

The Rockbridge County School Board held their regular meeting on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at the County of Rockbridge Administration Building.

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

CALL TO ORDER

Superintendent Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. and requested that everyone rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Superintendent Thompson stated that the first order of business would be the Board's re-organization for the year 2018 and asked for nominations for Board Chairman. Trustee Lovell nominated Trustee McDaniel for Chairman. The nomination was passed by a 4-0 roll call vote, with Trustee McDaniel being elected as Chairman.

Trustee Hostetter	- Yes
Trustee Lovell	- Yes
Trustee McDaniel	- Yes
Trustee Berkstresser	- Yes

Chairman McDaniel asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Trustee Hostetter nominated Trustee Lovell for Vice-Chairman. The nomination was passed by the following 4-0 vote roll call vote with Trustee Lovell being elected as Vice-Chairman:

Trustee Hostetter	- Yes
Trustee Lovell	- Yes
Trustee McDaniel	- Yes
Trustee Berkstresser	- Yes

Upon recommendation by Superintendent Thompson, motion by Trustee Lovell, seconded by Trustee Berkstresser, and passed by a 4-0 vote, the Board appointed Rhonda Humphries as Clerk for the calendar year 2018.

Upon recommendation by Superintendent Thompson, motion by Trustee Lovell, seconded by Trustee Hostetter, and passed by a 4-0 vote, the Board appointed Haywood Hand as Deputy Clerk for the calendar year 2018.

Upon recommendation by Superintendent Thompson, motion by Trustee Hostetter, seconded by Trustee Berkstresser, and passed by a 4-0 vote, the Board named Haywood hand as Superintendent's Designee for the calendar year 2018.

Upon recommendation by Superintendent Thompson, motion by Trustee Hostetter, seconded by Trustee Lovell, and passed by a 4-0 vote, Phillip Thompson, Superintendent; David Daniels, Director of Financial Services; and Haywood Hand, Assistant Superintendent were appointed as School Board Fiscal Agents with the authority to approve the payment of bills if the School Board is unable to meet.

Chairman McDaniel announced that committee assignments would remain the same, noting that the Discipline Committee may need rotation as needed with scheduling conflicts.

- Discipline Committee: Trustee Lovell, Trustee Berkstresser, Trustee Hostetter
- Ad Hoc Committee: Trustee Lovell, Trustee Hostetter
- Rockbridge County Public Schools Foundation: Trustee Berkstresser

Chairman McDaniel announced that the Board will continue to conduct their regular meetings on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 5:00 p.m.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Superintendent Thompson stated that there would be a Closed Meeting held at the conclusion of the regular meeting.

STUDENT / STAFF RECOGNITION:

Mike Keyser, CEO, BARC, presented a check in the amount of \$4,000 to Steven Wilder, Supervisor of Career and Technical Education. It is the intent for this money to be used for the Renewal Energy Program. Mr. Wilder stated that the funds will be used in the Energy and Power Class, [tunnel for student-designed wind turbines]; DJI Phantom IV Pro Drone for Maury River Middle School; Intro to Trades, Ag.; Technology Classes; and the Digital Input Technology Class.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Two patrons addressed the board requesting that consideration be given to the 2018-2019 school calendar to recognize Martin Luther King Day.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon recommendation by Chairman McDaniel, motion by Trustee Lovell, seconded by Trustee Hostetter, the board approved the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes: 1) November 27, 2017 [Special Meeting]; 2) November 30, 2017 [Joint Meeting with Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors]; 3) December 4, 2017 [Regular Meeting]; 4) December 18, 2017 [Discipline Committee Hearing].

- Field Trip and Bus Use Requests
- Fund Raiser Requests
- Enrollment Update
- **Appointments and Resignations**

Appointments**Support Staff****Support Staff**

Heidi Sheltman, School Nurse, Rockbridge County High School, effective January 10, 2018

