



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARTING THE COURSE

School Board Services

Carolyn T. Rye, Chair
District 5 - Lynnhaven

Kimberly A. Melnyk, Vice Chair
District 7 – Princess Anne

Beverly M. Anderson
At-Large

Sharon R. Felton
District 6 – Beach

Jennifer S. Franklin
District 2 – Kempsville

Dorothy M. Holtz
At-Large

Laura K. Hughes
At-Large

Victoria C. Manning
At-Large

Jessica L. Owens
District 3 – Rose Hall

Trenace B. Riggs
District 1 – Centerville

Carolyn D. Weems
District 4 - Bayside

Aaron C. Spence, Ed.D., Superintendent

School Board Regular Meeting MINUTES

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

School Administration Building #6, Municipal Center
2512 George Mason Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

INFORMAL MEETING

- 1. Convene School Board Workshop:** Chairwoman Rye convened the School Board workshop at 4:00 p.m. on the 20th day of July 2021 and announced based on current CDC guidance as well as that of the Virginia Health Commissioner, as said guidance relates to physical distancing, the School Board will accommodate 100% seating capacity within School Board Chambers for attendees and guests beginning on July 20, 2021. Attendance means the ability to have a seat in chambers and does not provide for standing of attendees or guests. Should no seats be available, interested parties may watch via VBTv Channel 47, participate via Livestreaming on www.vbschools.com or via Zoom.

It is the School Board’s protocol to break at 5:30 p.m. to prepare for the Regular School Board Meeting to begin at 6:00 p.m. At 5:30 p.m., the School Board will conclude its Informal Meeting unless the School Board votes to continue the Informal Meeting until 5:45 p.m. The Informal Session will conclude no later than 5:45 p.m. to allow the School Board and the School Administration to prepare for the Regular School Board Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

The following School Board members were present in the School Board chamber: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems. The following School Board member was attending via Zoom: Ms. Owens (from home.)

- A. **School Board Administrative Matters and Reports:** Chairwoman Rye mentioned Dr. Spence is on leave and Dr. Robertson will be acting in his stead; Chairwoman Rye opened the floor to the School Board members to discuss any matters; Ms. Hughes asked when SOL and PALS scores will be available – once the information is available it will be shared with the School Board.
- B. **2021-2022 Plan Update:** Eugene F. Soltner, Ed.D., Chief Schools Officer; Kipp Rogers, Ph.D., Chief Academic Officer; and Jack Freeman, Chief Operations Officer presented the School Board an update on plans for the 2021-22 school year including Virtual Virginia, division commitments, summer programs, curriculum and assessment and preparations from School Division Services; Dr. Soltner review the presentation agenda; Virtual Virginia registration closed on Friday, July 16 and Virginia Beach has 1075 students enrolled; Division commitments for SY 2021-22: 5 days of in-person learning, fully virtual and fully on-person learning options, range of student extracurricular activities offered in middle and high school.

Dr. Rogers continued the presentation and discussed summer learning opportunities; approximately 14,800 students have registered to take advantage of summer learning opportunities; approximately 4,300 elementary students participating in Elementary Summer Learning Camps; just over 4,800 secondary students participating in first session of summer school; over 4,400 secondary students registered for second session of summer learning opportunities; over 1,000 students participating in extended school year program and over 200 participating in SECEP summer programming; shared brief video of summer learning programs; provided an overview of plans for next year; elementary reading: daily schedule updated for grades K-2 to include dedicated phonemic awareness and phonics instruction, instruction to

support building vocabulary added in grades K-5, SEL competency connections, integrated systems of support-academic site; professional learning: asynchronous courses aligned to the science of reading and evidence based practices open in Schoology, essential session in August for all elementary teachers and coaches, 120 literacy leaders and Title I classroom teachers will participate in Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) Volume 2 coursework, 200 classroom teachers will participate in LETRS Volume 1 coursework; elementary mathematics: teaching and learning framework (plan, teach, assess), added SHORE Routines (Students in High yield Opening Routines and Exercises), professional learning: essential sessions in August for all elementary teachers and coaches, monthly professional development for all coaches, joint professional learning with all coaches;

