

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

**MINUTES FOR REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Thursday, November 12, 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  
Mr. Ryan S. Lawson  
Ms. Amy E. Walker

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

Absent: Ms. Shannon Harrell

Other staff members: Mr. Jason Wood, Director of Operations  
Mr. Terry Harris, Assistant Principal

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

**No. 25644 Opening Ceremonies**

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

**No. 25645 Public Comment**

None

**No. 25646 Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Gilbert's report included the following:

- a. School system is continuing to operate on the Hybrid Plan for Instruction.
- b. October 12<sup>th</sup> Special Education and English Language Learners started attending school four days a week with approval from parents.
- c. SOL writing test will be administered the week of November 16<sup>th</sup> and the End – of – Course SOL test will be administered the week of December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Change in schedules during holiday.

**No. 25647**      **Consent Agenda**

- a. Minutes (BDDG) October 8, 2020
- b. Regular Invoices (DI, DK)
- c. Monthly Financial Report
- d. Capital/Maintenance Report Improvement Report (EC, ECG, FB)

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

Ayes: Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker  
Nays: None  
Absent: Ms. Harrell

**No. 25648**      **Policy Updates:**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Scott to approve the following policy updates:

- GCBC-R: Professional Staff Fringe Benefits – updated in regards to age and employee’s portion of VRS.
- GCBD-R: Employee Leaves & Absences – FMLA requirement specified, maternity leave section updated, court appearance section updated to reflect Code of Virginia, additional wording updated for clarity.
- JM: Restraint & Seclusion of students – VSBA policy updated to reflect changes in Code of Virginia.

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

**No. 25649**      **CRF Money Use**

Superintendent Gilbert reported to the school board that Patrick County Public Schools would receive \$426,160 in Coronavirus Relief Money. The timeline for this money is to be spent by December 30, 2020.

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the recommendation by Superintendent Gilbert for the use of the CRF funds.

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

**No. 25650**      **VHSL Sports Season**

Mr. Terry Harris, Assistant Principal, was present to inform the school board the 2020-2021 Guidelines for Return to Participation by the VHSL. This included:

1. Safety
2. Safety Protocols
3. Team benches, face coverings, 6’ social distancing
4. Scorers tables will follow social distancing guidelines and/or have plexiglass partitions
5. Locker rooms will be disinfected before and after every use
6. Players given opportunity to purchase 2 tickets for the season
7. Seating will be staggered
8. Cheerleaders located on same side as team. Only half will participate at each event
9. Concessions – only prepackaged food will be available

10. Restrooms – custodians will be assigned to each restroom to regularly clean
11. Travel Protocol will be in place
12. Equipment and Accessories will be sanitized during timeouts and between quarters

Superintendent Gilbert’s recommendations is to follow the VHSL Guidelines to participate in high school sports.

Mr. Scott would like to table until November 23, 2020 so all board members could be present.

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Walker to table the decision until all members could be present.

Ayes: Scott, Walker  
Nays: Lawson, Simmons  
Absent: Harrell  
Motion did not pass

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Mr. Lawson to follow the VHSL Guidelines to participate in high school sports.

Ayes: Lawson, Scott  
Nays: Simmons, Walker  
Absent: Harrell  
Motion did not pass

**No. 25651**

**Closed Session**

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (A) of the Code of Virginia and a motion by Mr. Scott and seconded by Ms. Walker that Patrick County School Board convene in a closed meeting at 6:52 p.m. to consider:

- a. §2.2-3711 (A)(1) for discussion, consideration or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of employees of the school board.
  - a. Monthly Personnel Report
- b. §22.1-254, A school board excuse from attendance at school: Any pupil who, together with his parents, by reason of bona fide religious training or belief is conscientiously opposed to attendance at school. For purposes of this subdivision, “bona fide religious training or belief” does not include essentially political, sociological or philosophical views of a merely personal moral code.
  - a. Religious Exemptions

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Walker to come out of closed session at 6:50 p.m.

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

**No. 25652**

**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): Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker  
Nays: None  
Absent: Harrell

**No. 25653**

**Personnel**

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

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

**No. 25654**

**Religious Exemptions**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Scott to approve the following Religious Exemptions:

RE: 2020-2021-01  
2020-2021-02

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

**No. 25655      Adjournment**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Simmons to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Ayes:    Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays:    None

Absent: Harrell

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Brandon J. Simmons, Chairman  
Patrick County School Board

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Sara Leigh D. Collins, Clerk  
Patrick County School Board