

The Rockbridge County School Board held their regular meeting on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at the County of Rockbridge Administration Building.

Present: Chairman David McDaniel; Trustees Corey Berkstresser, Heather Hostetter, Wendy Lovell, Neil Whitmore; Superintendent Phillip Thompson; Clerk Rhonda Humphries.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman McDaniel called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM and requested that everyone rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None

STUDENT / STAFF RECOGNITION:

Chairman McDaniel expressed his appreciation to the Assistant Principals of Rockbridge County Public Schools for their work and dedication to Rockbridge County Public Schools in honor of Assistant Principal Appreciation Week.

- Superintendent Thompson stated that the Assistant Principals work a lot of hours including nights and weekends, emphasizing that they are learning as they are assisting our students while preparing to be future principals.

Rockbridge History Bee Winners: Jacob Trout, First Place; Quinn Hoover, Second Place; Kaizad Irani, Third Place; Yelena Billias, Honorable Mention; Eric Wilson, Executive Director, Rockbridge Historical Society. Mr. Wilson stated that the Rockbridge County Public Schools Foundation has been a key sponsor for the Rockbridge History Bee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon recommendation by Chairman McDaniel, motion by Trustee Lovell seconded by Trustee Whitmore, and passed by a 5-0 vote, the board approved the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes: 1) March 8, 2018 [Special Meeting]; 2) March 13, 2018 [Regular Meeting]; 3) March 15, 2018 [Joint Meeting with Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors; 4) March 21, 2018 [Special Meeting]
- Field Trips / Bus Use Requests
- Fund Raiser Requests
- Use of Facilities Applications
- Enrollment Update

- **Appointments and Resignations**

Appointments

Professional Staff

Hillary Camden, School Counselor, Rockbridge County High School, 2018 – 2019 school year

Tracy Gray, Mathematics Teacher, Maury River Middle School, 2018 – 2019 school year

Jamie Brett, Teacher, Central Elementary School, 2018 - 2019 school year

Coaches

RCHS

Girls' Basketball 2018-2019

Misty Armstrong, Varsity Head Coach

Name

Position

Central Office Administrators on Continuing Contracts - Instructional

HAND, HAYWOOD

Assistant Superintendent/Supervisor of Secondary Instruction

KIRBY, JASON

Director of Personnel & Technology

WALTERS, RANDALL

Director of Operations & Transportation

Central Office Administrators completing year 1 or less

DANIELS, DAVID

Director of Financial Services

MARTINO, TIMOTHY

Director of Elementary Education

School-Based Administrators on Continuing Contracts - Instructional

CRAFT, MIKE	Principal
HOLMES, KELLY	Principal
PARKER, ROBIN	Principal
POLLOCK, KIMBERLY	Assistant Principal
STEVENS, VICKI	Principal
TEAGUE, LORI	Principal
THOMAS, WILLIAM	Principal
WILDER, ANGELA	Assistant Principal

School-Based Administrators completing year 1 or less

OWENS, PAIGE	Assistant Principal
SECORD, DIANE	Assistant Principal

Support Staff on Continuing Contracts - Instructional

CROSSMAN, MATTHEW	Supervisor of Division Testing & Media Communications
CUMMINS, TAMARA	Psychologist
FALLS, MELANIE	Supervisor of Attendance, Truancy, & Support Services
HINTY, TRACY	Coordinator for Federal Programs
MASON, JEFFREY	Data Manager
WOOD, CHRISTINE	Supervisor of Special Education/Student Services

Support Staff Completing year 2 – Instructional

WILDER, STEVEN	Supervisor of Career Education
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Support Staff Not on Continuing Contracts - Instructional

ALLEN, PENNI	Coordinator of School Nurses
GEROW, CHARLES	Supervisor of Network Services
STICKLEY, DAPHNE	Supervisor (Support Services) - Food Service

Athletic Director

LOLLIS, RICK	RCHS/MRMS
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Teachers/Counselors on Continuing Contracts - Alphabetized Listing

