



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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January 17, 2019, Lottsburg, VA – The Northumberland County School Board held a regular monthly school board meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 2019.

The School Board accepted the notice of retirement from Mr. Walt Mallorie, upon the completion of the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. Mallorie graduated with a music education degree from the Dana School of Music at Youngstown State University in Ohio in 1977. After graduation, he taught for two years at John F. Kennedy High School in Warren, Ohio, and then entered a second career in sales of medical business forms in Boston and then Ohio areas.

In 2001, Mr. Mallorie moved to the Northern Neck and returned to teaching at Northumberland High School. In 2011, Mr. Mallorie assumed the duties of Band Director for the middle and high school, and the Marching Band Director.

After retirement Mr. Mallorie will continue in the area with his many other musical activities. He is currently the percussion section leader of the Northern Neck Orchestra, the President of the Kilmarnock and District Bagpipe Band, and will serve as the Musical Director of the Westmoreland Players upcoming August production of “Smoke on the Mountain”. He plays drums in an area Country and Western Band, the Warsaw Church Praise Band, the praise band Urgency, and teaches private drum lessons. He also manages three drum related web sites to which he will be devoting time.

Ms. Liz Hood will serve as the interim Spanish teacher at NHS for the second semester. Ms. Hood received a Master’s degree in Educational Technology from the University of British Columbia, Canada. She also holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of South Carolina; a Master’s degree in Spanish from the University of Virginia; and, a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs from Mary Washington College.

Ms. Hood was born in Washington, D.C. and spent the majority of her childhood in the Northern Neck of Virginia graduating from Lancaster High School in 1981. She has traveled extensively over four continents and has lived and studied in various Spanish-speaking countries. During her teaching career, Ms. Hood has taught in Virginia, New Jersey, North Carolina and South Carolina. While most of her instructional experience is with K-12 students, she also taught adults in a variety of settings including college and English as a Second Language classes. Ms. Hood says she has enjoyed each educational experience, as each one has afforded her a learning opportunity. She is passionate and

enthusiastic about her fields of interest and is dedicated to best practices in education. Ms. Hood values technology integration and the opportunities it affords to reach people in a variety of ways and in multiple settings. She regularly presents at professional conferences in her fields of expertise.

The annual reorganization of the School Board took place with the following appointments:

- Mrs. Betty Christopher, Board Chair
- Mrs. Gayle Sterrett, Vice Chair
- Mrs. Carol Badenoch, School Board Clerk
- Ms. Lisa Day, Deputy Clerk
- Mrs. Dana O'Bier, Joint Board Member for the Northern Neck Technical Center, Northern Neck Regional Special Education Program, and the Northern Neck Alternative Education Program.
- Mrs. Gayle Sterrett, Board Member for the Chesapeake Bay Governor's School
- Mrs. Gayle Sterrett, Northumberland County Education Association (NCEA) Liaison
- Mrs. Betty Christopher, Virginia School Boards Association Delegate
- Mr. Gerald Howard, Virginia School Boards Association, Alternate Delegate

The following upcoming dates have been added to the 2019-2020 Budget Calendar:

1. January 31, 2019 at 4 p.m. the Board will meet at the School Board Office in Lottsburg for the first budget work session.
2. February 19, 2019 at 4 p.m. the Board will meet at the School Board Office in Lottsburg for the second budget work session.

On February 11, 2019, at 6 p.m. the Board will hold the second Public Hearing on the budget in conjunction with the regular board meeting.

In other news...

The Grade 6 Community Problem Solvers presented on a Solar Research Project. Under the direction of Coach and Academically Talented & Gifted Coordinator Shauna McCranie, the students partnered with community organization Northumberland Association of Progressive Stewardship (NAPS) on the solar project.

Due to the delays and closings that impacted the first semester, Thursday, January 24, 2019, will now be a half day of school for students with a 12:30 p.m. dismissal. The remainder of the day will be a teacher workday.