Secondary English: instruction – planning for engagement and feedback, curriculum – instructional models and sample lessons, assessment – unit assessments for reading and writing, addition of formative assessment by skill; professional learning: meaningful feedback, building student engagement, small-group instruction, Literacy Coach Training differentiated by coach level and experience; secondary mathematics: daily spiral reviews, curriculum pacing and structure updates, formative preAssessments to drive instruction, benchmark assessments (January and April), VDOE Growth Assessments and Just-In Time Unit Formative Checks; professional learning: differentiating and personalizing instruction to address unfinished learning, leverage coaches to build the capacity of teachers – growing all students, scaffolding instruction to meet students at their level, over 250 essential and choice professional development sessions; student well-being and behavior support additions: addition of 12 school counselors (6 elementary, 3 secondary, 3 Virtual Virginia), Behavior Intervention Specialists, BASE (Behavior and Social Emotional) Program.

Mr. Freeman continued the presentation and reviewed COVID mitigation guidance; Public Health Emergency Order; CDC guidance published July 9; consulting with VDOE, VDH, VBDPH and local physicians; vaccinations – four schools hosted first round of summer vaccination clinics, 378 first doses completed, second doses August 2-5; COVID preparations: continued collaboration with VBDPH – access to vaccine, layered mitigation strategies: distancing, HVAC and ventilation, custodial sanitizing, hand hygiene, school bus mitigations.

The discussion continued regarding summer school and assessment; elementary focus – phonics, small group instruction, literacy; assessments – DRA, PALS, state assessments; Virtual Virginia accommodating students; review of SHORE; comparison of summer enrollment – last year to this year; students with disabilities and Virtual Virginia; social distancing; mathematics and student assessment; changing from Virtual Virginia to face-to-face instruction; and summer school courses.

- C. **Mental Health Task Force:** Alveta Green, Ed.D., Executive Director, Student Support Services and Robert Jamison, Ed.S., Coordinator, Guidance Services; provided the School Board an update of the work of the Mental Health Task Force; Dr. Green introduced Robert Jamison; mentioned mental health is one of the most critical concerns for the school community; VBCPS formed a Mental Health Task Force in January 2021; objectives: assess the current state of mental health resources available, determine scope of mental health needs of our students, staff, and families, identify gaps between services and resources and the needs of our students, staff, and families, and establish priorities and make recommendations to improve mental health and well-being for students, staff, and families; Task Force was comprised of students, parents, teacher, School Board members: Jessica Owens and Carolyn Weems, community mental health service providers, community stakeholders, school administrators, counselors and central office administrators; provided a brief overview of what the Task Force accomplished in each of four meetings held monthly from February to May; February – introductions, overview, and assignments; March – article debrief and data review; data review key take-aways: needs, points to remember, questions to consider; top barriers identified by Task Force: stigma, access, awareness of available resources, students in crisis identified too late; April – draft recommendations; May – review and prioritize recommendations; next step to gather feedback from the School Board, needed by August 3, 2021.
- The discussion continued regarding community support; the work of the Task Force; recommendations – direct referral system and mental health resource page; community partners; thank you to Task Force

team; places for referral; organizing resources; data on progress moving forward; recommendations; progress of recommendations (communication plan, roles and responsibilities of staff, protocols); organizing resources; added personnel; being proactive; timeline for feedback – August 3; brief timeline of Task Force going forward, meeting in October.

2. Closed Meeting: NONE

3. School Board Recess: The workshop adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

FORMAL MEETING

4. Call to Order and Verbal Roll Call: Chairwoman Rye called the formal meeting to orders at 6:00 p.m. on the 20th day of July 2021 and announced based on current CDC guidance as well as that of the Virginia Health Commissioner, as said guidance relates to physical distancing, the School Board will accommodate 100% seating capacity within School Board Chambers for attendees and guests beginning on July 20, 2021. Attendance means the ability to have a seat in chambers and does not provide for standing of attendees or guests. Should no seats be available, interested parties may watch via VBTV Channel 47, participate via Livestreaming on www.vbschools.com or via Zoom.