ALEXANDER, DAVID	Teacher (Classroom)
ALLEN, ERIN	Teacher (Classroom)
APGAR, LORI	Teacher (Classroom)
ARMSTRONG, MISTY	Teacher (Classroom)
BAHHUR, ILHAM	Teacher (Classroom)
BAILEY, JEFFREY	Teacher (Classroom)
BAIN, RICKY	Teacher (Classroom)
BAKER, NANCY	Teacher (Classroom)
BATEMAN, LINDSEY	School Counselor
BAUCOM, SHERRY	Teacher (Classroom)
BEARD, JEANNE	Teacher (Classroom)
BENNETT, KURT	Teacher (Classroom)
BLACK, VICTORIA	Teacher (Classroom)
BLOUIN, JOANN	Teacher (Classroom)
BOWRING, CHRISTOPHER	Teacher (Classroom)
BOYD, JEFFREY	Teacher (Classroom)
BRADLEY, PATRICK	Teacher (Classroom)
BROOKS, LAURIE	Teacher (Classroom)
BROOKS, LINDSAY	Teacher (Classroom)
BROWN, CARL	Teacher (Classroom)
BROWN, MARY	Teacher (Classroom)
BROWN, STUART	Teacher (Classroom)
BURKS, AMANDA	Librarian
BURKS, PAMELA	Teacher (Classroom)
CAMDEN, MELANIE	Teacher (Classroom)
CARTER, MARY ELLEN	Librarian
CAULEY, SONYA	Teacher (Classroom)
CHITTUM, JESSICA	Teacher (Classroom)
CLARK, GAIL	Teacher (Classroom)
CLARK, STEPHANIE	Teacher (Classroom)
CLEMMER, KAREN	Teacher (Classroom)
COLEMAN, AMY	Teacher (Classroom)
COPSY, DAVINA	Teacher (Classroom)

Teachers/Counselors on Continuing Contracts - Alphabetized Listing - Continued

COSGRIFF, COLEEN	Teacher (Classroom)
CRANCE, JESSIKA	Teacher (Classroom)
DANIELS, KIMBERLY	Teacher (Classroom)
DAVIS, MAURY	Teacher (Classroom)
DONALD, CONSTANCE	Teacher (Classroom)
DUDLEY, JULIA	Teacher (Classroom)
DUDLEY, MARTHA	Teacher (Classroom)
DUFF, KAREN	Teacher (Classroom)
FALLS, CHRISTINA	Librarian
FERGUSON, MICHELLE	Teacher (Classroom)
FLESHMAN, REBECCA	Teacher (Classroom)
FLESHMAN, SCOTT	Teacher (Classroom)
FLINT, LINDSEY	Teacher (Classroom)
FLOYD, JENNIFER	Teacher (Classroom)
FOGLEMEN, RONALD	Teacher (Classroom)
FONTENOT, TONYA	Teacher (Classroom)
FULLER-SPEARS, JENNIFER	Teacher (Classroom)
FUNKHOUSER, KRISTIE	Teacher (Classroom)
GARRETT, BETTY	Teacher (Classroom)
GAY-MILLIKEN, JACQUILINE	Teacher (Classroom)
GERKEN, JAMES	Teacher (Classroom)
GODFREY, JOAN	Teacher (Classroom)
GORMAN, LINDA	Teacher (Classroom)
GROAH, JOANNE	Teacher (Classroom)
HALL, GRETCHEN	Teacher (Classroom)
HAMELMAN, BRIAN	Teacher (Classroom)
HARDIN, ASHLEY	Teacher (Classroom)
HARDIN, PERRY	Teacher (Classroom)
HARRAWOOD, LAURA	Teacher (Classroom)
HARRIS, ANDREA	Teacher (Classroom)
HAYER, SUE	Teacher (Classroom)
HAYSLETTE, SANDRA	Teacher (Classroom)
HELLMUTH, ELIZABETH	Teacher (Classroom)
HENK, KIMBERLY	Teacher (Classroom)
HENSON, AMY	Teacher (Classroom)
HEPNER, SHANNON	Teacher (Classroom)
HICKMAN, MELANIE	Teacher (Classroom)
HIGGINS, SHERRY	Teacher (Classroom)
HINKLE, AMY	Teacher (Classroom)
HOCKER, LORI	Teacher (Classroom)
HOCKMAN, SARAH	Teacher (Classroom)
HOTCHKISS, ELLEN	Teacher (Classroom)
HUFFMAN, LAURA	Teacher (Classroom)
HUFFMAN, SEAN	Teacher (Classroom)
HUGHES, MICHELLE	Teacher (Classroom)
HUNDLEY, FORREST	Teacher (Classroom)
IRBY, JOANNA	Librarian
JARVIS, ALTON	Teacher (Classroom)
JENNINGS, PATRICIA	Teacher (Classroom)
JOHNSON, ANNE	Teacher (Classroom)
JONES, KELLY	Teacher (Classroom)
JONES, MARY	Teacher (Classroom)
JONES, ROBERT	Teacher (Classroom)
KEESEE, LISA	Teacher (Classroom)
KELLY, ANDREA	Teacher (Classroom)
KIMBLER, HEATHER	Teacher (Classroom)
KINCAID, CANDACE	School Counselor
KOSTELNI, MARIA	Teacher (Classroom)
LEADBETTER, SARAH	Teacher (Classroom)
LENOIR, ROBERT	Teacher (Classroom)
LEONARD, KATRINA	Teacher (Classroom)
LEWIS, AMBER	Teacher (Classroom)

