



# 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, November 8, 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 4:00 p.m. In addition to Superintendent Spence, all School Board members were present upon the arrival of Ms. Manning shortly thereafter at 4:04 p.m.
  - A. **School Board Administrative Matters and Reports:** Chairwoman Anderson reported a Closed Meeting would be held after the formal meeting if time did not permit earlier, and reminded School Board members who registered for the upcoming Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) Annual Conference of their obligation to attend. As the School Board's appointed liaison on the joint City/Schools Deferred Compensation Board, Vice Chair Edwards reported the City is planning a joint briefing on potential changes in the Deferred Compensation Plan which School Board members will be invited to attend possibly on December 12. He advised a follow-up report will be scheduled within the School Board's Agenda Planning process to allow for action to be taken early 2018. Other items reported included acknowledgement of four Virginia Beach high school bands who participated in the Neptune Festival, and announcement of upcoming Long-Range Facilities Steering Committee activities to include opportunities for the community to provide input regarding the prioritization of school construction projects.

This portion of the workshop concluded at 4:08
  - B. **Legislative Agenda for 2018 General Assembly Session:** As chair of the School Board's Legislative Committee, Mr. McDonald introduced the committee's proposed Legislative Agenda for the 2018 General Assembly Session comprised of positions on items related to the state budget; funding formulas for the re-benchmarking of the Standards of Quality (SOQ); support for additional enhancements to the SOQ's that better reflect the staffing



- and financial needs of the school division; eliminating or funding current unfunded mandates; special education funding; lottery fund usage; dual enrollment; continued reform of the assessment system; flexibility for addressing teacher shortages; mandatory funding of virtual schools; the local school board's authority to approve charter schools within its boundaries; opposition to legislation that allows non-public school students to participate in interscholastic programs in public schools; and opposition to limiting options to safely manage schools including the ability to suspend students whose behaviors warrant such action. Following discussion in which School Board members stated their stance on topics, Mr. McDonald noted a public overview will also be provided during the formal meeting under the Information section, and encouraged School Board members to contact him with additional suggestions. Discussion concluded at 4:45 p.m.
- C. Facilities Update – Thoroughgood Elementary School Replacement Design Update, Middle School Tennis Courts, and An Achievable Dream – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Anthony L. Arnold, P.E., Executive Director of Facilities Services, presented information on the Thoroughgood Elementary School replacement project planned for completion for students to start in the new school in September 2020. He outlined details of the proposed size of the site, student capacity, area of building square footage, cost per square foot, project timeline, and funding summary for the \$28.3 million Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project. Representatives from V I A Design Architects, Donna Phaneuf and Scott Campbell, provided an overview of the building site and floor plan designs. Discussion ensued regarding costs related to the proposed rounded elements in the design. Mr. Arnold then presented a report on high school and middle school tennis courts and their condition along with an overview of renovations to date. He noted a decline in usage at middle schools will likely result in the number of middle school courts being reduced over time. Finally, Mr. Arnold presented background information on the status of An Achievable Dream Academy (AADA) at Seatack Elementary School, followed by an overview of current middle school attendance zones and recommendation for the School Board to consider moving rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders from the AADA to a wing of Lynnhaven Middle School subject to the number of students planning to remain in the program at the middle school level. Discussion concluded at 5:49 p.m.
- D. Navigational Markers Update: Due to time constraints, Chairwoman Anderson announced this item as postponed until the next regular School Board meeting.

The workshop concluded at 5:50 p.m.

2. **Closed Meeting:** None at this time. See Item 18
3. **School Board Recess:** The School Board recessed at 5:50 p.m. to reconvene in the School Board Room at 6:00 p.m. for the formal meeting.



