

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
CITY OF CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA
August 28, 2017**

A meeting of the School Board of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, was held on Monday, August 28, 2017, at 6 p.m. in the Board Room of the School Administration Building. Mr. C. Jeff Bunn, Chairman, presided.

The Call to Order

Mr. Bunn called the meeting to order. He welcomed visitors to the meeting and informed them that a printed agenda for the meeting was available.

Roll Call

Dr. Jean Infantino called the roll and recorded attendance as follows:

Present: Mr. Samuel L. Boone, Jr.
 Mrs. Colleen C. Leary
 Mr. Thomas L. Mercer, Sr.
 Mr. Harry A. Murphy
 Mrs. Christie New Craig
 Mr. Louis J. Tayon, Jr.
 Mr. Michael J. Woods
 Mrs. Victoria L. Proffitt, Vice Chairman
 Mr. C. Jeff Bunn, Chairman

Also present were Dr. James T. Roberts, Superintendent; Dr. Jacqueline C. Miller, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services; Dr. Anita B. James, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Victoria Lucente, Assistant Superintendent for Budget and Finance; Ms. J. Paige Stutz, Assistant Superintendent for Operations; Dr. Alan L. Vaughan, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Dr. Jean A. Infantino, Executive Director of Administrative Services/Clerk of the Board; Mr. Robert J. Barry, Attorney; and Mrs. Darlene Gorman, Deputy Clerk of the Board.

Adoption of the Agenda

Dr. Roberts said he had no amendments to the agenda and would not need a closed session. Mrs. Proffitt moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Mrs. New Craig seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor of the motion.

Invocation

Pastor Stephen Wolfe, Western Branch Community Church, gave the opening invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mr. Michael J. Woods led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Clerk's Items

Special Recognitions for School Bus Drivers: Dr. Infantino introduced Dr. David M. Benson, Director of Pupil Transportation, who recognized thirty-eight bus drivers and one bus assistant who had perfect attendance for the 2016-2017 school year. He thanked them for their diligence throughout the school year transporting all of our students safely. Mr. Bunn also congratulated all of the recognized bus drivers and bus assistant for their hard work and dedication last school year.

2017 VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference - September 28, 2017: Dr. Infantino announced that the Virginia School Boards Association would hold this conference on September 28, 2017, in Charlottesville. She asked for a show of hands of any School Board member wishing to attend and a motion to approve attendance. No Board members expressed an interest in attending this conference.

2017 VSBA Annual Convention – November 15-17, 2017: Dr. Infantino announced that the Virginia School Boards Association would hold its Annual Convention in Williamsburg on November 15-17, 2017. She asked for a show of hands of any School Board member wishing to attend and a motion to approve attendance. Mr. Bunn, Mrs. Leary, Mr. Mercer, Mrs. Proffitt, Mr. Tayon, and Mr. Woods expressed an interest in attending this conference. Mr. Murphy moved to allow these Board members to attend the conference. The motion was seconded by Mrs. New Craig and passed with all members present voting in favor of the motion.

NSBA Annual Conference – April 7-9, 2018: Dr. Infantino announced that the National School Boards Association's Annual Conference would be held on April 7-9, 2018, in San Antonio, Texas. She asked for a show of hands of any School Board member wishing to attend and a motion to approve attendance. No Board member expressed an interest in attending this conference.

Hearing of Citizens

Mr. Robert Lincoln, 408 Wolfs Neck Trail, Virginia Beach, Virginia, spoke to the Board regarding a new athletic program called pole ball for Chesapeake middle and high school athletic programs.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Consent Agenda

The chairman requested approval of the consent agenda. Items included the following:

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- B. Bids
- C. Program Evaluation Projects 2017-2018
- D. Proposed Revisions to School Board Policy P 9-20 - Student Behavior - Second Reading and Final Action
- E. Department of Human Resources – Personnel Report

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the Consent Agenda and the motion was seconded by Mrs. New Craig. The motion passed on all items with a vote of 9-0 with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion.

Superintendent's Report

Announcements: The Superintendent made the following announcements.

1. All instructional personnel reported today, August 28, 2017, for the 2017-2018 school year. Dr. Roberts visited Hickory Middle School as they celebrated their 20 year anniversary along with several Board and staff members. He also visited the Clarence Cuffee Community Center where G. W. Carver Intermediate School and Portlock Primary School celebrated regaining their full accreditation.
2. All school facilities will be closed Monday, September 4, 2017, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.
3. The first day of the 2017-2018 school year for students will be Tuesday, September 5, 2017.
4. Chesapeake Public Schools is excited to participate this week in Naval Support Activity Hampton Roads' *Servicing Our Schools* initiative. Approximately 160 service men and women from NSA and the USS Eisenhower will support 11 of our elementary schools (B. M. Williams Primary School, Cedar Road Elementary School, Deep Creek Elementary School, Grassfield Elementary School, Great Bridge Primary School, Greenbrier Primary School, Southeastern Elementary School, Sparrow Road Intermediate School, G. A. Treakle Elementary School, Western Branch Intermediate School, and Western Branch Primary School) on Wednesday, August 30, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Approximately 15-16 volunteers will support each of these schools helping staff organize classrooms, their bulletin boards, deliver textbooks, unpack materials, and help organize materials in school offices. The additional help this week from these service men and women is much appreciated.

