

POQUOSON CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
December 14, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY OF POQUOSON COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present: Michelle Sheeler, Chairman
Jeremy Jordan
Craig Freeman
Jonathan Ingram
Camron “CJ” Childress
Timothy Goodale
Madeline Hatok, Student Representative
Arty Tillett, Superintendent
Christine Hill, PhD, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Support Services
Dustie McCay, Clerk of the Board

- I. **CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:** Chairman Sheeler called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Madeline Hatok, a junior at Poquoson High School led the Pledge to the Flag and read an inspirational reading.
- II. **ADDITIONS AND/OR MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None
- III. **RECOGNITIONS.**
 - A. Chairman Sheeler recognized Logan Pickford as the Senior of the Month.
 - B. Video presentation recognizing PHS Varsity Field Hockey Team.
- IV. **PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:**
 - A. **Bert Schmidt, President of WHRO:** Mr. Schmidt discussed the Impact Statement Packet for 2020-2021 school year, courses, and services provided to PCPS. He shared that they worked with VDOE and the Governor’s office to create a course for African American History. He mentioned WHRO created TV Classroom to help students who do not have access to the internet.
 - B. **Superintendent’s Update:** Mr. Arty Tillett, Superintendent, gave an update on COVID Cases, vaccination clinic, and vaccination data. He shared that we are applying for any funding available to continue working through the challenges of the pandemic. He mentioned our lack of substitutes and bus drivers, saying to apply to join our team. Board Member Craig Freeman asked about the mask mandate policy. Mr. Tillett advised he was aware of a neighboring division changing their policy, however, we will follow our current policy and possibly revisit the mask mandate at the next board meeting.
 - C. **Finance Update:** Mrs. Tara Woodruff, Executive Director of Finance reviewed the audit reports for FY21. She shared that there were no significant findings in our audit at School Board Office or any school in PCPS, meaning there were no issues.
 - D. **Instruction Update:** Dr. Christine Hill, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction explained that we will be advertising for a math coach, PT behavior coach, and tutors with grant funding. She mentioned a division wide Professional Development Day on January 28 set up to mimic a conference where staff can select sessions to participate in. She said PCPS is in the process of reviewing Program of Studies and will have a committee to assist considering courses. She advised our VTSS team expressed interest in Restorative Practices therefore, a

consultant was brought in to deliver a three hour professional development session on what that will look like for our division.

- E. **Operations Update:** Dr. Brandon Ratliff, Assistant Superintendent for Operations explained the programs used to ensure the safety of PCPS students while using the internet. He presented an update on the Poquoson Middle School Renovation & Modernization project. He shared with the Board some current pictures of the inside of the construction site. Board Member Jonathan Ingram expressed concern with vulnerability and protection with our devices. Dr. Ratliff explained PCPS is as prepared for a cyber-attack as possible.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT: Crystal Howser, PCPS parent, thanked administrators and the Board for their efforts during this challenging time. She expressed concern about physical safety of children in our school buildings and requested enhanced security.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of Financial Reports *(Enclosed)*
- B. Approval to Accept to Change Appropriation and to Accept and Expend Funds in Accordance with Attached Request *(Enclosed)*
- C. Approval of Personnel Action *(Enclosed)*
- D. Approval of Minutes of October's Regular Meeting and Work Session *(Enclosed)*
- E. Authorization to Dispose of Surplus Property *(Enclosed)*

Mr. Jordan read the Consent Agenda above. Mr. Jordan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goodale, that the Consent Agenda be approved as read. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 6:0

Mr. Ingram, Aye; Mr. Goodale, Aye; Mr. Freeman, Aye; Mr. Jordan, Aye; Mr. Childress, Aye; Chairman Sheeler, Aye

VIII. OTHER MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- A. Consideration of Approval of Amendment to the Code of Student Conduct – Student Attendance and Absences/Truancy *(Reading File Enclosed)*.

Mr. Tillett advised there was a work session prior to the Board Meeting to discuss amending this policy and will be brought to the January Board Meeting.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS AND/OR OTHER MATTERS BY SCHOOL BOARD AND/OR SUPERINTENDENT:

- **Mr. Tillett:** Thanked everyone for incredible work and productivity as a team. Wished everyone a happy holiday.
- **Miss Hatok:** She presented an update on past and upcoming activities at each of the individual schools. Thanked Poquoson Education Foundation for grants given to teachers. She wished everyone a safe and wonderful holiday season on behalf of PHS.
- **Mr. Ingram:** He congratulated Logan for senior of the month and thanked Ms. Howser for speaking. He wished everyone Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and safe travels.

- **Mr. Goodale:** He wished a safe and healthy holiday to spend time with loved ones.
- **Mr. Freeman:** He congratulated PHS Field Hockey Team and Logan Pickford for senior of the month. He congratulated the three students (Brandon Evans, Matthew Stout, Holly Freeman) who participated in USA Shooting Winter Championships and came out in top ten in the country. He wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
- **Mr. Jordan:** He mentioned an exciting time in the schools with Spirit Week and a well-deserved winter break for the staff, bus drivers, and students. He wished luck to winter athletes and coaches. He shared that he would like to take a look at coach salaries for next school year. He thanked Ms. Greene-Howser for speaking and stated we have several preventative measures in place for the safety of our schools, but hopes to look at additional grant funding for extra measures. He wished everyone happy holidays.
- **Mr. Childress:** He thanked PHS chorus students for coming out and sharing their amazing singing. He congratulated the Varsity Field Hockey Team and wished everyone happy holidays.
- **Chairman Sheeler:** She welcomed Dustie McCay as Clerk of the Board and thanked her for her seamless support of the Board. She thanked Poquoson Education Foundation for their generous support of staff and students. She congratulated Madeline Hatok for being on the Field Hockey Team. She also congratulated Logan Pickford for being senior of the month and black belt in hapkido. She wished everyone a happy holiday.

X. **MATERIAL FOR BOARD REVIEW:** There were none.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Sheeler announced a closed session would follow the Board Meeting for personnel matters and student discipline matters. Chairman Sheeler adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.


Michelle Sheeler, Chairman


Dustie McCay, Clerk of the Board

Date: 1-18-22