

**POQUOSON CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
MARCH 21, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
CITY OF POQUOSON COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

MINUTES

Present:

Christina Helsel, Chair
Jonathan Ingram
Timothy Goodale

Cameron Childress
Shannon Martin
Cathy Everett

Christopher Burbage
Arty Tillett, Superintendent
April Firth, Clerk of the Board

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Helsel called meeting to order: 5:59 p.m.
- II. **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG, MOMENT OF SILENCE, AND INSPIRATIONAL READING:**
Alexis Peshehonoff, a junior at Poquoson High School and Student Representative of the Board, led the Pledge to the Flag and read an inspirational quote.
- III. **ADDITIONS AND/OR MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA:** There were none.
- IV. **RECOGNITIONS:** Chair Helsel recognized former Board member Craig Freeman for his service on the board. Kelly Purdie recognized Tyrah Weems as the March Student of the Month, Avery Nunnally-Brooks, Lauren Romanelli, Abigail Smith and Zaynah Weems on their All-State Choir Placements, Williams Henley, Lillian Himes, Savanna Gordon, Cameron Monfils and Heather Jensen on their All-VA Chorus Placements, Tony DeVries, Jack Sebring, Landon Owen and Soren Lund on their Swimming All-State Honors, Elizabeth Trant on two individual Indoor Track State Championship Titles, Elizabeth Trant, Zoey Creasman, AJ Jones and Libbie Harper on their Indoor Track Relay Championship Title, Elizabeth Trant, Zoey Creasman, AJ Jones, Libbie Harper, Alanna Gragg, Lexi Peshehonoff, Kayla Romine and Madison Wyatt were also recognized for their State Indoor Track and Field 2nd Overall Placement, Jared Goodson on his State Wrestling Championship Title and Tatum Smith on State Runner-Up in the Scholastic Bowl. The Poquoson Lions Club also gave a presentation on the audiometers they are providing for each school for vision screenings for the children.
- V. **PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:**
 - A. **Instruction Update:** Ms. Amber Brown gave an overview on PPS's partnership with Lego to deliver STEM lessons, Math Madness at PES and the 5th Grade Tours to PMS. She spoke about PMS's March Book Madness and Academic & Career Plans for 8th graders. She also gave an overview on Impact Block at PHS and its benefits.
 - B. **Operations Update:** Dr. Brandon Ratliff gave an overview of the Food Service Equipment Grant. He also gave an update on new employee recruitment and recruiting strategies.
 - C. **Financial Update:** Ms. Tracy Spence gave an overview of the 2022 Financial Audit.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT: There were none.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of Financial Reports
- B. Authorization to Change Appropriation and to Accept and Expend Funds in Accordance with Attached Request
- C. Approval of Personnel Action
- D. Approval of Minutes for February's Regular Meeting, and Work Session

Ms. Martin read the Consent Agenda above. Mr. Childress made a motion, seconded by Ms. Martin, that the Consent Agenda be approved as read. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 7:0

Mr. Ingram, Aye; Dr. Goodale, Aye; Mr. Childress, Aye; Ms. Martin, Aye; Ms. Everett, Aye; Dr. Burbage, Aye; Chair Helsel, Aye

VIII. OTHER MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- A. Consideration of Approval of the Proclamation for Military Child Month

Mr. Childress read the Proclamation for Military Child Month.

Ms. Everett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ingram, that the Consideration of Approval of the Proclamation for Military Child Month be approved. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 7:0

Mr. Ingram, Aye; Dr. Goodale, Aye; Mr. Childress, Aye; Ms. Martin, Aye; Ms. Everett, Aye; Dr. Burbage, Aye; Chair Helsel, Aye

- B. Consideration of Approval of Authorized Signature in Absence of Division Superintendent

Dr. Burbage made a motion, seconded by Mr. Childress, that the Consideration of Approval of Authorized Signature in Absence of Division Superintendent be approved. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 7:0

Mr. Ingram, Aye; Dr. Goodale, Aye; Mr. Childress, Aye; Ms. Martin, Aye; Ms. Everett, Aye; Dr. Burbage, Aye; Chair Helsel, Aye

- C. Consideration to Waive the Second Reading and the Approval for the Adoption of Policy 7-5.16, Service Animals be approved.

