

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
CITY OF CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA
January 14, 2019**

A meeting of the School Board of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, was held on Monday, January 14, 2019, at 5 p.m. in the Board Room of the School Administration Building. Ms. Victoria L. Proffitt, Chairman, presided.

The Call to Order

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. Samuel L. Boone, Jr.
 Mr. C. Jeff Bunn
 Dr. Patricia Y. King
 Mr. Thomas L. Mercer, Sr.
 Mr. Harry A. Murphy
 Mr. Michael J. Woods
 Mrs. Colleen C. Leary, Vice Chairman
 Ms. Victoria L. Proffitt, Chairman

Excused: Mrs. Christie New Craig

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 N. 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 student matters, one real estate matter, and one personnel matter. Mr. Murphy moved to approve the agenda as presented by the Superintendent. Mr. Bunn seconded the motion, which passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion.

Closed Session

Mrs. 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 consideration of student matters, one real estate matter, and one personnel matter.”

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

Reconvene in Open Meeting

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

Items Resulting from Closed Session

The superintendent recommended the extended long-term suspension of student #1. Mr. Murphy moved to approve the superintendent’s recommendation. Mrs. Leary seconded the motion, which passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion. Dr. Cotton recommended the expulsion of student #2 and student #3 as discussed. Mr. Murphy moved to approve the superintendent’s recommendation. Mr. Mercer seconded the motion, which passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion.

The superintendent recommended the following appointment:

1. Mrs. Linda W. Winslow, from senior budget/finance analyst, School Administration Building, to interim budget supervisor, School Administration Building

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 David L. Libengood from Immanuel Baptist Church gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Lucia and Scarlett Rainaldi, fifth graders at Hickory Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Clerk's Items

Special Recognitions – Dr. Infantino introduced Dr. Lisa Perkins, assistant director of special education. During the month of October, Chesapeake Public Schools celebrated Disability History and Awareness Month. The theme for the art contest was “Discovering the Ability Within.” Dr. Perkins recognized four citywide art contest winners from our schools. These students also received Target gift cards from Dr. Steve Marable who represented the Marable-Allen team from The Real Estate Group.

Additionally, Dr. Angie Smith, public information officer, recognized Mr. Mark Jones, a teacher at Hickory High School, who was named the 2018 Virginia Outstanding Economic Educator of the Year by the Virginia Council on Economic Education and the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

Hearing of Citizens

Mrs. Victoria Nichols, 1124 Mill Lake Quarter, Chesapeake, Virginia, spoke about corporate welfare.

Mrs. Amanda Raymond, 1989 Burson Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, spoke about inclusion.

Mrs. Heather Dickinson, 712 Turnbuckle Court, Chesapeake, Virginia, spoke about a recent letter of resignation.

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. Strategic Plan
- D. Religious Exemptions from Compulsory Attendance

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

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent made the following announcements:

1. Governor Ralph S. Northam signed a Certificate of Recognition declaring January 20-26, 2019, as Virginia School Principals Appreciation Week. The role of the principal as the instructional leader of the school is critically important to ensure student success, and we thank all of our principals for their efforts!
2. Chesapeake Public Schools will be holding a Teacher Job Fair on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, from 4 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. at Western Branch High School. Additional information is available on our website or contact Mrs. Mindy Green, human resources administrator.
3. Superintendent's Spotlight

Many of our schools discovered creative ways to give back to our community while celebrating the holiday season. Hickory Middle School and Chittum Elementary School donated to the Toys for Tots Program, while Deep Creek Elementary School participated in Acts of Kindness, which included presenting Chesapeake Police Officers with baskets of treats. Deep Creek Middle School created a Hat and Mitten Express in their hallways with the goal of helping others stay warm throughout the winter. The crew team from Great Bridge High School delivered items to Prince of Peace Catholic Church for their Meals on Wheels program. Butts Road Primary School held their annual book parade. This year they collected over 1,200 books to donate to another Chesapeake elementary school. The superintendent is proud of these students and the many others who took time to focus on service.

