

The Rockbridge County School Board held their regular meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 2022. The meeting was held at Maury River Middle School.

Present: Chairman Wendy Lovell; Trustees Corey Berkstresser, Kathy Burant, and Neil Whitmore; Superintendent Phillip Thompson and Clerk Rhonda Humphries.
Absent: Trustee Catie Brown.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lovell called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None

RECOGNITION / SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

- School Board Appreciation Month: February 2022
- Career and Technical Education Appreciation Month: February 2022
- National School Counselor Week: February 7-11, 2022
- Dr. Mike Craft provided an update on Rockbridge County High School, which included a description of meetings that have taken place since the update provided at the January 8, 2022 school board meeting. He also gave an overview of plans and progress made on addressing issues of antisemitism and weapon events moving forward. Dr. Craft has met with members of STAND (Student Association for Non-Discrimination). Three members of STAND have met with RCHS administration with a goal to set three priorities and proposed solutions. Open dialogue will continue with monitored progress with adjustments as needed.
 - Chairman Lovell inquired if student groups other than STAND have come forward. She expressed her sentiment that it is exciting to have student voices to be heard which is helping to enhance the culture at Rockbridge County High School.
 - Dr. Craft stated that no other groups have come forward at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon recommendation by Chairman Lovell, motion by Trustee Burant, seconded by Trustee Whitmore, the board voted 4-0, the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes: 1) January 11, 2022 [Regular Meeting];
- Field Trip / Bus Use Requests
- Fundraising Requests
- Application for Use of Facilities
- **Appointments and Resignations**

APPOINTMENTS

Professional Staff

Kristen Tyree, Teacher, Maury River Middle School, 2022 – 2023 school year
Martin Cox, Teacher, 2022 – 2023 school year

Support Staff

Chelsia Wade, Teacher Assistant, Mountain View Elementary School, effective February 9, 2022

Hailey Petty, Teacher Assistant, Mountain View Elementary School, effective February 9, 2022

Substitute Teachers

Kinley Thomas
Elle Warnick
Carly Jones
Graceon Armstrong

Substitute Food Service

Amber Skipper

Spring Coaches 2021-2022

Rockbridge County High School

Baseball

Travis Roadcap Head Varsity Baseball Coach
Nick Perlozzo Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach
Andy Coffey JV Baseball Coach
Donnie Perkins Volunteer Baseball Coach
Mat Rapoza Volunteer Baseball Coach
Justin Wenger Volunteer Baseball Coach

Softball

Keston Pelter Head Varsity Softball Coach
 Krista McDaniel Assistant Varsity Softball Coach
 Hannah Painter JV Softball Coach
 Madison McKemy Volunteer Softball Coach
 Cari Floyd Volunteer Softball Coach

Boys' Soccer

Scott Youngdahl Head Boys' Varsity Soccer Coach
 Paul Gregory Boys' JV Soccer Coach
 Josh Elrod Volunteer Boys' Soccer Coach
 Jim Kahn Volunteer Boys' Soccer Coach

Girls' Soccer

BJ Flack Head Girls' Soccer Coach
 Elena Correa Girls' JV Soccer Coach
 Dirk VanAssendelft Volunteer Girls' Soccer Coach

Boys' Lacrosse

Robert Hull Head Boys' Lacrosse Coach
 Scott Winterton Assistant Boys' Lacrosse Coach
 Ryan Larsen Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach
 David Jones, Volunteer Boys' Lacrosse Coach

Girls' Lacrosse

Susan Nye Head Girls' Lacrosse Coach
 Rebecca Stratton Assistant Girls' Lacrosse Coach
 Sammy Moore Volunteer Girls' Lacrosse Coach
 Jim Coleman Volunteer Girls' Lacrosse Coach
 Amanda Green Volunteer Girls' Lacrosse Coach

Outdoor Track

Jennifer Showalter Head Outdoor Track Coach
 Julie Tisone Assistant Outdoor Track Coach
 Gloria Brown Volunteer Outdoor Track Coach
 Mike Brown Volunteer Outdoor Track Coach

Resignations**Support Staff**

Krissy Hill, Teacher Assistant, Mountain View Elementary School, resigning effective February 9, 2022

Christie Seaman, Teacher Assistant, Central Elementary School, resigned February 2, 2022

Retirement**Professional Staff**

Tonya Fontenot, Teacher, Maury River Middle School, retiring end of the 2021 – 2022 school year

Sandra Thompson, Teacher, Rockbridge County High School, retiring end of the 2021 – 2022 school year

Retirement**Support Staff**

Paula Lilly, Cafeteria Manager, Central Elementary School, retired effective January 31, 2022

Daniel Pruett, Maintenance, Maury River Middle School, retiring June 30, 2022

Appointments [2022-2023]**Fall Coaches 2022-2023****Rockbridge County High School**

Martin Cox, Head Football Coach

- Religious Exemptions
- Business Items
 - Approved carryover grant appropriations to Fund 50 in the amount of \$152,392.00
 - Approved Monthly Financials in the amount of \$3,263,626.53
- Trustee Burant expressed her appreciation for how hard clubs work to fundraise and support their competition events. She also commended staff for great choices for quality field trips.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

One patron addressed the board stating that SB1303 does not mandate the wearing of masks and stated that it may be time for the community to arrange for civil disobedience.

