

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



NES



NMS

NHS

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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June 3, 2021 - Heathsville, VA The Northumberland County Public Schools' School Board met in-person for a 2021-2022 Budget Work Session. The meeting was open to the public through Zoom audio conference calling as a result of COVID-19 guidelines.

Closed Meeting Action Items

The School Board

- Approved the hiring of **Heather Westbrook as the elementary school counselor** for the 2021-2022 school year. Ms. Westbrook graduated from George Mason University (GMU) with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and earned a Master of Education in School Counseling from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in 2009;
- Approved the **personnel list** as presented by the superintendent for the 2021-2022 school year.

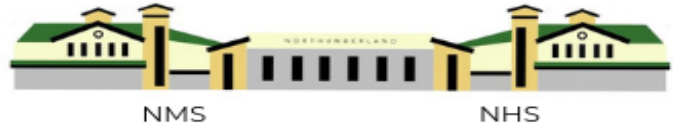
Budget Worksession Superintendent **Dr. Holly Wargo** reviewed the proposed 2021-2022 school division budget which details increases in the essential areas of employee compensation, regional program participation, and reassessment of three (3) full time positions: an elementary computer literacy teacher; a middle school computer literacy teacher; and a full time athletic and events coordinator. The proposed budget also includes funding for an adjusted teacher salary scale that is competitive with neighboring school divisions in order to attract and retain highly qualified teachers and staff. The proposal also reflects a 3% salary increase for administrative and support personnel and a health insurance increase and a realignment of employer contribution.

Director of Finance **Ms. Donna Booth** presented the following information:

On June 1, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approved the 2021-2022 School Board Budget that included an increase in local funding of \$1,000,000 and appropriations of the following:

| Revenues | | Expenditures | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Sales Tax | \$ 1,525,054 | Instructional | \$ 14,305,727 |
| State Revenue | \$ 3,731,231 | Admin & Health | \$ 1,222,002 |
| Federal | \$ 979,156 | Pupil Transportation | \$ 1,323,803 |
| Other Funds | \$ 196,050 | Operations & Maint | \$ 1,880,793 |
| County Funds | \$ 13,299,734 | Facilities | \$ 47,000 |
| | | Debt/Fund Transfer | \$ 7,859 |
| | | Technology | \$ 944,041 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| | \$ 19,731,225 | | \$ 19,731,225 |

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The **School Board** unanimously approved the presented School Board budget of \$19,731,225. This budget includes the teacher salary realignment that reflects between a 9% to 11% increase across years 0-40 as well as a 3% salary increase for all other employees. The **School Board** also unanimously approved the reassessment of three (3) positions: an elementary computer literacy and keyboarding teacher; a middle school computer literacy and keyboarding teacher; and a full time athletic and events director.

District 1 School Board Member **Mrs. Dana O'Bier** stated:

“Madam Chair, the Board wishes to make clear that no new positions were added in the 2021-2022 School Board Budget. Changes include:

- The current NHS athletic director position was made eleven (11) months and will be reassigned as the NMS & NHS Athletic Director/Event Coordinator;
- The NMS Health & Physical Education teaching position will be subsidized using paraprofessional attrition and reassignment;
- A change from the Family & Consumer Science Teacher to a Computer Literacy & Keyboarding teacher at NMS;
- A change from the computer technology paraprofessional to a Computer Literacy & Keyboarding teacher at NES funded using cost savings from current retirees;
- A Director of Finance transition will be funded from a one-year transfer of Administration and Health Purchase Services.”

The **School Board** publicly thanked **Dr. Wargo** and **Ms. Booth** for their tireless efforts and advocacy in representing fair and equitable employee compensation for teachers and all school employees.