Celebrating service was also the goal of the Transportation Department as they honored the hard work of all their employees at a holiday banquet on December 19, 2018, at Deep Creek High School. Employees and their families enjoyed good food, fellowship, and fun as they celebrated the holiday season. Culinary, photography, and Key Club students also volunteered their time to make the event a success.

Thurgood Marshall Elementary School recently celebrated the opening of two new playgrounds. Chesapeake's Parks and Recreation Department collaborated with Chesapeake Public Schools to help replace several of our aging playgrounds. Thirteen playgrounds were replaced through this partnership - and the list continues to grow. Dr. Cotton thanked the City of

Chesapeake and the Parks and Recreation Department for their continued support of our division through successful initiatives such as this one.

The Chesapeake Public Schools family welcomed forty new educators to our division through our Career Commitment Program. These aspiring new teachers had the opportunity to get an overview of our schools and community from division and city leaders, visit classrooms, and participate in panel discussions with current teachers and administrators to determine if Chesapeake Public Schools is the best fit for them. Attaining the best and brightest candidates for our teaching vacancies has been no easy task in recent years, but we are pleased with the results of this program. Several candidates have begun work with us this school year and upon successful completion of their licensure programs, we look forward to welcoming the rest of the candidates to our family in fall 2019.

We are happy to report that Deep Creek Middle School, once again, has been recognized as a state winner for the annual Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest. This contest encourages teachers and students to solve real-world issues in their community using classroom skills in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Deep Creek Middle School is among the nation's fifty state winners and will receive \$20,000 in technology for its achievement. The school will also receive a Samsung video kit to create and submit a three-minute video highlighting their project development in hopes of advancing to the next phase of the contest in order to attain additional prizes and educational opportunities. In the months ahead, Mrs. Paula Labbe and Ms. Christin Conkwright and their eighth grade students will work on a project with community partners to identify and assist students in need of corrective lenses. We wish them luck as they move forward in this prestigious competition.

Manifestation Process: Dr. Craig Pinello, director of special education services, reviewed the special education discipline process. He explained the process when considering disciplinary actions for students who receive special education services and the process implemented by school administrators to determine if any infractions were manifestations of identified disabilities.

Legislative Update: Dr. Jean Infantino presented a legislative update to the Board regarding the Virginia General Assembly since it convened on January 9, 2019. Wednesday, January 9, was the deadline for pre-filing bills, and almost 1,900 bills have been recorded in the Legislative Information System thus far. This total will increase since delegates and senators have one more week to file bills. As usual, bills affecting K-12 public education are abundant. Included in BoardDocs is the latest tracking sheet, which shows all bills pertaining to K-12 education thus far.

Because of our meeting with legislators in October, Senator John Cosgrove submitted several pieces of legislation including SB 1269 – Length of School Term

(waiver for evacuation that will assist in the future if the governor declares a state of emergency, which occurred in September 2018). In addition, he is patron for SB1023 – Virginia Retirement System (retired law-enforcement officers employed as school security officers). This would allow a retired law enforcement officer to continue to receive his service retirement allowance during a subsequent period of employment by a school division as a school security officer.

The School Board will visit with legislators on Thursday, January 17, 2019. Included in BoardDocs is a list of current legislation as well as budget slides as presented by the governor's office. Mr. Mercer confirmed with Dr. Infantino that all scheduled appointments with legislators were made two weeks ago.