The following School Board members were present in the School Board chamber: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems. The following School Board member was attending via Zoom: Ms. Owens (from home.)

5. Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

6. Student, Employee and Public Awards and Recognitions – There were no awards or recognitions.

7. Adoption of the Agenda: Chairwoman Rye noted Agenda Item #11A4 has an amendment to the proposed language which was sent to School Board Members and made available to the public this afternoon; Chairwoman Rye called for a motion to approve. Ms. Anderson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Franklin. Chairwoman Rye called for discussion; Ms. Manning made a motion to move Policy 4-6 (Agenda Item #11A4) from Consent Agenda to Action Item #12D; seconded by Ms., Hughes. Ms. Riggs mentioned the reason for the change; School Board Legal Counsel, Ms. Kamala Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney concurred the incorrect version was uploaded. Chairwoman Rye called for a vote on Ms. Manning’s motion. The School Board Clerk announced there were five (5) ayes in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems. There were six (6) nays opposed to the motion: Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs. The motion did not pass 5-6-0.

Chairwoman Rye called for a motion to approve the agenda as posted. Ms. Anderson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Felton. Chairwoman Rye called for discussion. Ms. Manning explained reason for wanting to move Policy 4-6 to Action; question regarding which version of policy being voted on; policy revisions and posting; ability to discuss items on Consent by moving them to Action; Ms. Manning clarified reason for not being at previous meeting. Without further discussion, Chairwoman Rye called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eight (8) ayes in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Owens, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems. There were three (3) nays opposed to the motion: Ms. Franklin, Ms. Hughes, and Ms. Manning. The motion passed 8-3-0.

8. Superintendent’s Report: Donald Robertson, Ph.D., Chief of Staff shared the following information: 1) The Office of Family and Community Engagement (FACE) is hosting the first Back-to-School Care Fair, August 7 from noon to 4 p.m. at Pembroke Mall, the free event will feature 40 youth-serving organizations, agencies, and school division departments. The day will include family-friendly entertainment, free haircuts and vision screenings, presentations, raffles, a backpack giveaway, and fun activities; 2) The Department of Human Resources recently welcomed more than 300 retirees to a drive-thru celebration in the School Administration Building parking lot; and 3) It is time to register your child for the 2021-2022 school year. All grades and schools are enrolling students now, to find your child’s home school visit vbschools.com/registration, detailed information on what to bring to complete registration is on the student registration page on vbschools.com.

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9. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- A. July 6-7, 2021 School Board Retreat / Abridged School Board Meeting: Chairwoman Rye called for any modifications to the July 6-7, 2021 School Board Retreat / Abridged School Board Meeting; hearing none, Chairwoman Rye called for a motion to approve. Ms. Holtz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes. Without discussion, Chairwoman Rye called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Owens, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems. There was one abstention to the motion: Ms. Manning (attended the entire first day and most of second day but had to leave early due to a family commitment.) The motion passed 10-0-1.

10. Hearing of Citizens and Delegations on Formal Agenda Items: Chairwoman Rye announced the School Board will hear comments on Formal Agenda items from citizens and delegations who signed up with the School Board Clerk prior to the meeting and stated information of speaking on formal agenda topics, decorum and order, and submitting comments via group email.

There were twenty-five (25) in-person speakers and six (6) online speakers; the topics discussed were masks, duties of the Chair and Vice-Chair. Note: during the hearing of citizens and delegations on formal agenda items, the School Board took two (2) recesses due to decorum and order; the first recess was from 6:44 p.m. to 7:02 p.m. and the second recess was from 7:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Ms. Melnyk read the following statement prior to both recesses: In accordance with School Board Bylaw 1-28, and other applicable Bylaws and Law, it has been determined that the School Board meeting is disrupted by conduct in the meeting room or in an adjacent location that is affecting the meeting. Persons causing the disruption are requested to cease and desist the conduct that is disrupting the meeting. If the conduct that is disrupting the meeting does not stop upon this request, those persons causing the disruption will be requested to leave the meeting room and School Board grounds. Failure to cooperate with the request to leave the meeting room or grounds will constitute grounds to have such persons removed by the School Board's authorized agents.

