

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
CITY OF CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA
September 10, 2018**

A meeting of the School Board of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, was held on Monday, September 10, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the School Administration Building. Ms. Victoria L. Proffitt, Chairman, presided.

Opening Ceremony

Ms. Proffitt called the meeting to order. She 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. C. Jeff Bunn
 Dr. Patricia Y. King
 Mr. Thomas L. Mercer, Sr.
 Mr. Harry A. Murphy
 Mrs. Christie New Craig
 Mr. Michael J. Woods
 Mrs. Colleen C. Leary, Vice Chairman
 Ms. Victoria L. Proffitt, Chairman

Absent: Mr. Samuel L. Boone, Jr.

Also present were Dr. Jared A. Cotton, 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 and School Services; 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. Cotton had no amendments to the agenda, but said he would need a closed session for one real estate matter, one matter requiring consultation with the attorney, and three personnel matters. Mr. Murphy moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mrs. New Craig seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor of the motion.

Closed Session

Ms. Proffitt asked Mr. Barry to prepare the language for the Board to go into closed session. Mr. Barry stated that the motion should read as follows:

“The Board should convene in closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia for one real estate matter, one matter requiring consultation with the attorney, and three personnel matters.”

Mr. Mercer moved that the Board go into closed session as provided in the Code of Virginia. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Leary and approved, with all Board members present voting yes.

Reconvene in Open Meeting

The meeting reconvened in open session. Mrs. Leary moved the record to show the only items discussed in the closed session were those specifically cited in the motion to convene into closed session. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion, which passed with all Board members voting in favor of the motion.

Mrs. New Craig motioned to amend the agenda due to a time-sensitive matter. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion, which passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion. Dr. Cotton made an emergency statement due to the mandatory evacuation of Zone A in our area announced prior to the Board meeting by Governor Northam, Chesapeake Public Schools will be closed for all students and staff on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, until further notice. The division will monitor the storm closely along with city officials. Chesapeake Public Schools will operate on a Code Red until further notice. Due to the severity of the potential storm, essential personnel will not report to check their buildings. Additional information will be communicated through our twitter account as well as our Chesapeake Alert System, Channel 46--WFOS Radio, and our Parent Alert System. Information will be forthcoming regarding the establishment of shelters. Ms. Proffitt noted that this mandatory evacuation was issued by Governor Northam. Mrs. New Craig stated the mandatory evacuation was for Zone A and would begin at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, September 11, 2018. Residents may find more information about their zone at knowyourzoneva.org.

Items Resulting from Closed Session

The Superintendent recommended the following appointments:

1. Mr. J. Ed Ewing, from assistant principal, Oscar F. Smith Middle School, to supervisor of safety, School Administration Building
2. Mrs. Mindy T. Green, from director of school nutrition services, School Nutrition Services, to human resources administrator, School Administration Building
3. Mr. Larry Wade, from supervisor of school nutrition services, School Nutrition Services, to interim director of school nutrition services

Mrs. Leary moved to approve the recommended appointments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy and passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion.

Invocation

Reverend Dr. Tommy P. Smith, Pastor at Divine Baptist Church, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Dr. Patricia Y. King led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Clerk's Items

Special Recognitions – Chesapeake Scholar Athletes: Mr. Wayne Martin introduced the Chesapeake Scholar Athletes for the 2017-2018 spring season. These students demonstrated athletic excellence while maintaining at least a 3.25 grade-point average.

Special Recognitions – Chesapeake Champions: Mr. Wayne Martin introduced the Chesapeake Champions, who took either first, second, or third place in various spring state competitions.

A list of students and employees who were recognized is available through the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

Special Recognitions – Grassfield High School – Top 10 – W!SE Program: The Grassfield High School W!SE Team Members were recognized for their recent accomplishments.

Special Recognitions – Indian River Middle School – AVID: Twenty staff members from the Indian River Middle School AVID Site team were recognized for their recent accomplishments.

Hearing of Citizens

None

Unfinished Business

Proposed Planning Session Agenda Topics: Since the Board recently met for a planning meeting on August 27, 2018, and there were no other items to discuss, Mrs. Leary moved to cancel the planning meeting scheduled for October 4, 2018. The motion was seconded by Mrs. New Craig, which passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion.