Proposed Planning Session Agenda Topics: Dr. Roberts included in BoardDocs a list of three suggested topics for discussion at the School Board Planning Meeting scheduled for September 25, 2017. The suggested topics include the Superintendent's Goals and Budget Outlook for 2017-2018, an overview of the high-deductible plan, and the alternative education plan. Board action on the topics will be requested at the School Board meeting scheduled for September 11, 2017. If you have additional items to add or would like some deleted, please call the office.

Proposed New School Board Policy P 8-39 - Medication Recommendation by School Personnel - First Reading: Dr. Vaughan stated that Policy 8-39 represents a concept that has been our practice for many years. The Code of Virginia prohibits school personnel from making statements to the effect that a child could benefit from taking medications that seem to have benefited other students in the past. He would like to include this in School Board Policy and requested approval on first reading and include in Consent Agenda for the next meeting. Mr. Murphy moved to approve on first reading and the motion was seconded by Mrs. Proffitt. The motion passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion.

Staffing Update: Dr. Vaughan introduced Dr. Sherry A. Wilson, Director of Human Resources. Dr. Wilson announced that 252 new professional staff have been hired for the 2017-2018 school year. This number includes 237 teachers (17 are new to the profession and 7 are former teachers returning to Chesapeake), 4 guidance counselors, 3 speech therapists, 2 psychologists, and 6 health advisors. She also stated that 29 of the new hires have more than 10 years of service and 7 have more than 20 years of experience. Of the new hires, 51 are graduates of Chesapeake Public Schools representing all 7 high schools, 139 have master degrees, and 89 came from other local school divisions. This group of teachers represents 65 colleges and universities; additionally 4 teachers came from the career switcher programs at ODU and Regent University. There are 5 former teacher assistants who have completed programs to become teachers with us and 9 former tutors and substitute teachers who have transitioned into Chesapeake Public Schools classrooms. This year's new personnel came to us from 11 different states, and 1 teacher came from Japan.

Dr. Wilson extended her appreciation to the human resource administrators and the assistant director of human resources, along with Dr. Vaughan who supported their hiring efforts. She thanked the office professionals for their diligence and hard work in handling the applications that were processed in human resources. Her department is working to fill the remaining 20 vacancies that still exist, with approximately half of those vacancies in the area of special education.

She encouraged anyone watching the meeting to apply to become a bus driver or school nutrition services employee and asked them to please call 547-0107. She also expressed her gratitude to the Board for their budgeting of competitive salaries and benefits and their unwavering support for our educational family.

Board Member Items

Mrs. Leary stated that she attended the New Teacher Reception and was excited to visit with our new teachers. She attended the Hickory Middle School 20 year celebration along with Mr. Mercer and Mr. Tayon. She wished all the schools well and thanked the bus drivers and bus assistant for getting our children to school safely.

Mr. Mercer also thanked the bus drivers and Mrs. Brady for their service. He stated that he had received phone calls from employees regarding Anthem and certain OBGYN groups not able to work out a contract agreement. He expressed his concern as this issue has caused undue stress to many of our employees.

Mr. Boone thanked the bus drivers for their service. He announced that September is suicide awareness month and that he will be hosting the 3rd Annual Teen Suicide Prevention Forum on September 23, 2017, at the Chesapeake Central Library from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. He thanked the many sponsors who will be there and invited everyone to attend this forum regarding this important topic.

Mrs. Proffitt also thanked the bus drivers and stated that she enjoyed attending the New Teacher Reception. She thanked Mr. Paul A. Joseph, principal of Oscar Smith High School, and his staff for the event that she and Mr. Tayon attended honoring Mr. Kenneth Mason Easley, Jr., our NFL star who graduated from Oscar Smith High School in 1977. It was his 40 year anniversary, and he was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame. One of the fields at Oscar Smith High School has been named after him, and he was invited to celebrate his career at Oscar Smith High School, as well as in the NFL. He received a brand new truck from Ford Motor Company and a key to the city from city council.

Mrs. New Craig has proposed a new School Board attendance zone policy that she would like placed on the agenda for the September 11 Board meeting. She will email the draft proposal to Dr. Roberts and Board members for their review.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Jean A. Infantino, Ed.D., Clerk

C. Jeff Bunn, Chairman