Teachers/Counselors on Continuing Contracts - Alphabetized Listing - Continued

LIPSCOMB, JULIA	Teacher (Classroom)
LITTLE, JEAN	Teacher (Classroom)
LITTLETON, CYNTHIA	Teacher (Classroom)
LOSH, GERALD	Teacher (Classroom)
LOY, KIMBERLY	Teacher (Classroom)
MAHOOD, SUSAN	Teacher (Classroom)
MARTIN, LISA	Teacher (Classroom)
MAZINGO, JASON	Teacher (Classroom)
MAZINGO, KRISTYN	Teacher (Classroom)
MCCRADY, LYNN	Teacher (Classroom)
MCELROY, APRIL	Teacher (Classroom)
MCELROY, ELIZABETH	Teacher (Classroom)
MCFADDIN, REBECCA	Teacher (Classroom)
MCGRATH, CHRISTOPHER	Teacher (Classroom)
MILFORD, DRUSILLA	Librarian
MILLER, DAVID	Teacher (Classroom)
MOCK, ALLISON	School Counselor
MOHLER, SHANNA	Teacher (Classroom)
MOORE, DENNIS	Teacher (Classroom)
MOORE, SARAH	Teacher (Classroom)
MORRIS, JULIE	Teacher (Classroom)
NELSON, LAWRENCE	Teacher (Classroom)
NICELY, JAMES	Teacher (Classroom)
NICELY, KATELYN	Teacher (Classroom)
NICELY, TAMALA	Teacher (Classroom)
NYE, SANDRA	Teacher (Classroom)
OWENS, MARSHA	Teacher (Classroom)
PEDIGO, RHONDA	School Counselor
PERSINGER, TRACI	Teacher (Classroom)
PETERS, MARGARET	Teacher (Classroom)
PETRIELLA, SUSAN	Teacher (Classroom)
POLLY, TASHA	Teacher (Classroom)
POSTEN, KAREN	Teacher (Classroom)
POSTON, MARK	Teacher (Classroom)
POWELL, ROSEMARY	Teacher (Classroom)
PROPST, JENNIFER	Teacher (Classroom)
RAPOZA, KELLY	Teacher (Classroom)
RAPOZA, MATHEW	School Counselor
RICHARDE, ROBIN	Teacher (Classroom)
RUNKLE, EARNESTINE	Teacher (Classroom)
SCHUCKER, MATTHEW	Teacher (Classroom)
SCHULTZ, SARAH	Teacher (Classroom)
SEAMAN, ELLEN SUE	Teacher (Classroom)
SHANK, CHRISTINE	Teacher (Classroom)
SHERMAN, ROBYN	Teacher (Classroom)
SHOMO, TAMMY	Teacher (Classroom)
SHYBUNKO, LINDA	Teacher (Classroom)
SNYDER, CYNTHIA	Teacher (Classroom)
ST.CLAIR, PAMELA	Teacher (Classroom)
STATON, DAVIDA	Teacher (Classroom)
STOLARZ, MARY CURTIS	Teacher (Classroom)
STRAUB, DONNA	Teacher (Classroom)
STRAUB, HANNAH	Teacher (Classroom)
SWISHER, DONNA	Teacher (Classroom)
TANNER, JULIE	Librarian
TANNER, WILLIAM	Teacher (Classroom)
THOMAS, LAURA	Teacher (Classroom)
THOMPSON, KRISTIN	Teacher (Classroom)
THOMPSON, SANDRA	Teacher (Classroom)
TORRENCE, TERESA	Teacher (Classroom)

