

P.G. Super News

Renee P. Williams

Prince George County Public Schools

December 16, 2016



Important Dates:

December 21
First Day of Winter

**December 19-
January 1**
Christmas Break

December 25
Christmas Day

**December 26 -
January 1**
Kwanzaa

January 1
New Years Day

January 9
School Board Meeting

January 16
Martin Luther King Day

January 22-28
Virginia School Principals Appreciation Week

*Merry
Christmas*

School Board News

The School Board held its regular meeting on December 12, 2016.

Special Recognitions

⇒ **Michael Warnock** and members of the PGHS Marching Band were recognized for receiving a superior rating at the Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association (VBODA) State Competition. This is a great honor to receive.

⇒ **Chris Romig** congratulated the Interact Club for conducting a food fundraiser and a competition amongst the classes at N.B. Clements JHS to benefit the Prince George Food Bank. Over 700 cans of non-perishable food items were donated to the local food bank. Club members **Max Bennett/President**, **Tristan Moore/Vice President**, **Thomas Cotcamp**, and **Sarah Radford** represented the Interact Club. **Steve Bhatt** spoke about the partnership between the Interact Club and the Prince George/Hopewell Rotary Club.

Presentations

◇ **Jon Hampton**, Cenergistic Representative, gave a brief update on the Energy Conservation Program. From November 2013-June 2016, the school division has seen a 9% savings, equivalent to \$425,939 in cost savings in electricity, natural gas, heating oil, propane, water and sewer. He emphasized the environmental benefits and spoke of specific accomplishments throughout the division. He thanked everyone for supporting the program and executing changes for the success of the program.

◇ **Megan Wilder** won the Citgo Fuels Education Sweepstakes in September. She was awarded a voucher from National School Supply for \$5,000 in classroom supplies and a free, hands-on STEM workshop with **Steve Spangler** in October. **Donna Branch-Harris**, **Christy Franchok**, and **Megan Wilder** demonstrated some of the amazing experiments presented at the workshop. Each school participant was energized by

the workshop and each received their own bag of learning materials and an extra bag to pass along to another person unable to attend.

◇ **James Scruggs** presented an update on the Virginia Preschool Initiative. The purpose of the programs is to reduce disparities among young children upon formal school entry and to reduce/eliminate risk factors that lead to early academic failure. He showed the progression of the program since 1995 to present, explained the criteria considered for enrollment, student selection process and curriculum and assessment tools used and provided data for literacy scores and VKRP Results. Early childhood programs enhances a child's chances of a successful education, completing high school/college, improvement in social skills, and self-esteem for a productive, responsible citizen.

◇ **Ron Rhodes** reported the gutters had been installed at Walton Elementary School, the motorized bleachers and scoreboard at PGHS are under repair, and 222 work orders were completed. He reported the Transportation Department had consolidated 3 bus routes, offered refresher courses to returning drivers, and received an increase in part-time drivers seeking employment. He feels Prince George has one of the safest and modernized fleets in the area.

Public Comment

+ **Kim White** commented on child safety at J.E.J. Moore Middle School. When students return to school from field trips after school hours, they should have to return inside the building and have parents sign the students out.

+ **Joshua White** expressed his concerns on the same topic of student safety and wants the school to consider changing the policy and procedures regarding child accountability after school trips and other events.

School Board News (Continued)



School Board Member Comments

Mr. Franklin commented on the seriousness of the public comment topic. He said it's scary to think that an abduction could happen in this county. Nowhere is safe as anyone can read about these issues every day.

Mr. Stevenson wished every one a "Merry Christmas or greetings for whatever you celebrate." He asked for travelers to be safe during the break and be aware of your surroundings during the holidays.

Mr. Ashcraft reiterated "Happy Holidays" to staff. He commented on the Pre-K presentation stating that the data shows the importance of the program and that every dollar spent on this program is important to the future of these at-risk students and the community.

Mr. Cox wished all a "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year or what other holiday you celebrate during this time. Be safe on your travels during the holiday. It has been a great year to this point and January 2, 2017 will be here before you know it and then another school year will have ended." He expressed thanks to faculty and staff for all that we do.



Action Items

- ◆ New Course Proposal at J.E.J. Moore MS—Reading Readiness 6th and 7th Grade Courses—Approved
- ◆ New Course Proposal at PGHS Dual Enrollment English 12-243—Survey of English Literature; English 12-244—Survey of English Literature II; Dual Enrollment Classes to be changing—English 11-111 College Composition 1; English 11-112 College Composition II— Approved
- ◆ Appointment of Clerk—Rebecca Kirk and Deputy Clerk—Jill Andrews
- ◆ Facility Study Core Committee—Approved
- ◆ 2018-2027 Capital Improvement Plan— Approved

Discussion Items

- * Sick Bank Policy (re-write) Policy GCBD-R and GCBD-R Hybrid
- * Policy GAA—Staff Time Schedules Overtime/Compulsory Time
- * Financial Statement for November 2016

Superintendent's Report/ Informational Items

- 2016-17 November Bus and School Suspension and Expulsion and Reinstatement Reports
- Current Enrollment Report as of December 7, 2016
- 2016-17 Year-to-Date Building Use Requests and Student/Employee Emergency Monthly Report via School Messenger
- Statement of Economics Interest Due January 15, 2017

Upcoming Events

- VSBA Capital Conference—Richmond January 23-24, 2017
- VSBA Superintendent Evaluation Workshop—Charlottesville—February 22, 2017
- NSBA Annual Conference in Denver — March 25-27, 2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR



School Board Chairman Comments

Mr. Foster also wished all a Merry Christmas and he thanked all staff for what they do every day and for those that go beyond the call of duty to help the kids (reading/math specialists, administrators and teachers after hours who attend the plays, sporting events, etc.). He thanked board members for their dedication in spending countless hours in meetings and volunteering for other committees, etc. "They do this for the kids of Prince George County." He recognized **William Robertson** /Board of Supervisors Chairman, stating the school board has a good relationship with the supervisors. County staff is committed to our success. He recognized **Butch Pearson** and all School Resource Officers who serve and protect us every day. "We pray for your safety every day." He emphasized that the board has a job to take care of our children in school and on January 2, 2017 the budget process will begin. Both boards have jointly sent a letter to Gov. McAuliffe asking the state for relief. We need to contact our legislators! Lastly, **Mr. Foster** was glad to have **Mrs. Williams** back and thankful for her health.

*Next School Board Meeting
January 9, 2017*

Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please be safe during your travels throughout the holiday season!

