



There were several notable moments during this week’s 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/>).

Mrs. Weddle was unable to attend in person due to medical reasons. The board approved a motion to allow her to participate via phone call.

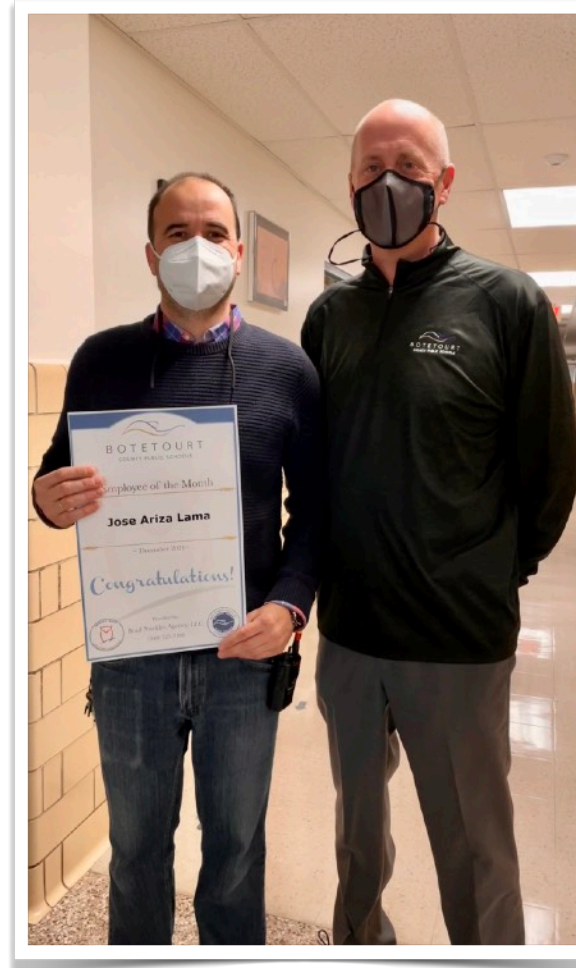
1. Recognitions: *Timestamp: 06:17 - 11:01*

Jose Ariza Lama, custodian at Cloverdale ES, was the December 2021 employee of the month.

Linda Dameron, Teacher Licensure Specialist at central office, was the January 2022 employee of the month.

February is School Board Appreciation month. The division put together a [brief video](#) featuring students in SCA at the secondary schools.

February is also School Board Clerk Appreciation Month. The board recognized LuAnn Delosreyes, Clerk of the Board, and Cathy Quinn, Deputy Clerk of the Board, for their diligent work on behalf of the board.



2. Public Comment: *Timestamp: 11:02 - 23:56*

Citizens expressed their concerns regarding mask mandates for students on school buses, mask-related interactions among staff and students in schools, staff-mandated masking, and the board’s ability to respond during the public comment portion of school board meetings.

3. Action Items: *Timestamp: 24:40 - 25:50*

The board approved two motions, one to appoint Mr. Tim Davidick as legislative liaison, the other to appoint Mrs. Dana McCaleb as the school board parliamentarian.

4. Superintendent’s Update: *Timestamp: 25:52 - continued on next page*

There are twenty employees currently planning to retire, ten of whom are teachers.

Administrators met with and interviewed interested candidates at the Western Virginia Public Education Consortium job fair held at the Salem Civic Center on Saturday, February 5th. .

The Senior Experience: a service opportunity, in partnership with Habitat for Humanity, for BCPS seniors during the weeks of April 25 and May 2. Many thanks to Mr. Jimmy Yager, math teacher at Lord Botetourt HS, and the principals at both high schools for organizing this wonderful opportunity!

Strategic Planning Update:



The official kickoff meeting was held on January 25. BCPS has partnered with Thru-Ed for this process, with the ultimate goal of producing a new division comprehensive plan. Thru-Ed consultants led conversations, visited schools, and met with administrators and school board members. Many thanks to Dr. Janet Womack for spearheading this strategic planning process!



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4. Superintendent's Update (continued): *Timestamp: 25:52 - 36:50*

A sprinkler head in the new Colonial building leaked many gallons of water one weekend. Mr. Davidick and Dr. Russ expressed their gratitude for the prompt response of Mr. Dewease, division maintenance, and the Botetourt Fire Department, whose actions helped mitigate the damage.

Two industrial hygienists will be conducting mold testing at Lord Botetourt HS on Monday, February 14. The results can take 5-10 days, at which point a report will be shared with the board and at the next board meeting.

BCPS will also be performing air quality assessments at all our schools, pursuant to other orders contained in Governor Youngkin's E.O. #2.

The technology department will use awarded funds to replace staff and student devices that are at end-of-life and due for replacement. The department is also instrumental in submitting several required state reports.

5. Information Items: *Timestamp: 36:52 - 38:03*

First reading of a policy update regarding vacation days, proposing that the following days be changed to holidays for 12-month employees: Wednesday before Thanksgiving, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and 3 days of Spring Break. This will be revisited as an action item at the next board meeting.

6. Community Outreach & Committee Reports: *Timestamp: 38:06 - End*

Mr. Davidick: Reached out to Del. Head, Del. Austin, Sen. Newman, and Rep. Cline to introduce himself as the new legislative liaison for the board and would look forward to communicating with them regarding state and federal legislative matters that impact Botetourt County Schools.

Mrs. Wilson: attended the Character Counts committee meeting (1/18). They are planning a summer academy for rising 6th graders, held July 11-14, and will feature a community service component. Met with Tyler Painter, the 4-H Coordinator for Botetourt County. Visited schools and facilities in a continued effort to familiarize herself with the division. Attended new school board member training in Richmond (1/25). She gave a shout-out to the James River HS boys and girls basketball teams.

Mr. East: attended the Parks & Rec meeting in February. They provided an update on the basketball season in the county, as well as this year's opportunity to receive funds to complete special rec-related projects. They are looking to form a 'one booster club' model that works with a chosen board of directors.

Mrs. McCaleb: attended the following: board of supervisors meeting (1/25), State of the County address (1/28), sub-region wrestling tournament at JRHS (2/01), VSBA Training (2/03), and regional wrestling tournament at Radford HS (2/05).

Mrs. Weddle: attended State of the County (1/28), Roanoke Valley Governor School Board Meeting (2/07),
Reminder: FFA expo will be held Friday, February 18 from 5-7 PM.

Upcoming Meetings:

Budget Work Sessions: February 17 and March 3 @ 8:30 a.m.

Regular School Board Meeting: Thursday, March 10 @ 5:30 p.m.