Teachers/Counselors on Continuing Contracts - Alphabetized Listing - Continued

TRAYLOR, REBECCA	Teacher (Classroom)
TROISE, KIMBERLY	Teacher (Classroom)
TROMBETTA, CHRISTINA	Teacher (Classroom)
TUCKER, CYNTHIA	Teacher (Classroom)
TYREE, STEPHANIE	Teacher (Classroom)
VASSAR, LISA	Teacher (Classroom)
VEST, JAMIE	Teacher (Classroom)
WALLACE, COREY	Teacher (Classroom)
WALLACE, DONNA	Teacher (Classroom)
WANOVICH, TINA	Teacher (Classroom)
WATTS, ATLANTA	Teacher (Classroom)
WHEELER, DANIEL	Teacher (Classroom)
WHEELER, KIRK	Teacher (Classroom)
WHEELER, TERRI	Teacher (Classroom)
WHITESELL, CATHY	Teacher (Classroom)
WHITMER, JENNIFER	Teacher (Classroom)
WHITMORE, GWENDOLYN	Teacher (Classroom)
WILHELM, SHERRY	Teacher (Classroom)
WILLIAMS, PAUL	Teacher (Classroom)
WILLIAMSON, LAUREN	Teacher (Classroom)
WOOD, CHARLIE	Teacher (Classroom)
WOOD, HOLLY	Teacher (Classroom)
WOODY, AMY	Teacher (Classroom)
WOODY, ELIZABETH	Teacher (Classroom)
WRIGHT, DEBORAH	Teacher (Classroom)

Teachers Eligible/Counselors for Continuing Contract (Completing Probationary Status)

BOWYER, JESSICA	Teacher (Classroom)
CARTER, SHELLY	Teacher (Classroom)
CLAY, VALERIE	Teacher (Classroom)
DULL, JACQUELINE	Teacher (Classroom)
EDWARDS, SARAH	Teacher (Classroom)
GALLAGHER, CHRIS	Teacher (Classroom)
GILBERT, ADAM	Teacher (Classroom)
HAILEY, ERINN	Teacher (Classroom)
MARSHALL, MOLLY	Teacher (Classroom)
MARTIN, ANDY	Teacher (Classroom)
PAXTON, ARIADNE	Teacher (Classroom)
TORBICK, LAUREN	Teacher (Classroom)
WILHELM, NICOLE	Teacher (Classroom)

Teachers/Counselors Completing Year 4

BOWEN, BERNADETTE	Teacher (Classroom)
CONVERSE, MICHAEL	Teacher (Classroom)
DUNCAN, SEAN	Teacher (Classroom)
FLOYD, HEATHER	Teacher (Classroom)
HESS, BARBARA	Teacher (Classroom)
KNEPPER, ANN	Teacher (Classroom)
MARTIN, ROBERT	Teacher (Classroom)
MATSUMOTO, SARAH	Teacher (Classroom)
ROADCAP, TRAVIS	Teacher (Classroom)
SCHMIDT, ELIZABETH	Teacher (Classroom)

