

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

**Minutes for Regular School Board Meeting  
Thursday May 13, 2021  
5:30 p.m. – Patrick County High School Auditorium**

The Patrick County School Board met in regular session on Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at Patrick County High School, 215 Cougar Lane, Stuart, VA 24171.

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

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  
Mr. Jason A. Wood, Director of Operations

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

**No. 25764 Opening Ceremonies**

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

**No. 25765 Public Comment**

No one present to make comments.

**No. 25766 Announcements and Recognition**

Mr. B. Clark – Clark Gas and Oil Company and Mr. Gary Largen – Lowe’s Food – Stuart were recognized for their companies’ contributions to the Patrick County School System. Mr. B. Clark was present to accept his recognition for his company’s contribution to the Patrick County School System.

**No. 25767 Superintendent’s Report**

Patrick County Public Schools will complete the 2020-2021 school year on Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. This will be an early dismissal day. The summer session for selected students will commence on Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. We are currently planning for students to return to school five days a week starting August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. At this time, we do not know what mitigation strategies will need to be implemented, but will communicate these items once CDC, VDH, and DOE decide how school systems will have to operate. The school staffs will complete their contracts on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

As you have probably heard in the news, health departments are now vaccinating 16-18-year-old Students. We sent a school message this week inquiring who may want to receive the vaccine and we did not have any interest. Some areas are starting to vaccinate 12-15-year-old students. Once our local health department gets to that point, we will probably ask for interest using the School Messenger system.

I wanted to take a moment to thank the employees of Patrick County Public Schools. Saying this school year was a challenge in an understatement. All employee groups substantial contributions to ensure that education continued while keeping everyone safe. These have been great accomplishments and setbacks; however, I believe our school system has yet again persevered and achieved in the face of these obstacles. The employees of our school system have shown great resilience during this unprecedented pandemic. All of us are looking forward to when things can be normal again.

**No. 25768**      **Consent Calendar**

- a. Minutes April 15 and 22, 2021 (BDDG)
- b. Regular Invoices (DI, DK)
- c. Monthly Financial Report (DI, DK)
- d. Capital Improvement Reports (EC, ECB, FB)

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Mr. Lawson to approve the consent calendar as presented.

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

**No. 25769**      **Policy Updates (8a)**

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the Policy Updates.

JHH – Suicide Prevention  
JHH-R – Suicide Prevention Regulations

Policy JHH was updated by the Virginia School Board Association. The updated policy requires the school division to develop procedures for addressing suicide concerns.

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

**No. 25770**      **Textbook Adoption (8b)**

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the Science Textbook Adoption for the 2021-2022 school year.

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

**No. 25771**      **Authorization of Signature in Absence of Division Superintendent (8c)**

Each year the school division has to designate an authorized signer for the superintendent. This form has to be approved by the school board and submitted to the Virginia Department of Education. Superintendent Gilbert recommended Ms. Andrea Cassell, Assistant Superintendent be designated as the authorized signer in the absence of the superintendent.

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Mr. Lawson to approve the recommendation to approve Ms. A.Cassell, Assistant Superintendent as the Authorized Signer.

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

**No. 25772      Technology Surplus (8d) iPad Surplus**

The Technology Department has approximately 170 iPads and 10 Mac Books to replace.

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the recommendation to approve the surplus as presented.

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

**No. 25773      Shared Leave GCBDA (8e)**

This item was discussed at the April School Board Meeting, and was placed on the May 13<sup>th</sup> agenda. This Shared Leave Policy has one change with Item 1 – Employee of the Patrick County Public Schools, who received said leave may transfer no more than five (5) sick leave days per year to other employees who are currently eligible for sick leave. This is a change from three (3) days.

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Harrell to approve the Share Leave Policy as presented.

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

**No. 25774      Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment – 2017-2020**

The recommendation is required to be reviewed by the school board. No vote is required and this will be posted on the division website.

**No. 25775      Comprehensive Plan 2021-2027**

School divisions are required to develop a Comprehensive Plan for six years. This is the first review of this plan. This will be placed on the agenda for approval at the June 3 meeting.

**No. 25776      Closed Session**

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (A) of the Code of Virginia and a motion by Ms. Harrell and seconded by Mr. Scott that Patrick County School Board convene in a closed meeting at 6:35 p.m. to consider:

1. 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)(2).
  - a. Monthly Personnel Report
  - b. Employment of Personnel – Administration, Teacher and Support

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Harrell to come out of closed session at 9:00 p.m.

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

**No. 25777**     **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. 25778**     **Certified Personnel List 1 – 2021-22 Gilbert**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Scott to approve List 1 as amended.

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

**No. 25779**     **Certified Personnel List 2 – 2021-22 Gilbert**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Scott to approve List 2 as presented.

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

**No. 25780**     **Certified Personnel List 3 – 2021-22 Gilbert**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Ms. Harrell to approve List 3 as presented.

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

**No. 25781**     **Certified Personnel List 4 – 2021-22 Gilbert**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Scott to approve List 4 as presented.

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

**No. 25782 Certified Personnel List 1 – 2021-22 Cassell**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Ms. Harrell to approve List 1 as presented.

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

**No. 25783 Personnel – Support List 1 – 2021-22 - Gilbert**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Scott to approve Support Personnel List 1 as presented.

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

**No. 25784 Personnel – Support List 2 - Gilbert**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Lawson to approve Support Personnel List 2 as presented.

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

**No. 25785 Monthly Personnel -Addendum**

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Ms. Harrell to approve the monthly personnel report including the addendum with the exception of Addendum report under Transfer – Item B-1 and 2 should be approved as amended.

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

**No. 25786 Adjournment**

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Ms. Walker to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 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