



School Board Services

Trenace B. Riggs, Chair
District 1 – Centerville

Carolyn D. Weems, Vice Chair
District 9

Beverly M. Anderson
At-Large

Kathleen J. Brown
District 10

Michael R. Callan
District 6

David Culpepper
District 8

Jennifer S. Franklin
District 2 – Kempsville

Victoria C. Manning
At-Large

Staci R. Martin
District 4

Kimberly A. Melnyk
District 2

Jessica L. Owens
District 3 – Rose Hall

Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Acting Superintendent

School Board Regular Meeting MINUTES
Tuesday, September 26, 2023

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

- 1. Administrative, Informal, and Workshop:** Chair Riggs convened the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session at 4:04 p.m. on the 26th day of September 2023 and announced the members of the public will be able to observe the School Board meeting through live streaming on schoolboard.vbschools.com/meetings/live, broadcast on VBTV Channel 47, and on Zoom; welcomed members of the public both in person and online.

In addition to Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Acting Superintendent, the following School Board members were present in the Holland Road Annex/Einstein Lab: Chair Riggs, 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 (out of town/personal reasons.) Vice Chair Weems was not in attendance due to medical reasons (hospital.)

- A. **School Board Administrative Matters and Reports:** Chair Riggs mentioned the superintendent search survey is available on vbschools.com website; seeking input regarding qualifications and leadership attributes for the new superintendent; survey will remain open until Friday, October 6; link to apply for the superintendent position is also on vbschools.com website, the link will take you to the HYA (Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates website to complete an application; focus group meetings on October 3 and 4 with HYA representatives for input from students, staff, parents, and community stakeholders regarding qualifications and leadership attributes for the new superintendent; reminder the next School Board meeting on October 10 will be held at the School Administration Building #6 at 2512 George Mason Drive.
- B. **Summer Work and School Opening Update:** Jack Freeman, Chief Operations Officer provided an overview of the presentation in which the School Board receive updates from the offices within the Department of School Division Services; Melisa Ingram, Executive Director of Facilities Services continued the presentation; summer work at all school and administrative facilities: over 90 sites, over 11,000,000 square feet of space, approximately 1,900 acres; CIP planned projects: work on over 25 projects including: roof replacements, HVAC replacements, foundations investigation, lighting, auditorium equipment, athletic fields; August 2023 welcomed An Achievable Dream Academy (AADA) high school students for the start of SY2023-24; Eric Woodhouse, Director of Maintenance Services shared information on summer projects; completed over 200 building maintenance projects: painting, electrical upgrades, HVAC improvements, carpet replacement, plumbing, roofing repairs; maintenance services initiatives: Demand Response Test Program – energy savings initiative (HVAC system), 55 facilities, average cost savings: \$85,000; Brightly Asset Essentials Program – work order management program (replaced SchoolDude/Maintenance Direct); Technical and Career Education (TCE) Partnership – six students from TCE worked in various trades during the summer months; Sam Nix, Director of Custodial and Distribution Services continued the presentation; completed over 120 projects including: screened and recoated gym floors, top scrubbed/stripped and waxed all floors, relocated and cleaned the new classroom at the mall site in Lynnhaven Mall, pressure washed five schools and sidewalks; efforts toward cleaning: providing clean and safe buildings remains top priority, the new cleaning/sanitizing protocols continue to be part of daily cleaning protocols, protocols were utilized to prepare facilities for the return of students and staff; continue to work on vacancies; shared picture of wrap van with advertising; continuous school support by delivering:

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school records, Kindergarten materials, furniture, custodial supplies, printed materials/forms, textbooks, teaching and learning materials, DOT supplies to schools; removal of kitchen equipment, surplus computers, surplus furniture; special event support; Thomas DeMartini, Director of Security and Emergency Management continued the presentation; School Security Officers: armed School Security officers (SSOs) in all 11 high schools, 7 of 15 middle schools; training: Active Shooter Emergency Response, Emergency Evacuation Procedure and Threat Assessment; administrative training: newly promoted assistant principal training, summer administration training included threat assessment, search and seizure, interview and interrogation, RAVE Panic Button; Crisis Prevention Institute; food services/cafeteria staff division-wide: Run-Hide-Protect training; School Resource Officer training; senior leadership and administrative crisis response team: critical incident management training (table-top, Division Command Center, Mobile Command Post, reunification exercise; security assistant training: 105 new and recertified security assistants including DCJS School Security Officer certification training, Raptor and Genetec; schools: crisis response team meetings, Run-Hide-Protect trainings, table-top exercise; school audits: in SY2022-23, conducted 43 comprehensive audits and 43 unannounced checklist visits; James Lash, Executive Director of Transportation and Fleet Management Services continued the presentation; fleet management summer work statistics: completed almost 1,500 work orders during the period of June 19 – August 25, completed an average of 33 logged work orders each day, included services such as: preventive maintenance, repairs, road service, breakdowns; recruitment and training; 23 drivers trained and hired between July 3 and September 8, 14 students currently in driver training class, 23 applicants are signed up for class (begins October 2), all routes assigned drivers for the beginning of the school year; 35 assistants currently needed; transportation registration and bus runs: 51,665 total students registered (49,031 regular education, 2,634 special needs), 3,752 total daily bus runs (2,291 regular education, 894 special needs, 247 academy, 320 other runs), continue to receive transportation requests; in-service training: August 23, 2023 department-wide at Ocean Lakes High School – employee relations, risk management, student behavior management and referral, seizure training; August 24, 2023 individual area meetings – healthcare needs of students, response plans and protocols, transportation operations manual; bus assistants participated on hands-on training on proper student securement requirements and the safe operation of the bus wheelchair lift; Viorica (Vicka) Harrison, Director of Food Services continued the presentation; operating the traditional National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP), meal costs are based on individual student eligibility, meal prices remain at \$1.40 for breakfast and \$2.85 for lunch (have not increased in 6 years), over 22,000 Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school students are eligible to receive no-cost breakfast and lunch meals, over 15,000 students qualified for Free & Reduced price meal benefits; total of 38 CEP schools (27 elementary, 6 middle, 5 high); total of 8.51 million student meals served during fiscal year 2022-2023; Scratch Initiative’s menu items are part of the division-wide cycle menu and offered at all VBCPS schools; 43 school kitchens have been modernized and have new scratch cooking equipment, 36 active school gardens, 13 school sites interested in Jr. Chef culinary clubs; food truck success: alternative food service model, mobile scratch kitchen, scratch menu items sampling, student nutrition education tours, VBCPS catering events, VBScratch marketing events; YouTube Channel (VBSchools Food Services) 34 educational videos; shared photos of most popular current scratch menu items and Farm-to-Table harvesting.

