

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

**Minutes for Regular School Board Meeting
Thursday July 15, 2021
5:30 p.m. – Patrick County High School Auditorium**

The Patrick County School Board met in regular session on Thursday, July 15, 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
Mr. Jason Wood, Director of Operations
Ms. Sara Leigh D. Collins, Clerk
Mr. Darren Biggs, Director of Technology

Absent: Ms. Andrea J. Cassell, Assistant Superintendent – Instruction

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

No. 25807 Opening Ceremonies

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

No. 25808 Amend Agenda – Dual Enrollment – PHCC – 6d

Superintendent Gilbert requested that the agenda be amended to add Dual Enrollment Contract Agreement for the 2021-2022 academic year with Patrick Henry Community College – Item 6d.

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Mr. Scott to approve amending the agenda to add 6d.

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

No. 25809 Public Comment

Jerod Engel 22.1-7b – Non-Public Transportation
Denise Stirewalt – Critical Race Theory

No. 25810 **Superintendent's Report**

We are currently making plans to return to school on August 10th for the students. At this time, students are required to wear a mask in indoor instructional settings through July 25th. We do expect separate guidance on masks in the next week or so from the Virginia Department of Health. In addition, the mask requirement for riding a school bus is still in effect. CDC does recommend that schools maintain at least 3 feet of distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated. When it is not possible to maintain a distance of 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining this distance, it is important to layer multiple other prevention strategies such as mask wearing. This information was taken from a Superintendent's email on July 9th. As stated earlier, we do expect updated guidance in the next week or so from VDH.

I have received some calls with the concern over Critical Race Theory. This is not something that we endorse to be taught nor is it part of the Social Studies curriculum from the VDOE in which students are tested for on SOL tests.

The other topic that is getting attention is Transgender students. In the spring of 2021, the General Assembly passed a law requiring all School Boards to adopt policies for the protection of the rights for Transgender students. VDOE released their model policy in March of 2021. As you know, we do not write our own policies and we subscribe to the VSBA policy services. VSBA took a multiple policy approach to this and those policies that protects all students were passed by the school board. The rights of Transgender students have been upheld by the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals.

No. 25811 **Consent Calendar**

- a. Minutes June 24, 2021 (BDDG)
- b. Financial Report (DI, DK)
- c. Regular Invoices (DI, DK)
- d. Final FY21 Reports
- e. Capital Improvement List

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

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays: None

No. 25812 **Transfer of Category Balances – Fiscal Year End 2021 – 6a**

The school system encounters overage in some categories and then must request that the Board of Supervisors approve the transfer between categories within the budget.

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Mr. Lawson to approve the transfer of category balance to end the fiscal year with no categories over spent.

Copy of adjustment to categories attached to minutes.

Ayes: Harrell, Lawson, Scott, Simmons, Walker

Nays: None

No. 25813 **Amend Proposed 2021-2022 School Budget – 6b**

Superintendent Gilbert informed the school board that the Board of Supervisors had reduced the school budget from the required local match approved in March 2021 by \$311,855. The approved local match is \$5,279,325 which is \$311,855 lower than request.

The following items were removed from budget plus other adjustments.

Bus Cameras	\$ 43,750
Food Service Capital	\$230,000
Teacher – one position	<u>\$ 38,105</u>
	\$311,855

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the revised budget as presented.

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

No. 25814 **Policy Amendment – 6c**

Acknowledged Policy GCL: Professional Staff Development updated based on changes in Code of Virginia.

On motion by Mr. Lawson seconded by Ms. Harrell to approve the policy GCL: Professional Staff Development.

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

No. 25815 **PHCC Dual Enrollment Contract Agreement – 6d**

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Ms. Walker to approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement for 2021-2022 Academic Year.

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

No. 25816 **Closed Session**

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 (A) of the Code of Virginia and a motion by Ms. Harrell and seconded by Mr. Lawson that Patrick County School Board convene in a closed meeting at 6:00 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. Personnel Report

On motion by Mr. Scott seconded by Ms. Harrell to come out of closed session at 8:25 p.m.

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

No. 25817 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. 25818 Monthly Personnel - Addendum

On motion by Ms. Harrell seconded by Mr. Scott to approve the monthly personnel report as amended.

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

No. 25819 Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Walker seconded by Ms. Harrell to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 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