NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
Contact: Donna Booth, Clerk of the School Board
(804)529-6134
dbooth@nucps.net

September 14, 2021 - Heathsville, VA The Northumberland County Public Schools' School Board met in-person for a monthly meeting on Monday, September 13, 2021. The meeting was open to the public through Zoom audio conference calling as a result of COVID-19 guidelines and in-person.

Closed Meeting Action Items

- Approval of Ms. Renee Johnson as Northumberland High School Counselor.

 Ms. Johnson earned a Masters of Education degree in School Counseling from Liberty
 University and a Bachelor's degree from Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, Virginia. She has
 extensive experience in career and school counseling.
- Approval of Interim Paraprofessional for Classrooms with Intensive Needs Ms. Michelle Cummings and Ms. Amber Taylor.
- Approval of substitute teachers Ms. Judith Ball and Ms. Stacey Gough.
- Approval of substitute school nurses Mrs. Dare Jones and Ms. Stacey Gough.
- Approval of substitute bus drivers Ms. Yolanda Jackson and Ms. Sheilah Thrift.
- Approval of supplemental sponsor and coach positions: Senior Class Sponsors Mrs. Shelby Brooks and Mrs. Jennifer Thomas; approval of Assistant Football coaches Mr. James Weldon and Mr. Roger Steinruck; approval of Volunteer Football Assistant Officer Kevin Keeve; approval of Volunteer Wrestling coach Joseph Sanford; approval of NMS Yearbook Sponsor Sheila King; approval of Robotics/Legos/Coding Sponsor Ms. Heather Smith; approval of Writing Camp Facilitators Ms. Genia Powell, Mrs. Cindy Swift, and Mrs. April Walker.

Public Meeting

• The School Board announced due to the Covid-19 pandemic, NCPS will not attend overnight field trips until further notice.

Presentations / Recognitions

Coordinator of Talented & Gifted Programs Mrs. Shauna McCranie provided an overview of summer residential and summer regional governor's school programs. Students who participated are Northern Neck Regional Governor's School: Lyryc Bea, Talen Bowis, Jaden Bundy, Jordan Bunn, Christopher Christian, Issac Faulkner, Caleb McCall, Kendra Batton-McCutcheon, Landon Nance, Ainsleigh Perham, and at the Summer Residential Governor's School: Hallie Shackleford.

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NES Principal Mrs. Martha Williams, NMS Principal Mr. Patrick Simmons, and NHS Principal Dr. Travis Burns shared information on School Reopening Updates. NES School Reopening NMS Reopening NHS Update

Director of Finance Report

Mr. Jason Bellows reviewed the revenue and expenditure report, the Visa report, and provided an update on the ESSER III public survey results. The Board approved a donation from Mr. Douglas Lemke of a Roland keyboard to the NHS band program and two insurance settlement special appropriations requests to the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Donna Booth informed the Board that Northumberland Elementary, Northumberland Middle and Northumberland High Schools received a flawless Activities Audit report. The Report of Audit Findings and Recommendations stated "No Management Comments." No corrections were found or needed. The School Board publicly recognized the efforts of Finance Administrative Assistants Mrs. Teresa Vanlandingham (NHS), Ms. Kristy Self (NMS), and Mrs. Linda Newman (NES).

Open Public Comments

No one participated in person or online for public comments.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Holly Wargo provided an update on the Covid-19 Impact on Schools. "Northumberland County Public Schools is committed to providing accurate and transparent information regarding Covid-19 as it affects our schools. We remain committed to the health, safety, and wellness of our students and staff. We also are committed to keeping you informed when instances of Covid-19 impact our school community," Wargo stated. She reviewed the NCPS NCPS Covid-19 Dashboard which provides daily updates on cases of Covid-19 in each school and division offices. The Dashboard also shares important VDH links including

- VDH Algorithm for Evaluating a Child with COVID-19 Symptoms of Exposure
- When Can I Send My Child to School and/or Child Care?
- VDH: When To End Isolation or Quarantine
- VDH: What is the difference between Isolation and Ouarantine

Director of Instruction Mr. Adam Letizia and **Director of Data, Testing, & Accountability Mrs. Virginia Booth** presented the recently released Standards of Learning Assessment <u>results</u> from the 2020-2021 school year with student participation rates by school.

Dr. Wargo Presented Virginia School Board Association (VSBA) Policy updates from August 2021. Policy AD Educational Philosophy included an updated legal reference to correct a typographical error and Policy GAA Staff Time Schedules provided an update to reflect adoption of HB7001 which became effective on August 10, 2021., with Cross References updated.

Directors provided updated monthly reports to the School Board:

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Director Mrs. Javornda Ashton's Educational Technology Report

Director Mrs. Saunee Hamlett's School Nutrition Update

Director Mr. Jeff's Brann's Maintenance & Facilities Report

Director Mrs. Sophronia Smith's Federal Programs & School Improvement

Director Dr. Jamie Sears' Special Education & Student Support Services Report

Director Mrs. Virginia Booth's Director of Data, Testing, & Accountability Report

The School Board approved the following Action Items:

- Memorandum of Agreement between Northumberland County Public Schools (NCPS) and the Sheriff's Office;
- Memorandum of Understanding between NCPS and Old Dominion University;
- VSBA Policy Updates August 2021