



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARTING THE COURSE

School Board Services

Beverly M. Anderson, Chair
At-Large

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

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	Joel A. McDonald District 3 – Rose Hall
Trenace B. Riggs District 1 – Centerville	Carolyn T. Rye District 5 - Lynnhaven	Carolyn D. Weems District 4 - Bayside

Aaron C. Spence, Ed.D., Superintendent

School Board Regular Meeting MINUTES

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

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

INFORMAL MEETING

1. ***Convene School Board Workshop:*** The School Board convened in the einstein.lab in workshop format at 4:03 p.m. In addition to the Chief of Staff, Marc A. Bergin, Ed.D., acting on behalf of Superintendent Spence who was absent from the meeting due to illness; all School Board members were present with the exception of Ms. Rye who was absent from the meeting attending a funeral in New Jersey.
 - A. **School Board Administrative Matters and Reports:** Chairwoman Anderson routed an RSVP slip to determine School Board members’ interest in attending the Virginia School Board Association’s (VSBA) Tidewater Region Spring Network Forum, and obtained consensus to begin the March 5 Special Meeting at 4:00 p.m. noting the only business to be conducted was for the School Board to take action on the budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

There were no further matters or reports presented by School Board members.

This portion of the workshop concluded at 4:05 p.m.
 - B. **School Operating Budget FY2019-20 and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) FY2019-20 through FY2024-25 Workshop #3:** Farrell E. Hanzaker, Chief Financial Officer, presented highlights of the state’s final budget bill noting it closely corresponded to what was presented to the School Board at their February 19 budget workshop in balancing the budget. He reported on areas related to at-risk funds to hire testing coordinators and licensed behavioral specialists, efforts towards reducing the student/guidance counselor ratio, compensation, and literary funds. Following discussion, there was consensus to direct Administration to proceed with preparing resolutions for the school operating budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) as it stands for the School Board to take action at their March 5 special meeting.



This portion of the workshop concluded at 4:38 p.m.

- C. Special Education Update: Roni Myers-Daub, Ed.D., Executive Director of Programs for Exceptional Children, presented an update and next steps on priorities for special education services. She reported on areas of Individualized Education Plan (IEP) alignment and specifically designed instruction, evaluation/eligibility/reevaluation, and transition as it relates to the Virginia Department of Education's (VDOE) letter of findings issued October 31, 2018 in response to a systemic complaint.

The workshop concluded at 5:12 p.m.

2. **Closed Meeting** (as needed): None
3. **School Board Recess**: The School Board recessed at 5:12 p.m. to reconvene in School Board Chambers for the formal meeting at 6:00 p.m.

FORMAL MEETING

4. **Call to Order and Electronic Roll Call**: Chairwoman Anderson called the formal meeting to order in School Board Chambers at 6:00 p.m. All School Board members were present with the exception of Ms. Rye who Chairwoman Anderson noted was absent due to attending a funeral in New Jersey. Additionally, Chief of Staff, Marc A. Bergin, Ed.D., acted on behalf of Superintendent Spence who Chairwoman Anderson announced was absent due to illness.
5. **Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance**
6. **Student, Employee and Public Awards and Recognition**: None
7. **Superintendent's Report**: In the tradition of recognizing the newest member(s) of the *Compass Keepers Club*¹, the Superintendent's Report presented by Chief of Staff Bergin on behalf of Superintendent Spence was related to peer tutoring exhibited by Kellam High School's Peer Tutoring Center where more than 100 students have been helped by their peers.
8. **Public Hearing on School Operating Budget FY2019-20 and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) FY2019-20 through FY2024-25**: The School Board heard comments from 10 citizens on compensation, staffing, and facilities as it relates to the FY2019/20 Schools Operating Budget and FY2019/20 through FY2024/25 Capital Improvement Program.
9. **Hearing of Citizens and Delegations on Agenda Items**: None
10. **Approval of Minutes**:
 - A. February 12, 2019 Regular School Board Meeting: Ms. Holtz made a motion, seconded by Ms. Riggs, that the School Board approve the minutes of their February 12, 2019 regular meeting as presented. The motion passed (ayes 10, nays 0).

¹ Members of the Compass Keepers Club are students, staff or community supporters who truly represent Virginia Beach City Public Schools with dedication, determination, passion and drive



- B. February 19, 2019 Budget/CIP Workshop #2: Ms. Weems made a motion, seconded by Ms. Manning, that the School Board approve the minutes of their February 19, 2019 budget/Capital Improvement Program (CIP) workshop #2 as presented. The motion passed (ayes 10, nays 0).
11. **Adoption of the Agenda**: Prior to a motion, Chairwoman Anderson advised of a request to move Consent Item 12C – Plans for Continuous Improvement for Select Schools to Action as Item 13C. There being no objection, Ms. Weems made a motion, seconded by Ms. Riggs, that the School Board adopt the agenda as amended. The motion passed (ayes 10, nays 0).
12. **Consent Agenda**: After Chairwoman Anderson’s overview of items presented for approval as part of the Consent Agenda, Ms. Riggs made a motion, seconded by Mr. Edwards, that the School Board approve the Consent Agenda as modified during Adoption of the Agenda. The motion passed (ayes 10, nays 0), and the following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:
- A. Resolutions:
1. School Social Work Week as follows:

**Resolution for National School Social Work Week
March 3-9, 2019**

WHEREAS, Virginia Beach City Public Schools social workers help identify and remove environmental barriers to learning, thus allowing students reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Beach City Public Schools social workers are committed to mobilizing family, school and community resources to enable students to learn and fully benefit from their educational program; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Beach City Public Schools social workers are valuable members of the multidisciplinary team serving schools, providing a wide range of services to students, parents and staff; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Beach City Public Schools social workers use their expertise in child development, community resources, mental health and crisis intervention to develop and implement interventions to support educational success; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Beach City Public Schools social workers assist the most vulnerable children and adolescents, including children with disabilities, children living in homelessness, children living in poverty, pregnant teens, suicidal teens, truants and other at-risk children; and

WHEREAS, this shared approach to assisting students promotes students' learning and helps guide students to high school graduation and postsecondary experiences and the skills necessary to be productive citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach recognize the first full week of March 2019 as National School Social Work Week in Virginia Beach City Public Schools; and be it

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



2. Read Across America as follows:

Read Across America

WHEREAS, the citizens of Virginia Beach stand firmly committed to promoting reading as the catalyst for our students' future academic success, their preparation for America's jobs of the future and their ability to compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Beach City Public Schools has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education of our youth, grounded in the principle that education investment is key to the community's well-being and long-term quality of life; and

WHEREAS, "National Education Association's (NEA) *Read Across America*," a national celebration of Dr. Seuss's 115th birthday on March 2, 2019, promotes reading and adult involvement in the education of our community's students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach calls on all the citizens of Virginia Beach to assure that every child is in a safe place reading together with a caring adult on March 2, 2019, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That this body enthusiastically endorses "NEA's *Read Across America*" and recommits our community to engage in programs and activities that improve the reading abilities of all children; and be it

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

3. Fine Arts in Our Schools as follows:

**RESOLUTION
FINE ARTS IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH
MARCH 2019**

WHEREAS, fine arts programs in Virginia Beach City Public Schools provide curricular, co-curricular and extracurricular experiences in art, dance, music and theatre arts for all student members of the school community and for the Virginia Beach community at large; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach is cognizant of the importance of fine arts to all our students, not only while they are in school but also throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, art, dance, music and theatre arts are now and have been a vital part of the curriculum and instruction of the public schools of Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, the month of March has been designated as Music in Our Schools Month, Youth Art Month, and Theatre in the Schools Month by their national associations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach recognizes the month of March 2019 as Fine Arts in Our Schools Month in Virginia Beach City Public Schools; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach express its appreciation to our fine arts educators for enhancing our lives and the lives of our children through art, dance, music and theatre arts; and be it

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



4. Women’s History Month as follows:

**RESOLUTION
WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH
MARCH 2019**

WHEREAS, women of every race, class and ethnic background have made historic contributions to our schools, community and nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS, women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, political and social role in every sphere of American life through their service as a significant portion of the labor and volunteer force; and

WHEREAS, women have been traditionally underrepresented as leaders in areas of business, science, technology and government; and

WHEREAS, today’s children have the opportunity to learn about the significant contributions of women as leaders not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also as leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement, which creates a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, despite their many contributions, the role of women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in the literature, teaching and study of American history; and

WHEREAS, the school division’s strategic framework Compass to 2020 calls upon our staff, students and community to support a culture of growth and excellence for all people;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach recognizes the month of March 2019 as Women’s History Month in Virginia Beach City Public Schools; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach encourages all students, schools and citizens to celebrate the many contributions and accomplishments of women in our community and our nation through participation in Women’s History Month activities; and be it

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

B. Dominion Energy Easement Agreement

1. Corporate Landing Middle School: The School Board authorized the Chair to execute the underground easement agreement for the site located at Corporate Landing Middle School associated with the underground cable that will be installed along Corporate Landing Parkway and Dam Neck Road creating more reliable services to buildings on Corporate Landing Parkway
2. New Princess Anne Middle School (Seaboard Rd.): The School Board authorized the Chair to execute the underground easement agreement for the new Princess Anne Middle School for permanent underground service to be provided to the new school that will also support placing existing overhead facilities underground along Seaboard Road and Leroy Road