Teachers/Counselors Completing Year 3

BENNETT, REBECCA	Teacher (Classroom)
ERSKINE, FARRAH	Teacher (Classroom)
GLASS, HEATH	Teacher (Classroom)
JONES, KELLY	Teacher (Classroom)
MOORE, HEATHER	Teacher (Classroom)
SMITH, SARAH	Teacher (Classroom)
STUTSMAN, LINDSAY	Teacher (Classroom)
TILSON, REBECCA	Teacher (Classroom)
TOMLIN, MELISSA	Teacher (Classroom)
WHITE, KELLY	Teacher (Classroom)

Teachers/Counselors Completing Year 2

BACHMAN, ELISSE	School Counselor
HANSON, DEBRA	Teacher (Classroom)
HARRINGTON, KARON	Teacher (Classroom)
HARTLESS, KATHRYN	Teacher (Classroom)
LUDTKE, JENNIFER	Teacher (Classroom)
MCCOY, AMANDA	Teacher (Classroom)
PERSINGER, KELLE	Teacher (Classroom)
RILEY, KATHERINE	Teacher (Classroom)
SCHIANO MORIELLO, ASHLEY	Teacher (Classroom)
SIMMS, DAVID	Teacher (Classroom)
SWISHER, KARLIE	Teacher (Classroom)
TUTTLE, STEPHANIE	Teacher (Classroom)
WILDER, STEVEN	Supervisor of Career Education
WILLIAMS, JONATHAN	Teacher (Classroom)
WINSLOW, JANENE	Teacher (Classroom)

Teachers/Counselors Completing Year 1 or Less

ADAIR, SARAH	Teacher (Classroom)
BAUERNFEIND, REBECCA	Teacher (Classroom)
BIGGS, LYDIA	Teacher (Classroom)
CARPENTER, MARCY	Teacher (Classroom)
COFFEY, RONALD	Teacher (Classroom)
GARNER, JULIE	Teacher (Classroom)
GILCHRIST, MARTHA	Teacher/Coordinator ELL Services
HESS, JENNIFER	Teacher (Classroom)
IRWIN, JENNIFER	Teacher (Classroom)
LYNCH, LACEY	Teacher (Classroom)
MAST, SHARON	Teacher (Classroom)
MORRIS, MATTHEW	Teacher (Classroom)

Teachers/Counselors Completing Year 1 or Less

RHODENIZER, ZACHARY	Teacher (Classroom)
RICCARDI, TAYLOR	Teacher (Classroom)
SANDRIDGE, MARILYN	Teacher (Classroom)
TAYLOR, ABIGAIL	Teacher (Classroom)
WILLS, THOMAS	Psychologist
WISE, JESSICA	Teacher (Classroom)
YOB, MARY	Teacher (Classroom)
YOUNGDAHL, SCOTT	Teacher (Classroom)

Part-Time Teachers/Counselors

MCGUGAN, ANITA	School Counselor – Part-time
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Resignations

Professional Staff

Jake Adams, Teacher, Maury River Middle School, resigning end of 2017 – 2018 school year
Andrew Hipes, Teacher, Maury River Middle School, resigning end of 2017 – 2018 school year
Michael Mullins, Teacher, Maury River Middle School, resigning end of 2017 – 2018 school year
Robin Holmes, Teacher/Coordinator Gifted & Talented Services, Division, resigning end of 2017 - 2018 school year
Amy Hepler, Teacher, Rockbridge County High School, resigning end of 2017-2018 school year

Retirement

Professional Staff

Maurya Schweizer, Media Specialist / Librarian, Maury River Middle School, retiring end of 2017 – 2018 school year
Maria Chase, Teacher, Fairfield Elementary School, retiring end of 2017 - 2018 school year
Twila Brown, Director of Special Education, Central Office / Division, retiring June 30, 2018
Linda Gorman, Teacher, Rockbridge County high School, retiring end of 2017 - 2018 school year

- **Business Items**

Appropriations to Fund 50 in the amount of \$170,537.00.

