



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 Special Meeting MINUTES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

School Administration Building #6, Municipal Center
2512 George Mason Drive
P.O. Box 6038
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
(757) 263-1000

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH

In accordance with the Schedule of School Board Meetings amended and approved by the School Board at their January 25, 2021 Regular Meeting, and pursuant to Bylaw 1-46, and *Virginia Code* § 2.2-3707, the School Board will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, at 5:00 p.m., in the School Board Chambers in the School Administration Building #6 at the Municipal Center, 2512 George Mason Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23456. The purpose of this special meeting is for:

1. FY 2022-23 School Board Proposed Operating Budget and FY 2022-23 – FY 2027-2028 Capital Improvement Program-discussion by School Board and School Administration.
2. A Public Hearing for citizens to express their views on the Proposed School Operating Budget FY 2022-23 and Capital Improvement Program for FY 2022-23 – FY 2027-28.

1. **Call to Order and Verbal Roll Call:** Vice Chair Melnyk announced she was filling in for Chairwoman Rye due to illness and Dr. Robertson was in attended on behalf of Dr. Spence. Vice Chair Melnyk announced in accordance with the Schedule of School Board Meetings amended and approved by the School Board at their January 25, 2021 Regular Meeting, and pursuant to Bylaw 1-46, and *Virginia Code* § 2.2-3707, called the special meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on the 15th day of February 2022, in the School Board Chambers in the School Administration Building #6 at the Municipal Center, 2512 George Mason Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23456. The purpose of this special meeting is for:

1. FY 2022-23 School Board Proposed Operating Budget and FY 2022-23 – FY 2027-2028 Capital Improvement Program-discussion by School Board and School Administration.
2. A Public Hearing for citizens to express their views on the Proposed School Operating Budget FY 2022-23 and Capital Improvement Program for FY 2022-23 – FY 2027-28 to begin at approximately 6:00 p.m.

The School Board and the School Administration may continue discussions after the Public Hearing has concluded.

Also pursuant to the School Board's 2021-2022 Reopening Plan adopted August 10, 2021, and the School Board vote on August 24, 2021 regarding health protocols for School Board meetings, it is determined that physical distancing will be used in School Board Chambers as a health mitigation strategy therefore there will be designated public seating in School Board Chambers during the School Board Meeting. Members of the public will also be able to observe the Special School Board Meeting through livestreaming on www.vbschools.com, broadcast on VBT Channel 47, and on Zoom.

The following School Board members were present in School Board chamber: Vice Chair Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Manning, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems. The following School Board members were attending via Zoom: Ms. Hughes (health reasons), and Ms. Owens (health reasons.) Vice Chair Melnyk noted Chair Rye was not attending via Zoom due to health reasons but would be watching the meeting via livestreaming.

2. **Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Vice Chair Melnyk called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. Manning made a motion, seconded by Ms. Franklin. Without any discussion, Vice Chair Melnyk called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion: Vice Chair Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Holtz, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, Ms. Owens, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems.

4. **Discussion: School Board Budget Workshop for FY 2022-23 Proposed Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program for FY 2022-23 – FY 2027-28:** Vice Chair Melnyk opened the floor for questions and discussion; clarified there were no presentations tonight; staff present to answer any questions; questions regarding CIP (Capital Improvement Program): current projects revised, \$28.1 million for citywide renovation and replacement for energy management and energy performance contracts, more details, will follow-up with information; tennis court renovations; Estimate of Needs and funding sources, average pupil expenditure; Ms. Weems suggested funding for a recovery school in Virginia Beach, students with substance abuse, misuse, addiction, prototype of school in Boston, funding for additional specialist and program director, unsure about funding source; per pupil spending; prioritize spending; additional charges for risk management services; historical trends and expenditure patterns for targeted reductions; Stop Arm Enforcement program; and health care premium review.

The School Board members took a recess at 5:26 p.m. Noted the public hearing to begin at 6:00 p.m.

5. **Public Hearing for citizens to express their views on the proposed Fiscal Year 2022-23 Proposed Operating Budget and the Capital Improvement Program Fiscal Year 2022-23 through Fiscal Year 2027-28:** Vice Chair Melnyk mention she was filling in for Chair Rye due to health reasons and resumed the special meeting at 6:00 p.m. Vice Chair Melnyk announced the beginning of the public hearing and mentioned speakers have three (3) minutes to present and may be given a thirty-second warning before time expires.

There were three (3) in person speakers and one (1) online speaker; topics discussed were staffing issues; step increase and COLA (cost of living adjustment); health insurance and ranking; reducing premium rates; increase in substitute teacher rates; allowances; teacher and security assistants grade increase; overall budget of \$872 million; reversion funds; CIP; CARES Act funding; incentives for retention of teachers, bus drivers, etc.; how to inform public of answers to questions; lack of transparency to review budget; and funding for minority students falling behind.

After the speakers, the School Board members returned to the discussion on the School Board Budget Workshop for FY 2022-23 Proposed Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program for FY 2022-23 – FY 2027-28; making public aware of budget meetings; notice in newspaper, newsletter to staff and families; hard copies available for review at the School Administration Building; suggestion of an online checkbook; noted audit process and budget department received gold star award; received audit with no findings, annual outside audit; internal audit deals with schools; mentioned next Audit Committee meeting is March 1 at 1:00 p.m.; questions that arise – email Chairwoman Rye and copy Vice Chair Melnyk to help staff prepare responses.

6. **Adjournment:** Vice Chair Melnyk adjourned the special meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Carolyn T. Rye, School Board Chair