

The Washington County School Board convened for a School Board Meeting on Monday, January 16, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Washington County CTE Center Auditorium, 255 Stanley Street, Abingdon, Virginia. Present were:

Dr. Brian C. Ratliff, Superintendent	Dr. Doug Arnold
Ms. Melissa Caudill, Director of Finance & Clerk of the Board	Mr. Terry Fleenor
Ms. Elizabeth Lowe, Chair	Mr. Tommy Musick
Mr. Billy Brooks, Vice Chair	Mr. Dayton Owens
	Mr. Danny Ruble

1. The meeting was called to order by Ms. Elizabeth Lowe, School Board Chair.
2. Determination of quorum – seven of seven board members were present.
3. Dr. Brian Ratliff led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Upon motion by Mr. Brooks, seconded by Dr. Arnold, by 7-0 vote, the agenda was approved as amended.
5. Dr. Noe recognized the following teachers for being chosen as Teacher of the Year at their respective schools:
 - Natalie Blevins, Abingdon Elementary School
 - Suzanne Belcher, Greendale Elementary School
 - Tracy Jones, High Point Elementary School
 - Candy Turner, Meadowview Elementary School
 - Jennifer Blevins, Rhea Valley Elementary School
 - Tammie Allerton, Valley Institute Elementary School
 - Shirley Hibbets, Watauga Elementary School
 - Valerie Cox, Damascus Middle School
 - Lisa Henderson, Glade Spring Middle School
 - Amanda Bedwell, E. B. Stanley Middle School
 - Christina Musick, Wallace Middle School
 - Josh Sheets, Abingdon High School
 - Teresa Austin, John S. Battle High School
 - Sarah Scyphers, Holston High School
 - Jon Caywood, Patrick Henry High School
 - Stan Green, CTE

Ms. Suzanne Belcher was chosen as Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Amanda Bedwell was chosen as Middle School Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Sarah Scyphers was chosen as High School Teacher of the Year.

Ms. Sarah Scyphers was chosen as the 2016-2017 Washington County Teacher of the Year and will be the division's candidate for the Region VII Teacher of the Year.

7:30 p.m. - Break

7:40 p.m. - Resume

6. Upon motion by Mr. Musick, seconded by Mr. Owens, by 7-0 vote, the Superintendent was authorized to pay bills, hire necessary staff and accept resignations for the 2017-2018 School Year and will apprise the school board of these actions at the next board meeting. The Superintendent's Designee was authorized to attend meetings of the School Board in the absence of the Superintendent.
7. Ms. Lowe asked for a review on the school board meeting procedures. The Board was provided Policy BB, School Board Legal Status for review. Dr. Ratliff stated that the policy declares and authorizes Washington County

School Board members as officers of the Commonwealth and designates the Board as the policy-making body for the Washington County School Division.

8. Ms. Lowe opened the public hearing on the 2017-2018 Budget.
9. Dr. Ratliff initiated the public hearing discussion with a brief overview of the FY 2018 budget information to date stating that further information will develop as the state budget moves through the General Assembly. Dr. Ratliff noted several variables pending final General Assembly action that may have a significant impact on our upcoming FY 2018 condition. Based on our Fall Membership enrollment submission to the state, our enrollment (ADM) has decreased 97.75 students from 7,098.25 on September 30, 2015, to 7,000.50 this year at September 30, 2016. Our current FY 2017 budget is based on an estimated ADM of 7,076.3. The Governor's proposed budget, released on December 16, 2016, is based on an ADM of 6,994.85. This equates to an ADM enrollment loss of 81.45 which reduces our state funding by approximately \$400,000 this current 2017 fiscal year and \$665,000 FY 2018. The Governor's December proposed budget reversed the 2.0% December 1, 2016, salary increase further impacting not only the upcoming FY 2018 budget but also our current year's budget by eliminating the \$311,055 state compensation supplement that we relied upon to offset the step plus 2.0% increase in salaries beginning this fiscal year. The Governor's proposed budget includes funding for the state's share of a 1.5% bonus on December 1, 2017. It is uncertain at this time if the funds for this onetime bonus can be utilized to partially offset the loss of compensation support for the already provided salary increases. Further information regarding the compensation support from the state will be clarified when the Senate and House Crossover occurs on February 7, 2017. There are currently several legislative bills under consideration that could have negative fiscal as well as operational implications. Of particular interest are pending legislative initiatives involving student discipline, assessments, virtual schools, school choice as well as a push to accelerate the VRS repayment schedule. Each year we assess our capital improvement plan to address current and future facility needs. We continue to try to address our capital improvement program with the local governing authority to address improvements, replacements and maintenance of our facilities and infrastructure as the locality is the funding stream source for major capital projects.
10. Ms. Lowe called for public comment on the budget, and the following individual was signed up to speak:
 - Johnny Blevins, President of the Washington County Education Association, said that they understand about the revenue shortfalls but request for the Board to provide salary increases if possible. They want to thank the Board for working diligently for the employees and for the previous pay increase but would like to have 2% increase again if possible.
11. Ms. Lowe closed the public hearing on the budget.
12. Update on the 2018 Budget Goals: Dr. Ratliff presented the proposed FY 2018 budget goals. Dr. Ratliff stated that he had attended the VASS meeting in Richmond last week, and it was helpful to hear Jim Regimbal's presentation. Dr. Ratliff said that they will continue to monitor the General Assembly work, particularly on the compensation and the Virginia Retirement System. This is a very important issue in Washington County. The LCI has remained the same for the second half of this bi-annual budget cycle. Dr. Ratliff discussed the Coalfield Equity Summit and acknowledged the enrollment decline and state funding discrepancies impacting struggling