C. *[moved to Action 13C during Adoption of the Agenda]*



13. Action

- A. Personnel Report: Vice Chair Melnyk made a motion, seconded by Ms. Holtz, that the School Board approve the appointments and accept the resignations, retirements and other employment actions as listed on the Personnel Report dated February 26, 2019 as presented. The motion passed (ayes 10, nays 0). There were no administrative appointments recommended by the Superintendent.
- B. Assignment to Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission: Ms. Felton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Riggs, that the School Board approve the assignment of School Board member Dorothy Holtz to serve as the School Board's liaison on the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission, with Vice Chair Melnyk serving as the alternate, for the remainder of the 2018-19 school year ending June 30, 2019. The motion passed (ayes 10, nays 0).
- C. *[moved from Consent Item 12C during Adoption of the Agenda]* Plans for Continuous Improvement for Select Schools: Vice Chair Melnyk made a motion, seconded by Mr. Edwards, that the School Board approve the Plan for Continuous Improvement for select schools as presented. Discussion ensued regarding language on several school plans that stipulates the number of referrals and suspensions will be reduced by 50%. The concern was that it may discourage teachers from making referrals. Chief of Staff Bergin and Donald E. Robertson, Jr., Ph.D., Chief of Schools, explained the intent is to improve behavior; and the statement, although admittedly poorly written, refers to a desired outcome. In response to an inquiry, it was affirmed a delay in action would have no ramifications at this time. Therefore, Mr. Edwards made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Weems, to table the item until the March 12 regular meeting to allow Administration to address the concern by altering the language. The motion passed (ayes 10, nays 0).

14. Information

- A. Global Studies and World Language Academy Course Change Request: James M. Pohl, Ph.D., Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, presented Global Studies and World Languages Academy course changes: Global Citizenship Seminar, Global Perspectives Seminar, Global Systems Seminar, and corresponding course objectives recommended to begin implementation in the 2019-20 school year. He reported the faculty from the Global Studies and World Language Academy at Tallwood High School collected data, researched similar programs in other states, attended professional conferences and collaborated with the community to identify needed changes to the curriculum that is over 14 years old. Program changes will evolve over the next three years with freshmen only implementation for the 2019-20 school year. The Classes of 2020, 2021 and 2022 will complete the curriculum currently approved by the School Board.
- B. New Secondary Course Peer Tutoring: James M. Pohl, Ph.D., Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, presented the proposed courses, Peer Tutoring I and Peer Tutoring II, and corresponding course objectives recommended for implementation



in the 2019-20 school year. He explained the courses are designed to be year-long elective courses that enable high school students to take more centralized roles in their own learning while offering opportunities for them to take on learning-leadership roles in their school community through becoming “lead learners.”

- C. Math and Science Academy New Course Marine Biology: James M. Pohl, Ph.D., Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning, presented the proposed Marine Biology course and corresponding course objectives recommended for implementation in the 2019-20 school year. He reported the semester-long science elective course will introduce students enrolled in the Mathematics and Science Academy at Ocean Lakes High School to the biology encompassed in marine environments and enhance the advancements of students who wish to major in marine biology, oceanography, physics, or other science fields.
- D. Interim Financial Statements – January 2019: Farrell E. Hanzaker, Chief Financial Officer, presented the division’s financial position as of January 31, 2019 reporting overall revenues as acceptable at this time in the fiscal year. He explained an updated projection of March 31 Average Daily Membership (ADM) and the Governor’s proposed amendments reflect a surplus of approximately \$2.5 million mainly due to the proposed increase in the supplementary lottery allocation in the Governor’s budget. He noted respective budget amendments by the House and Senate change the Governor’s budget, and although the General Assembly had adjourned, the final outcome had not been published by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) with the education calculation tool. Federal revenues were reported on a favorable trend, and status of Federal Impact Aid collections were summarized. Sales tax receipts were reported on an acceptable trend at \$940,000 higher than the prior year, and expenditures too were reported as acceptable at this time.
- E. Bylaw 1-19 Duties of Chairman/Vice Chairman: School Board Legal Counsel, Kamala H. Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney, presented the Policy Review Committee’s (PRC) recommendation regarding an amendment to Bylaw 1-19 to authorize the School Board Chair to sign or approve required documents, use of funds, or provisions of services on behalf of the Superintendent. In response to an inquiry, she explained the change was related to establishing an approval path for financial documents required to accompany procurement card (P-card) transactions made by the Superintendent. It was noted, in the absence, unavailability or inability of the School Board Chair to act, the role will fall on the School Board Vice Chair as outlined in the bylaw.

15. **Standing Committee Reports:** Ms. Weems announced upcoming Green Run Collegiate Foundation fundraising events; and reported on the Mayor’s Committee for Persons with Disabilities meeting where persons with disabilities were honored, and Princess Anne High School students recognized for their contributing efforts from saving lives to raising money.

Ms. Riggs reminded the School Board of the upcoming Sister Cities Youth Ambassador Gala.

16. **Conclusion of Formal Meeting:** The formal meeting concluded at 7:32 p.m.



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17. **Hearing of Citizens and Delegations on Non-Agenda Items:** The School Board heard comments on non-agenda items by Herta Okonkwo promoting a “Season of Non-violence,” and Chopna O’Galvin advocating for an increase in recess time.
 18. **Convene School Board Workshop:** None
 19. **Closed Meeting** (as needed): None
 20. **Vote on Remaining Action Items:** None
 21. **Adjournment:** There being no further business before the School Board, Chairwoman Anderson adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Dianne P. Alexander, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Beverly M. Anderson, School Board Chair