

P.G. Super News

Renée P. Williams

Prince George County Public Schools

September 18, 2017

School Board News



**Important Dates:
September 17-23
Constitution Week**

**September 22
First Day of Autumn**

**October
Crime Prevention
Month;**

**National Principals
Month;**

**National Bullying
Prevention Month;
Czech Heritage
Month**

**October 4
Interim Reports
to Parents**

**October 8-14
Fire Prevention Week**

**October 9
Columbus Day;
School Board
Meeting**

**October 9-13
National School
Lunch Week**

**October 16
National Boss's Day**

The School Board held its regular meeting on Monday, September 11, 2017.

Special Recognitions

- + **Robin Germanos** spoke about attending the Big Lots Grand Opening and being presented with a \$2000 check to use on supplies for students and teachers. She welcomed Big Lots into the county as a community partner.
- + **Michelle Grate** was recognized for achieving certification on Emergency Preparedness/FEMA Emergency Response. The Emergency Management courses have prepared her to handle emergency situation in the community and she recommended other community members consider taking the course.

Presentations

- * **Rodney Demet** and **Steve Martin** spoke about the progress of the Boys to Men Club at Clements JHS. They thanked Clements staff, **Steve Bhatt**, **Chris Romig**, **Bill Barnes**, and the school board for their continued support. **Chris Vines** spoke on his experiences with the program and how it has changed his life. It has taught him to trust people, his grades have improved with tutoring offered and his mentors inspire him to be a better person.
- * **Bill Gandel** presented the 2016-17 annual Special Education Advisory Committee's (SEAC) report. He summarized activities to include adding the SEAC application to the website, promoting community information events through special workshops aimed at parents and teachers, increasing membership, providing various in-service webinars and training events, and continuing to support the Special Olympics of which over 70 athletes registered for bowling, basketball and track and field events. They hosted a "meet and greet" for parents, students, instructional personnel and SEAC members. SEAC will continue to provide workshops and events to benefit students, parents, and staff to ensure the best education for our special students.
- * **Cheryl Simmers** presented the Board with

Save the Date cards for the year, 2017-18 school calendar with specific industry certification testing dates, and statistics on testing from the 2016-17 school year. She indicated that 94% of students tested during 2016-17 received some type of certification. Total enrollment this year is 327 students, up 19%, and three programs are totally filled with 2-3 more classes almost to capacity. She invited folks to visit Rowanty. The students are excited and have a positive attitude this year and they take pride in the work they do at Rowanty. She ended by thanking the Board for their support.

- * **Ron Rhodes** personally thanked his staff. Over 100 buses/cars were serviced in a short period of time and he thanked **Wayne, Moore, Steve Hohenessee, Tom Fowler, Kyle Hayes, and Al Cairnes** for maintaining the garage area inside and outside. His operations and maintenance staff (**Tony Vlk, Ralph Otey, John Campo, Tyrone Jones, Tommy Patterson, Greg Matthew, Brian Wood and Buddy Smith**) have assembled new tables, completed work orders and other activities throughout the summer, including **Jay Dee Johnson** mowing all the grass around the division. **Rhonda Munford** has assisted him in the office including working with vendors, ordering supplies, having Freedom Flags placed in the schools, etc. **Warren Cole** and **Charles Johnston** came out of retirement to assist during vacations and they spread all the mulch throughout the division. He also thanked **John Brockwell, Chris Reynolds, and Barry Taylor** for collaboratively working together within the maintenance/technology depts.
- * **Clarence Thweatt** thanked administrators as they worked diligently with the transportation department, and staff (**Karen Perry, Nancy Enochs, Annie Holdsworth, Catherine Pack**) for getting 100 routes together to transport students. He reported on the job fair



School Board Member Comments

Mr. Cox thanked the audience for attending and he recognized employees for having a smooth opening week. He knows we still have challenges but the division is off to a great start. He appreciates all that the employees have done to have our buildings looking good and to make our students feel welcomed the first week.

Mr. Ashcraft spoke about an amazing first week and he is excited about the year. He also thanked employees for doing all they have done to get ready for this year.

Mr. Franklin also spoke about the first day of school and the excitement that goes along with that for students and staff. Education is a huge investment and he thanked the staff for all they do on a daily basis for the students.

Mr. Foster asked that staff defer the training pay and perfect attendance issues this evening so that **Mr. Stevenson** may be present to weigh in on these important issues. He also reflected on Convocation stating he was proud of the division and celebrating the successes of our schools. He heard concerns that the folks at Clements felt the scores shared at Convocation presented the school in a negative way. However, he assured that it was not meant to be taken that way, but to show that it is everyone's responsibility to get those numbers up. He also talked about social media, "It is a great tool when used correctly but awful when used incorrectly!" He asked folks to promote all good within Prince George County schools, not negative news. "Don't believe all you see on social media!" Lastly, he spoke about a group of citizens in Hopewell who did a Teacher Supply Drive to help their teachers. He encouraged Prince George community groups to reward our teachers by doing a teacher supply drive like they do for the Back to School Fair for kids.

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statistics but stated we are still down 6 drivers. The 77 and 65 passenger buses are almost at capacity and some buses have 3 students to a seat but they continue to work on this problem.

Discussion Items

- * Comprehensive Plan Updates—Instruction (Elementary, Secondary, Special Education)
- * VRS 403(b) Plan Election for Hybrid Members
- * Purchasing Policy Changes
- * Financial Report for August 2017
- * School Staffing Agreements and MOUs
- * Residency Request Proposal
- * Transportation Contract Services Update

Superintendent's Informational Items

- Active Enrollment Summary Sept. 5, 2017
- 2017-18 Year-to-Date Building Use Requests, Expulsions and Reinstatements, Out of District Requests, Tuition Requests
- 2017-18 Risk Management Grant from VML
- PTA/PTO/PTSO meetings and after hour events for 2017-18

Upcoming Events

- Superintendent Evaluation Workshop—September 14, 2017—Charlottesville
- VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference—September 28, 2017—Charlottesville
- VSBA Webinar—Bring the Media on Board with Proactive Communication Tactics—October 4, 2017
- CodeRVA Angel Sponsor Kick-Off Event—October 18, 2017
- November is "VSBA Take Your Legislator to School" Month
- VSBA Education Foundation Workshop—November 14, 2017—Williamsburg
- VSBA Annual Conference and Clerk's Conference—November 15-17, 2017—Williamsburg

*The next School Board Meeting is
Monday, October 9, 2017
at 6:30 P.M.*

Congratulations!

Familiar Faces in New Places / Meet the Newest Administrative Members

South Elementary

Susan Braswell, Principal (former assistant principal)

Chris Wills, Assistant Principal (new to South transferred from Clements)

North Elementary

Chris Romig, Principal (new to North transferred from Clements)

William A. Walton Elementary

Julie Connolly, Assistant Principal (former teacher)

J.E.J. Moore Middle

Donna Branch-Harris, Assistant Principal (new to Moore transferred from North)

N.B. Clements Junior High

Tana Jones, Principal (former assistant principal transferred from Moore)

Amber Thompson, Assistant Principal (new employee from York County)

Prince George High

Barbara Davenport, Assistant Principal (new employee from Henrico)

LET'S HAVE A GREAT
SCHOOL YEAR