**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.
5. ***Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance***
6. ***Student, Employee and Public Awards and Recognition:*** VHSL Girls Golf Co-Champion: The School Board recognized First Colonial High School junior Carley Rudolf for finishing as the 2017 Virginia High School League (VHSL) Girls Golf Co-Champion, her second VHSL golf title after winning the VHSL State Girls Open Championship in her freshman year.
7. ***Superintendent's Report:*** Five things shared by Superintendent Spence in his report were related to the Office of Technical and Career Education and Department of Teaching and Learning being honored with a Governor's Award of Excellence and Innovation in Education for the annual STEM Trifecta Event; 2017 Community Resource Fair hosted by the Virginia Beach Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and Office of Programs for Exceptional Children; a new approach in parent/teacher conferences being taken by several schools across the division where students are being involved in the meeting by leading the discussion identifying where they are succeeding and where additional support is needed; opportunities for parents and community members to provide input on how the division should prioritize the modernization and replacement of schools for the next 15 years; and, finally, participation in R.E.D. Day by wearing red on November 9 to Remember Everyone Deployed demonstrating support for military families and their active duty loved ones and spreading a message of recognition and appreciation for their service not just during November, which is Military Family Appreciation Month, but every day of the year.
8. ***Hearing of Citizens and Delegations on Agenda Items:*** The School Board heard comments from Kelly Walker, President of the Virginia Beach Education Association (VBEA), regarding the proposed biennial calendar options, the input process, and VBEA's request to alleviate the workload for teachers by decreasing the number of professional development hours.
9. ***Approval of Minutes:*** October 24, 2017 Regular Meeting: Ms. Riggs made a motion, seconded by Ms. Weems, that the School Board approve the minutes of their October 24, 2017 regular meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
10. ***Adoption of the Agenda:*** Prior to a motion, Chairwoman Anderson noted Workshop Item 1D – Navigational Markers Update was postponed and will be rescheduled in the Agenda Planning process. Mr. McDonald then made a motion, seconded by Ms. Manning, that the School Board adopt the agenda with the modification. The motion passed unanimously.
11. ***Consent Agenda:*** Ms. Melnyk made a motion, seconded by Ms. Holtz, that the School Board approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously, and the following items were approved as part of the Consent Agenda:
  - A. Resolutions:



School Board of the City of Virginia Beach  
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1. Native American Heritage Month as follows:

**Resolution for Native American Heritage Month  
November 2017**

**WHEREAS**, as the first people to inhabit North America, American Indians and Alaskan Natives have profoundly shaped our country's character and cultural heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Americans were the first people to domesticate crops, build cities and communities, and establish great civilizations in America; and

**WHEREAS**, the history, culture and traditions of the United States have been greatly influenced by those individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, through the study of the contributions of Native Americans, students will encounter role models whose commitments and achievements embody the American spirit and ideals; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach, through its core values, emphasizes 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 the month of November 2017 as National Native American 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 during National Native American Heritage Month; and be it

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

2. American Education Week as follows:

**Resolution for American Education Week  
November 13 - 17, 2017**

**WHEREAS**, November 13-17, 2017 is recognized as the 96<sup>th</sup> annual American Education Week by the National Education Association to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education; and

**WHEREAS**, the creation of this week has encouraged resolutions across the country to help encourage national support of public education; and

**WHEREAS**, American Education Week is a celebration of distinguished individuals, critical to the success of public education for the nation's nearly 50 million K-12 students; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Education Association calls for a week observed in all communities annually for the purpose of informing the public of the accomplishments and needs of the public schools to secure the cooperation and support of the public in meeting those needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach is focused on encouraging and recognizing the support for public education; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, is committed to its relationships with the community and stakeholders through Compass to 2020, to increase public support and involvement in education.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**



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**RESOLVED:** That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach designates the week of November 13-17, 2017, as American Education Week in the 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.

