

P.G. Super News

Renee P. Williams

Prince George County Public Schools

January 19, 2018



Important Dates:

January 22-26
Virginia School
Principals Appreciation
Week

January 29
Teacher Work Day

February
School Board
Appreciation Month;
African-American
History Month;
National Career
& Technical
Education Month®

February 1
National Freedom Day

February 2
Groundhog Day;
Report Cards to
Parents

February 5-9
National School
Counseling Week

February 12
School Board Meeting

February 13
Superintendent
Presents proposed
2018-19 Budget

February 14
St. Valentine's Day

School Board News

The School Board held its regular meeting on January 8, 2018.

Presentations

≈ **Mrs. Mattie Thweatt** welcomed **Mr. Eley** and **Mr. Johnson** and thanked the Board for giving her the opportunity to talk about the programs at PGE. She distributed a brochure highlighting programs at PGE. The Project Choice program started with six students in September and now has 23 students. The PG Pals I program currently has 26 students and PG Pals II program has 8 students enrolled. She explained the expectations for each unique program and that PGE is a valuable place to offer students smaller classes for remediation, provide students hope to realize their potential, build relationships, and her staff is grateful for the resources given to PGE to work with the students for success. **Debbie Bogese** thanked the Board for approving and allocating funds for the PG Pals II program. Her child has progressed and benefited from the new program. **Brian Alba** stated he currently attends the PG Pals II program but was previously assigned to Project Choice and PG Pals I, and both programs have helped him in many ways. The smaller learning environment and the relationship he has with staff has made him develop skills to be successful. He is now in the JROTC Program and the Pals Program has helped him achieve one of his goals to be able to join the Army. **Martha Alba's** comments were translated by her son in which she was thankful for the programs and staff at PGE for giving her son the chance to grow, continue his education, and provide him with the opportunity to be successful. He now enjoys school, makes good grades, and she requested the Board to continue the PG Pals II Program to benefit other students and parents. In closing, **Mrs. Thweatt** thanked the Board for their continued support, love, and understanding for "her kids".

Presentations (continued)

≈ **Ron Rhodes** provided a maintenance and construction update. During the break several projects were accomplished that can't be done during regular school hours. **Bryan Wood** monitored systems during the break and set up for the return of students, Cenergistics audited the buildings several times, HVAC filters replaced and minor repairs completed, sewer pump repaired at the field house and diagnosed at South, and repairs and painting completed at the bus garage. He sent out kudos to all staff and contractors that worked during the snow storm to clear parking lots and sidewalks. He thanked staff for steps taken to open the shelter at J.E.J. Moore Middle school when most of the county experienced a power outage; however power was restored before the shelter was opened. He was thankful for his dedicated staff throughout the entire break.

≈ **Clarence Thweatt** commended **Mr. Rhodes** and staff as the team communicated and worked together to make decisions on closings and delays. He indicated there was a decline in the Perfect Attendance Bonus Program during the month of December. Statistics showed 48 of 61 (or 79%) of the drivers/aides earned the bonus. A Job Fair was held on December 8, 2017 with 5 of 6 potential drivers to start a class once the background checks are returned. **Mr. Thweatt** stated they are still communicating and trying to get the word out about the sign-on bonus through Facebook and online. He also indicated the department is currently looking for an Administrative Associate replacement.

Discussion Items

- ^ Computer Science Standards of Learning
- ^ Financial Report December 2017
- ^ 2018-19 Budget Update

(over)



School Board Comments

Mr. Cox thanked **Mr. Foster** for his leadership the last two years as he feels the Board has made good progress. He is looking forward to working with Vice Chairman **Mr. Stevenson** and anxious to start working with **Mr. Eley** and **Mr. Johnson**. He thanked all staff who worked during the extreme cold weather conditions, and he wanted the administrators to pass along a special thank you to them.

Mr. Foster wished all a Happy New Year and stated he was excited about the new leadership under **Mr. Cox** and **Mr. Stevenson**. He welcomed **Mr. Eley** and **Mr. Johnson** and stated he is eager to work with the new board. "Hats off to **Mr. Rhodes** and staff" as they communicated and worked together during recent weather conditions. He also thanked **Mrs. Thweatt** for her leadership at Prince George Education Center to mentor students like **Brian Alba**. "The program works and it is successful and gets results." He watched this student translate his mother's speech thanking the board for giving her son opportunities to be successful and he was happy to see the transition of this student and proud to have support the change in his life. He asked for prayers and guidance as the Board begins to prepare for the upcoming budget.

Mr. Eley wished all a Happy New Year. He read a prepared written statement relating to disclosure required under the Virginia Conflict of Interest Act as a county employee now serving as an elected official on the School Board.

Mr. Johnson appreciates the opportunity to serve on the school board. He said it is very humbling, and he thanked all school personnel who have supported him in the transition to be well prepared for his first meeting (**Mrs. Kirk**, **Dr. Bingham**, **Dr. Pennycuff**, and **Mrs. Williams**). He hopes he can be a positive influence while on the board.

School Board News

(Continued)

Action Items (Approved)

- * School Board Code of Conduct 2018
- * School Board Clerk Code of Conduct 2018
- * 2018 School Board Meeting Schedule
- * Appointments for Regional and County Boards: Rowanty (**Mr. Foster/Mr. Stevenson**); Appomattox Regional Governors School (**Mr. Johnson**); Maggie Walker Regional Governors School (**Mr. Eley**); Audit Committee (**Mr. Stevenson**); Planning Commission (**Mr. Cox**); CIP Committee (**Mr. Eley**); CodeRVA (**Mr. Foster/Mr. Johnson**)
- * 2018 Discipline Committee Schedule

Superintendent's Report/ Informational Items

- 2016-17 Charitable Donations
- December 2017 Bus and School Suspensions; 2017-18 Expulsions and Reinstatements; Current enrollment report as of January 3, 2018; 2017-18 Year-to-Date Building Use Requests; Student/Employee Emergency Monthly Report via School Messenger
- Progress Index Article, "City of Colonial Heights Shares Unique Financial Partnership with School Board"

Upcoming Events 2018

- Statement of Economic Interests—Due February 1, 2018
- February—School Board Appreciation Month
- School Board Clerk Appreciation Week February 19-23, 2018
- VSBA Webinar—Improving Emergency Management in VA School Divisions—January 12, 2018
- VSBA Capital Conference—Richmond Marriott—January 22-23, 2018
- VSBA Orientation for New Board Members and Chairman/Vice Chairman—January 23, 2018
- NSBA Conference—San Antonio, TX April 7-9, 2018
- Southside Regional Spring Forum—April 30, 2018 @ Nottaway High School

School Board Comments (Continued)

Mr. Stevenson also wished all a Happy New Year. He reflected on **Brian Alba** and the young man he has become. His whole demeanor has changed since the last time he saw him in a different setting. "We send students to Prince George Education Center to give them an alternative education for success". He appreciates what **Mrs. Thweatt** and staff do to give these students additional strategies and skills and build relationships for success. He welcomed **Mr. Johnson** and **Mr. Eley** to the Board. They are supporters of Career Training Education (CTE), and he's excited to work with them in this capacity.

ANNOUNCEMENT

During the School Board's Meeting, the following re-appointments were made:

Robert Cox, Jr.—Chairman
Lewis Stevenson—Vice Chairman



Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look what they can do when they stick together.

- Vista M. Kelly

The next School Board Meeting is Monday, February 12, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.