

BLAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 16, 2015  
MEETING LOCATION: School Board Office, 361 Bears Trl., Bastian, VA

**PRESENT**

Jerri Harman, Chairman; Roger L. Morehead, Member; Gerry Schepers, Member; Donald Hodock, Division Interim Superintendent; and Kelli Chewning, Clerk of the Board.

**OPENING****DETERMINATION OF QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER**

After a quorum was determined, the meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Jerri Harman.

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Roger L. Morehead.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****AGENDA**

Motion was made by Gerry Schepers and seconded by Roger L. Morehead to approve the meeting agenda as amended.

Vote on this motion: Gerry Schepers, For; Roger L. Morehead, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA****APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Gerry Schepers and seconded by Roger Morehead to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2015 meeting .

Vote on this motion: Gerry Schepers, For; Roger Morehead, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS**

Motion was made by Roger Morehead and seconded by Gerry Schepers to approve payment of the outstanding obligations, to include those approved by the Fiscal Agent, as presented at Attachment A.

Vote on this motion: Roger Morehead, For; Gerry Schepers, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Bland County Ministry Center- Dee Dee Hoosier requested to the board that the Bear Jam scheduled June 11, 2015 be rescheduled for June 18, 2015. RSO productions, the artist originally booked, is not available for June 18, 2015. Ms. Hoosier also felt that Bluefield's Second chance concert, also scheduled June 18, 2015 would interfere with attendance. Gerry Schepers addressed Andrea Whitaker about the likelihood of graduation falling on the proposed rescheduled day of June 11, 2015 due to potential snow days. Ms Whitaker stated that is was unlikely to happen.

**AWARDS AND OBSERVANCES**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT 5:45**

William Crabtree complemented Charlie Puckett for taking care of discipline at Bland County High School. He also acknowledged that Bland County High School football team played George Wythe Friday. Mr. Crabtree added that he felt Tony Hungate and Marty Austin will do a great job. He asked the board during the closed session to not lose a good mechanic. He also reminded the board that a teacher once told the board members that it is their job to educate kids and added that no one has halos; we all make mistake.

Joseph Shirey, who teaches 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade, loves mentoring kids in sports. He has been a soccer coach on the collegiate level and would like to mentor a program to start a soccer team at Bland County High School. The School Board request more information and budget for start-up in the spring.

**UPDATES**

Don Hodock, Interim Superintendent, introduced new employees and thanked Mr. Hungate for his completions on tasks. Mr. Hodock also recognized the drama team on their success and congratulated Duane Bailey and William Crabtree on their wins.

Mr. Musser, BCHS Principal, thanked the board for Mr. Puckett as Associate Principal and congratulated Ms. Cole on being Teacher of the Year. He also reported on WCC tour for seniors; Ms. Sollien and MS. Wikle took ASSIS to Radford University; IEP students attended a rehab center at Woodrow Wilson – offers transition program for workforce readiness; Ms. Cole took anatomy and physiology to Virginia Tech for a tour of cadaver center; Robotics team traveled to Abington for 1<sup>st</sup> Lego League Competition with STEM; Ms. Rosenbaum and Mr. Farmer took 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders to tour Tazewell Technical Center, Tazewell Hospital and Tazewell 911 center; Wythe Bland Chamber of Commerce held a career fair for Seniors. Fall testing ended with 5 out of 8 students passing writing test.

Mrs. Hensley, BCES Principal, reported on the Leadership Academy trip to Abington; 2<sup>nd</sup> six weeks ending on November 3, 2015 and reports cards being sent out on November 9, 2015; Veterans Day program had 30 veterans in attendance; 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders visited the Indian Village in Bastian and Pre K traveled to see Sesame Street Live.

Mrs. Whitaker, Assistant Superintendent, appreciate additional team members at the central office. Meeting was held with alternate assessment team-skills @ lower level assessed through multiple choice. Each SOL has a different type of activity. They are training to ensure that it is at the right level for students. We received the STEM grant - \$219k, with \$17k from ABB, \$1k from Project Wild, \$64k from NASA. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of receiving the STEM grant. This will cost our school system \$7k. Please welcome Linda Rosenbaum to discuss the Lego Robotics program. Linda spoke about the core

components and values of the robotics league and team. She also discussed Robot design. Our team placed 9<sup>th</sup> out of 17 at competition.