Substitute Teachers

Lawrence Heatwole

Lamis Hourani

Jessica Barclay

Substitute School Nurse

Brooke Scott

Winter Coaches**Maury River Middle School****Girls' Basketball**

Susan Nye – Volunteer Coach

Spring Coaches**Rockbridge County High School****Baseball**

Justin Wenger – Varsity Head Coach

Travis Roadcap – Varsity Assistant Coach

Eric Lollis – JV Coach

Andy Coffey – Volunteer Coach

Neil Pelozza – Volunteer Coach

Softball

Keith Ruley – Varsity Head Coach

Karen Clemmer – Varsity Assistant Coach

James Clark – JV Head Coach

Rebecca Stratton – Volunteer Coach

Boys' Lacrosse

Jake Adams – Head Coach

Paul Williams – Asst. Coach

George Ray – Volunteer Coach

Girls' Lacrosse

Chris Bowring – Head Coach

Susan Nye – Assistant Coach

Jim Coleman – Volunteer Coach

Outdoor Track

Jennifer Showalter – Head Coach
Penni Allen – Assistant Coach

Girls' Soccer

Ray Ellington – Head Coach
Dirk van Assendelft – Assistant Coach
Sean Harrington – Volunteer Coach

Boys' Soccer

Scott Youngdahl – Head Coach
Paul Gregory – Assistant Coach
Josh Elrod - Volunteer Coach
James Kahn – Volunteer Coach

Girls' Tennis

Susan Amonette – Head Coach

Boys' Tennis

Holden Branham – Head Coach

Maury River Middle School

Outdoor Track

Tasha Polly – Head Coach
Jonathan Williams – Asst. Coach

Resignations

Professional Staff

Cindy Lunsford, Teacher, Rockbridge County High School, resigning effective
December 21, 2017

Support Staff

Brooke Scott, School Nurse, Rockbridge County High School, resigning effective
December 29, 2017

Retiring

Support Staff

Deborah Hodge, Teacher Assistant, Fairfield Elementary School, retiring end of
2017-2018 school year

• **Business Items**

The Board approved new grant appropriations to Fund 50 in the amount of \$13,331.00.
The Board approved Monthly Financials in the amount of \$2,492,749.17.

BUDGET PLANNING:

Superintendent Thompson stated that there will be a Budget Work Session Monday, January 15, 2018.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE

INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT:

Jason Kirby, Director of Personnel and Technology, provided a report on Digital Conversion and Technology Update, which included the following: Digital Conversion Goals, Mission Statement, information on 21st Century Learning, summary of the transition process for the 1:1 Chromebook Initiative, and teacher tools being utilized to aide in the transition. He stated that purchases will be made closer to the end of the fiscal year to allow more time for the warranty during the school year.

- Chairman McDaniel confirmed that capital purchases are typically made at that time of year.
- Chairman McDaniel inquired if there has been communication with Lexington City as to what students from Lylburn Downing Middle School are to expect when they get to Rockbridge County High School.
 - Superintendent Thompson stated that Superintendent Jefferies is aware of the initiative. Superintendent Thompson also stated that an Ad Hoc Meeting with Lexington City will soon be scheduled and that Mr. Kirby will attend.

- Chairman McDaniel requested confirmation from Mr. Kirby that the ITRT at Rockbridge County High School is still a needed position recommendation.
 - Mr. Kirby responded that the position needs to be in place for long-term to benefit teachers and students.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Tim Martino, Director of Elementary Education, and Billy Thomas, Principal, Maury River Middle School, provided information on the School Improvement Plans of Rockridge County Public Schools and Maury River Middle School.

Mr. Martino reviewed the goals of the Division Improvement Plan, further adding that this is a three-year plan. He stated that the goal is to achieve overall achievement with a targeted focus placed on the English department at Maury River Middle School, with data consistently analyzed to gauge student progress. Professional development is based on needs of students and teachers, and overall needs instructionally. There will also be an increased amount of parent involvement via daily homework line and the scheduling of parent workshops to demonstrate how they can assist their child. Mr. Martino stated that this will be presented as an Action Item at the February meeting of the Rockbridge County School Board.

Mr. Thomas stated that the school plan will utilize the academic review as a tool. He provided the following goals: Increase staff knowledge of the Academic Review Evaluation tool; Provide guidance to teachers for implementing curriculum through alignment of lesson plans in content and cognition; Monitor aligned lesson plans; Monitor compliance administrative expectation; Create school-wide professional development plan; Provide feedback to teachers on their use of professional development learning, focusing on student learning outcomes; Use benchmark data to tier learners and design specific interventions; and to provide parent tools to assist with their child's learning.