3. National Military Family Month as follows:

**National Military Family Appreciation Month, November 2017**

**WHEREAS,** our country owes the daily freedoms to the members of the Armed Forces, their family members and loved ones who share in their service and sacrifice; and

**WHEREAS,** we celebrate the exceptional service, strength and character of the approximately 18,000 military-connected students and families in Virginia Beach City Public Schools; and

**WHEREAS,** we acknowledge that military families face unique challenges due to deployment, reintegration, service in combat zones and frequent relocations based on duty assignments; and

**WHEREAS,** the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach reaffirms their commitment to providing the resources and programs to support military-connected students academically, socially and emotionally; and

**WHEREAS,** Virginia Beach City Public School Board's **Compass to 2020** strategic plan calls for the continued creation of opportunities for military families and community members to purposely partner with schools in supporting student achievement, aspirations and social-emotional development; and

**WHEREAS,** November is recognized as National Military Family Appreciation Month.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach officially recognizes the month of November, 2017 as National Military Family Appreciation Month; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach encourages all school staff and community members to initiate, support and participate in appreciation activities designed to recognize the exceptional role and unique sacrifices our military-connected youth make in our nation's best interest; and be it

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

B. Five recommendations Administration concurs with as proposed in response to the comprehensive evaluation of An Achievable Dream Academy (AADA) at Seatack Elementary School as follows:

Recommendation #1: Continue An Achievable Dream Academy with modifications noted in recommendations 2 through 5. (*Responsible Groups: An Achievable Dream, Inc., Seatack Elementary School*)

Recommendation #2: Analyze academic data relative to performance targets and investigate the reasons for declines to ensure instruction and additional instructional time are effective. (*Responsible Groups: An Achievable Dream, Inc., Seatack Elementary School*)

Recommendation #3: Leverage the program's interventions, strategies, and supports to provide an environment highly conducive to learning that will improve student behavior. (*Responsible Groups: An Achievable Dream, Inc., Seatack Elementary School*)



Recommendation #4: Ensure the attendance procedures and parent educational contracts are being followed. *(Responsible Groups: An Achievable Dream, Inc., Seatack Elementary School)*

Recommendation #5: Increase opportunities for clearer and more consistent communication between the instructional staff, administrators, and AADA. *(Responsible Groups: An Achievable Dream, Inc., Seatack Elementary School)*

- C. Changes to the School Board’s schedule of regular meetings for the period ending June 30, 2018 pursuant to revisions made in School Board Bylaws to change regular meeting dates generally to the second and fourth Tuesday of each month effective January 1, 2018 with some variations as needed due to scheduled holidays and other significant events as follows:

Regular School Board meetings will be held at the School Administration Building, 2512 George Mason Dr., Virginia Beach. Informal meetings generally convene at 4 p.m. subject to the volume of business to be transacted.

School Board Recess at 5:30 p.m.

Formal Meeting Call to Order at 6:00 p.m.

<b>Balance of SY2017-18 Schedule of School Board Meetings effective January 1, 2018</b>	
January 9 & 23	<b>2018</b>
February 6 Special Meeting for presentation of the Superintendent’s Estimate of Needs FY2018/19 and Proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) FY2018/19 through FY2023/24	
February 13 & 27	February 20*
March 6* Special Meeting for adoption of the School Operating Budget FY2810/19 and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) FY2018/19 through FY2023/24	
March 13 & 27	
April 10 & 24	
May 8 & 22	
June 11 (Mon) & 26	[Graduations June 12-16]
*Budget/CIP Workshop	



