

Poquoson City Public Schools - Regular School Board Meeting (Tuesday, January 21, 2025)
Minutes

In attendance:

Christopher Burbage, Chair	Kristen Jones	Arty Tillett, Superintendent
Melissa Bartlett	J. Chris Maxwell	Andrew Roberts, Asst. Superintendent
Christopher Claud	AJ Lumagui, Student Representative	Ashley Ide, Deputy Clerk
Michael DuBose, Vice Chair	Timothy Goodale	Carol M. Carroll, Clerk

1. Meeting Opening - Dr. Burbage called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge to the Flag and Moment of Silence was led by AJ Lumagui. The inspirational quote was from Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Additions and/or Modifications to the Agenda - No additions or modifications to the agenda

2. Recognitions - Kelly Purdie presented the recognitions.

Senior of the Month - Martha Hope Gammons

PHS Varsity Field Hockey Team was recognized for their 2nd place finish at States.

3. Presentations and Reports

Instruction Update - Provided by Ashley Ide, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction and Support Services

- VA Teachers for Tomorrow - course overview presented.
- Teacher Cadets - at PPS - Year one and year two students are involved.
- Special Friends - Volunteer program for high school students. Allows them to support younger students across the division. Students earn volunteer hours.

Dr. Bartlett inquired as to how long these programs have been in place

Ms. Ide believes it started about 1991

Chair Burbage inquired about which grades are eligible.

Ms. Ide stated that Teacher Cadet and Special Friends are open to 11th and 12 graders - upper classmen.

Finance Update - Provided by Tracy Spence, Executive Director of Finance

- Governors Proposed Budget
- PCPS Revenue and Budget
- Compensation factors influencing FY26 budget
 - Governors proposed 3% salary increase
 - Results of PCPS compensation study
- Benefits
 - Health insurance estimates an increase of 24%
- State revenue
- Upcoming budget meetings

Dr. Bartlett inquired re: ADM - if it increases, does the state funding continue or is it based on a certain date and time.

Ms. Spence replied that numbers are based on the March 31st count. We will not know until March 31.

Dr. Goodale re: salary study. What is the benchmark for the 1.6 M to reach the step plan

Ms. Spence - Comparison was based on the divisions around us, including New Kent and Prince William. Currently proposing step zero to be \$54,000. PCPS will be right with York.

Mr. Tillett – The analytics the consultants used was to get to a regional average. Needs to be done in stages. We will discuss ways to get there in stages at the budget meeting.

Dr. Goodale - May be a goal

Mr. Tillett - the health insurance will be going out for bid

Ms. Jones - 3% is only for the salary increase

Mr. Claud - Will we get a copy of the study

Mr. Tillett - The study will be redacted to protect employee names and salaries

Operations Report - Provided by Andrew Roberts

- Recommended SY 2025/2026 calendar
 - Pre Labor Day Start in 2025
 - 180 Days
 - Last day of school is 6/5/26
- Electronic Device and Cell Phone Policy
 - Minimal amount of offenses
- Safety
 - Power School Data Breach - not on our end
 - Power School has accepted all accountability on the breach
- Transportation

Chair Burbage - when will the parents see the GPS on the buses

Mr. Roberts - GPS will be on the buses first - next phase is the tablets on the busses - then an app to parents. Hoping for a launch sometime in the second semester near the end of the school year.

Dr. Goodale - feedback on the calendar re: half days on Thursdays.

Mr. Tillett – concerns were raised that Wednesdays cause disruption in the week. Friday attendance on half days is not good. The compromise is Thursday as it may be less disruptive to the younger kids. It can be an easy fix if it does not work.

Dr. Goodale - have you reached out to York on their feedback?

Mr. Tillett - has not done any investigation and does not know if anyone else has. Relying on our own trend data as Friday's being the poorest days attended for students and staff.

Ms. Jones - MLK day has a half day before it. Another day is November. Not sure how it's going to work

Mr. Tillett - asked by the community to do the calendar earlier. Asked by the committee to give Thursday's a try.

Mr. Maxwell - feedback from teachers is that Friday is preferred but the committee recommended Thursday.