- Trustee Lovell inquired if the FLOW afterschool program supports MRMS.
 - Mr. Thomas stated that Gloria Brown, FLOW MRMS Program Director, does work to provide support when requested.
- Chairman McDaniel requested that Superintendent Thompson communicate an interest to the YMCA for a middle school program in the future.
- Chairman McDaniel inquired how digital conversion will help with the School Improvement Plans.
 - Superintendent Thompson stated that it will allow teachers to teach in different way, using 21st Century Learning, to attract students to engage more in their education.
 - Chairman McDaniel stated that there may be more interaction with student and parent with the Chromebooks going home daily with students.
- Trustee Berkstresser inquired if there is a cost savings using the Chromebooks versus the buying of textbooks.
 - Superintendent Thompson stated that there is still a charge for online books.
- Trustee Berkstresser inquired about the impact for students who do not have internet access at home.
 - Superintendent Thompson stated that it is not required for students to have internet at home because assignments can be downloaded at school and taken home via the Chromebook.
 - Chairman McDaniel added that another benefit of online textbooks is that when a textbook is purchased, it will be updated digitally, which is quicker than with hard copy paper textbook.

ACTION ITEMS:

Upon recommendation by Superintendent Thompson, motion by Trustee Berkstresser, seconded by Trustee Hostetter, and passed by a 4-0 roll call vote, the Board approved the Resolution to Support the Creation of a Small and Rural Schools Coalition in order to better advocate for our students, teachers, staff, and stakeholders.

Upon recommendation by Superintendent Thompson, motion by Trustee Lovell, seconded by Trustee Hostetter, and passed by a 4-0 vote, the Board approved the Rockbridge County High School Program of Studies.

Upon recommendation by Superintendent Thompson, motion by Trustee Berkstresser, seconded by Trustee Lovell, and passed by a 4-0 vote, the Board approved the Maury River Middle School Program of Studies.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE**SCHOOL BOARD**

Chairman McDaniel welcomed Trustee Berkstresser and Trustee Hostetter to the Rockbridge County School Board.

Superintendent Thompson stated that the process is in place regarding the vacancy for the Walkers Creek School Board representative. The seat became vacant when Albert J. Lewis, II was elected to the Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors and assumed this elected position on January 1, 2018. There will be a Public Hearing to allow for citizen input. The Rockbridge County School Board members will conduct interviews with the intent of making an appointment from the pool of applicants, prior to the next regular board meeting of February 13, 2018.

There will be a special meeting of the Rockbridge County School Board on Monday, January 15, 2018 at 4:30 p.m. for conducting a budget work session. The meeting will be held at the Rockbridge County School Board Office, 2893 Collierstown Road, Lexington, Virginia.

There will be a joint meeting of the Rockbridge County School Board and the Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 4:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussion. The meeting will be held at the Rockbridge County School Board Office, 2893 Collierstown Road, Lexington, Virginia.

The Rockbridge County School Board will hold a Public Hearing for allowing citizen input on the Walkers Creek School Board Member Vacancy on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 4:30 p.m. The Public Hearing will be held at the Rockbridge County School Board Office, 2893 Collierstown Road, Lexington, Virginia.

There will be a special closed meeting of the Rockbridge County School Board on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at the conclusion of the Public Hearing, which is scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. The meeting will take place at the Rockbridge County School Board Office, 2893 Collierstown Road, Lexington, VA. The Board will hold a Closed Meeting under Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the State Code [Personnel]. Action is not anticipated as a result of the Closed Meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Rockbridge County School Board will be on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 / 5:00 PM / Location: County of Rockbridge Administration Building, 150 South Main Street, Lexington, Virginia.

CLOSED MEETING

Under Section 2.2-3711.A State Code: 2.2-3711.A (1) [Personnel] of the State Code, Chairman McDaniel recommended that the Board go into a Closed Meeting for discussion. Motion was made by Trustee Lovell, seconded by Trustee Berkstresser, and passed by 4-0 vote.

The Board entered into the Closed Meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Upon motion by Chairman McDaniel, motion by Trustee Hostetter, seconded by Trustee Berkstresser, and passed by a 4-0 vote, the Board came out of the Closed Meeting.

The Board returned to open session at 6:23 p.m.

Trustee Berkstresser read the following motion to Certify the Closed Meeting:

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

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712.D of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rockbridge County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each members 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.

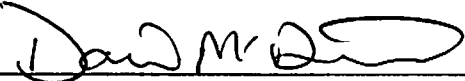
Upon initial motion of Certification of Closed Meeting by Trustee Berkstresser, and seconded by Trustee Lovell, the motion passed by the following roll call vote:

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

There was no action as a result of the Closed Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Trustee Berkstresser, seconded by Trustee Lovell, and passed by 4-0 vote, the meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.



David B. McDaniel, Chairman



Rhonda B. Humphries, Clerk of the Board