D. Budget Calendar for FY2018-19 as follows:

<b>Budget Calendar</b>	
<b>FY 2018/19 School Operating Budget and FY 2018/19 - FY 2023/24 Capital Improvement Program</b>	
<b><u>2017</u></b>	
September	The Budget Calendar is developed
Sept. 19	The Budget Calendar is presented to the School Board for information
Oct. 10	A budget kickoff meeting is conducted to provide senior staff and budget managers with an economic update, revenue outlook and general directions for budget development
Nov. 8	The Budget Calendar is presented to the School Board for action
Oct. 10 - Dec. 5	Budget requests are submitted by senior staff and budget managers to the Office of Budget Development
Nov. 21	A Five Year Forecast is presented to the School Board and the City Council
Dec. 5	A public hearing is held to solicit stakeholder input and offer the community an opportunity to be involved in the budget development process
Dec. 8	Recommended part-time hourly rates for FY 2018/19 are submitted by the Department of Human Resources to the Office of Budget Development
Dec. 11	A draft of the Capital Improvement Program is prepared for the superintendent's review
December (3 <sup>rd</sup> week)	State revenue estimates are released by the Virginia Department of Education
<b><u>2018</u></b>	
Jan. 2 - 19	Budget requests are reviewed, refined and summarized by the Office of Budget Development
Jan. 8	The recommended Capital Improvement Program budget is presented to the superintendent and senior staff
Jan. 16	The unbalanced School Operating budget is presented to the superintendent and senior staff
Jan. 17 - Jan. 25	Online Budget Forum available to employees
Feb. 6	The Superintendent's Estimate of Needs for FY 2018/19 is presented to the School Board (Special School Board meeting required)
Feb. 6	The Superintendent's Proposed FY 2018/19 - FY 2023/24 Capital Improvement Program budget is presented to the School Board (Special School Board meeting required)
Feb. 13	School Board Budget Workshop #1 is held from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Feb. 20	School Board Budget Workshop #2 is held from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Feb. 27	A public hearing is held to solicit stakeholder input and offer the community an opportunity to be involved in the budget development process
Feb. 27	School Board Budget Workshop #3 is held from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. (if needed)
March 6	School Board Budget Workshop #4 is held from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. (if needed)



March 6	The FY 2018/19 School Operating budget and FY 2018/19 - FY 2023/24 Capital Improvement Program budget are adopted by the School Board (Special School Board meeting required)
March 13	The FY 2018/19 School Board Proposed Operating Budget is provided to city staff
April	The FY 2018/19 School Board Proposed Operating Budget and FY 2018/19 - FY 2023/24 Capital Improvement Program budget are presented to the City Council (Sec. 15.1-163)
No Later Than May 15	The FY 2018/19 School Board Proposed Operating Budget and FY 2018/19 - FY 2023/24 Capital Improvement Program budget are approved by the City Council (Sec. 22.1-93; 22.1-94; 22.1-115)

- E. Religious Exemption Case Numbers RE-17-19 through 22
- F. Policy Review Committee Recommendations as follows:
  - 1. Bylaw 1-17 Publications Regarding School Board
  - 2. Policy 3-74 New Construction/Additions/Alterations: Naming of Schools or Parts Thereof, Commemorative Displays
  - 3. Policy 4-1 Definitions
  - 4. Policy 4-9 Health Examinations/AIDS Awareness Orientation
  - 5. Policy 4-65 School Meetings and Conferences
  - 6. Policy 4-73 Licensed Personnel: Awards for Achievement
  - 7. Policy 4-88 Holidays
  - 8. Policy 7-70 Relations with Non-Governmental Organizations: Corporate and Other Private Sponsorship of Interscholastic Activities

**12. Action**

Personnel Report / Administrative Appointments: Ms. Rye made a motion, seconded by Ms. Melnyk, that the School Board approve the appointments and accept the resignations, retirements and other employment actions as listed on the Personnel Report dated November 8, 2017 inclusive of one administrative appointment as recommended by the Superintendent. The motion passed unanimously, and Superintendent Spence introduced George T. Coker, Jr., current Professional Learning Specialist in the Office of Professional Growth and Innovation, as the new Coordinator of Mathematics in the Department of Teaching and Learning effective November 9, 2017.