Governor's Budget Update: Ms. Lucente, assistant superintendent for budget and finance, shared a brief update on the Governor's budget. She reviewed the Governor's proposed amendments, projected shortfalls and surpluses, the potential impact on our division, and the next steps. She clarified the 5% compensation increase during the second year of the biennium. In order to receive those funds, the division must contribute 5% over the biennium. Since we gave 3% this year, we will only have to give 2% in 2019-2020. This is not a 5% raise for 2019-2020. It is 5% money on SOQ positions, not all positions. Mrs. Proffitt reiterated that we gave 3% this year and are required to give 2% next year to receive this money. However, the Board and the superintendent are looking at trying to do a little bit more. The biennium is over a two-year period. She thanked Ms. Lucente for clarification. Ms. Lucente reviewed the proposed increase in guidance counselors, which could affect our elementary schools. Supporting information regarding the Governor's budget is available in BoardDocs.

Mr. Mercer questioned if there was money included to pay for additional guidance counselors recommended by the Governor. Ms. Lucente informed him that there was matching money. He stated this was only a partially funded mandate from the state, as the divisions would be responsible to fund 50% of the cost. He asked what cost was mandated for the locality. Ms. Lucente said the locality was mandated for the cost for the guidance counselors but not for the raise. Based on the Governor's proposed budget, the total increase for next year could be \$12.5M. This is a substantial increase for the second year of a biennium.

Mr. Mercer asked if Ms. Lucente ran the figures from the Republican proposal, which is a partial tax decrease. Ms. Lucente stated she had not run the figures on that proposal.

Employee Wellness Enhancements: Ms. Lucente reviewed two new employee wellness enhancements to be offered through our clinics. Chesapeake Public Schools and Marathon Health, the service provider for the health centers, recently reviewed utilization and condition care information from the health center data and claims data. Based upon the review of that data, CPS will be expanding specific condition-care programs beginning February/March. A review of the data indicates that CPS employees and dependents have a higher than expected prevalence in certain conditions in which actively managing these conditions could improve overall outcomes for the employee and

reduce costs in the plan. Based upon the review and analysis, the division will be offering two additional condition care services - Asthma and Wellbeing.

The Asthma program will be similar to the current diabetes program and will be offered at both the Knell's Ridge and the Washington Shoppes locations. The health center clinicians will assist participants and their primary care providers with asthma standards of care compliance, including monitoring of appropriate vaccinations. Participants in the program will have no copays for asthma related medications and supplies (nebulizer machines, spacers, peak flow meters).

The Wellbeing program will be offered initially only at the Washington Shoppes location. Surveys conducted by the CPS health center as well as other division surveys, indicated employees were interested in managing stress and life issues. CPS will be offering a Wellbeing program for employees and dependents with services provided by a licensed mental health counselor covering behavioral health issues such as stress, depression, anxiety, grief, relationship, eating disorders, and substance abuse. Participants in the asthma condition care and the wellbeing programs will be eligible to use wellness leave.

Board Member Items

Mrs. Leary thanked Dr. Cotton, Dr. Vaughan, and Mrs. Mindy Green for bringing back the Career Commitment Program. She loved the idea for the bus drivers' holiday banquet. It is one of the best incentives we have provided for our bus drivers recently. She is also happy about the two new wellness enhancement programs we will be offering our employees. She is looking forward to the scheduled visit to Richmond to meet with our current legislators. She congratulated Deep Creek Middle School and Mr. Jones from Hickory High School.

Mr. Murphy acknowledged the death of Mr. Bill Pierce, a champion of representative government. Mr. Pierce was instrumental in establishing elected School Board members in Chesapeake.

Mr. Bunn announced that Oscar Smith Middle School is collecting personal hygiene supplies for students who are in need. He asked about key fobs for bus drivers to obtain gas for their buses. Dr. Miller stated that all busses have key fobs in lock boxes in the rear of their buses. She will ensure that all buses are equipped with key fobs.

Mrs. Proffitt enjoyed attending the Career Commitment ceremony and thanked Dr. Vaughan and his staff. She offered her congratulations to Deep Creek Middle School for winning \$20,000.00 in technology. She is looking forward to visiting with legislators in Richmond.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Jean A. Infantino, Ed.D., Clerk

Victoria L. Proffitt, Chairman