localities. He informed the Board that he had met with Mr. Berry on January 5, and the meeting had gone well. He is getting information together for the Board of Supervisors the capital improvement plan and is still waiting to hear back from them on to establish an upcoming meeting date. Motion to approve budget goals with suggested changes of reversing order of item B to A. Motion by Mr. Musick, seconded by Mr. Fleenor, 7-0 vote.

13. Ms. Lowe called for public comment, and no one was signed up or came forward to speak.
14. Upon motion by Mr. Musick, seconded by Dr. Arnold, by 7-0 vote, the following items were approved on the consent agenda as presented:
 - Bills Dated 1/16/2017
General Fund: \$ 307,452.92
School Nutrition Fund: \$91,439.24
15. There was no unfinished business to discuss at this time.
16. Superintendent's Report. Dr. Ratliff discussed Principal Appreciation Week next week, and plans are to provide a lunch and gifts for them at the administrations' meeting held on January 24.
17. Upon motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Brooks, by 7-0 vote, the Funds Summary for November 2016 was approved.
18. Upon motion by Mr. Ruble, seconded by Mr. Musick, by 7-0 vote, the agenda for the January 16, 2017, School Board Meeting was approved as amended.
19. Superintendent Update: Dr. Ratliff informed the Board that a maintenance and facility update which includes a GPS presentation will be provided at the next board meeting. He informed the Board that VSBA has contacted us requesting that we provide them with pictures and updates on School Board activities for them to feature in publication on the VSBA website. Dr. Ratliff also updated the board regarding the status of the remodeling of the Board room.
20. Upon motion by Mr. Musick, seconded by Mr. Ruble, by 7-0 vote, closed session was declared, after a five-minute break, pursuant to §2.2-3711 of the *Code of Virginia* to discuss the following:

SECTION 2.2-3711 A (2)

REQUEST FOR RELEASE FROM COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUE TO RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION, CASES #28-30

SECTION 2.2-3711 A (1)

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL(S):

- Assistant Baseball Coach, Abingdon High School
- Assistant Track Coach, Holston High School
- Daytime Custodian, High Point Elementary School

CONSIDER TRANSFER OF SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL(S):

- Evening Custodian at Holston High School, to Evening Custodian at Valley Institute Elementary School
- Evening Custodian at Holston High School, to Evening Custodian at Rhea Valley Elementary School
- Evening Custodian at Rhea Valley Elementary School, to Daytime Custodian at Rhea Valley Elementary School

CONSIDER SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL(S) FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHING

CONSIDER RESIGNATION OF SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL(S):

- Assistant Football Coach, Abingdon High School
- Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Patrick Henry High School
- Junior Varsity Head Baseball Coach, Patrick Henry High School
- School Nurse, Rhea Valley Elementary School

CONSIDER RETIREMENT OF SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL(S):

- Superintendent's Document A- Supplemental Retirement Requests to Participate in the Washington County Supplemental Retirement Plan
- Superintendent's Document B- Additional Supplemental Retirement Requests to Participate in the Washington County Supplemental Retirement Plan

CONSIDER SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL(S) WITH NON-TEACHING ASSIGNMENT: TO RECEIVE COACHING SUPPLEMENT ONLY AND SUBJECT TO (1) VHSL APPROVAL AND (2) WITHIN NUMBER OF POSITIONS APPROVED FOR COACHING:

- Assistant Softball Coach, Holston High School
- Assistant Baseball Coach, Holston High School
- Assistant Girls' Soccer Coach, Abingdon High School
- Assistant Swim Coach, Abingdon High School

21. Upon motion by Mr. Ruble, seconded by Mr. Musick, by 7-0 vote, closed session ended, and the meeting reconvened in regular session.
22. Upon motion by Mr. Brooks, seconded by Mr. Owens, by 7-0 vote, closed session was certified pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 of the *Code of Virginia*.
23. Upon motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Brooks, by 5-0 vote, (Mr. Fleenor and Mr. Ruble opposed), students in Cases 28-30 were as released from compulsory school attendance due to religious exemption.
24. Upon motion by Mr. Musick, seconded by Mr. Ruble, by 7-0 vote, the following was approved as recommended by the Superintendent:

EMPLOYMENT:

- Mark, Harris, Assistant Baseball Coach, Abingdon High School, Effective January 17, 2017
- Aaron Napier, Assistant Track Coach, Holston High School, Effective January 17, 2017
- Russell Walls, Jr. Daytime Custodian, High Point Elementary School, Effective January 17, 2017

TRANSFERS:

- Malinda Cox, from Evening Custodian at Holston High School, to Evening Custodian at Valley Institute Elementary School, Effective January 11, 2017
- Mary Kennedy, from Evening Custodian at Holston High School, to Evening Custodian at Rhea Valley Elementary School, Effective January 11, 2017
- Charles Prater, from Evening Custodian at Rhea Valley Elementary School, to Daytime Custodian at Rhea Valley Elementary School, Effective January 11, 2017

SUBSTITUTE TEACHING:

- Rebecca Hayter
- Jaime Prida
- Jessie Smith

RESIGNATIONS:

- Garrett Amburgey, Assistant Football Coach, Abingdon High School, Effective January 17, 2017
- Chris Duble, Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Patrick Henry High School, Effective January 17, 2017
- Josh Frye, Junior Varsity Head Baseball Coach, Patrick Henry High School, Effective January 17, 2017
- Sandy Lowe, School Nurse, Rhea Valley Elementary School, Effective January 05, 2017

RETIREMENT:

Superintendent's Document A, Supplemental Retirement Requests to Participate in the Washington County Supplemental Retirement Plan

- Shirley Hibbits, Teacher, Watauga Elementary School
- Debbie Anderson, Principal, Rhea Valley Elementary School
- Susan Pennington, Teacher, Neff Center
- Sujean Bradley, Teacher, Rhea Valley Elementary School
- Francine Ivery, Coordinator of School Nutrition, Central Office
- Mitzi Bitler, Secretary, Kid's Place
- Karen Hamilton, Teacher, Holston High School
- Elizabeth Macilwaine, Teacher, E. B. Stanley Middle School
- Barbara Necessary, Bus Driver/Classroom Aide, E. B. Stanley Middle School
- Vicki Hammel, Teacher, Valley Institute Elementary School
- Amy Wilson, Teacher, Wallace Middle School
- Michele Sutton, Teacher, Wallace Middle School
- Kathryn Borrer, Teacher, Abingdon High School

Superintendent's Document B, Additional Supplemental Retirement Requests to Participate in the Washington County Supplemental Retirement Plan

- Debbie Neese, Secretary, Special Services

NON-TEACHING ASSIGNMENT: TO RECEIVE COACHING SUPPLEMENT ONLY AND SUBJECT TO (1) VHSL APPROVAL AND (2) WITHIN NUMBER OF POSITIONS APPROVED FOR COACHING:

- Taylor Doss, Assistant Softball Coach, Holston High School, Effective January 17, 2017
- Lewis Hand, Assistant Baseball Coach, Holston High School, Effective January 17, 2017
- Kayla Richardson, Assistant Girls' Soccer Coach, Abingdon High School, Effective January 17, 2017
- Dana Schumaker, Assistant Swim Coach, Abingdon High School, Effective January 4, 2017

25. Upon motion by Mr. Musick, seconded by Dr. Arnold, by 7-0 vote, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Elizabeth P. Howe, Chair
Mike Cochran, Clerk
Debra Hise, Recorder

MOTION: Mr. Musick

SECOND: Dr. Arnold

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, The Washington County School Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, §2.2-3712 (D) of the *Code of Virginia* requires a certification by this School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

WHEREAS, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification applies, and (II) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered.

AYES: 7

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINED: 0

 Clerk
Washington County School Board

Meeting Date: January 16, 2017