

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

# POWHEATAN TODAY

Powhatan, Virginia

The hometown paper of Brenda R. Conner

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## Gresham is new school board chair

By Roslyn Ryan  
Editor

The Powhatan County school board voted unanimously Jan. 12 to elect board member Tim Gresham as the 2010 school board chairman.

Gresham replaces outgoing chairman H.A. Gideons. Valarie Ayers will serve this year as vice chairman.

Gresham, the president and CEO of the nonprofit Prevent Blindness Mid-Atlantic, said Friday that he didn't actively seek out the nomination. However, since Gresham may be the school board member best known for possessing a calm, tranquil demeanor, Ayers insisted he will be the best choice to lead the board through what promises to be a challenging year.

"I think he is going to have a calming effect," said Ayers.

Among the current issues facing the board are the possibility of reduced funding, as well as a relationship with the board of supervisors that has become strained in recent months.

Gresham, a father with one daughter still in the county school system, says one of his goals for the year is to try "to bring people together." Still in his first term, he said the current tensions may mean he'll have his work cut out for him.

"It's going to be difficult," said Gresham. "But I feel that if we work together and seek solutions we'll come up with a way to make everything work."

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**Cosby reappointed chairman of the board**

District 3 Supervisor Robert Cosby will serve as chairman of the board of supervisors through 2010.

The board unanimously reappointed Cosby January 11 to his third term as chairman.

"I think he is going to have a calming effect."

School board vice chairman Valarie Ayers on newly elected chairman Tim Gresham.  
See page 1A

### QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"You are trained as a health care professional to ... do your job and then, if you have to, you fall apart later on the plane ride home."

Nurse practitioner Cindy Bailey, who will travel to Haiti as part of a medical mission team next Monday.  
See page 1A

"It is unfortunate that during a time when the two boards must work together ... Supervisors felt a need to ... attack."

From a letter to the editor from the Powhatan County school board.  
See page 8A.