



Board Bulletin

December 2020

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The Board Bulletin provides important information about the work of the Dinwiddie County School Board. Following each meeting, the Board Bulletin is a source for details on Board actions and items of interest to Dinwiddie students, staff, and residents.

Virtual Pledge of Allegiance

The Dinwiddie High School JROTC presented the colors virtually at the VSBA Annual Convention followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following cadets participated: Sterling Akers, Jey Bryant, Kaylee Melton, Emily Williams, Faith Williams, and Ricky Williams.

Recognition

VSBA Southside Regional School Board Member of the Year

On November 18 during the opening session of the VSBA Virtual Annual Convention, Board Chair Barbara Pittman was awarded the VSBA Regional School Board Member of the Year Award in recognition of her boardmanship qualities and active involvement in promoting student achievement. Her acceptance video and full press release can be viewed [here](#). Congratulations to Ms. Pittman!



VSBA Southside Regional Chairman

On November 20 during the opening session of the VSBA Virtual Annual Convention, Mary Benjamin was announced as the newly elected Southside Regional Chair of the VSBA Board of Director for 2020-2021. Mrs. Benjamin has been previously serving as the Vice-Chair. The full press release can be viewed [here](#). Congratulations to Mrs. Benjamin!



Student Representatives to the School Board

Dr. Weston announced the School Board Student Representative and Alternate for 2021. Sophomore Jamaica Weaver will serve as the Student Representative and Junior Claire Culbreath will serve as the Alternate. Dr. Weston gave a [presentation](#) on the roles and responsibilities as well as the next steps for this position.

Jamaica Weaver
Student
Representative to the
School Board



Claire Culbreath
Alternate Student
Representative to the
School Board



Consent Agenda

Expenditure Reports

The expenditure reports from November 2020 were presented and approved.

Approval of Minutes of November 10, 2020

The meeting minutes from the previous board meeting were approved.

Board Matters

Approval of Policy JM - Restraint and Seclusion

The board approved the new policy JM presented by Dr. Royal Gurley. This policy is in response to the Virginia Board of Education Regulations Governing the Use of Restraint and Seclusion in Elementary and Secondary Schools that were approved and will become effective January 1, 2021.

Health Plan Update

Christie Clarke provided a Health Plan update. Dinwiddie continues to track the daily metrics. Our region and state are currently in the "substantial transmission activity" category based on the metrics. We continue to see community spread of the virus. Since the return of students to in-person instruction on September 25, we have had a total of 20 positive COVID-19 cases. Approximately 127 students and 66 staff members have had to quarantine due to exposure. We have launched a COVID Dashboard that shows cases for DCPS and will be updated each time a case is reported. Along with the dashboard, other helpful links can be found on this page including a link to the VDH School Metrics page, which is updated daily by the VDH. Bradley Atkins, Director of Student Activities, provided an update to the Athletics Plan as Winter Sports began today. The board approved the Return to Athletic Competition Plans for Dinwiddie High School and Dinwiddie Middle School for Winter Sports.

Approval of Employee CARE Bonus

The board approved a one-time CARE bonus for all employees that will be paid on December 18. Full-time employees will receive \$1,000 and part-time employees will receive \$500. The bonus will be paid using a combination of funds from the FY2020 ending balance funds and current FY21 savings. This CARE bonus is a small token to reward the **Commitment And Resilience Every day** shown by staff during these uncertain and demanding times.

VPSA Reimbursement Resolution No. VPSA 20-21

The board approved the VPSA Reimbursement Resolution presented by Timothy Ampy, Director of Technology. DCPS will receive \$232,000 with this grant. A local match of 20% is required by DCPS in the amount of \$46,400. At least 25% of this local match (\$11,600) must be used for teacher training in the

Superintendent's Matters

Solar Power Project at DHS

Carly Woolfolk, Director of Secondary Instruction & CTE, gave a presentation to the board on the solar power project at Dinwiddie High School. DHS was awarded a grant from Dominion Energy through the National Education (NEED) Project in January 2020. DHS now has a functioning solar energy system to track all energy produced by the solar panels for educational purposes.

Regulations for Professionalism & Teleworking

Emily Branch, Director of Human Resources, **presented** two regulations recently developed for **Staff Conduct/Professionalism** - GCN-R & GDN-R and **Teleworking** - GAA-R. These proposed regulations are to provide further guidance and clarity towards the expectations and the administration of School Board policy regarding the Evaluation of Professional and Support Staff, Policy GCN & GDN, and Staff Schedules, Policy GAA.

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

Dr. Weston provided an **overview** of the comprehensive annual financial report. Brown, Edwards, & Company, LLP completed its audit of financial statements of all activities and funds categories and information for the financial year ending on June 30, 2020. The final report was issued on November 24, 2020. There were no findings in the audit.

Return to Learn Update

Dr. Weston provided a **Return to Learn** Update to the Board.

Helpful Links

Dinwiddie County Public Schools website

www.dinwiddie.k12.va.us

[Student/Parent Help Site](#)

DCPS COVID-19 Dashboard

DHS Return to Athletics Plan - Winter Sports

DMS Return to Athletics Plan - Winter Sports