Mr. Ingram made a motion, seconded by Ms. Everett, to waive the Second Reading and the

Consideration of Approval for the Adoption of Policy 7-5.16, Service Animals be approved. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 7:0

Mr. Ingram, Aye; Dr. Goodale, Aye; Mr. Childress, Aye; Ms. Martin, Aye; Ms. Everett, Aye; Dr. Burbage, Aye; Chair Helsel, Aye

IX. PUBLIC HEARING ON SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY23

A. Public Comment on Superintendent's Proposed Budget for FY23: There were none.

B. Consideration of Approval of Superintendent's Proposed Budget

Ms. Everett made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ingram, that the Consideration of Approval of Superintendent's Proposed Budget be approved. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 5:2

Mr. Ingram, Aye; Dr. Goodale, Nay; Mr. Childress, Nay; Ms. Martin, Aye; Ms. Everett, Aye; Dr. Burbage, Aye; Chair Helsel, Aye

X. COMMUNICATIONS AND/OR OTHER MATTERS BY SCHOOL BOARD AND/OR SUPERINTENDENT:

- **Miss Peshehonoff:** She gave an update on all schools.
- **Mr. Ingram:** He thanked Mr. Freeman for his service to the board and the community. He always had a great teaching perspective. H congratulated all the choir, chorus, swimming, track, wrestling and scholastic bowl All-State Honors and acknowledged all the hard work and effort they put into all of their sports. He thanked the Lions Club for their donation of the Audiometers and teachers and staff for the input they gave for the budget.
- **Dr. Goodale:** He congratulated the choir, sports, scholastic bowl on their achievements. It seems that excellence is normal for our extracurricular activities. He is glad we get to celebrate those achievements with the School Board. He thanked the Lions Club. He stated that he is passionate and his heart is in the right place when it comes to the budget and they are trying to do their best. He wants to get the most out of our curricular programs for our kids. He appreciates all the hard work everybody does.
- **Mr. Childress:** He congratulated Mr. Freeman, and all the athletes and scholars. Listening to what is happening at the Primary and Elementary Schools is very exciting. His kids come home excited all the time and he hears things about the High School too. He heard Mr. Tillett received more roses than Chair Helsel. It is fun to hear that these athletes and students are having so much fun in school. It shows the hard work of the teachers, educators and staff. Mr. Tillett and all the principals are doing a great job and he would like to thank everybody.

- **Ms. Martin:** She echoes sentiments of Freeman’s service to the community and the Board and she appreciates his time with them. She also echoes sentiments to our athletes and our scholars. She took a moment to acknowledge and recognize teachers Mrs. Wade and Mrs. Maxwell. Being a former coach, she would like to recognize the coaches. Their hard work is often unappreciated, and we would not see this success without their hard work and dedication to their sports and scholastic achievements of our students. Thank you to those people especially.
- **Ms. Everett:** She echoed Ms. Martin.
- **Dr. Burbage:** He congratulated Mr. Freeman for all of his years of service. He also congratulated all the high achieving sports endeavors, the chorus groups and the scholastic bowl. It takes a lot of hard work. He thanked all the adults working with these kids, it takes a lot of time and dedication. He shared that he volunteered for the Tidewater Science and Engineering Fair a couple weeks ago and he would really like to encouraged the high school and middle school kids to start participating in this again. There are great scholarships that come out of this fair.
- **Mr. Tillett:** He thanked Mr. Freeman for his service on the Board, he appreciated his conversations and his heart was always in it for the kids. He appreciates him on a professional and personal note. He also thanked the Lions club for their generous donation. It is a real asset to the schools.
- **Chair Helsel:** She was honored to judge Mr. PHS. Becky Morrison and those kids did an amazing job. It was hilarious to watch. She echoes everyone’s comments about Mr. Freeman. It was great to work with him on the Board. They did not always agree but always came to a consensus which is what they are there for.

XI. MATERIAL FOR BOARD REVIEW: There were none.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: Chair Helsel adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.



Christina Helsel, Chair



April Firth, Clerk of the Board

4-18-23

Date