



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CHARTING THE COURSE

School Board Services

Beverly M. Anderson, Chair

At-Large

Daniel D. Edwards, Vice Chair

District 2 – Kempsville

Sharon R. Felton

District 6 – Beach

Dorothy M. Holtz

At-Large

Victoria C. Manning

At-Large

Joel A. McDonald

District 3 – Rose Hall

Ashley K. McLeod

At-Large

Kimberly A. Melnyk

District 7 – Princess Anne

Trenace B. Riggs

District 1 – Centerville

Carolyn T. Rye

District 5 - Lynnhaven

Carolyn D. Weems

District 4 - Bayside

Aaron C. Spence, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Regular School Board Meeting MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, September 6, 2017

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 at 4:04 p.m. In addition to Superintendent Spence, all School Board members were present with the exception of Ms. Felton and Ms. Weems who were absent from the meeting.
 - A. **School Board Administrative Matters and Reports:** Chairwoman Anderson routed an RSVP request for the upcoming National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) celebration taking place at Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana; and distributed an amendment to Policy 6-57 to become the version to be approved as part of the Consent Agenda.
 - B. **Standards of Learning 2016-2017 Student Performance:** Tracy A. LaGatta, Director of Student Assessment in the Department of Planning, Innovation, and Accountability, presented an executive summary of student performance on the 2016-17 Standards of Learning (SOL) including an overview of division passing rates, group passing rates, and comparisons to state passing rates. Discussion concluded at 4:21 p.m.
 - C. **School Calendar SY2018-19 Discussion:** Eileen M. Cox, Chief Media and Communications Officer; and Lauren Nolasco, Director of Communications, co-chairs of the School Calendar SY2018-19 Planning Committee, presented a review of components of the SY2017-18 School Calendar in seeking the School Board's input for parameters that will provide guidance to the School Calendar Planning Committee relative to the number of instructional days; the inclusion of professional learning days; guidance on holidays and breaks; and thoughts about moving toward a biennial calendar planning process to take place every two years. Following an overview of the timeline for action to be taken at the second regular School Board meeting in November, there appeared to be consensus to start with the SY2016-17 school calendar as the template in scheduling professional



learning days, allowing travel time during winter break; and support for the development of a biennial school calendar. The School Board discussed the potential for lengthening the school day to provide more flexibility in the School Calendar, but agreed not to consider a change at this time given the recent lengthening of the middle school day, but hold as an option for future consideration if needed. Superintendent Spence also advised it is anticipated the issue of calculating instructional minutes/hours will be formalized in state law in January 2018 which will provide the School Calendar Committee a better understanding of how instructional minutes are counted for planning purposes.

The workshop concluded at 4:36 p.m.

2. **Closed Meeting:** Vice Chair Edwards made a motion, seconded by Mr. McDonald, that the School Board recess into a closed meeting pursuant to the exemptions from open meetings allowed by Section 2.2-3711, Part A, Paragraphs 1 and 7 of the *Code of Virginia*, 1950, as amended for Personnel Matters: Discussion of or consideration of interviews of prospective candidates for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711, (A) (1); namely to discuss contract amendment for a specific administrator.

Legal Matters: Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the Board or consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A) (7); namely to discuss contract amendment for a specific administrator.

The motion passed (ayes 9, nays 0; Felton and Weems absent from the meeting) and the School Board entered into a closed meeting at 4:44 p.m.

Individuals present for discussion: School Board members with the exception of Ms. Felton and Ms. Weems who were absent from the meeting; School Board Legal Counsel, Kamala H. Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney; and Dianne P. Alexander, Clerk of the School Board.

The School Board reconvened in an open meeting at 5:23 p.m.

Certification of Closed Meeting: Vice Chair Edwards made a motion, seconded by Mr. McDonald, that the School Board certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, 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 only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered. The motion passed (ayes 9, nays 0; Felton and Weems absent from the meeting).

Vice Chair Edwards made a motion, seconded by Mr. McDonald, that the contract of



Superintendent Spence be amended as follows:

- The addition of \$12,000 in deferred compensation for FY18;
- Moving deferred compensation up to \$15,000 in FY19;
- Moving deferred compensation up to \$18,000 in FY20;
- Moving deferred compensation up to \$20,000 in FY21; and, concurrently,
- Performance pay of Superintendent Spence be frozen at the level that was effective in the last fiscal year at five percent (5%); and
- That the School Board Chair and Vice Chair be authorized by the School Board to make any non-substantive adjustments that would not affect dollars or timeline of implementation to complete the contract.

The motion passed (ayes 8, nays 1 – Manning; Felton and Weems were absent from the meeting).

3. **School Board Recess:** The School Board recessed at 5:36 p.m. to reconvene in the School Board Room at 6:00 p.m. for the formal meeting. Ms. Manning departed the meeting at this time.