The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding work done by whole department; kudos for all work done; cleanliness of schools; schools beautifully kept; distribution services; food services training; weapon safety; bus routes covered; security assistants doing a great job at schools; bus usage; maximizing the use of buses; use of vans for smaller runs; number of buses used daily (542); new football turfs; community gardens; stipends; recruiting for custodial and distribution services; suggestion of referral program; compensation study and increase in salary; recruitment and retention of positions.

- C. PPEA Interim Agreement Update: Melisa Ingram, Executive Director of Facilities Services provided a PPEA Interim Agreement Briefing update to the School Board; reviewed timeline, public input meeting milestones: Sept-Oct: School Board workshop and City Council informal session – Conceptual Design, Oct-Nov: School Board workshop and City Council informal session – final schematic design, Nov-Feb: School Board workshop and City Council informal session – project financing plan; mentioned Planning Advisory Team meetings: organizations engaged and elected officials; reviewed approved directives from School Board CIP funding language and City Council PPEA Resolution; Public Community meetings (open to the general public), upcoming meeting in October: October 23 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for replacement project B.F. Williams and Bayside 6 at Bayside 6th cafeteria, October 25 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for replacement project Princess Anne High School at Princess Anne High School library, and October 26 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for replacement project Bayside High School at Bayside High School library; reviewed design parameters for Princess Anne High School (1,700 students), Williams Elementary and Bayside 6th (850

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students: 450 Grade 4 & 5, 400 Grade 6), and Bayside High School (1,900 students); March-April: focus group interview – division-wide Special Needs program, academy-based programs, individual and personalized learning, career and technical education (CTE), community partnerships; emerging themes from public input meetings: security, learner agency, professional futures, community, don't forget the basics (storage, restrooms, daylight/views, etc.); April-May: educational specification meetings, shared a working draft in process for Princess Anne High School, space efficiencies – can spaces be shared and defined, briefly reviewed conceptual designs for Princess Anne High School, most popular design – Main Street (four story plan); Williams Elementary School/Bayside 6th Grade Campus, Embrace concept (two story concept); Bayside High School, most popular design – Concept 1 (best use of stie); conceptual design for Bayside High School – prototype design, adaptable to site needs for next three schools (First Colonial, Kempsville, Green Run); due to time constraints, if any School Board members had questions, they could email Melisa Ingram.

- D. Forecast of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda Topics FY 24 – Second Quarter: October, November, December:
Note: due to time constraints, the forecast will be presented under agenda item #17 – Return to Administrative, Informal, Workshop or Closed Session matters.

- 2. **Closed Session:** None during the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session. See agenda item #17.
- 3. **School Board Recess:** Chair Riggs adjourned the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session at 5:35 p.m.
- 4. **Formal Meeting (Holland Road Annex – School Board Room/Auditorium) 6:00 p.m.**
- 5. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chair Riggs convened the meeting of the School Board at the Holland Road Annex, School Board Room/Auditorium at 6:02 p.m. on the 26th day of September 2023 and welcomed members of the public both in person and online.

In addition to Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Acting Superintendent, the following School Board members were present in the Holland Road Annex, School Board Room/Auditorium: Chair Riggs, 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 (out of town/personal reasons.) Vice Chair Weems was not in attendance due to medical reasons (hospital.)

- 6. **Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance**
- 7. **Student, Employee and Public Awards and Recognition:** There were no student, employee, or public awards presented at the meeting.
- 8. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Chair Riggs called for any modification to the agenda as presented. Ms. Manning made a request to move agenda item #14A2 (Resolution – LGBTQIA+) from Consent to Action item #15F, to vote on separately; Ms. Brown seconded the request. Without discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote on moving Consent agenda item #14A2 to Action item #15F. The School Board Clerk announced there were five (5) ayes in favor of moving Consent agenda item #14A2 to Action item #15F: Ms. Brown, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Owens. There were five (5) nays opposed to moving Consent agenda item #14A2 to Action item #15F: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Callan, Ms. Martin, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion failed, 5-5-0.
Chair Rigg called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Franklin made the motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson. Without discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote to approve the agenda as presented. The School Board Clerk announced there were seven (7) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the agenda as presented: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Callan, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. There were three (3) nays opposed to the motion to approve the agenda as presented: Ms. Brown, Mr. Culpepper, and Ms. Manning. The motion passed, 7-3-0.
- 9. **Superintendent's Report (second monthly meeting) and recognitions (first and second monthly meetings):** Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Acting Superintendent shared the following information: 1) feedback from the first day of school was positive, even though it rained on the first day, Dr. Robertson visited Parkway Elementary School and sat with Kindergarteners and high-fived other students on their way into PE class; 2) in addition to solemn observances of September 11 across our district and across the country, Pembroke Elementary School organized a Patriots Day event, students and staff welcomed police, firefighters, and active military at the bus loop and served up a Hotcakes for Heroes pancake breakfast, and the fourth grade chorus sang for the guests; 3) early in the month, students enjoyed STEM Lab Learning Day at the NAS Oceana Air Show, a video was shared from the day, and a special thanks to the Nav, our community partners, parent volunteers, staff and students who helped during the special day; 4) three former VBCPS students will be recognized this year as Career Success Stars: Molly Etheridge, Devona Stimpson, and Mager Koromhas.

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Each of their success stories will be highlighted on Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) website; and 5) important dates to share: October 4 – Town Hall: Charting the Course – Building Pathways to 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Tallwood High School, October 10 – School Board meetings return to the School Administration Building, October 12 – Academy & Advanced Academic Program Night from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Virginia Beach Convention Center, and October 15-21 – America’s Safe Schools week.

Dr. Robertson, Acting Superintendent, introduced the following appointment which was voted on and approved at the September 12, 2023 School Board meeting: Kimani K. Vaughan, Principal, White Oaks Elementary School as Director, Elementary Schools, Department of School Leadership.

10. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- A. September 11, 2023, Special School Board Meeting: Chair Riggs called for any modifications to the September 11, 2023 Special School Board meeting minutes as presented. Hearing none, Chair Riggs called for a motion to approve the September 11, 2023 minutes as presented. Mr. Callan made the motion, seconded by Ms. Melnyk. Without discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote to approve the September 11, 2023 minutes as presented. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the September 11, 2023 meeting minutes as presented: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. The motion passed, 10-0-0.
- B. September 12, 2023, Regular School Board Meeting: Chair Riggs called for any modifications to the September 12, 2023 Regular School Board meeting minutes as presented. The School Board Clerk mentioned a change on page 7 of 12 under item #15D – Bylaw 1-28: Governance Committee Matters – Complaint by Citizens, there was a typographical error – the vote was listed as 10-0-0, the vote should be listed as 10-1-0. Without further modifications, Chair Riggs called for a motion to approve the September 12, 2023 minutes as presented and modified. Ms. Anderson made the motion, seconded by Ms. Martin. Without discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote to approve the September 12, 2023 minutes as presented and modified. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the September 12, 2023 meeting minutes as presented and modified: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. The motion passed, 10-0-0.

11. Public Comments (until 8:00 p.m.)

Chair Riggs announced the School Board will hear public comments until 8:00 p.m. on matters relevant to PreK-12 public education in Virginia Beach and the business of the School Board and School Division. Chair Riggs mentioned information regarding speaker process and submitting comments via group email. There were thirty-nine (39) in person speakers (including twenty (20) student speakers) and three (3) online speakers; topics discussed were model policy; students feeling safe in school; student rally; respect for all students; bullying; transgender students; student fears; basic rights; negative media posts; Policy 5-31; preferred name and pronoun; parents’ rights; parental consent; teacher workload; school as a safe environment; VBCPS Core Values; students as taxpayers; gender identity; Policy 5-7; public comments; VBCPS regulations; parental rights; compliance with model policy; lawsuits; need to protect children; decorum; mental health crisis; resolutions; First Amendment Rights; and speakers.

The Public Comments were suspended at 7:59 p.m., to continue with the formal meeting and items on the Information Agenda.

12. Information

- A. Superintendent Search Update: Chair Riggs shared the following Superintendent Search Calendar; noted the search calendar was discussed by the search firm, HYA, during the September 11, 2023 Special School Board meeting; mentioned the online survey is open and will remain open through October 6.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>
Advertising	September until filled.
Application deadline	Open until filled.
Leadership Profile interviews/focus groups	October 3 rd – October 4 th A virtual forum(s) will also be scheduled.
Online survey dates	September 25 th – October 6 th , 2023.

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Leadership Profile Report presented to the board.	November 14 th , 2023, early in regular School Board meeting agenda
Seminar on interviewing, questions determination, and slate of candidates presented to Board.	December 12 th , 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
Board interviews with semi-finalist (round 1)	January 5 th & January 6 th , 2024. Friday evening and Saturday day.
Board meets to identify finalists.	January 6 th , 2024 after last interview.
Board second round interviews with finalists (3)	January 8 th , 10 th & 11 th , 2024
Board meets to identify preferred candidate(s). Initiate background check on finalist(s) and contract negotiations.	January 11 th , 2024 after last interview.
Announcement of appointment	Undetermined
Superintendent assumes responsibilities.	TBD

There was a brief mention regarding student discipline hearings scheduled for January 8 and the need to reschedule the discipline hearings.

- B. Interim Financial Statements – June (unaudited), July and August 2023: Daniel Hopkins, Director of Business Services, presented the following financial information to the School Board: fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 – overall final revenue trend was favorable; actual over budget amount of approximately \$4.4 million; Commonwealth of Virginia revenue source was unfavorable with actual under budget of approximately \$9.0 million – mainly due to the sales tax increase; State sales tax revenue source was favorable with an actual over budget of approximately \$6.9 million; the increase in sales tax reduces the State Basic Aid; Federal government revenue source was favorable with an actual over budget of approximately \$4.9 million due to an increase in Impact Aid receipts; other revenue sources were favorable with an actual over budget of approximately \$1.7 million due to the Stop Arm Enforcement and the sale of capital assets.
The total revenues by major source in FY2023: the City of Virginia Beach: 52.0%, Commonwealth of Virginia: 34.9%, State sales tax: 10.6%, Federal Government: 2.0%, and other sources: .5%; final expenditure trend for FY2023 was favorable in all categories; remaining unspent and unencumbered balance was \$20.9 million for operating and \$4.0 million for debt services; total expenditures incurred in FY2023 by category: Instructional category: 67.4%, Operations and Maintenance: 12.3%, Pupil Transportation: 5.8%, Technology: 5.3%, Administration, Attendance, and Health: 4.2%, and Debt Services: 5.0%.
Summary of reversion back to the City’s General Fund; reversion back to the City of approximately \$30.4 million; noted the revenue sharing formula and figures presented are unaudited and subject to change; stated the July and August interim financial statements are abbreviated statements. The presentation continued with comments and questions regarding the amount of the reversion funds; resolution to be presented to the School Board on October 10 regarding the reversion funds; debt service; funds to spend on learning loss (ESSER); timeframe to spend funds; general category breakdown of spending funds (tutoring, literacy plan, attendance); additional funding from grants.
- C. WHRO Educational Services Update: Bert Schmidt, WHRO President and Chief Executive Officer, shared the following information with the School Board regarding WHRO services and programs; 2022-2023 Annual Impact Statement; shared WHRO Public Media coverage map; eMediaVA – features content from PBS Learning Media and more, access thousands of free, innovative, SOL-aligned digital learning resources and content; WHRO’s Literacy van, the Batten Environmental van, and the STEM van; WHRO expanded online learning with a weekly online reading segment “Ms. Martha Reads”; professional development: more than 50 trainings were conducted, more than 1,400 educators from across the Commonwealth participated in these events; since 2007, various courses have been developed (example: Algebra I, Biology, Chemistry, English 9-12, Health and PE 9-10, VA and US History); Student Advisory Board; PBS KIDS Writers Contest; Spelling Bee; The Great Computer Challenge; return on investment. The presentation continued with brief comments regarding appreciation of information shared; 2022-2023 Annual Impact Statement; resources used as a teacher; and budget challenges.
- D. Standards of Learning Student Performance, A Closer Look – 2022-2023: Tracy LaGatta, Director of Student Assessment, Office of Planning, Innovation, and Accountability, provided the School Board information related to the

