



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Aaron C. Spence, Ed.D., Superintendent

School Board Special Meeting MINUTES

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Holland Road Annex
2323 Holland Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
(757) 263-1000

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH

- 1. Call to Order and Verbal Roll Call:** Chair Riggs convened the special meeting at 5:03 p.m. on the 7th day of February 2023 and announced in accordance with the Schedule of School Board Meetings approved by the School Board at their January 10, 2023 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 7, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., at the Holland Road Annex, 2323 Holland Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23453 in the Einstein Lab. The purpose of this special meeting is for presentation of: 1) Superintendent's Estimate of Needs for Fiscal Year 2023-24; and 2) proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Fiscal Year 2023-24 through Fiscal Year 2028-29. Chair Riggs stated 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; welcomed members of the public both in person and online.
In addition to Superintendent Spence the following member were present in the Holland Road Annex/Einstein Lab: Chair Riggs, Vice Chair Weems, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. The following School Board member was attending via Zoom: Mr. Culpepper. Note: due to technical difficulties, Mr. Culpepper could not be heard via Zoom.
- 2. Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Adoption of the Agenda:** Chair Riggs called for any modifications to the agenda as presented. Hearing none, Chair Riggs called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Anderson made the motion, seconded by Ms. Manning. Without discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion: Chair Riggs, Vice Chair Weems, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. Note: due to technical difficulties, Mr. Culpepper's response could not be recorded. The motion passed, 10-0-0.
- 4. Presentation:**
 - A. Superintendent's Estimate of Needs for Fiscal Year 2023-24:** Superintendent Spence began the presentation with an introduction and background; reviewed the development of the Superintendent's Estimate of Needs (SEON); the operating budget revenue is projected to be approximately \$926 million, an increase in revenue of approximately \$54 million; state share of new revenue projected is just over \$27 million; local share is approximately \$27.4 million; noted 85% of expenditures are in employee compensation and benefits; fixed costs (i.e. fuel, utility costs); SEON includes over \$7 million in downward adjustments to department line items and baseline position adjustments; division budget priorities: employee compensation, school safety and student support, increased supports for our ESL population, CIP Planning; mentioned the Segal Group compensation study; redesigning pay scales; the proposed budget fully funds the compensation study recommendations for the unified scale at just over \$15 million; instructional scale - fully funding Option 2 from the study at \$26.4

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million, allocating additional funds to the instructional scale of \$2.6 million; noted Estimate of Needs is based on state projections developed from the Governor's proposed budget for the coming year; Option 1 recommendation from the study would require approximately an additional \$9.6 million; no increase to healthcare costs this year; budgeted to continue the phasing in of increased allowances for those employees with advanced degrees.

School safety and student support - enhanced security assistant positions and implemented ongoing training requirements; Raptor visitor management system in our schools; conduct annual security audits at schools; phased in 15 additional security assistants in elementary schools with grant funds (approximately \$562,000); proposed operating budget includes approximately \$668,000 to fund these positions in the new fiscal year; state School Security Equipment Grant (approximately \$60,000) to purchase digital two-way radios for selected schools, fund the purchase and installation of additional surveillance cameras; received the Community Oriented Policing Services – School Violence Prevention Program grant (approximately \$389,000) to address a critical need for effective communications during an emergency or critical incident, purchase and implement an integrated mass communications and emergency notification system – RAVE; student behavior – continue to focus on behavior and mental health by proposing three additional behavior intervention positions; ESL expansion – proposed budget includes an additional 15 ESL teachers, mentioned opening of International Welcome Center (IWC) for ESL families who need assistance with registration, academic planning and navigating the school system.

Other budget items – 12 additional school-based positions to support teacher and students; moving NJROTC instructors from 10 to 11 months; budgeted funds for site assigned substitute positions; pay for new teachers to attend orientation activities in the summer; funds to cover increases in fixed costs; other cost increases due to inflation.

