



School Board Meeting Recap

Thursday, September 9, 2021

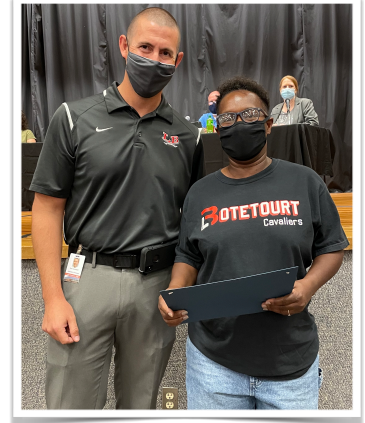
There were several notable moments during this week’s special School Board meeting. The timestamps with each highlight will help you navigate directly to the point in the recorded meeting, which is available in the Archives section of BCPS Live (<https://bcps.live/archives/>).

1. Adjustment to Agenda: *Timestamp: 4:29 - 4:50*

Ms. Austin recommended, and the board unanimously approved, a motion to move public comment earlier in the agenda.

2. Recognitions: *Timestamp: 5:35 - 6:59*

Charlotte Toliver, custodian at Lord Botetourt High School, is the Employee of the Month for August! Dr. Russ commended her for her leadership, hard work, and immeasurable kindness. (See image to the right)



Charlotte Toliver

3. Public Comment: *Timestamp: 7:00 - 39:46*

Mrs. Weddle announced that tonight’s meeting would be the last one in which paper requests to speak forms would be accepted. Future requests to speak must be submitted using the online form, available on the meetings page of School Board website, or by clicking here: [Request to Speak Form](#)

Citizens expressed their thoughts, concerns, and opinions on masks, critical race theory, transgender policies, and coronavirus.

Mrs. Weddle reiterated that BCPS did not, and will not, adopt the VDOE model transgender policies.

4. Approval of COVID Days: *Timestamp: 39:57 - 44:08*

In light of the recent surge in COVID cases, the board unanimously approved Dr. Russ’s request to grant employees 8 COVID days.

5. Superintendent’s Update: *Timestamp: 44:18 - 49:42*

- Local determinations released by VDOE...BCPS received the highest recognition in each of their requirements
- Career Quest event has been postponed until the Spring
- 2 community members have been added to the Equity Task Force (Mrs. Cindy Bandy & Mrs. Erin Huddleston)

6. Horace Mann Partnership/Sponsorship (Mr. Bradley Nuckles): *Timestamp: 57:18 - 59:04*

BCPS has entered into a partnership/sponsorship with Brad Nuckles, who has offered to continue to sponsor our employee recognition programs, which will include Teacher(s) of the Year as well.

7. 2020-2021 SOL Pass Rates & Growth Assessments: *Timestamp: 59:09 - 1:09:25*

Ms. Debbi Nemec gave a report on the SOL scores from last school year. Out of 132 school division across Virginia, BCPS ranked in the top 10 in Reading (ranked 7th), Mathematics (ranked 6th), Science (ranked 8th). Ms. Nemec also discussed the Growth Assessment that will be administered to identify unfinished learning. The VDOE will also be releasing a portal for parents to access Growth Assessment scores for their students. This resource is scheduled for release later this Fall.



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8. 6-Year Plan Conclusion: *Timestamp: 1:09:30 - 1:19:51*

Mr. Keith Pennington provided a report on the 6-year plan that is concluding and discussed preparations for the development of a new plan.

9. End of Agenda Items: *Timestamp: 1:22:57 - End*

- Ms. Austin provided an update on action she has taken to communicate citizens' concerns to elected representatives. This past month she was able to have several in-person visits with representatives.
- Mr. Davidick met with the Botetourt Education Foundation and praised their efforts to fundraise on behalf of the students and educators in the division.

Next School Board Meeting: Thursday, October 14, 2021