The School Board requests that all persons in attendance cooperate with this request so that the meeting can proceed.

Upon reconvening from the second recess, Ms. Manning made a motion to combine all of the speakers, agenda and non-agenda, and let people speak; Ms. Hughes seconded the motion. School Board Legal Counsel, Kamala Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney, asked Ms. Manning for clarification on the motion; Ms. Manning stated to allow the people who are here to speak whether it's agenda or non-agenda item; Ms. Lannetti restated the following motion for clarification – those individuals signed up right now for the formal agenda items would be allowed to speak on whatever topic they wanted; Ms. Manning confirmed the motion. Ms. Anderson called a point of order regarding making a motion during public speaking and two-thirds vote to pass; Chairwoman Rye called for a vote on the motion on the floor. The School Board Clerk announced there were three (3) ayes in favor of the motion: Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems. There were seven (7) nays opposed to the motion: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, and Ms. Riggs. The motion did not pass. Note, Ms. Owens, attending the meeting via Zoom, did not respond with a vote.

11. Consent Agenda: Chairwoman Rye stated the items on the consent agenda.

- A. Policy Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations: That the School Board approve Policy Review Committee (PRC) recommendations regarding review, amendment, and repeal of certain policies as reviewed by the PRC at its June 10, 2021 meeting and presented to the School Board on the June 22, 2021 Consent Agenda.
1. Policy 3-52/ Business and Non-Instructional Operations/Sales on School Property: The PRC recommends repealing this Policy as the terms have been incorporated into other policies and regulations.
 2. Policy 3-56/ Business and Non-Instructional Operations/Safety Program: the PRC recommends minor amendments to reflect how the Office of Safe Schools currently handles matters and where procedures are maintained.

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3. Policy 3-64/ Business and Non-Instructional Operations/Security of Buildings and Grounds: The PRC recommends minor amendments to reflect how the Office of Safe Schools currently handles matters and where procedures are maintained.
4. Policy 4-6/ Healthy Work Environment: The PRC recommends adding language the addresses how complaints against School Board Members or the Superintendent will be handled.

Chairwoman Rye called for a motion to approve. Ms. Riggs made a motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson. Ms. Manning asked for discussion on items. After clarification with School Board Counsel, Chairwoman Rye opened the floor for discussion. The discussion continued regarding which version of Policy 4-6 was being voted on; Ms. Riggs read the corrected Policy 4-6; School Board Legal Counsel, Kamala Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney provided a brief background regarding Policy 4-6 and Bylaw 1-28; issue with five (5) person committee determining the method to resolve the complaint; topic will be on next Governance Committee meeting; language reads as referred to School Board Governance Committee to determine the method to resolve the complaint and inform the School Board; Governance Committee would discuss how complaint would be handled and refer it to the School Board in consultation, not make the decision of how it would be handled but the entire School Board to make the decision; issue with the wording of "inform"; Ms. Melnyk made a substitute motion to change the wording from informed to recommend; a brief discussion continue regarding the wording. Ms. Lannetti read the following for clarification – If the acts that are alleged to cause an abusive work environment are alleged to be caused by a School Board Member or the Superintendent, such complaints and supporting evidence will be referred to the School Board Governance Committee to make a recommendation to the School Board as to how to resolve the complaint. Ms. Riggs made a motion to change the policy to the language Ms. Lannetti read, seconded by Ms. Anderson. Ms. Lannetti restated the motion on the floor is to substitute the wording in Policy 4-6 after the comma, such complaints and supporting evidence will be referred to the School Board Governance Committee to make a recommendation to the School Board as to how to resolve the complaint, the rest of the sentencing the words would remain the same. Chairwoman Rye called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced the motion passed unanimously. The next vote was on the Consent Agenda which Ms. Riggs made a motion and seconded by Ms. Anderson; Chairwoman Rye called for a vote on the Consent Agenda as amended. The School Board Clerk announced the motion passed unanimously.

