

# P.G. Super News

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Prince George County Public Schools

April 25, 2018

## School Board News



### Important Dates:

**April 23-29**  
**Administrative**  
**Professionals Week**

**April 25**  
**Administrative**  
**Professionals Day**

**Arbor Day**  
**April 27**

**May 6-13**  
**National Music**  
**Week**

**May 7-14**  
**Teacher and School**  
**Nutrition Employee**  
**Appreciation Week**

**May 8**  
**National Teacher**  
**Appreciation Day**

**May 9**  
**National School**  
**Nurse Day**

**May 13**



**May 14**  
**School Board**  
**Meeting**

The School Board held its regular meeting on April 16, 2018.

### Special Recognitions

⇒ L.L. Beazley Elementary School was the recipient of a \$1000 ExxonMobil Grant provided by Melvin L. Davis Oil Company/Circle D. Mart. A plaque was given in honor of the business partner.

⇒ **Lana Pearce** introduced State Nutrition Association (SNA) Chapter 5G award recipients and nominees: **Litresha Shipmon** (North) State Employee of the year; **Delois Grant** (North) President's Award of Excellence; **Juanita McDaniel** (Clements) nominated for Manager of the Year and 35 years of service with SNA; **Pam Tiller** (Clements) nominated as Employee of the Year. Central Office staff received the 100% Membership award. **Mrs. Pearce** is proud of her entire dedicated Food and Nutrition Services staff and their accomplishments every day!

⇒ **Dr. Bingham** introduced the 2018 Teacher of the Year Recipients by School: **Storm Burks** (PGHS); **Kimberly Brown** (Clements); **Julia Ellison** (Moore); **Charles Wright** (PGE); **Brittany Zucconi** (Beazley); **Stephanie Kliebenstein** (Harrison); **David Dockan** (North); **Darlene Heiser** (South); **Angela Johnson** (Walton). Congratulations!

⇒ **Dr. Bingham** announced the 2018 Teacher of the Year—**Brittany Zucconi** (Beazley). She will compete in the 2018 Mary V. Bicouvaris Virginia Teacher of the Year competition.

⇒ **Shirley Bolden** was recognized for 21 years of service as she retires from the school system.

### Presentations

\* **Mike Krantz** / Developer presented on behalf of the Group Work Camp, requesting use of N.B. Clements Junior High School the summer of 2019. The Group Work Camp is composed of about 400 high school students sponsored through churches to perform community service repairing of homes, ramps, porches, roofs, etc.

\* **Donna Nixon** was present from the Pierce Group to provide answers to questions concerning health insurance.

\* N.B. Clements' slogan for 2017-18 is "Embracing the Journey to our Destination on the Road to Full Accreditation". **Tana Jones** spoke about the journey Clements' students and staff are on to make their school a success. **Chris Sumner** spoke about the past, present, and future programs and the successes and expansions each group has experienced. **Amber Thompson** explained the student mentoring programs: Proving Adolescents Leadership Skills (PALS), Global Combat Support System-Army (GCSS), Helping Youth Prefer Excellence (HYPE), and Boys to Men. The Girls to Women program will begin next year. The Counseling Department implemented the Cares Program and provided meals to identified students. The English Department implemented the writing SOL Prep Rally to assist 8th graders and teachers volunteered their time to assist. **Alyssa Ray**, sponsor, spoke about the Junior Beta Club's awards and achievements during the state competition. The Junior Beta Club now has the opportunity to attend the National Convention in Savannah, GA to represent Prince George Co.

\* **Susan Braswell** was joined by **Chris Wills**, **Sara Rose**, and **Darlene Heiser** to share the news at South Elementary. "Promoting Kindness" is this year's slogan. The school participated in several events promoting kindness by putting chemo bags together for chemo patients, sponsored a school supply drive for the students in Florida affected by the hurricanes and floods, collected used/out-grown coats and non-perishable food for the "Coats for Kids" program and the P.G. Food Bank, provided gifts for South families in need of assistance (hats, scarves, gloves), collected Pennies for Patients; completed activities within the classroom creating adjective flowers and placing hearts on a tree in front lobby whenever a student was witnessed performing an act of kindness, prepared crafts and cards and distributed to Alzheimer's patients at Brighter Living; and had many jeans' days and a fundraiser for the **Jennifer Brown** family. "Kindness is contagious .....pass it on!"