FORMAL MEETING

4. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chairwoman Anderson called the formal meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. In addition to Superintendent Spence, all School Board members were present with the exception of Ms. Felton, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems. Chairwoman Anderson announced Ms. Felton was absent due to an obligation on another community committee; Ms. Manning departed prior to the formal meeting due to a family obligation; and Ms. Weems was out of town due to a family situation.
5. **Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance**
6. **Student, Employee and Public Awards and Recognition:** None
7. **Superintendent's Report:** The Superintendent's Report provided a reflection of a successful first day of school with the return of more than 67,000 students. Additionally, he noted teachers were prepared and reported on the Teacher Orientation and Continuous Learning Institute (TOCLI) where more than 550 teachers new to the division and new to the profession spent three days being introduced to the division's vision, mission, core values and resources available to ensure their success.
8. **Hearing of Citizens and Delegations on Agenda Items:** None
9. **Approval of Minutes:** August 15, 2017 Regular Meeting: Ms. Melnyk made a motion, seconded by Ms. Holtz, that the School Board approve minutes from their August 15, 2017 regular meeting as presented. The motion passed (ayes 8, nays 0).



- 10. **Adoption of the Agenda:** There being no proposed changes to the published agenda, Ms. Rye made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Edwards, that the School Board adopt the agenda as presented. The motion passed (ayes 8, nays 0).
- 11. **Consent Agenda:** After Chairwoman Anderson’s review of items presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Ms. Riggs made a motion, seconded by Ms. Melnyk, that the School Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed (ayes 8, nays 0), and the following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:
 - A. Resolutions:
 - 1. Suicide Prevention Week as follows:

**Resolution for Suicide Prevention Week
September 10 - 16, 2017**

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of deaths in the United States and the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 15 to 24; and

WHEREAS, suicide is now the 2nd leading cause of death in the state of Virginia among individuals between the ages of 15 to 24; and

WHEREAS, suicide strikes without regard to locality, socio-economic status, ethnicity, religious preference, or age; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, one person completes suicide every 12.8 minutes and there are 10 to 20 suicide attempts per each suicide completion; and

WHEREAS, education and community involvement are known to be the most crucial factors in preventing suicide; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach is focused on ways to educate students, parents, and school staff about suicide and prevention of suicide; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, through sustained and dedicated efforts, has implemented programs for all employees and students that recognize a deep commitment at all levels to raise awareness of suicide and its prevention.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach designates the week of September 10-16, 2017, as Suicide Prevention Awareness Week in the Virginia Beach City Public Schools, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That strategies and activities to address suicide prevention and suicidal behaviors be ongoing in Virginia Beach City Public Schools, and be it

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

- 2. National Hispanic Heritage Month as follows:

**RESOLUTION FOR NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
September 15-October 15, 2017**

WHEREAS, one of our nation’s greatest strengths is its vast diversity which enables Americans to see the world from many viewpoints; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latino Americans have forged a proud legacy that reflects the spirit of our nation and community; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the good of our nation that schools continue to build awareness and understanding of the contributions made by people from all cultures and backgrounds; and



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WHEREAS, through the study of these contributions, students may find role models whose participation, commitment and achievement embody the American spirit and ideals; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach recognizes the importance of multicultural diversity education within our school division;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach officially recognizes September 15th through October 15th as National Hispanic Heritage Month; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach encourages all citizens to support and participate in the various school activities available during National Hispanic Heritage Month; and be it

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

- B. Religious Exemption Case Numbers RE-17-05, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, and 13
- C. Schedule of program evaluations that will be completed by the Department of Planning, Innovation, and Accountability (PIA) during the 2017-18 school year as follows:

2016-2017 Program Evaluation Schedule*	
Program	Proposed Reporting Schedule
School Counseling Program (K-12)	Fall 2017
Entrepreneurship and Business Academy**	Fall 2017
An Achievable Dream Academy***	Fall 2017
Digital Learning Anchor Schools Initiative**	Fall 2017
Green Run Collegiate**	Fall 2017
Academy and Advanced Academic Programs Longitudinal Study	Spring 2018

2017-18 Program Evaluation Schedule (submitted for School Board approval in accordance with School Board Policy 6-26)	
Program	Proposed Reporting Schedule
School Counseling Program (K-12)	Fall 2018
Entrepreneurship and Business Academy**	Fall 2018
An Achievable Dream Academy**	Fall 2018
English as a Second Language Program (K-12)	Fall 2018
LEAD Aspiring Administrators' Program	Fall 2018
Student Response Teams (SRT)	Fall 2018
Academy and Advanced Academic Programs Longitudinal Study	Spring 2019

* Once evaluation results have been presented to the School Board, recommendations may include additional evaluations to be completed by the Department of Planning, Innovation, and Accountability (PIA) during the 2017-2018 school year.