One patron addressed the board stating that SB1303 does not mandate the wearing of masks and that there should be an end to the quarantine policy of students; parents are the best to analyze for what is best for their child; expressed the sentiment that together we can do better by our children.

One patron addressed the board regarding house and senate bills that are being considered that would have a possible impact on schools with a request that the school board follow the bills to watch out for children.

One patron addressed the board stating that social distancing, mask mandates, and mitigation measures have met with failure; does not feel that the mask protects a person or keeps the virus from spreading; stated that schools are to open up and learn.

One patron addressed the board requesting that the rights to send children to school without a mask citing that the masks cause anxiety to students.

One patron who is a student at Rockbridge County High School, addressed the board stated that Rockbridge County High School does not accommodate mental health issues. Patron feels that too much homework is sent out, not enough time in class to complete, and not enough quizzes to make the grades better. Electronic devices such as cell phones are threatened to be taken away which patron feels may be the main way students have to vent issues to friends. Patron feels that mental health is not taken seriously at Rockbridge County High School.

One patron addressed the board stating that the school division needs to move past control and understand where control belongs, with the parent. Patron feels the division is acting in a caretaker role and are forcing children to be masked, which is a form of child abuse in patron's opinion; schools are caregivers when parents allow them to be, but not the one to make medical decisions. Parent stated that Trustee Berkstresser responded to her questions and stated that he advised her that he would like to bring the wearing of masks to a vote at the March board meeting.

BUDGET PLANNING: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trustee Burant provided an update on the Floyd S. Kay Renovation Update. Highlights of her presentation are as follows:

- Plans from architectural firms interested in earning the renovation contract were due by December 16, 2021. Three firms submitted designs.
- All committee members reviewed the firms' proposals with evaluation points assigned based on: 1) the ability to meet the requirements of the School Board; 2) qualifications of the firm's personnel; 3) The firm's experience with similar projects; 4) accessibility of the firm to Rockbridge County; and 5) evaluation of the firm's design.
- The committee met on January 21, 2022 to hear live proposals from each firm and then selected the top firm.
- The committee is currently negotiating with the top firm on their ideas and designs, cost of the project (to remain in budget of approximately 8 million dollars), and other details needed to move forward. Once an agreement is made, the project will proceed with the firm meeting with the CTE staff to discuss specific program needs.
- Flexibility has been set as a priority, which will provide the ability to adapt space to ever-changing career training needs. Importance has also been given to high visibility of each classroom so that students are able to look through windows and open classroom specs to see all the exciting things happening in the CTE classrooms.

INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT: None

INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

Mr. David Daniels, Director of Financial Services, provided an update on Procurement Guidelines. Rockbridge County Public Schools guidelines follow the Virginia Public Procurement Act. When there are changes to the Virginia Public Procurement Act, the procurement guidelines of the school division must also be updated. The Virginia Public Procurement Act increased the form solicitation (BIDS) threshold from \$100,000 to \$200,000. This will be presented as an Action Item at the March board meeting.

ACTION ITEM:

Upon recommendation by Chairman Lovell, motion by Trustee Berkstresser, seconded by Trustee Whitmore, the board voted 4-0, to approve the Maury River Middle School Program of Studies as presented.

Upon recommendation by Chairman Lovell, motion by Trustee Burant, seconded by Trustee Whitmore, the board voted 4-0, to approve the rescheduling of the April meeting of the Rockbridge County School Board from April 12, 2022 to April 5, 2022.

Upon recommendation by Chairman Lovell, motion by Trustee Berkstresser, seconded by Trustee Burant, the board voted 4-0, to approve the authorization for the Superintendent/Designee to process payment and other accounts payables as necessary on April 12, 2022. A final report summarizing these actions will be distributed during the month of May 2022. All transactions will require signatures of two of the following three staff positions: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Business Officer, or Director of Financial Services.

NEW BUSINESS: None

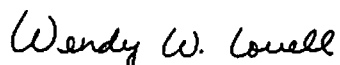
SCHOOL BOARD:

There will be a joint meeting of the Rockbridge County School Board and the Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Maury River Middle School, 600 Waddell Street, Lexington, Virginia. The meeting date may change if information is not received from the General Assembly.

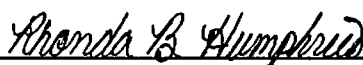
The next regular monthly meeting of the Rockbridge County School Board will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at Maury River Middle School, 600 Waddell Street, Lexington, Virginia.

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion by Trustee Berkstresser, seconded by Trustee Whitmore, and passed by 4-0 vote, the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.



Wendy W. Lovell, Chairman



Rhonda B. Humphries, Clerk of the Board