

**POQUOSON CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 23, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.
CITY OF POQUOSON COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

MINUTES

Present:

Christina Helsel, Chair	Timothy Goodale	Cathy Everett
Craig Freeman, Vice Chair	Cameron Childress	Arty Tillett, Superintendent
Jonathan Ingram	Shannon Martin	Dustie McCay, Clerk of the Board

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Helsel called meeting to order: 6:00 p.m.
- II. **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG & INSPIRATIONAL READING:** Alexis Peshehonoff, a junior at Poquoson High School and Student Representative of the Board, led the Pledge to the Flag and read two inspirational quotes fitting to going back to school.
- III. **ADDITIONS AND/OR MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:** There were none.
- IV. **RECOGNITIONS:** Chair Helsel recognized Jeremy Jordan for his service to the Board and she welcomed new PCPS staff members Lauren Gray, Director of Accountability and Assessment, and Deborah Oakes, Director of Student Services.
- V. **PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:**
 - A. **Instruction Update:** Mr. Arty Tillett, Superintendent, advised he and Dr. Hill have consolidated comments as there is a lot on the agenda to go over. He thanked Jeremy Jordan for his service and mentorship to the Board, thanked teams for being creative and aggressive in reference to a national educator shortage, acknowledged Dr. Ratliff physically moving boxes and furniture at Poquoson Middle School, and welcomed Lexi to the Board team.

Dr. Christine Hill, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction and Support Services, reminded the Board of Spark Day and their invitation to the event. She advised that Poquoson's COVID level is low according to CDC standards but continue to monitor and implement deep cleaning practices. She gave an update on preliminary SOL results – in many cases PCPS students out performed other divisions in the state average. She gave an update on the next steps on closing the learning gap for all students. She mentioned fifty new hires and the plan to facilitate the learning students who do not yet have a full time teacher. She went over each focus area of the strategic plan. Mr. Freeman asked about the Vision and Mr. Tillett advised we updated the language per the Board's request but can review further another time. Mr. Childress asked about Virtual Virginia and Mr. Tillett advised it is only used in specific situations.

- B. **Operations Update:** Dr. Brandon Ratliff, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, gave an update on the Poquoson Middle School project – expecting PMS students to learn virtually on the first week of school so staff can get their rooms ready. He mentioned the new additions at the athletic stadium, PHS tennis courts, and PHS traffic loop. He acknowledged focus areas for safety are adding additional ballistic film in school entrances and exits. He applied for a grant to cover costs and met with Poquoson Police Department to review our Crisis Management Plan and ensure concerns are covered. He thanked Keith Feigh, Poquoson City Council Member, for conducting a safety audit of playgrounds at no cost, John Ferrara, Poquoson firefighter, for providing drone footage, and City Manager and City Council for making the upgrades possible. There was a brief discussion regarding the future use of the trailers that PMS used, if PMS will use lockers, and how the PHS loop will affect junior students.

VI. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were none.

VII. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approval of Financial Reports
- B. Authorization to Change Appropriation and to Accept and Expend Funds in Accordance with Attached Request
- C. Approval of Personnel Action
- D. Approval of Minutes for June’s Regular Meeting, Special Organizational Meeting, and July’s Special Called Closed Meeting
- E. Approval to Dispose of Surplus Property

Mr. Freeman read the Consent Agenda above. Mr. Ingram made a motion, seconded by Mr. Freeman, that the Consent Agenda be approved as read. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 6:0, 1 Abstention

Mr. Ingram, Aye; Dr. Goodale, Aye; Mr. Childress, Aye; Ms. Martin, Aye;
Ms. Everett, Abstain; Vice Chair Freeman, Aye; Chair Helsel, Aye

VIII. **OTHER MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

- A. Consideration of Approval of Moving First Reading of Changes to Policy Manual to Second Reading

Mr. Freeman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Childress, that the Consideration of Approval of Moving First Reading of Changes to Policy Manual to Second Reading be approved.

VOTE: 7:0

Mr. Ingram, Aye; Dr. Goodale, Aye; Mr. Childress, Aye; Ms. Martin, Aye;
Ms. Everett, Aye; Vice Chair Freeman, Aye; Chair Helsel, Aye

IX. COMMUNICATIONS AND/OR OTHER MATTERS BY SCHOOL BOARD AND/OR SUPERINTENDENT:

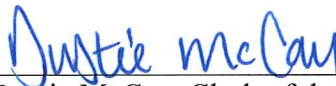
- **Miss Peshehonoff:** She gave updates from each school.
- **Mr. Ingram:** He welcomed Ms. Gray to the team and Lexi to the Board. He acknowledged a great job done by teachers & staff, and Poquoson Fire Department – John Ferrara for drone footage. He mentioned that PEF is doing a 5K race in October.
- **Dr. Goodale:** He welcomed Lexi and Ms. Everett to the Board and thanked Jeremy for his service.
- **Mr. Childress:** He thanked Mr. Jordan for service, teachers and staff for hard work getting students back in and ready for school.
- **Ms. Martin:** She thanked Mr. Jordan for service and Dr. Ratliff and team for expediting schedule of PMS.
- **Ms. Everett:** She thanked everyone for the warm welcome, the ITRTs, and Mr. Tillett for an enjoyable meeting.
- **Vice Chair Freeman:** He welcomed Alexis and Ms. Everett to the Board. He was impressed Poquoson Police Department during the walkthrough in schools. They answered questions without hesitation. He wished all teachers and staff good luck. He thanked Jeremy for his service and mentorship.
- **Chair Helsel:** She thanked teachers and staff, welcomed Ms. Everett, and was impressed by Miss Peshehonoff asking a question in the meeting.

X. MATERIAL FOR BOARD REVIEW: There were none.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Helsel adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.



Christina Helsel, Chair



Dustie McCay, Clerk of the Board

Date: 9-20-22