**13. Information**

- A. Biennial School Calendars: SY2018-19 and SY2019-20: Lauren Nolasco, Director of Communications, and co-chair of the division’s School Calendar Committee, provided a summary of public input on two calendar options introduced to the School Board in an October workshop and then posted in an e-Town Hall for community feedback. Preferences were reported by parent, teacher, staff member, student and community member for each school year. She reported when considering the ability to include a potential make-up day and the School Board’s stated desire to have professional learning





as early in the year as possible, Administration is recommending a 2018-19 school calendar comprised of 181 instructional days; two embedded professional learning days (one during in-service week and one on October 8); 9-day winter break with three days of travel time before Christmas; Veterans Day, Martin Luther King Day and Presidents' Day observed; adjusted dismissal days only used for holiday breaks and exam week; and April 12 as an extended spring break or if needed for weather make-up. Administration's recommended calendar for the 2019-20 school year also included 181 instructional days; two embedded professional learning days (one during in-service week and one on October 14); 10-day winter break with three days of travel time before Christmas; adjusted dismissal days only used before holiday breaks and exam week; and Veterans Day, Martin Luther King Day and Presidents' Day observed.

- B. Digital Learning Anchor Schools Initiative: A Development Evaluation: Stephen C. Court, Program Evaluation Specialist in the Department of Planning, Innovation, and Accountability, presented an overview of the key findings from the year-two developmental evaluation of the Digital Learning Anchor Schools (DLAS) initiative including background summary; process and method information; implementation components in the area of teacher perceptions of professional learning and instruction in the DLAS classroom; progress toward goals; overall stakeholder perceptions; and outline of 2016-17 expenditures. As a result, the following five recommendations were presented along with the rationale for each. Amy E. Cashwell, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer, presented Administration's concurrence with recommendations including highlights of several key actions related to recommendations:

- 1) Continue the Digital Learning Anchor Schools Initiative with modifications outlined in 2 through 5;
- 2) Continue to work toward funding at least one full-time Instructional Technology Specialist (ITS) at each school and review the adequacy of the Technology Support Technician (TST) allocations to support the 1:1 digital learning initiative as it expands to all schools;
- 3) Provide professional learning, especially for high school staff, so that staff will have as much time as possible to plan in informed and effective ways;
- 4) Continue to optimize the digital device experience for students and staff by ensuring that device, network, and related infrastructure issues are promptly addressed and resolved; and
- 5) Conduct an evaluation update during 2019-2020 to monitor the continued progress of the 1:1 initiative and its continuing alignment with evidence-based best practices.



- C. Legislative Agenda for 2018 General Assembly Session: As chair of the School Board's Legislative Committee, Mr. McDonald reviewed the committee's proposed Legislative Agenda for the 2018 General Assembly Session as introduced in the afternoon workshop.

- 14. Standing Committee Reports:** None
- 15. Conclusion of Formal Meeting:** The formal meeting concluded at 6:49 p.m.
- 16. Hearing of Citizens and Delegations on Non-Agenda Items:** None
- 17. Recess into Workshop:** None. See Item 1
- 18. Closed Meeting:** Vice Chair Edwards made a motion, seconded by Ms. Melnyk, that the School Board recess into a closed meeting pursuant to the exemptions from open meetings allowed by Section 2.2-3711, Part A, Paragraph 7 of the *Code of Virginia, 1950*, as amended, for 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 current and probable litigation matters.

The motion passed unanimously and the School Board recessed at 6:51 p.m. and entered into a closed meeting in Room 113 at 7:02 p.m.

Individuals present for discussion: School Board members; Superintendent Spence; Marc A. Bergin, Ed.D., Chief of Staff; Amy E. Cashwell, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer; Veleka S. Gatling, Ph.D., Executive Director of Programs for Exceptional Children; Alveta J. Green, Ed.D., Executive Director of Student Support Services; 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 7:54 p.m.

Certification of Closed Meeting: Vice Chair Edwards made a motion, seconded by Ms. Melnyk, 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 unanimously.

- 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 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Dianne P. Alexander, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

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Beverly M. Anderson, School Board Chair