

Wise County School Board

October 11, 2010

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Consent Agenda
 - 5.1 Monthly fund report (p.20)
 - 5.2 Field Trips (p.37)
 - 5.3 Gifted Plan Extension (p.39)
 - 5.4 Technology Plan (p.74)
 - 5.5 Religious Exemptions (p.78)
6. Approval of Minutes (p.80)



Educational Reports 7.1 and 7.2

WCEA and WCPA (page 4)

1. WCEA (7.1)

- a. Ms. Debbie Dickenson
- b. WCEA comments

2. WCPA (7.2)

- a. Mr. George Barton
- b. WCPA comments



School Highlights 7.3

Highlights (p. 4)

1. Student Performance

- a. Brooklin Baker
- b. Wise Primary 4th-grade student
- c. Daughter of Eddie & Wendy Baker



Education Reports 7.4

Employee Recognition (p. 102)

Diane Abbott

- a. Teacher at Powell Valley Middle School
- b. BS Degree from VA Commonwealth Univ.
- c. Taught for 30 Years in Wise County Schools
- d. Holds Endorsements in ID, SLD, and ED
- e. Currently serving on the Social Services Board of Directors for Wise County
- f. Interests include:
 - Outdoor Activities
 - Spending time with family
 - Loves to travel
 - Enjoys motorcycle with her husband of 33 years, Michael



Education Reports 7.4

Employee Recognition (p. 103)

Debra Holyfield

- a. Teacher at Powell Valley High School
- b. Degree from Keene State College in New Hampshire
- c. Taught at :
 - AES for 13 years
 - PVHS for 17 years
- d. As a spec. ed. teacher has co-taught with 13 different English teachers and a favorite Biology teacher
- e. Professional Memberships include:
 - Cheerleading
 - PEP Club
 - Remedial Instruction
- f. Debra is loved by her family, her church family, her friends and some students. They all keep her smiling along with any outdoor exercise.



Education Reports 7.4

Employee Recognition (p. 104)

Brenda Walker

- a. Special Education Bookkeeper/Secretary
- b. Graduate of St. Paul High School
- c. 3 Years with Dept of Labor, Washington, DC
- d. 3 Years with Lee Norris Co., Wise, VA
- e. 27 Years with Wise County Schools
- f. Brenda is very involved with her church and church activities
 - Spending Time with Family
 - Canning Vegetables
- g. She enjoys spending time with family, cooking reading and walking



Education Reports 7.4

Employee Recognition (p. 105)

Elnore Hall

- a. Special Education Secretary
- b. Graduate of J.J. Kelly High School
- c. 22 Years with Wise County Schools
- d. Elnore is very involved with her Church Youth Groups, Bible Schools, Teen Youth Groups.
- e. She is a Sunday School and Youth League Teacher
- f. She enjoys spending time with her children and grandchildren.
- g. She enjoys flower gardening.



Education Reports 7.5 Disability Awareness

Disability Awareness

- a. Mrs. Jerrie Adams
- b. Director – Special Education



Disability Awareness



Wise County School Board Public Comment

1. Welcome public comment
2. State name and address
3. Address the Board President
4. Limit comments to 5 minutes
5. Refrain from personnel issues
6. Provide response next meeting



Discussion 9.1 (page 7)

Response to Public Comment

1. Mrs. Bush

- a. Annual Report of Expenditures
- b. Consolidation of students
- c. VHSL numbers



Discussion 9.2 (p. 8)

Block Scheduling

1. Comments
 - a. SAC
 - b. Email
2. WCEA
3. WCPA
4. Options
 - a. Remain with current model
 - b. Remain with current model with revisions
 - * Later start
 - * Remediation
 - c. Convert to modified block
 - d. Convert to traditional model
 - e. Other options



Block Scheduling Presentation

Wise County Principals' Association

Presenters:

Charles Collins – Principal of JJ Kelly High School

Dante Lee – Principal of Coeburn High School

Presentation Outline

- I. History of Block Scheduling in Wise County
- II. Advantages of Block Scheduling
- III. Efficiency of Block Scheduling
- IV. Closing Comments
- V. Questions from the School Board



History of Block Scheduling

- 1995 – All Wise County High Schools operated on a six period day.
- 1996 – J.J. Kelly High School was the first school in the county to pilot the traditional 4X4.
- 1997 – All Wise County Schools began operating on the traditional 4X4
(4 – 90 minute classes each semester – 8 total classes / year).

Advantages of Block Scheduling

- Students have the opportunity to earn 32 credits. (Regular Diploma Standards – 22 credits, Advanced Studies Diploma – 24 credits)
- 4X4 allows students to concentrate on 4 classes/semester as opposed to 7 classes each day, all year on a 7 period day.
- SOL Testing – A student could take 5 SOLS @ the end of the year on a 7 period day. This would be split more efficiently on the block.

Advantages of Block Scheduling Cont.

