades 7, 9 and 10 to real life opportunities and pathways that may be available to them in this County. The Student Representatives indicated they have attended this event which gives students a review of opportunities in the area along with hands-on experiences to help them to determine career pathways.
 - The Board members were reminded of the following upcoming VSBA conference:
 - VSBA Annual Convention, November 15-17, 2017, Williamsburg, Virginia (An itinerary was provided for the Student Representatives and the School Board members for this event.)
13. The Board approved the request from Smart Beginnings list Pittsylvania County Schools as a partner on its “Success for All” campaign flyer.
 14. The Board authorized the application for the Start on Success grant.
 15. The Board authorized the application for the Title IV, Part A, Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grant.
 16. The Board accepted the low bid meeting specifications for petroleum products as presented.
 17. The Board approved the request to see the approval of the Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors for an ordinance allowing for the installation of operation of dash cameras on selected Pittsylvania County school buses for the purpose of recording violations.
 18. The Student Representatives were encouraged to contact individual Board members if there were issues to be discussed or to request items to be placed on the agenda for discussion as appropriate. Student Representatives were asked to contact Mrs. Janet Hancock, Clerk of the Board, to request items to be added to the agenda.