Mr. Tillett - Friday is always everybody's go to for half days. Trying to avoid the convenience of a Friday half day. The trend is measurable. Fearful that Friday half days attendance would be catastrophic.

Mr. Maxwell - Do we have historical data on half day Fridays?

Mr. Tillett – (help from Dr. Winchester and Mrs. Cason) we do have data from homecoming and the Seafood Festival half days on those Fridays.

4. Public Comment

The Public Comment statement was read into the record by Chair Burbage.

Public Comment Speakers who signed up to speak:

- David Heywood spoke regarding girls wrestling sport to be sanctioned at PCPS
- Kaitlyn Cross spoke regarding girls wrestling sport and getting a girl's team
- Brandon Cross spoke regarding girls wrestling sport, getting an update to the wrestling room for a girl's bathroom and girls locker room. One girl is all that is needed to create a varsity team.
- Raelynn Hatchett spoke regarding girls wrestling. She hopes to get a girls wrestling team.

- Mayson Heywood spoke regarding girls wrestling. Spoke about her love for the sport and problems with sharing the wrestling room.
- Derek Goodson spoke regarding girls wrestling and their success at state competitions.
- Stephen Hatchett spoke to support his daughter and other girl wrestlers.

5. Consent Agenda

Chair Burbage called for a motion to separate out Item C. - Approval of Personnel Action of the Consent Agenda, to be voted on separately.

Motion to remove item C to be voted on separately from Items A, B and D, of the Consent Agenda moved by Vice Chair DuBose, seconded by Mr. Claud

Vote taken:

- Dr. Bartlett – Aye
- Mr. Claud – Aye
- Vice Chair DuBose – Aye
- Dr. Goodale - Aye
- Ms. Jones – Aye
- Mr. Maxwell – Aye
- Chair Burbage - Aye

Vote passes 7-0

A. Approval of Financial Reports

B. Authorization to Change Appropriation and to Accept and Expend Funds in Accordance with Attached Request

D. Approval of Minutes

Chair Burbage called for a motion to Approve Items A, B and D of the Consent Agenda. Motion moved by Vice Chair DuBose and Seconded by Dr. Goodale.

Vote taken:

- Dr. Bartlett – Aye
- Mr. Claud – Aye
- Vice Chair DuBose – Aye
- Dr. Goodale - Aye
- Ms. Jones – Aye
- Mr. Maxwell – Aye
- Chair Burbage - Aye

Vote passes 7-0

C. Approval of Personnel Action

Chair Burbage called for a motion to Approve Personnel Action. Moved by Mr. Maxwell and seconded by Mr. Claud

Vote taken:

- Dr. Bartlett – Aye
- Mr. Claud – Aye
- Vice Chair DuBose – Aye

- Dr. Goodale - Abstain
- Ms. Jones – Aye
- Mr. Maxwell – Aye
- Chair Burbage - Aye

Vote passes 6-1 abstain

6. Other Matters for Consideration

A. Consideration of Approval of Proclamations for Black History Month and Principals Week.

Chair Burbage called for a Motion to Approve Proclamation of Black History Month. Moved by Dr. Bartlett and seconded by Mr. Claud.

Vote taken:

- Dr. Bartlett – Aye
- Mr. Claud – Aye
- Vice Chair DuBose – Aye
- Dr. Goodale - Aye
- Ms. Jones – Aye
- Mr. Maxwell – Aye
- Chair Burbage - Aye

Vote passes 7-0

Chair Burbage called for a Motion to Approve Proclamation of School Principals Appreciation Week. Moved by Mr. Claud and seconded by Ms. Jones.

Vote taken:

- Dr. Bartlett – Aye
- Mr. Claud – Aye
- Vice Chair DuBose – Aye
- Dr. Goodale - Aye
- Ms. Jones – Aye
- Mr. Maxwell – Aye
- Chair Burbage - Aye

Vote passes 7-0

B. Motion to approve the Recommended Draft PCPS Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year

Chair Burbage called for a Motion to approve the Recommended Draft PCPS Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year. Moved by Vice Chair DuBose and seconded by Mr. Claud

Discussion:

Mr. Maxwell – Asked to clarify the calendar is a draft and can be amended during our work session.