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2022-2023 Standards of Learning (SOL) Student Performance; provided an overview of the presentation – VDOE Annual SOL Pas Rate Data, Compare VBCPS Data to State Data and other divisions, support for areas of focus; mathematics pass rates for 2022-2023 ranged from 50% in Grade 7 mathematics to 96% in Algebra II; reading pass rates for 2022-2023 ranged from 75% in Grade 3 to 90% in Grade 11; writing pass rates for 2022-2023 ranged from 64% in Grade 8 to 82% in Grade 11; science pas rates for 2022-2023 ranged from 51% in Chemistry to 94% in Earth Science; noted only 188 students took the Chemistry SOL in 2022-2023 compared to approximately 570 in 2018-2019; history pass rates in 2022-2023 ranged from 31% in World History II to 82% in Grade 8 Civics and Economics; noted 660 students took World History II compared to a little over 3800 in 2018-2019.

The presentation continued with reporting group summary in mathematics; pass rates in 2022-2023 ranged from 44% for students with disabilities to 91% for students in the Asian reporting group; reading pass rates in 2022-2023 ranged from 46% for English learners to 89% for students in the Asian reporting group; pass rate comparisons between VBCPS and The Commonwealth of Virginia: Virginia Beach exceeded the state pass rate on all grades 3-8 tests except for Grade 7 mathematics; noted that VBCPS encourages most Grade 7 students to take Pre-Algebra which is assessed by the Grade 8 math SOL test or Algebra I; end-of-course (EOC) assessments – Virginia Beach met or exceeded the state pass rates on all SOL tests in 2022-2023; Virginia Beach City Public School students as a group outperformed all other cities in all subject areas except for history where Chesapeake outperformed VBCPS by one percentage point; Chesapeake and VBCPS had the same pass rate for math; pass rates by subject and student group revealed: economically disadvantaged student in VBCPS had higher pass rates in all subject areas relative to local and comparable divisions, Hispanic students and English Language Learners in VBCPS had higher pass rates in all subject areas relative to comparable divisions.

The following accomplishments were shared: some pass rates continue to show improvement; the most recent Geometry, Algebra II and Earth Science scores are above pre-pandemic pass rates; VBCPS outperformed the state in most tests (28 out of 29); VBCPS outperformed comparable school divisions in reading, math, and science; VBCPS outperformed local school divisions in reading, writing, and science; reviewed areas of focus: mathematics – Grades 3-8, special emphasis on Grade 7; reading – Grades 3-8, special emphasis on Grade 3; science (exception on Earth Science); history – Virginia Studies (Grade 5), World Geography, World History I, World History II; students with disabilities, English Learners and African American students.

Matthew Delaney, Chief Schools Officer, continued the presentation; reviewed differentiated school support process; research based approach; division to school level – strategic action agenda, school concept map, plan for continuous improvement, observation and feedback; strategic action agenda: advancing educational equity (reviewing multiple sources of school level data to identify and address trends), integrated systems of support (strengthening Tier I instruction in all content areas with an emphasis on evidence based literacy and numeracy practices, use SEL data to inform decision making), future ready (increasing access to and success in advanced level coursework for all students, continuing to engage students in deeper learning experiences); plan for continuous improvement (PCI): goal, data justification, action steps, monitoring; observation and feedback: empower, validate, and grow teachers; aligned to the strategic action agenda, concept map, PCI; engaging in instructionally focused interactions with teachers; build a productive climate that has a positive impact on school and student outcomes.

Danielle Colucci, Chief Academic Officer, continued the presentation; strategic school support process – universal, targeted, intensive; universal support: check-ins, learning walks, curriculum resources, professional learning; targeted and intensive: increased meetings and 1-to-1 check-ins, targeted resources (example – Title I, Title II, ESSR, OPEC), differentiated professional learning with a focus in areas of need; the presentation continued with questions and comments regarding teaching as a science; continuous improvement; SOL scores; feedback to teachers; number of classroom visits (12,000); concept map at schools; struggles in math; tutoring; small class sizes; flexible in pacing; tutoring resources; tutoring suggestions – college students, partnership with local colleges/universities; tutoring funds; pre-pandemic scores; developing writing skills; reading and writing; and Virginia Beach Grade 3-8 pass rate comparisons.

- E. Additional Class Allowance: Consideration for Increase: Cheryl Woodhouse, Chief Human Resources Officer, presented the School Board information regarding increasing the additional class allowance for instructional staff; defined additional class allowance: provides compensation for teachers at the secondary level who volunteer to teach an additional class, teachers who take on another class give up their planning bell, to honor the course request of students when a contracted teacher is not available; types of courses: World Languages, Health and PE, Chorus/Band/Strings, other electives, core classes – English, math, science, history; shared proposed amounts: nine

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week course: \$2,125; semester course: \$4,250; year-long course: \$8,500; no additional funding needed, covered by current staff vacancies; the presentation continued with questions and comments regarding the allowance; great option to have; would allowance be retroactive; a way to help students and teachers; noted it was a collaborative effort