New Grant Appropriations to Fund 50 in the amount of \$786.00.

Monthly Financials in the amount of \$3,068,166.03.

BUDGET PLANNING:

Superintendent Thompson stated that the General Assembly convenes on April 11, 2018. He anticipates that once the Governor signs a budget, approximately two weeks later, the Virginia Department of Education will release the calculator tool so school divisions can finalize budget numbers from the state. Dr. Thompson reiterated that the School Board may still have to adopt a budget without the knowledge of funding from locality or state, which will necessitate a later meeting to amend, adjust, and re-approve our budget; with a possible meeting date at the end of April.

- Chairman McDaniel expressed his appreciation to Dr. Thompson, Central Office Staff, and Administrators for the time and effort to check each budgetary line for savings which enabled a reduction in the budget request of \$200,000, which then reduces the request from the Board of Supervisors. He expressed his appreciation for their dedication to the school division and the community.
- Chairman McDaniel stated that once the school division knows what the state revenues are (tuition, etc.), the Board of Supervisors have communicated that they will fund and support the difference. The current estimated request of Rockbridge County Public Schools is \$285,488.

COMMITTEE REPORT: None

INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS:

Haywood Hand, Assistant Superintendent, provided a presentation on the "Profile of a Virginia Graduate". He stated that information is being received weekly from the Virginia Department of Education with some staff members attending workshops. This initiative has been ongoing since fall of 2015 and has now become legislation that is being acted upon and will affect the Class of 2022, which is the freshman class of 2018. He gave an overview of the Three Part Initiative, which includes:

- Moves beyond sole focus on content
- Does not diminish content
- Asks what can students do with content
- Adds workplace opportunities
- 5C's: collaboration, creative thinking, critical thinking, communication, and citizenship
- Performance-based Assessments (PBA) includes mastering content and the 5C's [Critical thinking, Creative thinking, Collaboration, Communication, Citizenship, Student-centric learning model]
- Superintendent Thompson stated that the concept is new and the school division continues to learn as information is released from the Virginia Department of Education. He stated that he feels that this is a step in the right direction. Changes are being made that provides better flexibility for administration and counselors. The initiative will require more work of administrators and counselors in tracking data but will be very effective beginning with the freshman class of the 2018-19 school year.

Mr. Hand emphasized that students will have workplace readiness skills noting that students will have opportunity to work with internships and partnership opportunities. He stated that building the partnerships within the community is a great opportunity for Rockbridge County Public Schools.

- Trustee Lovell expressed her belief that the partnership with the community will be beneficial and is hopeful that a package can be created to demonstrate the benefits of this initiative for community stakeholders. She stated that she feels the school division was already on this path and is now being recognized at a state level for helping students while benefiting the community.

Chairman McDaniel inquired if there has been discussion of limiting the number of SOL's at the middle school level.

- Mr. Hand stated that there has already been a reduction.
- Mr. Tim Martino, Director of Elementary Education, stated that there has been discussion regarding Science at the fifth grade level.

Chairman McDaniel stated that he feels it may be time to consider having a STEM teacher at each school as the school division continues to evolve to include the middle school.

- Superintendent Thompson stated that there are currently STEM-type activities at the middle and high school and that having a dedicated STEM teacher at each school would be beneficial for project-based learning for students and teachers. Professional development will take place this summer to help train the trainers. Currently, Rockbridge County Public Schools has a three-year plan with Buck Institute for training and professional development.
 - Chairman McDaniel stated that he feels it is important to have this in place to aid with the ongoing digital conversion at middle and high school while noting that it would be beneficial with transition at the elementary level as well.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Matthew Crossman, Supervisor of Division Testing and Media Communications, provided information on School Lunch Price Increase and School Breakfast Price Increase. He is proposing an increase of .10 cents for lunch and an increase of .5 cents for breakfast, for full-price students. He stated that the food nutrition department is self-sufficient and reliant on paying for the food and employee contracts through the federal reimbursement program and the school lunch meals. This will be presented for approval at the May Board Meeting.