12. Action

- A. Personnel Report / Administrative Appointment(s): Ms. Holtz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes that the School Board approve of the appointments, and the acceptance of the resignations, retirements, and other employment actions as listed on the July 20, 2021, personnel report along with administrative appointments as recommended by the Superintendent. Without discussion, Chairwoman Rye called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced the motion passed unanimously. Dr. Robertson, Chief of Staff, introduced the following: Anne Bianchi, teacher, Thoroughgood Elementary School as Assistant Principal, Lynnhaven Elementary School; Matthew M. Fisci, Assistant Principal, Lynnhaven Elementary School as Principal, Brookwood Elementary School; Adrienne R. Kravchak, teacher, White Oaks Elementary School as Assistant Principal Luxford Elementary School; Jamie D. LaCava-Owen, Administrative Assistant, Princess Anne High School as Coordinator, International Baccalaureate, Princess Anne High School; and Richard W. Cannon, Jr., Senior Programmer Analyst, Department of Technology as Development Team Lead, Department of Technology.
- B. Policy Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations: That the School Board approve Policy Review Committee (PRC) recommendations regarding review, amendment, and repeal of certain policies as reviewed by the PRC at its June 10, 2021 meeting and presented to the School Board on the June 22, 2021 Action Agenda.
 1. Bylaw 1-19/ Duties of Chair/Vice Chair: The PRC recommends minor changes to reflect the Vice Chair's role in Agenda Planning. Chairwoman Rye called for a motion to approve; Ms. Riggs made a motion, seconded by Ms. Franklin. Kamala Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney reviewed the Bylaw and provided background information; a discussion followed regarding agenda planning and putting items on the agenda; having a rotating School Board member on the agenda planning; Chairwoman Rye called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were seven (7) ayes in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Holtz, Ms.

- Owens, and Ms. Riggs. There were four (4) nays opposed to the motion: Ms. Franklin, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems. The motion passed 7-4-0.
2. Bylaw 1-47/ Public Comments at School Board Meetings: The PRC recommends amendments to clarify the different opportunities for public comment during regular School Board Meetings. Kamala Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney reviewed the Bylaw and changes regarding Informal Meeting and Non-Agenda items and Formal Agenda items; Chairwoman Rye called for a motion. Ms. Franklin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson. A discussion followed regarding wording in the Bylaw; having speakers speak on School Board business and be recorded; agenda items verse non-agenda items; Ms. Weems made a motion to send it back to Policy Review Committee until we have a full discussion regarding speakers, seconded by Ms. Manning. A discussion continued regarding sending the policy back to Policy Review Committee, having a workshop to discuss the topic; currently the recommendation was just for clarification of terms; Policy Review Committee meeting in August, could create options to prepare for workshop; Chairwoman Rye called for a vote on the substitute motion on the floor. The School Board Clerk announced there were four (4) ayes in favor of the substitute motion: Ms. Franklin, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems. There were six (6) nays opposed to the substitute motion: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Holtz, and Ms. Riggs. The substitute motion did not pass. Note, Ms. Owens, attending the meeting via Zoom, did not respond with a vote.

A discussion continued regarding Bylaw 1-47; what is good cause; reviewed some examples of good cause, i.e., power lost, long meeting; Robert's Rules; could make a motion at a meeting as to how to handle the situation or extenuation circumstance; Kamala Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney, read the following from Bylaw 1-47: The time available for the hearings of citizens and delegations at a School Board meeting on either Non-Agenda or Formal Agenda items is set by the Standing Rules but may be altered by the School Board for good cause; Ms. Riggs made a motion to take out the wording "for good cause", seconded by Ms. Anderson; Ms. Lannetti confirmed the motion in that the last three words "for good cause" be removed; Chairwoman Rye called for a vote on Bylaw 1-47 as amended. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Manning, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems. There was one (1) nay opposed to the motion: Ms. Hughes. The motion passed 9-1-0. Note, Ms. Owens, attending the meeting via Zoom, did not respond with a vote.

