

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD  
CITY OF CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA  
May 13, 2019**

A meeting of the School Board of the City of Chesapeake, Virginia, was held on Monday, May 13, 2019, at 4:30 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**

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

Excused:        Mr. Harry A. Murphy  
                     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 and personnel matters. Mrs. Leary 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**

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 consideration of student and personnel matters.”

Mr. Woods 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. Woods 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 and Student #2 under the conditions discussed. Mrs. Leary moved to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Boone and passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion.

The Superintendent recommended the appointment of the following individuals effective July 1, 2019, unless otherwise noted:

1. **Mrs. Christina A. Warren**, from benefits director, PRA Group, Inc., to director of financial services/risk management, School Administration Building (to be determined)
2. **Mrs. Faith G. Rubin**, from assistant principal, Crestwood Middle School, special education administrator, Edwards-Wilson Center
3. **Mrs. Julia J. Webb**, from assistant principal, Norfolk Highlands Primary School, to supervisor of reading, Instructional Services Center

Mrs. Leary moved to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woods and passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion.

### **Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

A moment of silence was observed, and Mr. Michael J. Woods led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

## **Clerk's Items**

**2019 VSBA Tidewater Regional Art Contest Winners:** Dr. Infantino introduced Mr. Wayne Martin, director of student services, who recognized two students who placed in this year's regional art contest, Autumn Hobbs from Western Branch Primary School and Zoe Valderrama from Indian River Middle School.

**Deep Creek Middle School Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Team:** Mr. Martin recognized Mrs. Paula Labbe and Ms. Christin Conkwright, teachers from Deep Creek Middle School, who worked with eighth-grade students Daniel Anzures-Sanches, Tia Davis, Riley Dreis, Hunter Johnson, Oliva Lyons, Sean Pornan, and EJ Scott to develop a mobile app and website to match students who have poor vision with free eye exams and donated prescription eyeglasses. As a national winner, Deep Creek Middle School was awarded \$100,000 to purchase technology and supplies for their school.

**Special Recognitions – Chesapeake Winter Scholar Athletes:** Mr. Martin introduced the Chesapeake Winter Scholar Athletes.

**Special Recognition – Chesapeake Winter Champions:** Mr. Martin also introduced the Chesapeake Winter Champions.

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

## **Hearing of Citizens**

Mrs. Victoria Nichols, 1124 Mill Lake Quarter, Chesapeake, VA 23320, spoke about several different topics.

Mrs. Lynnette Niedentohl, 708 Norman Way, Chesapeake, VA 23322, spoke about the spousal surcharge.

Mrs. Carlguist, 308 Lenore Trail, Chesapeake, VA 23320, spoke about the spousal surcharge.

Mrs. Lisa Williams, 705 Connie Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23322, spoke about the spousal surcharge.

## **Unfinished Business**

**2019-2020 Amended School Calendar:** Dr. Cotton shared information regarding the development of two options to amend the 2019-2020 School Calendar to ensure students will not be in school during the Presidential Primary on March 3, 2020, and local elections on May 5, 2020. Mrs. Leary moved to accept Option B as the 2019-2020 Amended School Calendar. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woods and passed with all Board members present voting in favor of the motion.

Ms. Proffitt stated this option does not take away any holidays and may give teachers more planning time. Dr. Infantino shared how information will be disseminated via an update to the division's website under "Latest News," an update to the website's calendar page, a Peachjar eflyer to parents, an email to all employees, and our public information officer will issue a press release to all local media.

### **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. Department of Human Resources – Personnel Report

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

### **Superintendent's Report**

The Superintendent made the following announcements noting celebrations that take place during the month of May:

- 1. National Physical Fitness and Sports Month
- 2. Better Hearing and Speech Month
- 3. Bike Safety Week
- 4. School Nutrition Employee Week
- 5. Teacher Appreciation Week
- 6. National Educational Bosses' Week
- 7. Custodial Appreciation Week
- 8. National School Nurse Day

### **Superintendent's Spotlight:**

**Access College Commitment Day:** On April 30, 2019, Dr. Cotton joined over six hundred seniors for the Access College Foundation's Commitment Day at the Ted Constant Center. Over \$25,000 in scholarships were awarded during this fourth annual celebration.

**Chesapeake Career Center's Career Signing Day:** On Thursday, May 9, 2019, Chesapeake Public Schools held its first Career Signing Day for seniors attending the Chesapeake Career Center. Twenty-five seniors who enrolled in Computer Systems Technology, Automotive Technology, Auto Body, HVAC, Cosmetology, and Welding programs, signed career letters of intent at Tidewater Community College's Chesapeake Campus. This event honored students' commitments to enter the Hampton Roads workforce after graduation.

Seven students (one from each high school) received the first J. A. Cotton Career Scholar Award. With the support of Councilman Matt Hamel and generous donations from local businesses, each student was presented with a \$1000 award to help begin their chosen careers.

**Shadow a Student Challenge:** Dr. Cotton recently issued a "Shadow a Student Challenge" to all administrators. He is hopeful this fun and enlightening journey will lead to positive change within our schools.

**Teacher Appreciation Week:** The Superintendent thanked parents, PTAs, local businesses, and community members for their part in recognizing the outstanding work of our educators.

### **Board Member Items**

Mrs. Leary extended her congratulations and thanks to staff members at the Chesapeake Career Center. She attended the inaugural signing day, along with Dr. King, Mr. Bunn, and Ms. Proffitt. She was excited for these students as they signed a contract for their first job. She thanked Dr. Anita James and Dr. Shonda Pittman-Windham for all of their hard work.

Mr. Boone thanked teachers for their hard work and dedication to their students every day. During Teacher Appreciation Week, he stopped by Thurgood Marshall Elementary School with Pastor Tommy Smith and provided lunch and treats for teachers. He also had the pleasure of joining Mr. Justin Chase, a Great Bridge High School graduate, along with his parents, when he returned to the Chesapeake Alternative School and shared what a difference Justin's former principal, Mrs. Melvina Herbert, his teachers, and support staff made in his life. He was thankful for the support and positive reinforcement he received while attending Chesapeake Public Schools.

Mr. Bunn had the opportunity to attend Oscar Smith Middle School's student talent show and musical productions at Hickory High School and Indian River High School. He congratulated students and teachers who continue to make a positive difference every day.

Ms. Proffitt thanked all of our teachers for their dedication and hard work. She wished Mr. Bob Barry a belated happy birthday and also wished happy birthdays to Ms. Paige Stutz and Ms. Vicki Lucente who will be celebrating their birthdays in the next few weeks.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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Jean A. Infantino, Ed.D., Clerk

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Ms. Victoria L. Proffitt, Chairman