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 Meetings
- B. Bids
- C. Utility Easement for B. M. Williams Primary School
- D. Department of Human Resources – Personnel Report

Mr. Mercer moved to approve the Consent Agenda and the motion was seconded by Mrs. New Craig. The motion passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent made the following announcements:

1. The second week in September is National Arts and Education Week. Constitution Day will be celebrated on September 17, 2018.
2. The entire month of September is Library Card Sign-Up Month and Attendance Awareness Month. Information can be found on our website during the month of September.
3. Dr. Cotton reported that the opening day of school went very smoothly. He thanked all the Board members who visited schools. The day went smoothly due to the hard work of our principals, teachers, and staff members who got our schools ready for the upcoming school year.
4. Dr. Cotton stated that we are still enrolling students. He expects to be close to the projected enrollment number of 39,800 for the 2018-2019 school year. Our official enrollment number will be reported to the state in early October.
5. He introduced his first "Superintendent's Spotlight Report." He recently attended the Blue Heron Project, which was the city of Chesapeake's Community Initiative that raises money for education. This was a student-led project sponsored by the SCA at Western Branch Middle School. He also reminded everyone about our great partnership with Naval Support Activity Hampton Roads, which serviced thirteen elementary schools during pre-service week. Over 180 members assisted with a variety of tasks to help our schools prepare for the upcoming school year. Our student leadership is alive and strong in Chesapeake Public Schools. Our student council associations from Hickory, Oscar Smith, and Grassfield High Schools organized a staff development program with Dr. Phillip Campbell, with focus on student leadership as a way to promote a positive school culture in our schools. Dr. Cotton will provide updates each month from our schools through his "Superintendent's Spotlight Report." Dr. Cotton also shared a video of our successful first day of school throughout our division.

Status of Summer Construction Projects--Ms. Paige Stutz, assistant superintendent for operations, updated the Board on four major maintenance projects over the summer months. These projects include partial HVAC replacements at Hickory Middle School and Hugo A. Owens Middle School as well as roof replacements at Camelot Elementary School and B. M. Williams Primary School. All projects have either been substantially completed or are on schedule to be completed in a timely manner. Ms. Stutz stated that all projects went fairly smoothly (with the exception of rain) and thanked the operations staff, information technology, and the administrators and faculty at the schools. She also thanked the custodians for working hard in preparation of opening day. She mentioned that B. M. Williams Primary School's full-day kindergarten did open and minor touch-ups to the addition will be completed in a timely fashion. The addition at Oscar Smith High School is scheduled to open by mid-to-late October and construction continues on the replacement school for Great Bridge Primary School. The addition to Hickory Middle School began at the conclusion of the 2017-2018 school year.

Legislative Agenda Item--Dr. Infantino stated that in preparation for this year's legislative packet, last year's full legislative package was loaded into BoardDocs for review. Also included in BoardDocs was a list of legislative proposals for the Board's consideration. Dr. Infantino asked for any changes or amendments to the current proposals. Mrs. Leary motioned to accept the proposals as part of the legislative package. The motion was seconded by Mrs. New Craig and passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion. Dr. Infantino reminded Board members of the Legislative Breakfast on October 18, 2018, at Oscar Smith High School. At the conclusion of the breakfast, Board members may be able to tour the new wing/addition if construction allows.

Proposed Revisions to School Board Policy P 8-58 – Vacation Leave – First Reading--Proposed revisions to this policy were presented and action was requested by Dr. Vaughan. Mrs. Leary moved to approve the revisions to this policy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy and passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion. This item will be included in on the Consent Agenda at next Board meeting for second reading.

Proposed Revisions to School Board Regulations R 8-36 – Workplace Harassment and Discrimination--Proposed revisions to these regulations were presented to Board members. Changes to regulations do not need Board approval and were reviewed to inform Board members of these changes.

Proposed Revisions to School Board Regulations R 8-13 – Assignment and Transfer--Proposed revisions to these regulations were presented to Board members in an effort to inform Board members of these changes to regulations.

Board Member Items

Mrs. Leary thanked Dr. Cotton for his vision of inspiring hope, along with his staff, for this upcoming school year. She was impressed with all of the high school bands who performed to welcome all of the students back to school and thanked all of the principals and their staff for welcoming all Board members into their buildings. She was impressed and thanked the custodial staff as all of our buildings looked beautiful for the beginning of another school year.

Mr. Mercer thanked Dr. Vaughan for a wonderful guided visit to all of the Hickory Schools on the first day of school. This was special to him as he resides in that area of Chesapeake. Once every two years, Mr. Mercer schedules visits at all of our schools and invited any Board members who would like to join him. His first scheduled visit will take place on Tuesday, September 18, 2018. These visits will continue on various, other Tuesdays throughout the year.

Ms. Proffitt thanked Dr. Cotton for his escort on the first day of school. It was a wonderful experience.

Ms. New Craig thanked Dr. Infantino for escorting her to all of the Western Branch schools. She thanked the custodial staff for making our schools look beautiful. It was a fun time for all.

Mr. Bunn congratulated everyone for a great first day of school and thanked Dr. Miller for escorting him around to the Deep Creek schools.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Jean A. Infantino, Ed.D., Clerk

Victoria L. Proffitt, Chairman