

The Rockbridge County School Board held their regular meeting on Tuesday, May 11, 2021. The meeting was held at Maury River Middle School.

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lovell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None

RECOGNITION / SPECIAL PRESENTATION: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

One patron addressed the board regarding: lengthening the public comment period from two minutes to three minutes; no consistency in mask wearing in elementary schools; changing the meeting time to 6 PM, citing that any board member who is more worried about getting home early than meeting with a concerned public for one meeting a month should consider resigning and should consider not running as an incumbent in the future; referenced an email of inquiry sent to the board chair on April 24 receiving a response on April 26 and stating that division leaders would respond, with no response the inquiry was stated regarding if professional development will include Critical Race Theory; if Critical Race Theory will be introduced into RCPS curriculum, and if funding will be lost if Critical Race Theory is not taught.

One patron addressed the board stating that the board lacks integrity and moral conviction; that the board members are scared to stand up for what is wrong in fear of protests at their businesses; that there are groups that are in the schools while board members say they are aware such groups exist; that board members and teachers will circumvent the law and policies to indoctrinate students; that board members knew the responsibility when they took an oath; that the board has violated its oaths and should resign.

One patron addressed the board expressing annoyance that nothing has been done about the easing of the mask policy reflecting that the PE teacher had requested the wearing of a mask in class.

One patron addressed the board regarding the fact that students are not back in session full-time with the CDC rule of social distancing at three feet and expressed belief that wearing a mask is a personal choice.

One patron address the board with a suggestion that the board members use google to get answers in order to be able to answer questions.

One patron addressed the board regarding the lack of transparency to the community, lack of access to new policies; requested clear, concise, simple communication to the public earlier and often manner.

One patron played audio soundbite of a VDOE equity webinar.

One patron read scripture.

One patron addressed the board expressing opposition to the teaching of Critical Race Theory in schools.

One patron addressed the board expressing sadness at hearing the other public comments of what is perceived to be taking place in schools.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon recommendation by Chairman Lovell, motion by Trustee Berkstresser, seconded by Trustee Whitmore, the board voted 5-0, the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- Minutes: 1) April 13, 2021 [Regular Meeting];
- Field Trip / Bus Use Requests
- Fundraising Requests
- Application for Use of Facilities

- **Appointments and Resignations**

APPOINTMENTS

Professional Staff

Melanie Camden, Principal, Mountain View Elementary School, 2021 – 2022 school year
Katelyn Glass, Teacher, Maury River Middle School, 2021 – 2022 school year
Maryann Wolfe, Teacher, Rockbridge County High School, 2021 – 2022 school year
Erin Jones, Teacher, Maury River Middle School, 2021 – 2022 school year
Jeannie Hite, Teacher, Central Elementary School, 2021 – 2022 school year
Taylor Allen, Occupational Therapist, Division, 2021 – 2022 school year
Adam Doll-Hennis, Teacher, Maury River Middle School, 2021 – 2022 school year, (one-year contract)
Christa Ricker, Teacher, Fairfield Elementary School, 2021 – 2022 school year

Spring Coaches

RCHS

Katlyn Smalls, Volunteer Softball Coach

RESIGNATIONS

Professional Staff

Diane Secord, Principal, Fairfield Elementary School, resigning June 30, 2021
Adam Gilbert, Teacher, Mountain View Elementary School, resigning end of 2020 – 2021 school year
Lisa Carbo, Teacher, Rockbridge County High School, resigning end of the 2020 – 2021 school year
Hayley Smith, Teacher, Central Elementary School, resigning end of the 2020 – 2021 school year
Christine Shank, Teacher, Fairfield Elementary School, resigning end of the 2020 – 2021 school year
Bobbie Jarvis, School Counselor, Fairfield Elementary School, resigning end of the 2020 – 2021 school year
Sarah Adair, Teacher, Fairfield Elementary School, resigning end of the 2020 – 2021 school year

Support Staff

Angel Barry, Teacher Assistant, Rockbridge County High School, resigned April 21, 2021
Terry Messerich, Teacher Assistant, Rockbridge County High School, resigned April 30, 2021
Kerrilyn Cooper, Teacher Assistant, Mountain View Elementary School, resigning end of the 2020 – 2021 school year

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Professional Staff

Sarah Smith, Teacher, Maury River Middle School, requesting one year leave of absence for the 2021 – 2022 school year

