

**PATRICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
104 Rucker Street – P.O. Box 346
Stuart, Virginia 24171**

**MINUTES FOR REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Thursday, September 10, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.
Patrick County High School Auditorium
215 Cougar Lane, Stuart, VA 24171**

Present: Mr. Brandon J. Simmons, Chairman
Mr. Walter L. Scott, Vice Chairman
Ms. Amy E. Walker
Ms. Shannon R. Harrell
Mr. Ryan S. Lawson

Mr. C. Dean Gilbert, Division Superintendent
Ms. Andrea J. Cassell, Assistant Superintendent - Instruction
Ms. Sara Leigh D. Collins, Clerk
Mr. Darren Biggs, Director of Technology

Other staff members: Mr. Jason Wood, Director of Operations
Ms. Shannon M. Brown, Director of Testing
Mr. Derrick Smith, Director of Transportation

Mr. Brandon J. Simmons, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

No. 25618 Opening Ceremonies

- (a) Pledge of Allegiance (IEA)
- (b) Moment of Silence (IE)

No. 25619 Public Comment

None

No. 25620 Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes August 7, 2020
- b. Minutes August 13, 2020
- c. Minutes August 27, 2020
- d. Regular Invoices (DI, DK)
- e. Monthly Financial Report
- f. Capital/Maintenance Report Improvement Report (EC, ECG, FB)

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Mr. Lawson to approve the consent agenda.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker
Nays: None

No. 25621 Annual VSBA Conference – November 18 – 20, 2020 – Virtual

School board members received information on the 2020 Annual Conference – Virtual, November 18-20, 2020. Members were instructed to notify the clerk if they wish to be registered for the virtual conference by October 1, 2020.

No. 25622 **PCHS Course Offering**

Mr. K. Cox, Principal, was present to discuss the proposed African-American Studies that will provide students with a comprehensive overview of the African American experience beginning with Africa through modern times. This is an update on what needs to be considered. The state has not completed the curriculum for this at the present time. Sixteen neighboring counties are doing a pilot study for the DOE. Needs to be tabled until we get the curriculum.

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded to Ms. Walker to table the PCHS Course offering until the next meeting.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays: None

No. 25623 **Payroll Tax Deferral**

Superintendent Gilbert reviewed with the school board the Payroll Tax Deferral which is a payroll tax deferral of FICA tax (6.20%) from employee's paycheck effective September 1, 2020. It is the understanding now if tax is not withheld it will have to be paid back during the months of January through April 2021.

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Walker to continue withholding the FICA tax as scheduled.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays: None

No. 25624 **Surplus Technology**

Request by Mr. Darren Biggs to declare 800 Dell Chromebooks and 500 Dell Latitude Laptops as surplus. Vantage Point will come on site and take devices back to their headquarters where they are graded to determine value. This will go back in budget to help with future technology purchases.

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Mr. Lawson to approve the request to declare the chrome books and laptops as surplus.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays: None

No. 25625 **Closed Session**

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (A) of the Code of Virginia and a motion by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mr. Lawson that Patrick County School Board convene in a closed meeting at 5:51 p.m. to consider:

- a. Discussion, consideration or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of employees of the School Board §2.2-3711(a)(1).

- 1. Personnel Report
- 2. Superintendent Evaluation Goals

On motion by Mr. Lawson seconded by Mr. Scott to out of closed session at 7:00 p.m.

No. 25626

Certification of Closed Session

WHEREAS, the Patrick County School Board had convened a closed meeting of the date pursuant to an affirmative record vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-344 (D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Patrick County School Board that such closed meeting was conducted with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Patrick County School Board hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from closed meeting to which this certification applies, and (ii) only such public businesses were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered.

Ayes (by Roll Call): Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker
Nays: None

No. 25627

Personnel

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Walker to approve Personnel as amended.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker
Nays: None

No. 25628

Superintendent's Evaluation Goals

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Lawson to approve the Superintendent's Evaluation Goals.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker
Nays: None

No. 25629

Ms. A. Cassell, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Ms. Cassell reported on student registration:

- Since 8/27 meeting, changes in student registration
 1. 133 switched to virtual
 2. 83 switched to A/B hybrid
- Homeschool
 1. Last year – 112
 2. This year – 138 applications
 3. 21 pending all documentation
 4. 65 new to homeschool
 5. 9 enrolled or transferred/ 5 aged out
- Trinity Christian – 17 students
- Breakfast/Lunch – over 1000 each day
 1. 129 families picking up
- 2135 enrollment
 1. Day 1 up 8 students
 2. Day 18 down 83 students

Mr. Gilbert

According to Mr. Steve Allen, Coordinator, Patrick County Emergency Services, Patrick County has 24 active cases of Covid-19 and this is trending downward.

Mr. Gilbert expressed his appreciation to all school employees who had gone above during the pandemic. Teachers have been working numerous hours.

Other comments by school board members:

1. Mask on bus and school for extra protection
2. Eighth grade visitation has been taking place during summer
3. Goal is getting students back in school
4. Traversa – routing information for school buses – question about GPS on buses
5. Schools will dismiss one hour early for teachers for virtual

No. 25630

Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Mr. Scott to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays: None

Brandon J. Simmons, Chairman
Patrick County School Board

Sara Leigh D. Collins, Clerk
Patrick County School Board