

STAUNTON CITY SCHOOL BOARD
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
Work Session Minutes
January 11, 2021

The Staunton City School Board convened in the School Board Conference Room, 116 W. Beverley Street, Staunton on Monday, January 11, 2021, at 5:15 p.m., for a work session with members in attendance as follows:

Kenneth Venable, Chair
Amy Wratchford, Vice-chair
Robert Boyle
Natasha McCurdy
Christine Poulson
Ronald Ramsey
Dr. Garrett Smith, Superintendent/Deputy Clerk
Brenda Lovekamp, Clerk

Board members requested an update on high school sports. Dr. Smith shared information on recent competitions and the live-streaming service being used this year in lieu of having an unlimited number of fans in attendance. He reminded that only a very small number of home fans are allowed to attend in person at the competitions due to the current COVID-19 restrictions.

Review of Calendar Considerations

The Clerk reviewed upcoming conference opportunities and training requirements.

Board members discussed possibly holding a professional development session / retreat with VSBA in the near future. The Clerk will work with VSBA to determine possible dates and times.

The Board discussed agenda items for the additional work session scheduled for January 25.

Vaccination Plan / COVID Update

Dr. Jelisa Wolfe, Executive Director of Student Services, reported on the information forthcoming from VDH, Augusta Health, and Staunton EMS regarding COVID-19 vaccinations for SCS staff. She reported that a survey went out to staff over the weekend, with a request to complete by tomorrow, in order to determine who would be interested in getting the vaccine at this time. She added that our school nurses are scheduled to receive the vaccination tomorrow, while vaccinations for other staff are expected in the next couple of weeks. Logistical information is still being worked out.

Dr. Wolfe shared updated information regarding positive cases among SCS staff. As of today, there have been 30 staff cases, and 14 student cases among those students who have been coming to the buildings for in-person instruction and support. She shared that the mitigations strategies that have been in place are working to control the spread of the virus within our schools.

Superintendent's Update

Dr. Smith provided the following reminders, adding that he would provide similar updates during the regular meeting:

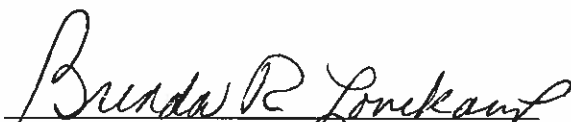
- The budget survey is posted on the division website.
- Next Monday is a holiday for all staff.
- The division is planning for return to in-person instruction on Tuesday, January 19.

School Board Committee/Advisory Board Updates and Conference Reports

Christine Poulson reminded of the upcoming Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting.

Ron Ramsey shared information on an upcoming free webinar by VDOE on January 14 regarding learning in a pandemic.

The Chair adjourned the work session at 5:56 p.m.


CLERK / DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD


CHAIR OF THE BOARD