



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	Daniel D. Edwards District 2 – Kempsville	Sharon R. Felton District 6 – Beach
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 Meeting

Tuesday, May 26, 2020 (5:00 p.m.)

MINUTES

INFORMAL MEETING

- 1. Convene School Board Workshop:** Chairwoman Rye convened the School Board workshop at 5:02 p.m. and announced that due to Governor Northam’s Stay at Home Executive Order Fifty-Five related to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, it is determined that holding a School Board Workshop in person would pose a real and substantial threat to public health and safety. Accordingly, pursuant to and in compliance with the provisions outlined in School Board Resolution of April 7, 2020, the School Board Workshop was being conducted electronically with School Board members participating remotely on the Zoom meeting platform. The School Administration Building remained closed; however, the Workshop was being streamed live on vbschools.com as well as on VBTv Channel 47 and recorded for archival purposes. After conducting a verbal roll call, the School Board Clerk affirmed a quorum was present with all School Board members participating remotely along with Superintendent Spence. Chairwoman Rye then advised of accommodations being offered for School Board members’ in-person participation at the June 2 special School Board meeting, and reported efforts in exploring efficient alternatives to verbal voting by roll call during electronic meetings.

Graduation and Recovery Planning: Kipp D. Rogers, Ph.D., Chief Academic Officer in the Department of Teaching and Learning; and Donald E. Robertson, Jr., Ph.D., Chief Schools Officer, and Daniel Kever, Senior Executive Director for High Schools in the Department of School Leadership; presented an update on progress of the division’s Emergency Learning Plan and student participation in remote learning including Schoology information and professional learning support. An overview of how graduating seniors will be celebrated was presented along with status in planning for recovery. This portion of the workshop concluded at 5:50 p.m. and reconvened for further discussion after the formal meeting.

FORMAL MEETING

- 2. Call to Order and Verbal Roll Call:** Chairwoman Rye called the School Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced that due to Governor Northam’s Stay at Home Executive Order



Fifty-Five related to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, it is determined that holding a School Board Meeting in person would pose a real and substantial threat to public health and safety. Accordingly, pursuant to and in compliance with the provisions outlined in School Board Resolution of April 7, 2020, the School Board Meeting was being conducted electronically with School Board members participating remotely on the Zoom meeting platform. The School Administration Building remained closed; however, the meeting was being streamed live on vbschools.com as well as on VBT Channel 47 and recorded for archival purposes. After conducting a verbal roll call, the School Board Clerk affirmed a quorum was present with all School Board members participating remotely along with Superintendent Spence.

3. **Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Superintendent's Report:** Five things shared by Superintendent Spence in his report were related to 1) events that mark the one-year anniversary of the tragedy at Building 2 on May 31, 2019; 2) process for registration for 2020 Summer School sessions for middle and high school students being offered through digital resources, with learning opportunities for elementary students to be provided soon; 3) launch of the new vbcpsupport.com Technology Support Site designed to help students, teachers and families with technology issues and questions; 4) continued closure of athletic fields during the extended school closure with the exception of school tracks remaining open for running and walking; and 5) kick off of the "Month of the VBCPS Graduate" with an outline of scheduled activities.
5. **Hearing of Citizens and Delegations on Agenda Items:** None
6. **Approval of Minutes:** May 12, 2020 Electronic School Board Meeting: There being no proposed modifications for the draft minutes, Mr. Edwards made a motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson, that the School Board approve the minutes of their May 12, 2020 electronic School Board meeting as presented. Without discussion, the School Board Clerk called for a verbal vote from each School Board member, and then announced the motion passed unanimously.
7. **Adoption of the Agenda:** There being no proposed changes to the published agenda, Ms. Riggs, made a motion, seconded by Ms. Felton, that the School Board adopt the agenda as presented. Without discussion, the School Board Clerk called for a verbal vote from each School Board member, and then announced the motion passed unanimously.
8. **Action:**
 - A. **Personnel Report / Administrative Appointment(s):** Ms. Riggs made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Melnyk, that the School Board approve the Personnel Report dated May 26, 2020 as presented. Absent discussion, the School Board Clerk called for a verbal vote and announced the motion passed unanimously. There were no administrative appointments recommended by the Superintendent.
 - B. **Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) Legislative Position Proposal:** Vice Chair Melnyk made a motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson, that the School Board approve the submission of a proposed amendment to Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) legislative position 5.3 – Twenty-first Century Communication for School Boards to be considered for inclusion in the VSBA Board of Directors' recommendations to the 2020 VSBA Delegate Assembly in support of changes to Virginia's open records to allow local



school boards to conduct public electronic meetings without the quorum of the public body or any member of the governing board physically assembled at one location when the Governor has declared a state of emergency and the nature of the declared emergency makes it impractical or unsafe for the board to assemble in person. After a brief overview of the proposal, the School Board Clerk called for a verbal vote from each School Board member, and then announced the motion passed unanimously.