- On Block Scheduling, students only have to focus on 4 courses @ one time. Seven classes @ one time will be overwhelming for advanced level students and special education students.
- Block Scheduling offers more opportunities for Dual Enrollment Courses – students currently can earn up to 30 hrs. of college credit.
- Block Scheduling allows students to take more electives (8/10 electives for Block – 4/6 electives for a 7 period day).
- Science Courses – extended time for lab activities.

Advantages of Block Scheduling Cont.

- Block Scheduling allows students that fail a course in the first semester to retake the course in the second semester. (In a 7 period day, they must wait until the next school year.)
- If a student is not successful in the first semester in a 7 period day, they remain in the course all year.
- A 7 period day will increase the number of students that will be required to take summer school because of failing grades. This could potentially cause each school to endure the cost of offering summer school because of numbers.
- A 7 period day allows serious potential for reduction in graduation rates and could increase dropout rate.

Efficiency of Block Scheduling

- All High Schools are being successful on the current 4X4 schedule.
- Students, teachers and administrators are comfortable with the current scheduling model.
- Over the past few years, many teachers in the county have been surveyed and all results favor the traditional 4X4.
- Recent student surveys @ CHS and JJK show overwhelming student support for block scheduling.

Efficiency of Block Scheduling cont.

- Block scheduling allows more flexibility for scheduling – year long courses, 0 block, lunch block, split block.
- Administrators can adjust planning times for remediation and enrichment.
- More schools in the state are moving toward the block that are on a 7 period day.
- Research and Data can be found to support each scheduling model.

Closing comments

We have many uncertainties in the county at this point. Many or all students, teachers and administrators don't know where they could be next year. If we change the current scheduling model, this could create even more anxiety and concern for all stakeholders in the educational system. This would not be the best year for yet another transition.

Questions and Concerns from the Wise County School Board



Closing Remarks

On behalf of the Wise County Principals' Association, we extend our sincere gratitude for the opportunity to speak with each of you concerning this matter. Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Discussion 9.2 (p. 8)

Block Scheduling

1. Comments
 - a. SAC
 - b. Email
2. WCEA
3. WCPA
4. Options
 - a. Remain with current model
 - b. Remain with current model with revisions
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 - c. Convert to modified block
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 - e. Other options



Discussion 9.3 (p. 9)

New Stimulus Funding

1. Factual Information
 - a. Allocated approximately \$1.7 million
 - b. Utilized this year and next
 - c. Utilized for salaries and benefits
 - d. Utilized for instructional personnel
2. Considerations
 - a. One-time stipend
 - b. Retirement
 - c. Positions not budgeted
 - d. Reserve



Discussion 9.4 (p. 10)

Snow Routes

1. Last Year's Policy
 - a. Unable to utilize
 - b. Difficult winter
 - c. Too few snow routes
2. Next Potential Steps
 - a. Increase Routes
 - b. Impact 135 students
 - c. Provide direction



Discussion 9.5 (p. 11)

Retirement Incentive Program

1. Current Practice

- a. Allow eligible staff to participate
- b. Participate in HSP
- c. Have 6 staff members for 2010-11

2. Discussion

- a. Make decision to continue or stop
- b. Has financial implications
- c. Use some of new jobs money
- d. Help in future years
- e. Allow 2011-12 to participate?



Discussion 9.5 (p. 9)

Savings Analysis

Line	Description	Costs	Savings
1	Pay-out to 2010 retirees	\$2,327,000	0
2	Pay to replacements	\$896,000	0
3	Cost of teaching who retired	0	\$3,266,000
4	Total	\$3,223,000	\$3,266,000

VSBA Policy Revisions (p. 124)

- a. VSBA Recommendations
- b. Compliance with laws/regulations
- c. Approve at November meeting



Action 10.1 (p. 148)

Employment

1. Purpose

- a. Approve personnel
- b. Formalize list

2. Plan

- a. Approve list (p.57)
- b. Contact before meeting

3. Recommendation

- a. Discussion
- b. Approve personnel list



Action 10.2 (p. 150)

Bills Payable

1. Purpose

- a. Present bills payable
- b. Past month activity

2. Plan

- a. Review activity (p. 150)
- b. Contact before meeting

3. Recommendation

- a. Discussion
- b. Approve bills payable



Action 10.3 (p.168)

Retirement Incentive Program

1. Program
 - a. Six staff members
 - b. Health Savings Plan
2. Recommendation
 - a. Approve 2010-2011 plan
 - b. Determine advancements



Action 10.4 (p. 16)

Construction Management Contract

1. Current Contract
 - a. Phased program
 - b. Completed first phase
 - c. Involved in second phase
 - d. Activities associated with Kahn
 - e. Service-pay contract
 - f. Not to exceed
 - g. Total payment to date (\$171, 682)
2. Recommendation
 - a. Continue with Kahn
 - b. Revisit if POC is approved



Information 11.1 (p.170)

Good News

1. Aerospace Program
2. Jerri Adams
3. Special Education Audit



Closed Session 12.1

Closed Session Issues

1. Personnel 2.2-3711(1)



Wise County School Board

October 11, 2010

13. New Items
14. Board Comments
15. Adjournment

