

**BRISTOL VIRGINIA SCHOOL BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING - REGULAR SESSION
February 1, 2021**

The Bristol Virginia School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, February 1, 2021, in the Bristol Virginia Public Schools Administration Office, 220 Lee Street, Bristol, Virginia. A quorum was present with the following Board members in attendance:

Mr. Steve Fletcher, Chair
Mr. Randy Alvis
Mr. Frank Goodpasture

Mr. Randy White, Vice Chair
Mr. Tyrone Foster

Also present were:

Dr. Keith Perrigan, Superintendent via Teams
Mr. Gary Ritchie, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Tammy Jones, Clerk
Mrs. Stephanie Austin, Deputy Clerk

Among those in the audience were:
Ms. Kathy Musick

Others were present, but failed to sign in.

Mr. Steve Fletcher, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. He welcomed all in attendance and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Fletcher asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Mr. Randy White moved approval. Mr. Randy Alvis seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fletcher addressed Item 2(A) Presentation of Superintendent's Recommended 2021-2022 School Board Budget. Dr. Keith Perrigan, Superintendent, presented a PowerPoint outlining the recommendations for the 2021-2022 budget.

Mr. Fletcher addressed Item 2(B) Public Hearing on Proposed 2021-2022 School Board Budget. Ms. Kathy Musick addressed the Board.

Mr. Fletcher addressed Item 3(A) School Board Student Representative Report. Kelly Locke, Sarah Stacy, Caleigh Hampton, and Elijah Williams presented the following:

- New pool loner has been installed
- Senior night for the basketball teams and cheerleaders
- Student feedback via Instagram polls
- Students' return to school
- Last semester's grades
- More news

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Mr. Fletcher thanked Kelly, Sarah, Caleigh and Elijah for their report.

Dr. Perrigan presented the Superintendent's Report, which included the following. Dr. Perrigan highlighted just a quick note about his

virtual attendance tonight. About the time the MRHD discontinued contact tracing in December, the CDC provided guidance that allowed quarantines to end after 10 days or after 7 days with a negative test. We have been following this guidance, with much success. On Wednesday, we were notified that the MRHD would resume contact tracing services for schools and that we would return to the 14-day quarantine recommendation. Since Wednesday there have been some discussions and we will now have some additional flexibility for some employees who are not involved in congregate settings. He noted he had a close contact about 10 days ago and originally planned to be out of quarantine last Thursday after testing negative, but he is following the current MRHD recommendation as he expects our employees and students to do. On a similar note, Bristol's health metrics are as good as they have been in a long time. We are having great success with limited cases in school. While in quarantine he noted he had testified virtually to several committees in Richmond. The issues he has been advocating for include improved Broadband, equitable funding for public education, reduction of SOL tests, and funding for school construction. He has also testified to the House Privileges and Elections committee, the Senate and House Labor and Commerce committees, and the House SOQ committee. Delegate O'Quinn's school construction bill made it out of committee today, but his SOL reduction bill failed on a tie vote. Additionally, in his capacity with COSARS, he has been working with members of the money committees and the associated staffs on a flaw in the No Loss Funding Formula. VEA and the Fund our Schools organization has joined our efforts on this issue. Our Region VII Virtual Academy kicked off without a hitch last week. We actually have an offer from a national online instruction provider to handle the online delivery platform for us. At our next meeting, the Board will hire an Executive Director and make a decision about our delivery model. We have interest from other regions to join us or to replicate what we are doing. Thank you for your early support of this program. February 1 marks the beginning of School Counselor Week, CTE Month, and Black History Month. He highlighted he is looking forward to all the events and activities associated with these important designations. It is also School Board Clerk Appreciation Week. The Board would like to honor our Clerks for their outstanding service to our Division, Teachers, Students, and Board. Finally, February is School Board Appreciation Month. He noted he is thankful that Bristol has such a student and employee centered Board. Dr. Perrigan hopes you will let them know how much you appreciate them this month and every month.

Mr. Fletcher thanked Dr. Perrigan for his report.

No one addressed the board during Public Comment.

Mr. Fletcher asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Randy Alvis so moved. Mr. Frank Goodpasture seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

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The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approval of Payment of Bills
- B. Approval of Minutes – Regular Session – January 11, 2021
- C. Recognition of National School Counseling Week

Mr. Fletcher addressed Item 6(A) Approval of 2020-2021 School Board Budget Revision #7. Mr. Tyrone Foster moved approval. Mr. Randy White seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fletcher addressed Item 7(A) Discussion of 2021-2022 School Board Budget. Dr. Perrigan presented a PowerPoint in which he highlighted the budget priorities. He requested input from Board Members on these items and any other items they would like to have considered.

Mr. Fletcher addressed Item 7(B) Discussion of IB Program Details. Mr. Gary Ritchie, Assistant Superintendent, provided information pertaining to the IB program which was removed from course offerings around 2008-2009. He noted interest has surfaced to consider bringing back IB to Virginia High. He explained the process of applying and noted it could take a little more than a year from start to finish, with the end being IB accredited. Mr. Ritchie noted the milestones that must be completed to gain IB accreditation.

Mr. Fletcher addressed Item 7(C) Discussion of Construction of New Elementary School. Dr. Perrigan presented a detailed PowerPoint providing each site and the number of students within a 1, 3, and 5-mile radius. He stressed the importance of having a new school to be able to accommodate the additional students expected with the opening of the casino. He noted he would be placed on the Agenda at the next City Council meeting to discuss the same.

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia, Mr. Randy White moved that the Board convene a Closed Meeting for the purpose of discussing the following specific matters as authorized by Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) per the Code of Virginia, Specifically,

- A. Discussion of Certain Personnel, Recommendation for Employment, and Resignations.

Mr. Foster seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:30 p.m.

Back in Public Session at 8:00 p.m., Mr. Randy White moved Certification of Closed Meeting as such: the Bristol Virginia School Board certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting and only such public matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were considered. Mr. Randy Alvis seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

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Mr. Randy White moved Approval of Attachment (A) as recommended. Mr. Frank Goodpasture seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

No items were discussed during the Old and New Business portion of the meeting.

Mr. Fletcher adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.


Stephanie R. Austin, Deputy Clerk


Steve Fletcher, Chairman