- C. Resolution: Masks/Face Coverings: Below is the resolution presented by Ms. Hughes:

RESOLUTION
MASKS/FACE COVERINGS NOT REQUIRED IN
VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia is committed to the physical safety and emotional well-being of all students and staff as well as being committed to providing the least restrictive environment for all students; and

WHEREAS, at least nineteen states have lifted all mask mandates with no increase in COVID numbers; and

WHEREAS, the state of emergency expires at midnight on June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, all COVID mandates expire on June 30, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that

1. Masks/face coverings shall, in the absence of further statewide mandates, be optional in all Virginia Beach City Public Schools buildings and offices, both indoors and outdoors.

2. That masks/face coverings will, in the absence of further statewide mandates, be optional for all Virginia Beach City Public Schools students, staff, and guests.
3. That this policy shall be in effect beginning July 21, 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it will not be the policy of Virginia Beach City Public Schools to either encourage or discourage any student, staff member, or guest to wear a mask or face covering.

Chairwoman Rye called for a motion to approve. Ms. Franklin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes. A discussion followed regarding the resolution making masks optional in the absence of a statewide mandate; purpose of resolutions; budget resolution; concerns with wearing masks; difficulty understanding people wearing a mask; parents on both sides of issue; advice of health professionals; risk to children; parents needing to make decisions for the school year; provide School Board more information regarding reopening plan at upcoming August 10 School Board meeting. Chairwoman Rye called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were four (4) ayes in favor of the motion: Ms. Franklin, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems. There were six (6) nays opposed to the motion: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Holtz, and Ms. Riggs. The motion did not pass 4-6-0. Note, Ms. Owens, attending the meeting via Zoom, did not respond with a vote.

Ms. Melnyk left the meeting prior to the Special Education Advisory Committee Report due to illness.

13. Information

- A. **Special Education Advisory Committee Report:** Roni Myers-Daub, Ed.D., Executive Director, Office of Programs for Exceptional Children provided information to the School Board regarding the 2020-2021 report of the Special Education Advisory Committee; brief overview of the primary functions of Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC): to participate in the development of priorities and strategies for meeting the needs of students with disabilities, making recommendations regarding the education of students with disabilities, reviewing policies and procedures for the provision of special education and related services, and reviewing the school division's annual plan; school division commendations – face-to-face option as soon as safe for students with intensive support needs, response to Coalition for Trauma-Informed Schools (CT-IS); highlighted some SEAC key activities and accomplishments – held eight meetings throughout the year and five included educational presentations, Virtual Community Resource Fair, reviewed the annual plan, provided materials and ideas for activities to schools for Disability History and Awareness Month, participation in a VBCPS Equity Assessment focus group, working with VDOE and SEAC members across the state to revise the VDOE SEAC guide; reviewed the three recommendations for 2021-2022: continue to explore why IEP teams propose students with disabilities receive services in the special education setting and propose ways to reduce the number, the three pilot schools be considered and all schools participate in the Quality Standards for Inclusive Schools Self-Assessment, the division work to implement the Model Recommendations on Restraint and Seclusion developed by the Coalition for Trauma-Informed Schools.
- The discussion continued with thanks to the SEAC team; the first recommendation regarding services; self-contained class; number of special education students in general education classes – supporting the teacher; culture of acceptance and being part of school community.

- 14. Committee, Organization or Board Reports:** There were no committee, organization, or Board reports.
- 15. Conclusion of Formal Meeting:** The formal meeting concluded at 10:48 p.m.
- 16. Hearing of Citizens and Delegations on Informal Meeting and Non-Agenda Items:** Chairwoman Rye announced the School Board will hear comments on Informal Meeting items and Non-Agenda items from citizens and delegations who signed up with the School Board Clerk prior to the meeting and stated information of decorum and order, and submitting comments via group email. There were three (3) in-person speakers and two (2) online speakers; the topics discussed were House Resolution No. 297, CRT, status of schools, and first amendment rights.

