



Please direct inquiries to:

Darrell Gleason, Communication Specialist, Alleghany County/Covington Public Schools

(540) 620-0859, dgleason@alleghany.k12.va.us; dgleason@covington.k12.va.us

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Historic School Board Meeting Scheduled To Occur Friday, July 1

LOW MOOR — The Alleghany Highlands School Board will hold its first-ever meeting when it convenes on Friday, July 1, 2022, at 9 a.m. in Low Moor.

The seven-member board, composed of representatives from Alleghany County and the City of Covington, will be the governing body that oversees Alleghany Highlands Public Schools.

Alleghany Highlands Public Schools will be created through the July 1 merger of Alleghany County Public Schools, Covington City Public Schools, and Jackson River Technical Center. The school division will be jointly funded by Alleghany County and the City of Covington.

Customarily, local school boards reorganize each July, attending to such business as the selection of a chair, vice chair, clerk, and deputy clerk. At this meeting, the Alleghany Highlands School Board will be initially establishing its organization. Therefore, the July 1 meeting was jointly called by members of the Alleghany County School Board and Covington City School Board who will serve on the joint board. This procedure is consistent with the governance policies of the Alleghany and Covington boards as well as the recommended policy for the Alleghany Highlands board.

Alleghany County will have four members on the Alleghany Highlands School Board and they are all current members of the Alleghany County School Board: Jacob Wright, Danielle Morgan, Gerald Franson, and John Littleton. Two members of the Covington School Board will carry over to the joint board: Jonathan Arritt and Marie Fitzpatrick. Tammy Scruggs-Duncan will be the third Covington representative on the board. Scruggs-Duncan has previous experience as a Covington School Board member.

An agenda is being developed for the July 1 meeting. Major agenda items will include review of the policy manual proposed by the Alleghany and Covington school boards. Tasks ahead for the board include the naming of a superintendent and assistant superintendent, the selection of a chair and vice chair, the ratification of staff contracts, and the appointment of a clerk and deputy

clerk. Under the merger agreement, the appointment of a superintendent must be approved by at least five members of the board.

An agenda for the meeting will be released to the public after it is finalized.

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