Mr. Tillett - the calendar can be amended at any time. The School Board can amend its calendar at any time.

Vote taken:

- Dr. Bartlett – Aye
- Mr. Claud – Aye
- Vice Chair DuBose – Aye

- Dr. Goodale - Aye
- Ms. Jones – Aye
- Mr. Maxwell – Aye
- Chair Burbage - Aye

Vote passes 7-0

7. Meeting Closing

A. Communications

AJ Lumagui provided his report on the PCPS schools.

Mr. Maxwell issued a preemptive echoing of all of his fellow board members. Congratulations to the Senior of the Month, another outstanding resume. Congratulations to the Varsity Field Hockey team for their outstanding year. Special thank you to staff and students participating in the Special Friends program and the Teacher Cadet program. Thank you to Mrs. Purdie for the Poquoson's Own presentation. Enjoyed recognizing some of the faces. Thank you for everyone who came to give public comment. Greatly appreciate your comments and your input to these meetings. Happy new year to everyone.

Dr. Goodale wished congratulations to Hope on being student of the month, and the varsity field hockey team on their state runner up. Thanks and congratulations to the High School guidance team for their course fair. Teachers of Tomorrow, is near and dear to his heart. Hopes the students know there are also programs once you get into college like the teaching fellows and scholarship money out there. Thanks to the speakers on women's wrestling. This is one step, suggested they call the athletic director and start a club. Proud of you.

Dr. Bartlett wished Happy New Year to everyone. Echoes everything that everyone has said. Best of luck to all the students and their teachers. To the public speakers, she is a fan of women's wrestling. She really appreciated the speakers bringing this to our attention.

Mr. Claud echoes comments. Congratulations to the Senior of the Month and the girls Varsity Field Hockey. Wonderful achievements. Thanks to the folks here tonight who have come to speak. He would like to see a copy of the document handed out. Public speaking is nerve racking, and the young ladies did a good job. Thanks to the principals and assistant principals. The appreciation week was last week but we appreciate you all the time. Your hard work and dedication and so many other things don't go unnoticed. Thank staff council and the calendar committee, school board office staff. Very much appreciated. Looking forward to seeing the comp. plan. Happy New Year.

Ms. Jones Congratulations to Miss Gannons. Another very impressive senior of the month. Congratulations Ms. Chiappazzi and the team. The field hockey team was really fun to watch this year. Really good things coming from those athletes. Thank you to all of our public comments, but Miss Cross, Miss Hatchet, Miss Haywood very well done. She enjoyed hearing from you and appreciate you ladies coming. You gave a lot of people a lot to consider, and you went about it in the right way. Enjoyed hearing about the Teacher Cadet and Special Friends program. It's a neat program and its important to introduce the students at the high school level. Thanks to the calendar committee and appreciate your time. Happy New Year. Good luck to all starting the third quarter tomorrow.

Vice Chair DuBose echoes everybody's comments. Regarding Special Friends, he was a special friend when he was in high school and its nice to see that continuing to go on. Thanks to Mr. Tillet and Ms. Spence for working on the budget. Thanks for your work. Thanks to the young ladies for coming up to speak.

Chair Burbage congratulations to Hope Gammons for senior of the month. You are working hard and it shows. Congratulations to the varsity field hockey team as state runners up. Congratulations on everything you achieved as a team and you also have a lot of individual awards. In regard to the teacher cadets and special friends, thanks to all of our students that are participating in these

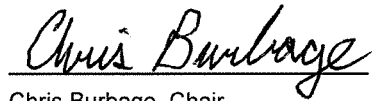
programs. You never know when you might have a chance to make a positive influence on a young child. Thank the young ladies who spoke about women's wrestling. You did a great job. It's important to talk to the public about things that are important to you. Thank you for your presentation. It will be considered.

Mr. Tillett stated its all been said. Agrees and concurs. Have a great evening.

B. Material for Board Review - None

C. Adjournment

Chair Burbage adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m.



Chris Burbage, Chair



Carol M. Carroll, Clerk of the Board

Date 2/24/25