- C. 2020 Excellence in Workforce Readiness Award: Ms. Felton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Edwards, that the School Board approve the nomination of the Virginia Beach Schools' Undeclared Youth program for the 2020 Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) Excellence in Workforce Readiness Award. Sara Lockett, Ed.D., Director of Technical and Career Education, presented a video featuring testimony of the Undeclared Youth – Workforce Development Program in partnership with the Hampton Roads Workforce Council, and Virginia Ship Repair Association. Following the presentation, the School Board Clerk called for a verbal vote from each School Board member, and then announced the motion passed unanimously.
- D. Superintendent's Summative Performance Evaluation Process: Ms. Anderson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Riggs, that the School Board approve the Superintendent's Summative Performance Evaluation Process for FY20 as proposed by the Governance Committee. Chairwoman Rye reviewed the proposal that outlines timelines, expectations and the process for the Superintendent's summative performance evaluation for fiscal year 2019-20. Following discussion in addressing concerns raised by some regarding the process of reaching consensus, Ms. Weems proposed a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Manning, to modify the third sentence in Section 7A to state if a consensus cannot be reached, the final point value for each Standard will be determined by an average of the scores of School Board members present. After calling for a verbal vote, the School Board Clerk announced the substitute motion failed (ayes 3 – Hughes, Manning and Weems; and nays 8). After calling for a verbal vote on the original motion, the School Board Clerk announced the motion passed (ayes 8, nays 3 – Hughes, Manning and Weems) and the Superintendent's Summative Performance Evaluation Process for SY20 was approved as proposed by the Governance Committee.
- E. Resolution Recognizing June 2020 as Month of the Virginia Beach City Public Schools' Graduate: Vice Chair Melnyk made a motion by reading the proposed resolution, recognizing June 2020 as Month of the Virginia Beach City Public Schools' (VBCPS) Graduate. Ms. Riggs provided the second. Without discussion, the School Board Clerk called for a verbal vote from each School Board member and announced the motion passed unanimously. The resolution was approved as follows:

RESOLUTION
MONTH OF THE VBCPS GRADUATE
JUNE 2020

WHEREAS, the mission of Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS), in partnership with the entire community, is to empower every student to become a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive, and engaged citizen within the global community; and



WHEREAS, in following the mandate of the governor’s statewide order, all Virginia schools were closed for face-to-face instruction for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic school year to reduce the spread of the continuing pandemic, COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, traditional graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2020 are being prevented due to COVID-19, but VBCPS is dedicated to celebrating their graduates throughout the month of June; and

WHEREAS, VBCPS will be honoring our graduates with a monthlong series of events and displays planned throughout the city that congratulate the efforts of these more than 4800 young people; and

WHEREAS, between June 17 and June 20, every high school will host an individual graduation ceremony for each student, allowing the graduate to hear his or her name called, walk across a stage in cap and gown, receive a diploma and have his or her picture taken; and

WHEREAS, graduation tributes will also include a special VBCPS Graduation 2020 website, a special class video, displays on the division’s marquees and a “Light Up the Night” celebration, which includes each high school illuminating their field lights at 8:20 p.m. for exactly 20 minutes and 20 seconds, while “2020” is displayed on the scoreboard.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach officially recognize the month of June as Month of the VBCPS Graduate; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach encourages all school staff and the community at large to initiate, support and participate in activities designed to recognize our graduates; and be it

FINALLY RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be spread across the official minutes of this Board.

9. Information:

A. Interim Financial Statements: Crystal M. Pate, Director of Business Services, presented highlights of the division’s financial status as of April 30, 2020 reporting the overall revenue trend remains acceptable explaining influences on state and federal revenue projections. Sales tax receipts and expenditures/encumbrances were reported as continuing to remain on an acceptable trend. She noted specific guidelines regarding immediate adjustments to procurements and purchasing had been shared with budget managers and principals in an effort to control spending through the remainder of the year in order to ensure the division can cover a projected local shortfall of approximately \$23 million as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

B. Notification of Intent to Apply for Federal Grants for SY2020-21: Danielle E. Colucci, Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning, presented an overview of 2020-2021 Federal Grant applications. A review of past, current, and projected funding amounts for each grant was provided. She summarized the anticipated funding level and services provided by each of the following grant applications:

Name	Description	Anticipated Funding Level
Title I, Part A	Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged: Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies (LEA)	\$11,252,648



Title I, Part D	Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged: Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth Who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At Risk	\$168,160
Title II, Part A	Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals: Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund	\$1,613,718
Title III, Part A	Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students	\$142,341
Title IV, Part A	Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants	\$905,128
	Total	\$14,081,995

10. Standing Committee Reports: As chair of the Audit Committee, Mr. Edwards reported the Internal Auditor did not have enough adequate material to support having a meeting in May noting efforts to get into buildings and plans to catch up.

Vice Chair Melnyk congratulated Superintendent Spence for being named 2020 EmpowerED Digital Superintendent of the Year by Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) and AASA, The Superintendent’s Association, in recognition of his efforts to assist schools in making the digital leap.

11. Conclusion of the Formal Meeting: The formal meeting concluded at 7:26 p.m.

Workshop: Graduation and Recovery Planning (continued): The School Board reconvened their workshop at 7:33 p.m. in an electronic format to continue discussion on material introduced in the afternoon session and information regarding multiple COVID-19 school opening scenarios that include reopening schools without significant physical distancing or other public health mitigation strategies (100% in-person learning); reopening with physical distancing and/or other public health mitigation strategies (combination of in-person and remote learning); and an extension of remote learning (without in-person learning). Additionally, to mitigate the amount of learning loss from COVID-19, three school calendar options were presented for consideration to increase the number of in-person learning days in the 2020-21 school year.

12. Closed Meeting: None

13. Vote on Remaining Action Items: None

14. Adjournment: There being no further business before the School Board, Chairwoman Rye adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Dianne P. Alexander, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Carolyn T. Rye, School Board Chair