17. Workshop: None

The School Board took a short break from 11:12 p.m. to 11:19 p.m.

18. Closed Meeting: School Board Legal Counsel, Kamala Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney read the following motion: That the School Board recess into Closed Session to deliberate on the following matters: a closed meeting pursuant to the exemptions from open meetings allowed by Section 2.2-3711, Part A, Paragraphs 3, 6 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for

3. Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

6. Discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected.

Namely to discuss: the Superintendent's recommendation regarding a Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act project proposal.

And as allowed by Section 2.2-3711, Part A, Paragraphs 7, 8 and 19 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended for

7. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

8. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

19. Discussion of plans to protect public safety as it relates to terrorist activity or specific cybersecurity threats or vulnerabilities and briefings by staff members, legal counsel, or law-enforcement or emergency service officials concerning actions taken to respond to such matters or a related threat to public safety; discussion of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 2 or 14 of § 2.2-3705.2, where discussion in an open meeting would jeopardize the safety of any person or the security of any facility, building, structure, information technology system, or software program; or discussion of reports or plans related to the security of any governmental facility, building or structure, or the safety of persons using such facility, building or structure.

Namely, for the purposes of discussing: criminal investigations regarding threats to School Board Members and the School Division's response to such related threats.

Ms. Anderson made a motion to approve, seconded by Ms. Riggs. Chairwoman Rye called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems. The motion passed 9-0-0. Note, Ms. Melnyk did not vote since she left the meeting and Ms. Owens, attending via Zoom, was not online.

Individuals present for discussion in the order it which matters were discussed:

3. Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

6. Discussion or consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected.

Namely to discuss: the Superintendent's recommendation regarding a Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act project proposal.

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School Board members: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems; Donald Robertson, Chief of Staff; Jack Freeman, Chief Operations Officer; Anthony L. Arnold, P.E., Executive Director, Office of Facilities Services; Thomas A. DeMartini, Director, Office of Safe Schools; Crystal M. Pate, Chief Financial Officer; School Board Legal Counsel, Kamala Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney; Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the Board.

7. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

8. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

19. Discussion of plans to protect public safety as it relates to terrorist activity or specific cybersecurity threats or vulnerabilities and briefings by staff members, legal counsel, or law-enforcement or emergency service officials concerning actions taken to respond to such matters or a related threat to public safety; discussion of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 2 or 14 of § 2.2-3705.2, where discussion in an open meeting would jeopardize the safety of any person or the security of any facility, building, structure, information technology system, or software program; or discussion of reports or plans related to the security of any governmental facility, building or structure, or the safety of persons using such facility, building or structure.

Namely, for the purposes of discussing: criminal investigations regarding threats to School Board Members and the School Division's response to such related threats.

School Board members: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems; Donald Robertson, Chief of Staff; Jack Freeman, Chief Operations Officer; Thomas A. DeMartini, Director, Office of Safe Schools; Crystal M. Pate, Chief Financial Officer; School Board Legal Counsel, Kamala Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney; Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the Board.

The School Board reconvened at 12:24 a.m.

Certification of Closed Session: School Board Legal Counsel, Kamala Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney read the Certification of Closed Meeting:

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered.

Ms. Anderson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes. The motion passed with nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems. Note, Ms. Melnyk did not vote since she left the meeting and Ms. Owens, attending via Zoom, was not online.

19. Vote on Remaining Action Items: None.

School Board of the City of Virginia Beach
School Administration Building #6 Municipal Center
2512 George Mason Drive,
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

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20. Adjournment: Chairwoman Rye adjourned the meeting at 12:25 a.m., July 21, 2021.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Carolyn T. Rye, School Board Chair