

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

**MINUTES FOR REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Thursday, July 16, 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. Brandon J. Simmons, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

No. 25578 Opening Ceremonies

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

No. 25579 Public Comment

Randy Pruitt requested opportunity to speak to the school board. The school board would get back to him.

No. 25580 Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes June 25, 2020
- b. Minutes July 7, 2020 (EEOC/Nondiscrimination Committee)
- c. Financial Report – Monthly
- d. Regular Invoices
- e. Final FY20 Reports
- f. Capital Improvement List

No. 25581 Minutes – June 25, 2020 – Consent Agenda Item a

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the amended minutes of June 25, 2020 Item No. 25576 changing by to be.

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

No. 25582 Consent Agenda – Items b through f

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Mr. Lawson to approve the Consent Agenda b through f as presented.

Mr. Scott noted that the credit card for Blue Ridge Elementary School was not itemized. Also comments on the baseball building at PCHS and the wall that had been removed at SES.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays: None

No. 25583 Transfer of Category Balances – Fiscal Year End 2020

Acknowledged the transfer of category balances for Fiscal Year End 2020 from Instruction to Technology.

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Scott to approve the transfer between categories.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays: None

No. 25584 Resolution

At the June 25, 2020 school board meeting reviewed a sample resolution relative to recent events that demonstrate the prejudice and injustice that persists. The school board requested some word alternations and to bring back at the July 16, 2020 school board meeting.

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Harrell to approve the resolution with alternate word changes.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays: None

No. 25585 Instruction – Reopening Plan

Superintendent Gilbert presented the Patrick County Public Schools reopening of schools Instruction Plan. The Virginia Department of Education Website has provided resources and information for schools and communities on Virginia's Return to School.

Plan for school schedules

In planning for reopening, Patrick County Public Schools recognizes a variety of possibilities for providing instruction to students. The focus during planning instruction and communicating with families are based on two scenarios/options. Option 1 is a blended learning model including staggered schedules with virtual/remote learning. Option 2 is a total virtual/remote learning model with Patrick County Public Schools providing online coursework and materials with no face-to-face instruction. For either option, student coursework will be required and assignments will be graded.

Option 1 – Blended Learning: To ensure students and staff can meet physical distancing requirements, instructional delivery will require a reduced schedule on in-person learning, with virtual or remote learning on days when students are not present in the building. Beginning August 11, 2020, Patrick County Public Schools will operate on a 50 percent attendance capacity as shown in the model below. Students will be assigned as an A group or a B group. The A group will attend face-to-face classes on Monday and Tuesday with virtual/remote learning occurring on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Specific school schedules will be communicated from each school. Every effort will be made to ensure siblings attend face-to-face classes on the same days.

Option 2 – Virtual/Remote Learning: For virtual/remote learning, students will be served from home using school issued devices or paper packets of materials. For families who elect this option, students will receive required coursework online and/or via paper packets with support from the teacher during office hours. If paper assignments are requested, they must be picked up and returned to school weekly. Teachers will not be available for live lessons as they will be conducting in-person classes at school. Teachers will make available a time on Wednesday to clarify questions.

Transportation

School buses will enact new capacity limits and seating guidelines, per health and safety expectations issued by the Virginia Department of Health. Buses will be cleaned and sanitized between uses in accordance with guidelines. Masks will be provided and encouraged during bus routes.

Technology

PCPS students will be issued devices to be used according to current grade level.

K – 3: Ipads

4 – 12: Chromebooks

Whether learning takes place primarily in an online environment of face-to-face, digital resources and platforms including VA Virtual and Google Classroom will ensure students have access to high quality learning tools.

After reviewing all parts of the recommendation school board members discussed the different plans and the effect on students and staff.

Concerns by school board members:

1. Transportation – spacing students on bus using Plan 1
2. Ventilation of buses
3. PPE Equipment
4. Child care – if using grandparents’ risk of carrying Covid-19 home to them
5. Masks
6. Internet in county
 1. Work can be downloaded on Chrome
 2. Paper access will be provided, if they need paper packets
7. Staff who has high risk very concerned
8. Substitute teachers could be a problem
9. Goal is for all students to be back in school as soon as possible
10. Later start date

Superintendent Gilbert informed the school board that his recommendation was before the board as Phase 1 to begin with and to adjust as the school year as need be.

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Scott to table Items 6c – Instruction-Reopening Plan and schedule a work session on July 21, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at PCHS.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays: None

No. 25586 Health Mitigation – Reopening Plan

The phased reopening of schools will require Patrick County Public Schools to conduct operations very differently in order to protect the health of staff and students while public health risks of Covid-19 persist. PCPS seeks compliance with the CDC Guidance for Schools and the Virginia Phase Guidance.

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Walker to table Item 6d until called work session by Tuesday, July 21, 2020.

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

No. 25587 Closed Session

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (A) of the Code of Virginia and a motion by Mr. Scott and seconded by Ms. Harrell that Patrick County School Board convene in a closed meeting at 5:32 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)(2).
 - i. Personnel Report

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

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Ms. Walker to come out of closed session at 8:00 p.m.

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

No. 25588 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. 25589 Personnel List 1 - Amended

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

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

No. 25590 Personnel List 2

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Mr. Scott to approve the Personnel List 2.

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

Ms. Harrell thanked everyone for hard work for school system.

Ms. Cassell informed the school board that three schools have been recognized with awards:

Meadows of Dan Elementary – High Levels of Success Award
Hardin Reynolds Memorial – Continuous Improvement Award
Stuart Elementary – Continuous Improvement Award

Food Service has fed this many meals as of May 22, 2020

18,345 Breakfasts
18,345 Lunches

Summer Meals

1,211 Breakfasts
1,211 Lunches

No. 25591 Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Mr. Scott to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 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