- F. Policy Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations: That the School Board approve Policy Review Committee (PRC) recommendations regarding amendments or reviews of certain Bylaws and Polices from its September 14, 2023 meeting. School Board Attorney, Kamala H. Lannetti presented the following:
1. Bylaw 1-14/Compensation and Expenses: The PRC recommends updating language to make it align with changes recently made in other Bylaws and Policies and adding the ability to receive a data allowance in the amount of \$100 per month. There was a brief discussion regarding Code of Virginia 22.1-89 Management of funds; Code of Virginia 22.1-78 Bylaws and regulations; Code of Virginia 22.1-32 Salary of members; allowances; reimbursements; cost of services.
 2. Bylaw 1-36/Open Meetings: The PRC recommends changes to clarify when the School Board may meet by electronic communications and the requirements for School Board Members to participate in meetings remotely due to a medical condition or personal matter. There was a discussion regarding remote participation; the percentage of meetings (25%); total number of meetings over the year; how to calculate; concerns regarding School Board members who work full time; suggestion to exempt special meetings from the percentage; late arrival to a meeting; how long present at meeting; clarification on some points; suggestion to send back to the Policy Review Committee; virtual meetings and remote participation; clarification about personal matters – two meeting or up to 25% of the total meetings of the School Board; define the number of meetings and not use the percentage; need to define family members; need to be present/attend meetings; fiscal year verses calendar year, renews in January; vote on policy in December to implement in January; agreement with calendar year cycle; suggestion to eliminate the 25% from policy; keep the two personal reasons per year; it was determined Bylaw 1-36 will go back to the Policy Review Committee.
 3. Policy 3-71/Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act Projects: The PRC recommends updating the name of the legal representative from the Office of the City Attorney to the School Board Attorney.
 4. Policy 4-43/Payment to Estate of Deceased Employees: The PRC recommends adding language to clarify that the payout of any and all remaining leave to an employee's estate will be at the full hourly equivalent, at per diem.
- G. 2023 Model Policy Updates: Ms. Anderson made a motion before the presentation, to allow Dr. Soltner to present these regulations without interruption during this part of the meeting, the information part, and for colleagues to hold their questions and viewpoints until the Action part of the agenda, wherein each Board Member will then be allowed to speak one time for or against the regulations or any amendment brought forward, seconded by Ms. Melnyk. A discussion followed regarding the motion; cannot support motion; information provided to the public; reviewing information; limiting conversation on topic; special meeting on September 25; suggestion to move topic to October 10 meeting; information presented on September 25; regulations; Superintendent to develop regulations. Ms. Melnyk made a substitute motion, that we revisit this (2023 Model Policy Updates) on October 10 for information only; seconded by Ms. Anderson. A discussion followed regarding the substitute motion; clarification on document versions; need for public to review documents; continue with topic for information tonight and move to action at a later date; against limiting discussion on topic; documents made available for inspection. Ms. Melnyk withdrew the substitute motion, and Ms. Anderson concurred. Ms. Melnyk made another substitute motion to have Dr. Soltner present the regulations as presented last night with edits this evening, Ms. Anderson seconded the substitute motion. A discussion followed regarding the consensus of the Board to have the regulations presented; will topic be on Action at the next meeting; involvement of the Board in the process; support for motion if voting on at next meeting; holding questions until end of presentation; possibility of making a motion during the Action part of the agenda this evening; work of administration on topic; School Board needs to make a decision and ownership; support for topic on information tonight and action on October 10; need to vote on substitute motion; Ms. Melnyk restated the substitute motion – to proceed with the presentation by Dr. Soltner for information this evening, and the substitute motion was seconded by Ms. Anderson. Without further discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote on the substitute motion. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the substitute motion to proceed with the presentation by Dr. Soltner for information: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. The substitute motion passed, 10-0-0.

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Dr. Soltner presented the following information to the School Board; reviewed the Model Policies timeline from July 18 through September 26; reviewed language and definitions (“parent” or “parents”, “sex”, “transgender student”, “eligible student”) approved by the School Board on September 12 as part of Policy 5-31; mentioned two existing policies: Policy 2-33 and 5-31, that are consistent with the Model Policy; reviewed language in section A – Maintenance of Safe/Supportive Learning Environment, noted language is consistent with the Model Policies; reviewed section B – Prevention of Bully/Harassment; section C – Maintenance of Student Records, noted that Policy Review Committee may be reviewing language based on the suggestion from another School Board member; section D – Identification of Students, use of nicknames, change to add a section “c” that reads “or commonly associated with the student’s official name”, noted adoption of exact language form the Model Policy in D6 into regulation 5-7.1; section E – Protection of Privacy/Confidentiality, noted recommendation for changes to wording in Policy 5-31 will need to go to Policy Review Committee; section F – Enforcement of Sex-Based Dress Codes, changes consistent with the Model Policy; section G – Participation in Sex-Specific Activities/Facilities, noted section C3 is verbatim to the language noted in G1 of the Model Policy, mentioned the change of the word “reasonable effort” to “every effort”, change from “ADA” to “504 coordinator” to align with positions in VBCPS; section H – Athletics, proposed changes are consistent with the Model Policy; noted the term “consistent”, in reference to school divisions adopting the Model Policies or revising existing policies and regulations to be consistent with the Model Policy.

The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding modifications to laws; Title IX; letter of the law verses spirit of the law; language “consistent” with Model Policy; gender identity; Human Rights Act; legal documents; pronouns; parent rights; in reference to section A4, agreement with – having administrator or counselor speaking with parents, teachers should not have the responsibility; bring parents back to education; Policy 5-31; nicknames and commonly associated names; athletics; biological sex; cannot support boys playing on girls teams; VHSL policy; VHSL appeal process; diversity; and compliance with law.

- H. Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted Update: Lorena Kelly, Ph.D., Executive Director of Elementary Teaching and Learning presented the School Board an update on the amendment of the Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted; reviewed items from August 8, 2023 School Board presentation: reviewed the gifted identification and Old Donation School (ODS) selection processes, reviewed an amendment to the Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted; reviewed the VBCPS Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted definition; reviewed timeline events: the Gifted Community Advisory Committee (GCAC) met on September 18, 2023 to provide feedback on the revised amendment, the School Board was provided with the revised amendment on September 21, 2023; reviewed amendment pages 70 and 72; amendment page 79 – reviewed documents to create profile: student achievement, standardized test scores, teacher information, GRT information, performance based task (Grade 1 only), student responses to interview questions (Grades 5-12); revised amendment page 80; amendment page 82 – use of four point rating scale: 4-consistently strong in all the application components, 3-strong in most of the application components, 2-shows strength in some application components, but not consistently, 1-few consistent areas of strength; amendment page 112 – additional statement for the amendment: when the plan is silent, the school administration has authorization to make reasonable interpretations with notice to the School Board.

The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding the raters; scoring; suggestion of higher percentile rating (i.e., 93% or 94%); rating scale – five point verses four point; three separate scorings; application and opt-out; number of gifted students; diversity; gifted meeting; admissions; gifted resources in schools; selection process; underserved communities; Gifted Community Advisory Committee; access to ODS; best interest of students.