Support Staff Approvals for Employment 2021-2022 School Year

Teacher Assistants

Aligood, Patsy	Teacher Assistant
Ashcraft, Sherita	Teacher Assistant
Bare, Lori	Teacher Assistant
Bolen, Deborah	Teacher Assistant
Braddy, Mary	Teacher Assistant
Bryan, Shannon	Teacher Assistant
Chittum, Reneda	Teacher Assistant
Coffey, Stephanie	Teacher Assistant
Conner, Jennifer	Teacher Assistant
Crookshanks, Tiffany	Teacher Assistant
Day, Deborah	Teacher Assistant
Early, Mary	Teacher Assistant
Harlow, Christina	Teacher Assistant
Harris, Theresa	Teacher Assistant
Hill, Krissy	Teacher Assistant
Hilliard, Virginia	Teacher Assistant

Teacher Assistants (continued)

Jarvis, Tricia	Teacher Assistant
Kirk, Emma	Teacher Assistant
Montgomery, Brandy	Teacher Assistant
Nelson, Jennifer	Teacher Assistant
Pufahl, Maria	Teacher Assistant
Ramsey, Linda	Teacher Assistant
Sheltman, Brian	Teacher Assistant
Snider, Natasha	Teacher Assistant
Talley, Rebecca	Teacher Assistant
Teague, Deborah	Teacher Assistant
Thomas, Brookney	Teacher Assistant
Wiley, Caryn	Teacher Assistant
Wilhelm, Lorin	Teacher Assistant
Williams, Jeremy	Teacher Assistant
Zickafoose, Amy	Teacher Assistant
Ziegler, Christy	Teacher Assistant

Custodians

Barbour, Bryan	Custodian
Brown, Louis, (Time Sheet)	Custodian
Forren, Skylar	Custodian
Hostetter, Jamie	Custodian
Hostetter, Joey	Custodian
Hostetter, Michael	Custodian
Kirby, Bernie	Custodian
Reed, Melissa	Custodian
Richards, Carson	Custodian
Riley, Jack	Custodian
Riley, Jackie	Custodian
Shanks, Gregory	Custodian
Smith, Calvin	Custodian
Staton, Karla	Custodian

School Secretaries/Bookkeepers/Clerical Assistants

Bauernfeind, Tina	Clerical Assistant
Cash, Phyllis	Bookkeeper
Chism, Donna	School Secretary
Coffey, Joan	School Secretary
Emrey, Karen	School Secretary
Floyd, Kristi	Clerical Assistant
Harris, Barbara	School Secretary
Jones, Elizabeth	School Secretary
McCaleb, Bonnie	School Secretary
Miller, Lisa	Bookkeeper
Rogers, Travis	School Secretary
Shafer, Erica	Clerical Assistant
Swartz, Jane	School Secretary
Van Ravenswaay, Lisa	School Secretary
Vest, Violet	School Secretary
Zitmore, Lisa	School Secretary

Maintenance

Beard, Kenneth	Maintenance
Cash, Gary	Maintenance
Floyd, Edward	Maintenance
Kessinger, William	Maintenance
Lilly, David	Maintenance
Mahood, Todd	Maintenance
Moore, Lewis	Maintenance
Pruett, Daniel	Maintenance
Staton, Roy	Maintenance

Central Office Support Staff

Armentrout, Alecia	Payroll Specialist
Church, Ana	School Nutrition Services Secretary/Finance Assistant
Cox, Kelly	Receptionist/Records
Humphries, Rhonda	Administrative Assistant/Clerk of the Board
Johnson, Carolyn	Secretary for Facilities
Leonard, Melissa	Transportation Clerk
Loope, Dana	Accounts Payable Specialist
Luck, Cindy	Secretary for Special Education
Rexrode, Monica	Personnel Specialist

School Nurses

Bennington, Melissa	School Nurse
Fix, Dylan	School Nurse
Marcum, Katina	School Nurse
Sheltman, Heidi	School Nurse
Staton, Meagan	School Nurse

Technology

Bundy, Justin	Technology Specialist
Coleman, Mark	Technology Specialist
Kerr, J.D.	Technology Specialist
Patterson, Mike	Technology Specialist
Staton, Cole	Technology Specialist

Food Service

Arthur, Mary (Time Sheet)	Food Service
Burrows, Heidi (Time Sheet)	Food Service
Campbell, Gwen	Food Service
Canellas, Sandra (Time Sheet)	Food Service
Coffey, Chelsea	Food Service
Coffey, Marlene	Food Service
Cruz, Becky	Food Service
Emore, Kassandra (Time Sheet)	Food Service
Fauber, Marla (Time Sheet)	Food Service
Harris, Amy (Time Sheet)	Food Service
Hetrick, Dawn	Food Service
Kerr, Brenda	Food Service
Lilly, Paula	Food Service
Lotts, Pam	Food Service
Manspile, Catherine (Time Sheet)	Food Service
Martin, Teresa	Food Service
Robinson, Lezley (Time Sheet)	Food Service
Skipper, Kathryn (Time Sheet)	Food Service
Smith, Kathryn	Food Service
Snuffer, Whitney (Time Sheet)	Food Service
Snyder, Bonnie	Food Service
Sorrels, Roxie	Food Service
Sponaule, Kim	Food Service

- **Business Items**
 - Approve Debit service payment due June 1, 2021, to US Bank for Rockbridge County Public Schools VPSA QSCB General Obligation School Bond Series 2011-2 in the amount of \$159,375.00.
 - Approve new grant appropriations to Fund 50 in the amount of \$143,382.00.
 - Approve Monthly Financials in the amount of \$3,323,159.50.