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

*Vickie Hale has concerns with the salary scale and step increases for some when salaries are frozen for others. The cost of living keeps going up and take home pay is less. She reiterated the need to increase salaries and benefits to keep the experienced teachers here in PG.*

*Leila Holmes commented the school's Mission Statement reads: "Will provide a meaningful and challenging educational program in a safe environment". She referred to a 'Royal News' article listing the pros/cons of teachers carrying guns in the school division and she voiced her opinion about guns in school. She spoke about bullying issues in schools and she referenced the need to continue with a residency vendor to track non-residents attending our schools.*

*Susan Robertson shared her concerns about bullying in schools. To earn the Merit Badge for Citizenship, her grandson wrote letters to Congressman McEachin and Senator Warner to address concerns about bullying in schools. Leila Holmes read the letters that Christian Menjvarstudent wrote to the elected officials.*

*Cynthia Hasley also spoke about the need for raises and the rising costs of healthcare. Loyal teachers who continue to teach in PG should be given a raise to keep them here. She also shared that the AESOP system is not working effectively. She explained some examples where the automated system did not place a substitute teacher properly and questioned whether there could be part electronic AESOP/part human interaction to strengthen the process.*

# School Board News

(Continued)

## Action Items Approved

- ≈ Special Education Annual Plan 2018-19
- ≈ 2018-19 School Calendar
- ≈ Perkins Grant Application
- ≈ Transportation Advisory Group—Agreement for Consultative Services
- ≈ Group Work Camp/Use of N.B. Clements Junior High School summer of 2019
- ≈ Adjustment to the 2017-18 School Calendar, closing schools on May 25, 2018 and approve change to May 24, 2018 pay date
- ≈ VSBA Policy Updates from February 2018
- ≈ Health Insurance, Dental Insurance and Vision Insurance Rates for FY2019—Option 2 as presented
- ≈ CodeRVA approval of a 4th student assignment at no cost to district

## Discussion Items

- √ Bi-monthly Payroll Period
- √ 2018-19 Budget Update
- √ Financial Report for March 2018
- √ High School Transcripts

## Superintendent's Report/Info Items

- Current Enrollment as of April 11, 2018
- Thank you letter from Brenda Kreider—Farm Bureau Women's Committee
- FTC Robotics Team—Press Release
- Article written by Michael Campbell March 28, 2018 relating to Virginia's Education Secretary touring Rowanty Technical Center
- Secretary of Education visited David A. Harrison Elementary School on April 13, 2018

## Upcoming Events

- VSBA Hot Topics—Chesterfield Career & Tech Center—April 17, 2018
- Southside Regional Spring Forum April 30, 2018 @ Nottoway High School
- VSBA New Chairman/Board Member Orientation @ Richmond Marriott, July 16, 2018
- VSBA Conference on Education @ Richmond Marriott on July 17, 2018
- VSBA Newsletter

**The next School Board Meeting is  
Monday, May 14, 2018  
at 6:30 P.M.**



## School Board Member Comments

**Mr. Eley** thanked all for the presentations. He also commended and thanked those involved in making the SPED Olympics Little Feet Meet at PGHS a success.

**Mr. Foster** publically thanked **Officer Pearson** for keeping students grounded, safe, and compliant at PGHS. He commended PGHS staff and graduation committee for working to make improvements to this year's graduation event, and we will keep ceremony outside if at all possible. He is proud of the Food and Nutrition Services group (Lunch Ladies) for accolades and awards received. Today marks the 11 year anniversary of the VA Tech shootings. This is a reminder that security is so important in every school. He spoke about the Board's request to the Board of Supervisor's to use carryover funds for more security initiatives. He also stated both county and school should have the same health insurance, same premiums, costs, and coverage.

**Mr. Johnson** complimented the reports from Clements and South Schools, and he praised Moore Middle School for their successful Project Based Learning Fair and PGHS's SPED Olympic Little Feet Meet. He spoke about his support of paying teachers a \$500 bonus out of the carryover funds and the superintendent's budget proposal includes a 3% increase for all employees.

**Mr. Cox** stated there has not been any discussion on guns in the classrooms and this is not an option. The Board requested \$2.7M carryover funds from the Board of Supervisors to use for security in schools, more technology, and bonuses for employees. He reiterated that county and school employees need to share the same insurance plans, premiums, and offerings as we are all county employees.