- Chairman McDaniel inquired how the school nutrition budget is at this point of the year.
 - Mr. Crossman stated that the budget is slightly in the negative, noting that the reserve has been used resulting in the budget operating on a flat line because of sales being down. This is primarily due to more students packing their lunch.
 - Superintendent Thompson stated that most school divisions utilize Fund 50 funds to support Fund 56 to insure they do not operate in the red, even though it is to be a self-funding program. He also noted that David Daniels, Director of Financial Services, will continue to work closely with Daphne Stickley, Supervisor for School Nutrition, to closely monitor the budget. He also stated that the budget is affected by the price of food and the waste factor when students throw away food.
 - Chairman McDaniel expressed his understanding that other school divisions must offer assistance to Fund 56 to ensure that the program does not run in the red.

Twila Brown, Director of Special Education, provided a first reading of the Rockbridge Area Special Education Advisory Council members who the Board is required to formally approve. She noted that there is a struggle to recruit membership while and that meetings are open to the public. This will be presented for approval at the May Board Meeting.

- Chairman McDaniel inquired if there is a minimum of membership for this committee.
 - Ms. Brown stated that there is no minimum membership required.

Twila Brown, Director of Special Education, provided information on the Special Education Annual Plan and Applications for Federal Funds. The Rockbridge Area Special Education Advisory Council will review all documents at their next meeting, as is required. This will be presented for approval at the May Board Meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

Superintendent Thompson stated there have been community members, parents and educators who have reached out to individual board members, the entire board, and administration with concerns of the increase in severity of school violence events around the country, even though our community has not experienced this violence. In response to patrons of Rockbridge County, the Rockbridge County School Board has generated a Safe Schools Resolution that will be sent to our legislators.

- The text of the resolution is as follows:

Resolution to Provide Safe Schools Rockbridge County School Board April 10, 2018

WHEREAS, the School Board of Rockbridge County Public Schools supports the right of students and staff to attend schools that are safe and free from violence; and

WHEREAS, Rockbridge County Public Schools believes that the health and safety of our students and employees is our highest priority; and

WHEREAS, providing a safe school environment that ensures both the physical and emotional safety of students and staff creates the conditions necessary to foster academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, school children along with teachers and staff spend increasing amounts of time participating in lock-down drills detracting from time spent on classroom learning and invoking significant anxiety and fear that impedes learning; and

WHEREAS, the most effective approach to creating safe school environments requires a comprehensive, coordinated effort including school-wide, division-wide and community-wide strategies where all organizations and individuals must accept responsibility for their critical roles and collaborate to establish a positive environment for teaching and learning; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility for preventing violence in schools cannot be relegated to school divisions alone;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Rockbridge County Public School Board calls upon the Virginia General Assembly and the United States Congress to prioritize the protection of students and school division employees by passing legislation that invests in, promotes and supports comprehensive, coordinated and collaborative strategies to prevent any type of violence in our schools so that all students have the opportunity to attend school, engage in the classroom and achieve academic success.

With gratitude to the parents, students, and staff members in Rockbridge County who have spoken out on this issue, the Rockbridge County School Board makes this resolution in support of their voices and to join their request for your leadership in supporting efforts to prevent violence in our schools and communities.

Upon recommendation by Chairman McDaniel, motion by Trustee Lovell seconded by Trustee Berkstresser, and passed by a 5-0 roll call vote, the board approved the Safe Schools Resolution:

Trustee Berkstresser – Yes
Trustee Hostetter – Yes
Trustee Lovell – Yes
Chairman McDaniel – Yes

Upon recommendation by Chairman McDaniel, motion by Trustee Lovell seconded by Trustee Berkstresser, and passed by a 5-0 vote, the board approved the policies JHCF and policy JHCH.