- I. Bylaw 1-28: Governance Committee Matters – Draft Letter to Citizen: Recommendation that the School Board approve a recommended letter and course of action regarding a citizen’s complaint about comments made after he concluded his public comments to the School Board on June 12, 2023; School Board members reviewed the letter; Ms. Melnyk provided some background information regarding the development of the letter; clarification on role of the School Board Clerk in regards to speakers; amendments to letter; complaint from citizen; need to have Vice Chair aware of changes to letter; suggestion to vote on letter as it was; no conclusion on who said the comment; to use version of letter as originally presented; letter is on Action agenda for tonight.
- J. Data Allowance for School Board Members: Chair Riggs mentioned the item is on the Action agenda and can be discussed then. There was no discussion on the topic under Information. See agenda item #15C.
- K. Recommended Appointments for Vacancies in Citizens’ Advisory Committee – Special Education Advisory Committee: Recommended that the School Board approve appointments to Citizens’ Advisory Committees – Special Education Advisory Committee due to current vacancies for a three-year term beginning October 11, 2023 and ending June 30,

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2026. Recommendations are listed as part of the Information agenda to fill voting member vacancies as follows:
Kellie Vanella, Jessica Crawford, and Megan Davis; Alternates: Jodi Duncan, and Dana Love.

- 13. Return to public comments if needed:** The Public Comments resumed at 11:54 p.m. and concluded at 12:12 a.m. on Wednesday, September 27, 2023. See agenda item #11 for topics discussed.
- 14. Consent Agenda:** Before Chair Riggs read the items on the Consent Agenda, Ms. Brown called a point of order; mentioned the prior vote on the approval of the agenda; Bylaw 1-40 Section A; parliamentary procedures from Robert's Rules of Order; a brief discussion followed regarding the parliamentary procedures; moving of item 14A2; the School Board Clerk called a point of order to mention the Chair did not have a chance to read the Consent Agenda items prior to Ms. Brown's call for a point of order; Chair Riggs read the following items on the Consent Agenda:
- A. Resolutions:
 - 1. Filipino American History Month: Recommended that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing Filipino American History Month.
 - 2. LGBTQIA+ History Month: Recommended that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing LGBTQIA+ Month. Note: moved to Action Agenda item #15F – see below.
 - 3. Dyslexia Awareness Month: Recommended that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing October as Dyslexia Awareness Month.
 - 4. Bullying Prevention Month: Recommended that the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach proclaim October 2023 as Bullying Prevention Month.
 - 5. Disability History and Awareness Month: Recommended that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing October as Disability History and Awareness Month.
 - 6. Indigenous Peoples' Day: Recommended that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Month.
 - B. Budget Calendar and Revenue Sharing Formula: Recommended that the School Board review and approve the attached Budget Calendar for the FY 2024/25 Operating Budget and the 2024/25 – 2029/30 Capital Improvement Program.
 - C. Recommendation of a General Contractor: Kempsville High School Roof Top Unit Replacement: Recommended that the School Board approve a motion authorizing the Superintendent to execute a contract with Comfort Systems of Virginia, Inc. for the Kempsville High School Roof Top Unit replacements in the amount of \$3,949,000.
 - D. Religious Exemption(s): Recommended that the School Board approve Religious Exemption Case Nos. RE-23-01, RE-23-02, RE-23-03, RE-23-04, RE-23-05, RE-23-06, RE-23-07 and RE-23-08.

After reading the items on the Consent Agenda, Chair Riggs asked if there were any objections to voting on the Consent Agenda items; Ms. Manning requested to move item A2 to the Action Agenda; noted it will be item #15F on the Action Agenda. Hearing no other requests to move items to the Action Agenda, Chair Riggs called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Franklin made the motion, seconded by Ms. Martin. Chair Riggs called for a vote to approve the Consent Agenda: The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the Consent Agenda: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. The motion passed, 10-0-0.

Ms. Franklin read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION
Filipino American History Month
October 2023

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

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans are the second largest Asian American group in the nation and the City of Virginia Beach has the highest percentage of Filipino Americans in Virginia; and

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

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

WHEREAS, in 2009, the U.S. Congress recognized October as Filipino American History Month in the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach officially recognizes the month of October 2023 as Filipino American History Month, whose theme is “1898: Recognizing 125 Years of Philippine-American History”; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach encourages all citizens to support and participate in various school activities during Filipino American History Month; and be it

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

Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach this 27th day of September 2023

Ms. Brown read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION
Dyslexia Awareness Month
October 2023

WHEREAS, dyslexia is a language-based learning disability that causes difficulties with reading, writing, spelling, and word pronunciation; and

WHEREAS, the onset and severity of dyslexia varies for each individual; and

WHEREAS, it takes individuals with dyslexia longer to process phonemic information, thus affecting academic growth, achievement, and self-esteem; and

WHEREAS, it is important to provide effective teaching approaches and educational intervention strategies for individuals with dyslexia; and

WHEREAS, Dyslexia Awareness Month is an opportunity to acknowledge educators utilizing effective teaching strategies, and to celebrate the many achievements of adolescents, students and adults with dyslexia; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach is committed to a continued focus on educating students, parents, and school staff about effective teaching strategies to address the needs of students with learning disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach designates the month of October to be Dyslexia Awareness Month; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That strategies and interventions to address the needs of students with learning disabilities be ongoing 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.

Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach this 27th day of September, 2023

Mr. Callan read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION
Bullying Prevention Month
October 2023

WHEREAS, school bullying has become an increasingly significant problem in the United States and Virginia; and

WHEREAS, over twenty percent of the youth in the United States are estimated to be involved in bullying each year, either as a bully or as a victim; and

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WHEREAS, students who experience bullying are at increased risk for depression, anxiety, sleep difficulties, lower academic achievement, and dropping out of school; and

WHEREAS, bullying can take many forms, including verbal, physical, and most recently in cyberspace, and can happen in many places on and off school grounds; and

WHEREAS, it is important for Virginia Beach parents, students, school counselors, teachers, and school administrators to be aware of bullying, and to encourage discussion of the problem as a school community; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach has developed a policy on antibullying to encourage positive behaviors and to eliminate bullying behaviors; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach recognizes the month of October 2023, as Bullying Prevention Month in the Virginia Beach City Public Schools, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the issue of bullying and its prevention be discussed in Virginia Beach City Public Schools classrooms during this time, and be it

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

Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach this 27th day of September, 2023

Ms. Melnyk read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION
Disability History and Awareness Month
October 2023

WHEREAS, Americans with Disability Act of 1990 was founded on four principles: inclusion, full participation, economic self-sufficiency and equality of opportunity for all people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia General Assembly has designated the month of October as Disability History and Awareness Month to increase public awareness and respect for persons with disabilities; to inform the public concerning their many contributions to society; and to emphasize the abilities and rights of persons with disabilities rather than their exceptionalities; and

WHEREAS, public schools, institutions of higher education, the business community, civic organizations and other interested entities are encouraged to promote Disability History and Awareness Month in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Education's 2022-2023 Virginia State Quality Profile reported the Virginia public school divisions served 174,315 students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Virginia Beach City Public Schools 2022-2023 Quality Profile reported the division served 8,464 students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Beach City Public Schools believes in having the highest expectations for students with disabilities and believes that students with disabilities make significant academic and social progress when educated, as appropriate, in general education environments; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to increase public awareness, knowledge, and understanding of disabilities, the rights of persons with disabilities, and to foster a culture of mutual respect and equal opportunities for all in our schools, businesses, and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

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RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach officially recognizes the month of October 2023 as Disability History and Awareness 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 Disability History and Awareness Month; and be it

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

Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach this 27th day of September, 2023

Ms. Manning read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION
Indigenous Peoples' Day
October 2023**

WHEREAS, the School Board recognizes that Native Americans have lived and thrived in North America from time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the School Board recognizes that Indigenous people contribute to the academic, economic, and cultural success and well-being of the City of Virginia Beach and Commonwealth each and every day; and

WHEREAS, the School Board values the many contributions made to our community by Indigenous people; and the deep cultural contributions that have substantially shaped the character of the City of Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous people in America have often suffered persecution and removal from their homelands at the hands of governing bodies and through the colonization and settlement of America; and

WHEREAS, the School Board supports the resilience of Indigenous people to thrive and prosper to the present day; and

WHEREAS, the School Board promotes the closing of the equity gaps for Indigenous people through policies and practices that promote the culture, history and their many contributions in society;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach officially recognize the second Monday in October 2023, as Indigenous Peoples' Day, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: that all schools and our community are encouraged to support and celebrate the resilience of our tribal communities on Indigenous Peoples' Day, and be it

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

Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach this 27th day of September 2023

15. Action

A. Personnel Report / Administrative Appointments: Chair Riggs called for a motion to approve the September 26, 2023 personnel report and administrative appointments. Ms. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Ms. Franklin that the School Board approve the appointments and the acceptance of the resignations, retirements, and other employment actions as listed on the September 26, 2023 personnel report along with the administrative appointments as recommended by the Acting Superintendent. Without discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote to approve the September 26, 2023 personnel report and administrative appointments. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the September 26, 2023 personnel report and administrative appointments: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. The motion passed, 10-0-0.

Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Acting Superintendent, mentioned the following: Tina L. Mazzacane, Coordinator, K-12 State Mathematics, Virginia Department of Education as Coordinator, Secondary Mathematics, Department of Teaching and Learning.

B. Additional Class Allowance: Chair Riggs called for a motion to approve increasing the additional class allowance for instructional staff from \$5,600 (five thousand six hundred dollars) to \$8,500 (eight thousand five hundred dollars);

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- Ms. Brown made the motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson. Without discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote to approve increasing the additional class allowance for instructional staff from \$5,600 (five thousand six hundred dollars) to \$8,500 (eight thousand five hundred dollars.) The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion to approve increasing the additional class allowance for instructional staff from \$5,600 (five thousand six hundred dollars) to \$8,500 (eight thousand five hundred dollars): Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. The motion passed, 10-0-0.
- C. Data Allowance for School Board Members: Chair Riggs called for a motion to approve the request to add \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) a month allowance to offset cost for data communications costs on personal devices to conduct the business of the School Board. Ms. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson. There was a discussion regarding the data allowance; Bylaw 1-14 discussed during information; reason for action; voted at last meeting to bring topic back for action; Ms. Brown made a substitute motion to move Bylaw 1-14 to Action item #15G and that we strike item #15C so that we can vote on that tonight, seconded by Ms. Melnyk. Without further discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the substitute motion to move Bylaw 1-14 to Action item #15G and strike item #15C: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. The substitute motion passed, 10-0-0.
- D. 2023 Model Policy Updates: It was discussed earlier in the meeting to remove the topic from the agenda. Chair Riggs called for a motion to take the 2023 Model Policy Updates off the agenda. Ms. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson. There was a brief discussion regarding clarity of motion; topic to be moved to Action at next School Board meeting; Ms. Melnyk amended motion – I move to remove Action letter (item) D off of Action and move it to the next School Board meeting on Action October 10; Ms. Anderson seconded the amended motion. A brief discussion followed regarding School Board member, Ms. Martin having jury duty and considerations if any changes are made to information, would have time to review. Without further discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote on the amended motion to remove Action letter (item) D off of Action and move it to the next School Board meeting on Action October 10. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the amended motion: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. The amended motion passed, 10-0-0.
- E. Bylaw 1-28: Governance Committee Matters – Draft Letter to Citizen: Chair Riggs called for a motion to approve the recommended letter without any edits and course of action regarding a citizen’s complaint about comments made after he concluded his public comments to the School Board on June 12, 2023. Ms. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Ms. Brown. There was a brief discussion regarding the letter; no changes to letter; clarification on which letter; the letter has no edits; Vice Chair Weems aware of letter, helped to draft letter. Without further discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote to adopt the letter to be sent to Mr. Jerome Bell as it is without any edits. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion: Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. There was one (1) nay opposed to the motion: Chair Riggs. The motion passed, 9-1-0.
- F. Resolution: LGBTQIA+ History Month: Recommended that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing LGBTQIA+ Month. Note: resolution moved from Consent Agenda item #14A2. Ms. Anderson made a motion that we read and vote on the resolution (LGBTQIA+ History Month), seconded by Ms. Martin. Without discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote on the motion. The School Board Clerk announced there were six (6) ayes in favor of the motion: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. There were four (4) nays opposed to the motion: Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, and Ms. Manning. The motion passed, 6-4-0.

