



# School Board Meeting Recap

Thursday, November 11, 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/>).



## Veterans Day 2021:

We express our heartfelt gratitude to all who have served in the United States armed forces, defending the cause of liberty, freedom, and democracy. We honor you, as well as your loved ones who sacrificed so that you could serve.

### 1. Recognitions: *Timestamp: 4:46 - 25:28*

The James River Marching Knights, under the direction of Mr. Kevin English, were recognized for their accomplishments in a recent competition. They also performed a medley of patriotic songs in honor of Veteran’s Day. **Note: The microphone was turned off, resulting in a loss of audio from 6:47 - 15:03.** A video of their performance is available to watch on the [BCPS Youtube Channel](#).



The James River High School math teachers (**Elizabeth Foster, Trey Chilcott, & Erin Nagle**) were recognized for helping students achieve the highest math scores in Virginia. Congratulations!



The October employee of the month was **Marguerite Johnson** (pictured above with Dr. Russ), cafeteria aide and bus volunteer at Troutville ES. Dr. Russ and Steven Anderson offered remarks on Marguerite’s character and dedication to Troutville and Botetourt County Schools.

**Amy Wolford**, reading specialist at Troutville ES, was selected as the Kiwanis Educator of the Year. Former BCPS teacher, and representative of the Botetourt Kiwanis Club, Lynne Bolton, presented the award.





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## 2. Public Comment: *Timestamp: 25:30 - 42:41*

*As a reminder, all requests to speak at a school board meeting must be made by 10:00 AM on the day of the meeting by calling LuAnn Delosreyes or using the online [Request to Speak Form](#).*

Community members expressed their questions, opinions, and concerns regarding agenda and other items. Mrs. Weddle made a statement regarding federal and state law surrounding ARP ESSER funding. In response to concerns about forcible vaccinations, she reminded the community that schools cannot administer Tylenol without parent consent.

## 3. Action Items: *Timestamp: 43:00 - 49:05*

- The board approved the revised calendars for the 2022-2024 school years. These are available on the [Calendars section of the BCPS division website](#).
- The board approved a motion to for James River HS to hang commemorative plaques for Kathy Sullivan and Jack Leffel for their efforts on behalf of the school and community.

## 4. Information Items: *Timestamp: 49:07 - 1:32:40*

- Amanda Mansfield presented on the success of the Community College Access Program (CCAP) in Botetourt County.
- Superintendent's Update covered current happenings in the departments throughout the division
- First reading of the Capital Improvement Plan
- Julie Baker and Ashley Hatcher presented the results of the 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey
- ESSER III Plan: Dr. Russ opened the floor to public comment. Ms. Austin expressed that many of those who have concerns specifically about the ESSER Funds left the meeting early, missing their opportunity to specifically voice these concerns and give feedback.

## 5. Community Outreach and Committee Reports: *Timestamp: 1:32:42 - End*

- Ms. Austin pledged her support to Jenny Wilson, who won the Buchanan election for school board member and congratulated Mrs. Weddle on her re-election, and how this provides "continuity and wisdom to [the] board."
- Mr. Davidick recognize veterans. He also attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the BTEC house build in Santillane in Fincastle, following which he attended the Botetourt Education Foundation meeting at SBO.
- Mr. East attended the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting, with emphasis on a presentation by Visit Blue Ridge. Did you Know: Botetourt County is the mountain biking capital of the east coast! They are working to bring the Iron Man competition to Botetourt again.
- Mrs. McCaleb has been working with 4H to help secure a location for the 4H clubs to meet.
- Mrs. Weddle attended the RMMS Halloween Hoopla. She also attended the Gifted Advisory Committee meeting this past week.

**Next School Board Meeting: Thursday, December 9, 2021**

Botetourt County Public Schools

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