Superintendent Spence continued the presentation and reviewed VBCPS accomplishments over the last year; for the 14th consecutive year, VBCPS continued to maintain record levels with respect to On-Time Graduation rate (94.4% for the 2022 cohort year) and low dropout rate of 2.9%; students in VBCPS outperformed local districts in reading, writing, math and science; VBCPS was awarded the School Division of Innovation designation for efforts aimed at providing students more rigorous, relevant and real-world learning opportunities; Academic Career Planning is now mapped out from elementary school through graduation; providing work-based learning (WBL) experiences for students; the Nursing Schools Almanac ranked the Virginia Beach School of Practical Nursing program as the top licensed practical nursing program in the state in 2021; since 2022, over 140,000 industry credentials have been earned by VBCPS students; VBCPS recently collaborated with Newport News Shipbuilding to create the Apprentice X program; VBCPS teamed with Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana on Project SEARCH; Great Neck and Salem Middle Schools earned distinction as Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) National Demonstration Schools; hiring of Family Outreach Representatives to help traditionally underserved families navigate the education process; "Language Ambassadors" program; "Family Connection" webinars to support families; 2nd annual Back to School Care Fair; military connected families – 46 Virginia Beach schools were named 2022-23 Virginia Purple Star schools; Bayside Sixth Grade Campus was named a 2022-23 National ESEA Distinguished School; Old Donation School was named a 2022 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education as an Exemplary High Performing School.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP) – addresses large maintenance needs for over 11 million square feet of facility space, renovation and replacement projects (reroofing, HVAC improvements, site improvements), and school division's modernization/replacement program; proposed CIP fully funds the Princess Anne High School and the B.F. Williams/Bayside 6th Grade Campus replacement projects with the six-year program; proposed CIP also increases funding the replacement of Bayside High School; mentioned Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act (PPEA).

Crystal M. Pate, Chief Financial Officer continued the presentation; reviewed school operating fund revenue sources: 49.8% local contribution, 38.0% State, 10.3% State sales tax, 1.5% Federal, 0.4% other local; school operating fund by State category: 73.3% instruction, 12.0% operations and maintenance, 5.5% pupil transportation, 4.8% administration, attendance and health, 4.4% technology; school operation fund expenditures by type: 62.9% personnel services, 23.2% fringe benefits, 5.3% purchased services, 3.5% materials and supplies, 3.1% other charges, 1.6% transfers to other funds, 0.5% capital outlay; reviewed school operating fund revenue; FY2022/23 adopted \$872,457,888; FY 2023/24 proposed \$934,706,105, estimated reduction of basic aid per memo from the state \$8,063,470; proposed budget amount with reduction of basic aid \$926.7 million (approximately); reviewed items for budget balancing; reviewed timeline: February – budget workshops

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and public hearing, March 7 – School Board approval of budget, March 14 – budget documents to City Staff, March 27 – last day for Governor’s action on legislation, April – VBCPS presentation to City Council, April 12 – reconvened session, by May 15 – City Council approves Municipal Budget.

- B. Superintendent’s Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-24 through Fiscal Year 2028-29 Capital Improvement Program Budget: Melisa Ingram, Executive Director of Facilities Services continued the presentation; reviewed the school modernization/replacement program; projects pending PPEA: Princess Anne HS , B.F. Williams ES/Bayside 6th Grade Campus, Bayside HS; total projected cost \$428.8 million; overview of last inflation review (2020); shared chart of inflation update (VA DOE Construction Data) with average cost/square foot (building only); mentioned 2022 proposed inflation rate (15.41%) and proposed cost/SF (\$469.96) from the VA K-12 Construction data; reviewed proposed cost increases by square foot for building projects Princess Anne High School and Bayside High School; FY24 CIP Proposed - updated project costs increase: \$714.1 million, timelines move back: 3 schools (2-8 years), average age when replaced 75 years, future school projects average age when replaced 116 years; overview of historical/projected funding; reviewed funding sources from 2022/23 to 2027/23; reviewed benefits of the PPEA process: schools open sooner, cost savings, prototype high school plan; interim agreement \$15.4 million – all funds appropriated; reviewed the PPEA interim agreement status: School Board approved August 9, 2022, City Council Action – deferred to February 21, 2023; provided an overview of items in the CIP: renovations & replacement projects, renovations and replacements – safe school improvements, energy performance contracts, elementary school playground equipment replacement, Princess Anne HS replacement, Bettie F. Williams/Bayside 6th replacement, Bayside HS replacement (partially funded); CIP funding: total cost (including appropriations to date) \$735,026,067, Year 1 (2023/24) \$62,800,000; reviewed funding source – Alternative A and funding source – Alternative B.

Note: School Board member, Jessica Owens left the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

At the end of the presentation, Superintendent Spence mentioned there is no question session at the meeting due to the fact this is the first time the School Board is receiving this information; School Board members can email Ms. Pate any questions, noted to copy Superintendent Spence and School Board colleagues on emails; questions will be addressed at the budget workshop at the next meeting, February 14, 2023.

5. **Adjournment:** Chair Riggs adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Trenace B. Riggs, School Board Chair