



GLOUCESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DIVISION LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

June 10, 2021 - 9:30 A.M.
(Virtual Zoom Mtg.)

SUPERINTENDENT/DIVISION UPDATES – Dr. Clemons welcomed everyone and asked Gloria Williams to begin with updates from the county.

Gloria Williams, Community Engagement and Public Information Manager, informed members of issues occurring with the Granicus meeting portal. Prior to the issues occurring, the county had already planned to change providers and will begin using Escribe in July. The summer building use schedule for Community Engagement will include Botetourt on Mondays/Wednesdays and Abingdon on Tuesdays/Thursdays. Details are also being discussed for expanding the full service schools program into GHS. A new Community Engagement Coordinator has been hired for Petsworth, and Mrs. Williams will soon be hiring the coordinator at Abingdon.

Dr. Clemons wished George Bains, who was unable to attend, a happy birthday on behalf of the Division Leadership Team!

Follow-up from the School Board meeting held on June 8 included the Comprehensive Plan which is posted on the school division website, with an option to provide public comments until June 17. Members were encouraged to view the plan and provide input. A couple of citizens made comments regarding the plan at the public hearing on June 8 and others have been made through the website. Dr. Clemons will send a follow-up communication reminding parents and staff. The School Board is expected to adopt the Comprehensive Plan at the July meeting. Dr. Clemons also thanked those who were present at the June 8 School Board meeting to recognize the Teachers of the Year. It was good to see the teachers and their families there to support them. There will be a division-wide retirement social on Thursday, June 17 at 6:00 p.m. at TCWEC in the Café/Court Yard. Members were encouraged to attend.

Dr. Clemons informed members of transitions occurring in positions. At the previous meeting, it was announced that Dr. McMahon, Mrs. Litton & Mrs. Keener would be moving into positions in the Central Office. Since that time, many other changes have occurred. Craig Reed will move into the principal's position at Peasley M.S. and Cathy Balderson will be moving from Page M.S. to Peasley M.S. as the assistant principal. Dr. Stefan Mygas will become the principal at GHS and Rita Garcia will moving from Peasley M.S. to GHS as an assistant principal. Sharon Hendrix will be moving from assistant principal at GHS to Page M.S. as the principal. Tiffany Busch will be moving from Petsworth E.S. to Bethel E.S. as the assistant principal and Shannon Auché will be

moving from Bethel E.S. to Petsworth E.S. as assistant principal. Darryl Oakley, a teacher at Petsworth/Botetourt E.S. will become the assistant principal at Abingdon. The interview process is currently underway for the Achilles E.S. principal's position.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATES

Dr. Chuck Wagner, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, provided congratulations to members moving to new positions, noting that change provides an opportunity for growth. The school year is winding down, with graduation occurring this weekend (June 12) and two days of school remaining next week (June 14 & 15). Dr. Wagner expects a greater sense of normalcy this summer and into the 2021-22 school year. Summer School transportation lists are being provided to Transportation, with final lists needed by June 11. Routes will be provided to bus drivers by June 16. Dr. Wagner is excited to be putting the summer program in place, with the first session beginning on June 28.

The remote learning application for the 21-22 school year is available on the division website and closes on June 17. Currently, 33 have applied and all were fully remote learners this school year. Dr. Wagner reminded members remote learning will only be offered at the secondary level next year.

Dr. Clemons indicated the biggest question he is seeing is if masks will be required in the fall. This is unknown at this time and will be based on the guidance received from the Governor's office, the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE).

Heather Lucas, Chief Financial Officer, is working to close out the fiscal year, checking on purchase orders and ensuring items ordered are received. Budget and Finance staff have been working with Mark 3, the new benefits provider, for the past few weeks. Mrs. Lucas believes employees will be pleased with the new voluntary options Mark 3 offers.

Rachel Blankenship, Executive Director of Human Resource & Compliance, hopes to see everyone at the retirement social next week on June 17 at 6 p.m. There will be a meal provided and an opportunity to celebrate everyone's time with GCPS. Positions are being posted as openings occur and paraprofessional interviews should begin following next week. Administrative interviews have been the current priority, with support positions going into the summer. Human Resources will pre-screen and send administrators the most qualified candidates. Contracts have been issued and returned. Dr. Clemons indicated he is pleased to be able to move forward with compensation increases this year and being able to remain competitive. Efforts will continue to do what is possible for staff in future budgets. In addition to the staffing changes referenced above, Gaye Murphy and Jenna Dominguez will be moving to a twelve-month schedule.

Brian Hartley, Executive Director of Operations, congratulated everyone moving into new positions and acknowledged Chris Morgan at GHS for his efforts with the ISAEP program. Five students received their GED's through the program and were recognized

in a graduation ceremony. The Operations Department is addressing projects in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The Board of Supervisors (BOS) has grouped many projects that were due in the next five years, into the upcoming year. With these projects being addressed sooner, Mr. Hartley plans to visit buildings to assess other needs that will be added to the CIP.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Scott Shorland, Construction Manager, also congratulated those transferring to new roles. Construction projects are progressing, with design consultants in place for GHS and the transportation facility design expected to be ready for bid soon. A five-year plan for projects is being rolled into one or two years and Mr. Shorland is closely monitoring the volatility of the market, with rising costs and limited availability of materials.

Tanya Deckard, Director of Transportation, has been planning for summer school transportation for the past month. Routes should be available for principals by June 17. New transportation software will also be available on the website by the end of the week.

George Bains, Deputy County Administrator, sent in the following comments: “The county is pleased to be working with the schools on the projects in the CIP to include the vehicle maintenance facility, GHS renovations, and other smaller projects. Open Broadband through the VATI grant will serve approximately 110 homes of the 2500 homes not currently served by Cox. Local development is strong, with the Main Street Landing development, expansion of existing subdivisions, and the Villages have submitted a site plan.”

Steve Patton, Director of Food Services, indicated Food Services is prepared for summer school and will also be holding pickups at Abingdon and Botetourt on Tuesdays and Wednesdays this summer as well as some daycare centers. All food service employees will return for the 2021-22 school year on August 24 & 25. Mr. Patton is hoping next year will be back to normal.

Dave Miller, Facilities Manager, also congratulated staff entering new positions. Mr. Miller will have the alarm list updated to correlate with the new positions. Mr. Miller is currently working with ELT to wrap up year-end projects and the county to renew and update contracts. Summer maintenance projects are ready to be addressed. Please inform Mr. Miller if you have any additional items to be addressed over the summer.

Jimmy Viars, Grounds Manager, gave his congratulations to staff members and indicated despite some inclement weather, all play areas should be cut for field day activities. The football field at GHS looks good and is ready for graduation. Please contact Mr. Viars if you have any issues to be addressed by his department.

Lisa Jones, Director of Nursing, indicated fifty-six people received the COVID vaccine at GHS on June 8 and representatives from Riverside issuing vaccines were pleased. The

clinic ran smoothly and the facilities were clean. Mrs. Jones plans to offer the vaccines through Riverside again in August. Principals were reminded to check with school nurses regarding summer school students who need medication.

Mr. Hartley inquired about practice for graduation. Dr. Reed plans to hold practice at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, June 11 and indicated practice could be held in the gym if the weather becomes an issue. Mrs. Deckard said buses have been arranged to transport students on Saturday and expects it should take about fifteen minutes. Dr. Clemons said that if it appears rain is forecasted for early Saturday, June 12, Dr. Reed may want to consider moving the time to 11:00 a.m. or if a rain date is needed, Sunday, June 13 currently appears completely dry in the forecast. These were given as suggestions, if needed.

ADJOURN --- 10:34 a.m.