Mrs. Denise Tate reported that all labs and new computer were up and running; 4 new windows 2012 servers; working with Interactive Achievement to get a system for teachers to review SOL, Benchmark, PALS, Powerschool Grades.

### **INFORMATIONAL AGENDA**

#### Financial Statement, October 15, 2015

Gerry Schepers would like the county to purchase a bus and an activity bus. He emphasized that all future buses purchased should be equipped with seatbelts.

#### Attendance Report

#### Project updates

Tony Hungate informed the board that the water at Bland County Elementary is fixed and that he will need to rebuild the steps and dock at the cafeteria at said school.

#### Restroom Project

Mr. Hungate reported that bids had been received and reviewed for roof repairs to Bland County High School. He added that the bathrooms at Bland County High School have been temporally fixed but was on track to elevate the issues. Money from POS \$57,000

#### VSBA Conference

Donald Hodock thanked Mr. Morehead for his service.

#### Student School Board Representatives

Daniell Cormier – Present

Alec Taylor – Absent

Board has asked these students to bring concerns to their attention.

### **ACTION AGENDA**

#### Board Staff meetings/School Meetings

Employee survey revealed 61% were in favor of continuing the meeting with the advisory group. Meetings will be scheduled in January.

Overnight Field Trips

Drama team Regional and State competitions. A phone poll was taken.

Motion was made by Gerry Schepers and seconded by Roger Morehead to approve the use of a charter bus for state competition travel.

Vote on this motion: Gerry Schepers, For; Roger Morehead, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously.

Roofing Project Bland County High School

My School Bucks

Motion was made by Roger Morehead and seconded by Gerry Schepers to implement the My School Bucks program with our school cafeterias.

Vote on this motion: Roger Morehead, For; Gerry Schepers, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously.

**CLOSED MEETING**

**MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED MEETING**

Motion was made by Roger L. Morehead and seconded by Gerry Schepers that pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A. of the Code of Virginia that the Board convene a closed meeting for the following purpose:

1. Discuss personnel employment pursuant to the personnel exemption at Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia.

Vote on this motion: Roger L. Morehead, For; Gerry Schepers, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously

**MOTION TO EXIT CLOSED MEETING**

Motion was made by Gerry Schepers and seconded by Roger Morehead to exit the Closed Meeting.

Vote on this motion: Gerry Schepers, For; Roger L. Morehead, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously.

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**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

Motion was made by Gerry Schepers and seconded by Roger L. Morehead to approve the certification of the Closed Meeting conducted on this date, November 16, 2015, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Bland County School Board has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to 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 this School Board that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bland County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only such 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.

Vote on this motion: Gerry Schepers, For; Roger L. Morehead, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously.

Signed:

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Kelli Chewning, Clerk  
Bland County School Board  
Meeting date: November 16, 2015

**ACTION AGENDA (continued)**

**Closed Meeting Items**

**Employment**

Upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, Motion was made by Gerry Schepers and seconded by Roger Morehead to approve the following:

Sub Car Driver – Elaine Cox  
Substitute Teachers- Crystal Sanders, Anna Muncy, Sally Lambert, Michelle Cantrell, Mose Blankenship  
Substitute Cafeteria- Sally Lambert  
Full Time Office Assistant/ Receptionist- Laura Sage  
Part Time Office Assistant/ Receptionist – Lenore Parker  
Maintenance- Martin Austin  
Associate Principal- Charles Puckett  
Mechanic- Michael Shelton

Vote on this motion: Gerry Schepers, For; Roger Morehead, For; Jerri Harman, For.  
Motion was passed unanimously.

Student Discipline

BCHS2016001 return to school once all requirements have been met.

BCHS2016002 Expelled for 365 days.

Vote on this motion: Roger Morehead, For; Gerry Schepers, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously.

Employee sick leave transfer request

Transfer of sick leave delayed until all sick leave is depleted

Vote on this motion: Roger Morehead, For; Gerry Schepers, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further action to be taken by the Board, motion was made by Gerry Schepers and seconded by Roger Morehead to adjourn this meeting.

Vote on this motion: Gerry Schepers, For; Roger L. Morehead, For; Jerri Harman, For. Motion was passed unanimously.

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CHAIRMAN

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CLERK