BUDGET PLANNING: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

INSTRUCTIONAL REPORT:

Dr. Mike Craft, Principal, Rockbridge County High School, provided an end-of-year update which included upcoming social events, award ceremonies, recovery opportunities, testing, and graduation. [RCHS Graduation will take place on June 4, 2021 at 5:30 PM at the Rockbridge County High School Stadium; adverse weather date will be June 5, 2021 at 10:00 AM]

- Trustee Burant asked for clarification that they Summer School credit Recovery classes are free of charge.
 - Dr. Craft confirmed that the Recovery courses are free of charge.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Ms. Tracy Hinty, Supervisor of Federal Programs, provided information on the Federal Grants, which will become available on July 1. She provided information on the individual and consolidated state and federal entitlement grants, which are Title I, Title II, Title III, and Title IV. Federal Grants will be presented as an Action Item at the June board meeting.

- Chairman Lovell expressed her appreciation and her sentiment that it is difficult to complete federal grants.
 - Ms. Hinty stated that the Comprehensive Plan and stakeholder feedback was of great assistance when completing the data.

Ms. Lindsey Flint, Coordinator for Gifted Programs, provided a presentation “Gifted Opportunities 2020-2021” which included the following highlights:

- Elementary Schools:
21 Identified Students who utilized Google Classroom, Nearpod, Math 24, and STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)
- Middle School:
37 Identified Students who utilized Google Classroom, Nearpod, Math 24.
15 students participated in Independent Study.
- 2021 Summer Residential Governor’s School:
 - Saraa Basuchoudhary, RCHS, selected to attend The Humanities Summer Residential Governor’s School.
- 2021 Governor’s Foreign Language Academies:
 - Susanne Mayock-Bradley, RCHS, selected to attend The Spanish Governor’s Foreign Language Academy.
 - Sara Topasna, RCHS, selected to attend The Japanese Governor’s Foreign Language Academy.
- Destination Imagination / 2021 Southeast Super Affiliate Virtual Tournament:
 - Central Elementary School’s Glitch Girls: 2nd Place
 - Rockridge County High School’s Controlled Chaos: 2nd Place

Both teams qualified for Globals and will be competing virtually in June of 2021.
- Chairman Lovell expressed her appreciation for the work done with the students and offered congratulations to the students.

ACTION ITEM:

Upon recommendation by Chairman Lovell, motion by Trustee Hostetter, seconded by Trustee Whitmore, the board voted 5-0, to approve the Rockbridge Area Special Education Advisory Council members as presented.

Upon recommendation by Chairman Lovell, motion by Trustee Berkstresser, seconded by Trustee Burant, the board voted 5-0, to approve the Special Education Annual Plan and Applications for Federal Funds, noting that final awards will be made in July.

Upon recommendation by Chairman Lovell, motion by Trustee Burant, seconded by Trustee Whitmore, and passed by a 5-0 roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved the Virginia Public School Educational Technology Notes and Resolution.

Upon recommendation by Chairman Lovell, motion by Trustee Berkstresser, seconded by Trustee Burant, the board voted 5-0, to approve the Early Retirement Incentive Program for 2021-2022, and the Early Retirement Incentive Program for 2022-2023.

- Trustee Berkstresser expressed his sentiment that he feels the programs represent a great compromise.

Upon recommendation by Chairman Lovell, motion by Trustee Berkstresser, seconded by Trustee Hostetter, the board voted 5-0, to approve the FY22 Line Item Budget in the amount of \$32,787,348.

- Chairman Lovell expressed her appreciation for all the hard work staff puts into this endeavor.

NEW BUSINESS: None

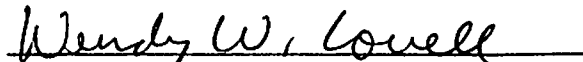
SCHOOL BOARD:

There will be a Joint Meeting with Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors on May 19, 2021 at 5:00 PM at Maury River Middle School.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Rockbridge County School Board will be held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Maury River Middle School, 600 Waddell Street, Lexington, Virginia.

ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion by Trustee Burant, seconded by Trustee Berkstresser, and passed by 5-0 vote, the meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.


Wendy W. Lovell, Chairman


Rhonda B. Humphries, Clerk of the Board