



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARTING THE COURSE

School Board Services

Carolyn T. Rye, Chair
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District 7 – Princess Anne

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At-Large

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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 2, 2021

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

- 1. *Call to Order and Verbal Roll Call:*** Chairwoman Rye called the special meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on the 2nd day of February 2021 and announced in accordance with the Schedule of School Board Meetings approved by the School Board at their January 12, 2021 Organizational/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 2, 2021, 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 presentation of the

- 1) Superintendent’s Estimate of Needs for Fiscal Year 2021-22; and
- 2) Proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Fiscal Year 2021-22 through Fiscal Year 2026-27

Pursuant to the State of Emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor’s Executive Orders, the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as amended by the Virginia General Assembly and the School Board’s April 7, 2020 Emergency Resolution, the School Board and selected staff members will meet in person at the School Administration Building however, at this this time it is impractical and unsafe to allow other persons to attend the Special School Board Meeting due to physical distancing and safety precautions related to the pandemic. Members of the public will 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 the School Board chambers: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Melnyk, Ms. Felton, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Riggs. The following School Board members attended the meeting via Zoom: Ms. Anderson, Ms. Holtz, and Ms. Owens. Note: Ms. Weems joined the meeting via Zoom at 5:08 p.m. due to technical issues.

- 2. *Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance***
- 3. *Adoption of the Agenda:*** Without any modifications, Chairwoman Rye called for a motion for the adoption of the agenda. Ms. Manning made a motion, seconded by Ms. Melnyk. Without any discussion, Chairwoman Rye called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced the motion passed with ten (10) ayes from School Board members: Chairwoman Rye, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Felton, Ms.

Franklin, Ms. Hughes, Ms. Manning, Ms. Owens, Ms. Riggs, Ms. Holtz, and Ms. Melnyk. The following School Board member did not vote because they were not in attendance at the time of voting due to technical issues: Ms. Weems.

4. Presentation:

- A. Superintendent's Estimate of Needs for Fiscal Year 2021-22
- B. Superintendent's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 through Fiscal Year 2026-27 Capital Improvement Program Budget

The presenters were Aaron C. Spence, Ed.D., Superintendent, Farrell E. Hanzaker, Chief Financial Officer, and Tony L. Arnold, Executive Director of Facilities Services. Dr. Spence began the presentation reviewing the challenges of schooling during a pandemic; noted the 828.8 million dollar operating budget and division budget priorities; employee compensation – proposed a 4.5% increase in the cost of living adjustment (COLA) and a 0.5% step increase for those reaching or below top of scale; Virginia instructional pay increases have slowly considerably since 2009; teacher compensation comparisons; increased allowance for those employees with advanced degrees; moving custodians up one pay grade; addressing compensation for guidance department chairs; not recommending any employee premium increases to health insurance; mental health of students – increasing the number of guidance counselors for elementary and middle schools by 16 to meet new SOQ requirements; continue to provide necessary supports for English as a Second Language (ESL) and special education populations; provide funding to expand the Spanish Immersion Program and further support the Environmental Studies Program at the Brock Center; recapped successes: 94.2% graduation rate, dropout rate decreased to 2.9% - the lowest on record; Wi-Fi accessibility in our parking lots and playgrounds; offered extended hours for Chromebook exchange or replacement; one thousand hot spots purchased and delivered to families; providing meals at all schools; VBCPS was a first-place winner of the National School Board Association's 2020 Magna Award; the State Board of Education awarded VBCPS with nine 2020 Highest Achievement Exemplar Awards; twelve schools in the division earned the 2020 Continuous Improvement Award; Parkway Elementary School was named a 2020-2021 National ESEA Distinguished School; Rosemont Elementary School was named a 2019-2020 National ESEA Distinguished School; VBCPS was designated a Virginia Environmental Excellence Program Sustainability Partner by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality; all VBCPS comprehensive high schools earned the National Gold Council of Excellence Award from the National Association of Student Councils (NASC); recently adopted equity policy that provides a framework to advance educational equity.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) includes funding to complete three projects that are currently underway: Princess Anne Middle School Replacement, the Plaza Annex Addition, and An Achievable Dream Academy at Lynnhaven Middle School; funding to continue planning for and begin the replacement of Princess Anne High School and Bettie F. Williams Elementary School/Bayside 6th Grade Campus project; funding to begin planning for the Bayside High School Replacement project in years five and six of the program; continue to budget for infrastructure projects and replacing playground equipment.

Mr. Hanzaker continued the presentation; reviewed the total amount for all funds which is a little over \$1 billion; the Operating Funds are the largest part of the budget at 82.4%; breakdown of School Operating Fund revenue sources with Local Funding being the largest funding source at 50.5% and State Basic Aid and State Sales Tax being the 2nd largest funding sources at 38.1%; reviewed the School Operating Fund by major category classification with Instructional being the largest at 73.6%; reviewed the School Operating Expenditures by type with Personnel Services or Salaries with the Fringe Benefit at just over 84%; reviewed the list of unmet needs; Mr. Arnold continued the presentation reviewing CIP Highlights – Princess Anne Middle School 80% complete, Plaza Annex 90% complete, Achievable Dream/Lynnhaven Middle School scheduled to bid this summer, maintain infrastructure projects funded in 2021-22; energy performance contracts; lower greenhouse gas emissions; Plaza Annex and Achievable Dream Academy fully funded; Princess Anne High School replacement project; Bettie F. Williams/6th Grade campus; Bayside High School replacement project; reviewed funding sources for CIP.

Dr. Spence briefly reviewed the timeline regarding upcoming meeting through March 2; workshops on a weekly basis until March 2; timeframe is dictated by City Council; meeting dates: February 9 at 4 p.m., February 16 at 5 p.m., February 23 at 4 p.m. and March 9 at 5 p.m.; Chairwoman Rye asked the process for sending questions; send to Farrell Hanzaker and copy Dr. Spence, will prepare to answer questions at the workshop; Chairwoman Rye mentioned the Public Hearing at the School Board meeting February 9; Dr. Spence mention the Superintendent’s Estimate of Needs and the Capital Improvement Program information will be available on the vbschools.com website.

5. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Carolyn T. Rye, School Board Chair