** Added to the Program Evaluation Schedule based on School Board Policy 6-26 which stipulates that new educational programs or initiatives that operate with local resources will be evaluated for a minimum of two



2017-18 Program Evaluation Schedule
(submitted for School Board approval in accordance with School Board Policy 6-26)
years. Programs or initiatives that take more than two years to fully implement will also be evaluated during the year in which the program or initiative reaches full implementation.
***Added to the Program Evaluation Schedule as a follow-up to the external review conducted during the program's first year.

- D. New appointments to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) as follows:
 - Sheri Hight, Parent
 - Brent Ibata, Parent and Advocate
 - Lori Shedlock, Parent and Community Representative
 - Denise Glatt, Parent
- E. Policy Review Committee Recommendations as follows regarding review, amendment and repeal of certain policies as determined by the committee at their June 21 2017 meeting, and reexamined August 17, 2017 to consider comments made by School Board members when recommendations were introduced as Information at the August 15, 2017 regular School Board meeting:
 1. New Policy 3-71 Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act Projects
 2. Revised Policy 6-47 Interscholastic Competition
 3. Revised Policy 6-56 Field/Class Trips
 4. New Policy 6-57 International Travel
 5. Revised Policy 6-87 Governor's School for the Arts

12. Action

- A. Personnel Report/Administrative Appointments: Ms. Melnyk made a motion, seconded by Ms. Rye, that the School Board approve the appointments and accept the resignations, retirements and other employment actions as listed on the Personnel Report dated September 6, 2017 inclusive of two administrative appointments as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion passed (ayes 8, nays 0), and Superintendent Spence introduced Katelyn N. Overmiller, current Assistant to the General Counsel in the Coatesville Area School District, PA, as the new Employee Relations Specialist in the Department of Human Resources effective September 7, 2017; and Shana N. Remian, current Administrative Assistant at Princess Anne High School, as the new Assistant Principal at Princess Anne High School effective September 7, 2017.

13. Information:

- A. School Counseling Program (K-12) Evaluation: Heidi L. Janicki, Ph.D., Director of Research and Evaluation in the Department of Planning, Innovation, and Accountability, presented the key findings and recommendations from the 2016-17 comprehensive evaluation of the School Counseling Program (K-12) – Academic Component conducted by the department with a focus on the operation of the program as it relates to supporting students



academically including school counselor responsibilities and activities, staffing, professional learning, and parent engagement; characteristics of the students; progress made toward meeting the goals and objectives related to students' academic preparation; and stakeholders' perceptions. As a result of the comprehensive evaluation, four recommendations were made with the first being to continue the program with modifications noted in the recommendations; 2) to develop a plan for additional school counselor allocations for 2018-19 at the high school level to ensure students' needs can be met; 3) to ensure that middle and high school students identify goals through the academic and career planning process and that they are aware of academic and career pathways; and 4) to publicize the program to parents so that parents are aware of the services and opportunities offered. Robert B. Jamison, Ed.S., Coordinator of Guidance Services, reported Administration's concurrence and response to the evaluation recommendations.

- B. Family Life Education Curriculum: Amy E. Cashwell, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer, presented the proposed curriculum for Family Life Education (FLE) including background on the extensive work over the past several months of the curriculum revision committee, community involvement committee, and period of public review to develop timely and relevant Family Life lessons in accordance with School Board Policy and Virginia Department of Education guidelines. She provided an overview of the program proposed to continue to be taught in grades 2, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 10 reflecting updated Virginia Standards of Learning with a focus on depth rather than breadth in covering sensitive topics, but also provide the choice for parents/guardians to opt their child out of some or all of the FLE lessons.

14. **Standing Committee Reports:** There being no standing committee reports, Chairwoman Anderson acknowledged a portrait of former Superintendent Sheila S. Magula, Ed.D. placed amongst the portrait collection in the School Board Chambers denoting her service as interim Superintendent and division Superintendent in the 2005-06 school year as well as the 2013-14 school year.
15. **Conclusion of Formal Meeting:** The formal meeting concluded at 6:54 p.m.
16. **Hearing of Citizens and Delegations on Non-Agenda Items:** The School Board heard comments from Kelly Walker, president of the Virginia Beach Education Association (VBEA), who presented VBEA's FY2018-19 budget priorities in the area of compensation, healthcare benefits, and reduction in class size.
17. **Recess into Workshop:** None
18. **Closed Meeting:** None at this time. See Item 2
19. **Vote on Remaining Action Items:** None



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20. **Adjournment:** There being no further business before the School Board, Chairwoman Anderson adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Dianne P. Alexander, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Beverly M. Anderson, School Board Chair