

P.G. Super News

Renee P. Williams

Prince George County Public Schools

April 24, 2017

School Board News



Important Dates:

April 23-29
Administrative
Professionals Week

April 26
Administrative
Professionals Day

May 1-5
Teacher
Appreciation Week

May 2
National Teacher
Appreciation Day

May 7-14
National Music
Week; Be Kind to
Animals Week

May 8
School Board
Meeting

May 10
National School
Nurse Day

May 14



May 20
Armed Forces Day

The School Board held its regular meeting on April 17, 2017.

Special Recognitions

⇒ **Christian Burkes**, recognized the All-District Choir. The All-District Choir finished 4th place nationally, narrowly missing 2nd and 3rd places. The All-District Choir competed in Disneyworld in Florida.

⇒ **Carlos Colon** was recognized as 1st Bass for All-State Choir and will compete in the choral festival April 27-29 at Virginia Tech with the top singers from the state.

⇒ **Elizabeth Delong** ("Musical Composition" - 5th grade, Walton); **Sallie Martin** ("Oil Pastel Selfie" - 7th grade, Moore); **Aya Daniels** ("Self Portrait" - 10th grade, PGHS) were recognized with artwork that represented Prince George County at the VSBA Southside Regional Art Show.

⇒ **Emily Lawson** participated in the Virginia Holocaust Museum's Art Contest and received third place honors in the state for her talents.

⇒ **Dr. Bingham** announced the 2017 Teacher of the Year candidates by school: **Anne Riveria** (Beazley), **Victoria Shell** (Harrison), **Catherine Sirles** (North), **Michelle Gates** (South), **Shelley Lewis** (Walton), **Marlon Haskins** (PGEC), **Brittany Tuzzo** (Moore), **Matt McAllister** (Clements), and **Anne Roberts** (PGHS).

⇒ **Brittany Tuzzo** (Moore) was announced as the division's 2017 Teacher of the Year. She will compete in the 2018 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year Competition.

⇒ **Marlene Buchanan** (14 years), **Eileen Mozucha** (27 years) and **Brenda Stables** (47 years) were recognized for their years of service as they retire from the school system.

Presentations

* **Chris Scruggs** reflected on the exciting year at David A. Harrison Elementary School. He recognized **Angela Peade**, 4th grade teacher who was a VFW Teacher of the Year recipient due to her involvement with the American Flag

project. Her students created flags using different types of materials. Students **Peyton Ziegenfuss**, **Chandler Barfield**, **Dante Davis**, **Caroline Glazier**, **Thomas Cox**, and **Annalise Gettier** were present to share their unique flags. **Mr. Scruggs** showed a video of students and staff sharing their thoughts on the best things about Harrison School (i.e. fellowship with staff, safety patrol, Harvest Festival and Nursery Rhyme parade, Watch D.O.G.S program, winter concert, father-daughter dance, Best Bears program, and community involvement with Fort Lee).

Dr. Bingham provided the construction update in **Ron Rhodes'** absence. Two Hundred Eight work orders were completed and he spoke briefly on the sewer problem at North Elementary School.

* **Clarence Thweatt** provided the board with a packet of information with statistics for their review. The number one goal for drivers is to get the students home safely. There is still a serious shortage of drivers and a job fair was recently conducted and no one attended. Driver shortage is not just a Prince George problem, it is a state and national problem. Solutions discussed at a recent Region 1 meeting included purchasing larger buses, consolidate routes, and possibly looking at staggered school times.

* **William Barnes** discussed options for the division to consider changing to a 10-point grading scale. Discussion points for considering a grading scale adjustment included the belief that Prince George is at a disadvantage with other divisions for college admission, scholarships, etc., inconsistent ranges for each letter grade, inconsistent scale with dual enrollment classes, and statewide trend is moving to a 10-point scale. He produced data from colleges of importance of academic and non-academic factors in their admissions process. Academic GPA, class rank, and rigor of secondary school record were important factors considered by most local colleges and universities. Data from focus groups, meetings and surveys will be collected and recommendation will be made to the Board on June 12, 2017 for consideration.



**School Board
Member Comments**

Mr. Ashcraft hoped everyone had a great Easter and Spring Break, noting that we are in the straight stretch with only a few weeks of school left until the end of the year. He reacted to the recognitions during the night by stating he was very impressed by all the presentations and commented that students, academics and teachers make Prince George the best school division in the area.

Mr. Stevenson also commented that all of the recognitions are what makes Prince George the place that everyone wants to be. He stated that Prince George is unique and when referring to the grading scale presentation, he asked staff to keep in mind that we don't want to be like everyone else and we don't want to lower standards for our students.

Mr. Foster thanked employees and community people who have attended the budget work sessions. He stated both boards (School Board and Board of Supervisors) have been working together and have discussed the school division's needs. A budget was approved and sent to the County Board of Supervisors, but the School Board will have to amend the budget as a result of additional information provided by staff. At the end of the day, our employees are important to us...teachers, administrators, support staff...they are getting the job done and continue to make our school system the best.....

Thank You!

School Board News

(Continued)

Action Items Approved

- ≈ Perkins Grant Application
- ≈ Approval of bids for Tires, Vehicle Lubricants, Fuel (Propane/Other), Brake Drums and Brake Shoes
- ≈ Code RVA Regional High School Fiscal Agent
- ≈ May 25, 2017 Pay Day Change
- ≈ Policy GCE—Part-Time and Substitute Professional Staff Employment
- ≈ Policy IKFD—Alternative Paths to Attaining Standard Units of Credit
- ≈ Revised 2016-17 Budget Based on 2016-17 Impact Aid Award
- ≈ FY 2018 Health Insurance Rates

Discussion Items

- √ 2017-18 Special Education Annual Plan
- √ Policy JECB—Admission of Non-Public Students for Part-Time Enrollment
- √ VSBA Legislative Positions
- √ VSBA Policy Updates (February, 2017)
- √ Core Committee Update
- √ Update on Meeting with the Garrison Commander
- √ 2017-18 Budget Update
- √ Financial Report—March, 2017

Superintendent's Report/Info Items

- March 2017 Bus and School Suspensions
- 2016-17 Expulsions and Reinstatements
- Current Enrollment as of April 4, 2017
- 2016-17 Building Use Report
- Student/Employee Emergency Monthly Report via School Messenger
- Risk Management Grant Received for Security Cameras
- "Progress Index" article, "A Royal Passion for News", March 26, 2017
- News from our Schools
- VSBA Newsletter

Upcoming Events

- VSBA Hot Topics—Charlottesville—April 20, 2017—"How School Boards Make a Difference"
- VSBA/WVSBA Hot Topics—Wytheville—May 3, 2017
- VSBA Webinar: Super Substitutes: The Solution to Filling Absences and Improving Student Learning—May 4, 2017

Superintendent's Report/continued

- 1st Annual Prince George Alliance for Education Foundation Golf Tournament, Prince George Golf Course—May 19, 2017
- Free Webinar: "The Research on School Choice" - June 14, 2017
- VSBA Conference on Education—Richmond Marriott — July 18, 2017

**The next School Board Meeting is
Monday, May 8, 2017
at 6:30 P.M.**

VSBA Southside Regional Art Contest
(click on link below to see the division's entries)
http://pgs.k12.va.us/index.php/pgs/story/2017_vsba_southside_regional_art_contest_students1/

April is Social Work Month
Thanks to our School Social Workers
*Matt Hall
Chanda Hannah
Tierra Tillie*