Ms. Anderson read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION
LGBTQIA+ Month
October 2023**

WHEREAS, the School Board requires that all students and staff have a safe and supportive learning and work environment free from discrimination and harassment; and

WHEREAS, the School Board recognizes that LGBTQIA+ students, staff and their families are important members of the Virginia Beach City Public Schools community and values their inclusion and contributions; and

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WHEREAS, the School Board acknowledges that LGBTQIA+ students and staff are subject to many challenges that contribute to higher rates of isolation, depression, bullying, discrimination and harassment, and suicidal ideations or attempts; and

WHEREAS, the School Board has adopted policies and the School Division has implemented regulations and practices to prohibit bullying, discrimination and harassment based on sex, gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, the School Board supports the needs and rights of LGBTQIA+ students, staff and their families to ensure that their learning and work experiences in Virginia Beach City Public Schools are free from bullying, harassment and discrimination.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach officially recognizes the month of October 2023, as LGBTQIA+ month; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach will comply with state and federal laws and regulations regarding anti-bullying, non-discrimination and nonharassment of LGBTQIA+ persons; and be it

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

Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach this 27th day of September 2023

- G. Bylaw 1-14/Compensation and Expenses: Note: motion made under Action Agenda item #15C. Chair Riggs called for a motion to approve Bylaw 1-14. Ms. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson. There was a brief discussion regarding Bylaw 1-14; School Board members will have the option to elect compensation; salary for School Board members; need for internet to perform job tasks. Without further discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote to approve Bylaw 1-14. The School Board Clerk announced there were eight (8) ayes in favor of the motion to approve Bylaw 1-14: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Callan, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Owens. There were two (2) nays opposed to the motion to approve Bylaw 1-14: Ms. Brown and Mr. Culpepper. The motion passed, 8-2-0.

- 16. *Committee, Organization or Board Reports:*** Ms. Martin mentioned the Legislative Committee met on September 18, had an update from Joel Andrus, seeking input from Board members for legislative agenda that we would adopt in December, hold tentative date of December 14 for legislative breakfast; Ms. Franklin mentioned emailed she shared with the School Board regarding Technical and Career Education Center, course offerings available at Technical and Career Education; Ms. Anderson mentioned visiting Tallwood High School as part of Sister Cities, students visiting from Northern Ireland, the students did a presentation at Tallwood HS, enjoyed visiting the school system.

Chair Riggs recessed the meeting at 12:56 a.m. on Wednesday, September 27, 2023. The School Board members took a short break before returning to the Administrative, Informal, Workshop and Closed Session. Note: School Board member, Ms. Owens left the meeting at 12:56 a.m.

- 17. *Return to Administrative, Informal, Workshop or Closed Session matters:*** The School Board reconvened at 1:06 a.m. in the Holland Road Annex/Einstein Lab.

D. Forecast of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda Topics FY 24 – Second Quarter: October, November, December: Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Acting Superintendent presented the School Board the Administration's forecast of agenda topics to be presented at School Board meetings during the second quarter: October, November, and December of the 2023-2024 school year; mentioned the addition of the Model Policy Update on October 10; reviewed upcoming workshop topics: October 10 – Department of Teaching and Learning Update; October 24 – Digital Literacy Update, Strategic Planning Process; November 14 – PPEA Interim Agreement Update, Calendar Timeline for 2024-2025; mentioned Joint Five-Year Forecast Presentation on November 21; November 28 – Facilities Update; December 12 – Project Financing/PPEA, Budget Workshop; there was a brief discussion regarding agenda topics; how the topics are chosen; some topics are annual; questions from School Board members; formal request from School Board members; topics from summer retreat; agenda planning with School Board Chair, Vice Chair and Superintendent; Policy Review Committee recommendations.

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At 1:17 a.m. on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, Ms. Melnyk made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Brown that the School Board recess into Closed Session in accordance with the exceptions to open meetings law set forth in Code of Virginia §2.2-3711, Part A, Paragraph 1, 7, and 8, as amended, to deliberate on the following matters:

1. Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals.
7. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.
8. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

Namely to discuss:

That the School Board recess into Closed Session in accordance with the exceptions to open meetings law set forth a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

Namely to discuss:

- A. Status of employee matters: teacher revocation; employee ADA complaint; status of hiring certain administrators.
- B. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases.
- C. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters.

Chair Riggs called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eight (8) ayes in favor of the motion to recess into Closed Session: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion passed, 8-0-0.

The School Board recessed into Closed Session at 1:20 a.m., on Wednesday, September 27, 2023.

Individuals present for discussion in the order in which matters were discussed:

- A. Status of employee matters: teacher revocation; employee ADA complaint; status of hiring certain administrators: School Board members: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, and Ms. Melnyk; Kamala H. Lannetti, School Board Attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.
- B. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases; and
- C. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters: School Board members: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, and Ms. Melnyk; Kamala H. Lannetti, School Board Attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.

The School Board reconvened at 1:35 a.m., on Wednesday, September 27, 2023.

Certification of Closed Session: Ms. Melnyk read the Certification of Closed Session:

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) 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 (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered.

Ms. Franklin made the motion, seconded by Mr. Callan for Certification of Closed Session. Chair Riggs called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eight (8) ayes in favor of the motion for Certification of Closed Session: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, Ms. Martin, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion passed, 8-0-0.

Chair Riggs made the following motion: the School Board directs the Acting Superintendent or designees to meet with Mr. St. Clair Jones and to take appropriate actions to provide ADA compliant restrooms or portable restrooms at school division high school sporting facilities within a reasonable time frame. Ms. Martin seconded the motion. Without discussion, Chair Riggs called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were seven (7) ayes in favor of the motion: Chair Riggs, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Martin. There was one (1) abstention to the motion: Ms. Melnyk. The motion passed, 7-0-1.

- 18. Adjournment:** Chair Riggs adjourned the meeting at 1:37 a.m., on Wednesday, September 27, 2023.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Trenace B. Riggs, School Board Chair