- Chairman McDaniel requested confirmation that no child will be denied a lunch because of outstanding balance. He also requested confirmation that cafeteria employees will not be responsible for collection of outstanding balances.
 - Mr. Crossman confirmed that no child will be denied lunch. He confirmed that the process will remain that Daphne Stickley, Supervisor for School Nutrition, will send a letter to parents, followed by communication from principal. A collection agency has not yet been obtained for assistance.
 - Superintendent Thompson confirmed that typically a form letter will be sent from Ms. Stickley who often communicates with families to offer assistance to complete the free and reduced lunch form.
 - Chairman McDaniel requested an update regarding the free and reduced lunch program.
 - Superintendent Thompson stated that annual forms will be made available online, which will follow siblings at other schools that it is anticipated for the school year 2018-19. It is the hope that this format will be available for the free and reduced lunch forms beginning with the 2019-20 school year.

Upon recommendation by Chairman McDaniel, motion by Trustee Berkstresser seconded by Trustee Lovell, and passed by a 5-0 vote, the board approved the Early Retirement Incentive Program for 2018-2019.

Upon recommendation by Chairman McDaniel, motion by Trustee Lovell seconded by Trustee Whitmore, and passed by a 5-0 vote, the board approved the Social Science/History and Math textbook adoptions as presented.

Superintendent Thompson stated that the Virginia Department of Education recently updated their grievance regulations and, as a result, the Rockbridge County Public Schools policy must change. The criteria to be a Hearing Officer are as follows: the Hearing Officer must be impartial, not an employee of the school division, not associated with the school division, one who is typically an educator or an attorney with a background in educational law, and one who can facilitate a meeting.

- Trustee Lovell inquired if the Hearing Officer is compensated.
 - Superintendent Thompson stated that the Hearing Officer is compensated at an hourly rate. A grievance case could still be brought to the School Board level if not resolved at Grievance Hearing.

Upon recommendation by Chairman McDaniel, motion by Trustee Berkstresser seconded by Trustee Hostetter, and passed by a 5-0 vote, the board approved the recommendation to approve a panel of Hearing Officers to preside over all employee grievance hearings and to delegate the Superintendent, or his designee, the authority to select a Hearing Officer from the board-approved panel in any instance where an employee has requested, and is entitled by law, to a grievance hearing. The approved panel of Hearing Officers shall remain in force until amended by formal action of the board. The board also approved the following panel of Grievance Hearing Officers: Jim Bowling, Roger Collins, Lowell Lemmons, Mike Loso, and Robin Crowder.

NEW BUSINESS:

Superintendent Thompson stated that AdvancED, the third party outside entity who will evaluate Rockbridge County Public Schools, will be conducting their review process beginning Sunday, April 15, 2018 through Wednesday, April 18, 2018. He requested that school board members be available to talk with the AdvancED review team on April 16, 2018 at 1:00 PM, if available.

SCHOOL BOARD:

The next regular meeting of the Rockbridge County School Board will be on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 / 5:00 PM / Location: County of Rockbridge Administration Building, 150 South Main Street, Lexington, Virginia.

Chairman McDaniel stated that the Rockbridge County High School graduation will take place on Friday, May 25, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

Mr. Hand offered the following dates: Wildcat Leadership Inspiration Awards will be held on Sunday, May 6, 2018 at 3:00 PM. The Senior Awards Night will be held on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

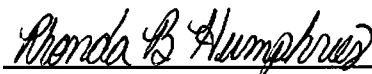
Trustee Lovell expressed her appreciation to principals for the email communications with list of dates of events.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Trustee Lovell, seconded by Trustee Berkstresser, and passed by 5-0 vote, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01PM.



David B. McDaniel, Chairman



Rhonda B. Humphries, Clerk of the Board