



School Board Services

Kimberly A. Melnyk, Chair
District 2

Jennifer S. Franklin, Vice Chair
District 2 – Kempsville

Beverly M. Anderson
At-Large

Kathleen J. Brown
District 10

Michael R. Callan
District 6

David Culpepper
District 8

Shannon L. Kendrick
District 4
Interim

Victoria C. Manning
At-Large

Jessica L. Owens
District 3 – Rose Hall

Trenace B. Riggs
District 1 – Centerville

Carolyn D. Weems
District 9

Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Superintendent

School Board Regular Meeting MINUTES
Tuesday, May 28, 2024

School Administration Building #6, Municipal Center
2512 George Mason Drive
P.O. Box 6038
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
(757) 263-1000

1. **Administrative, Informal, and Workshop:** Chair Melnyk convened the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session at 4:00 p.m. on the 28th of May 2024.
In addition to Superintendent Robertson, the following School Board Members were present in the School Administration Building #6, School Board Chamber: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown (arrived at 4:02 p.m.), Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Manning, Ms. Owens (arrived at 4:01 p.m.), Ms. Riggs (arrived at 4:03 p.m.), and Ms. Weems.
Chair Melnyk stated members of the public will be able to observe the School Board Meeting through livestreaming on schoolboard.vbschools.com/meetings/live, broadcast on VBT Channel 47, and on Zoom; and thanked those that have joined us in person and online.
 - A. **School Board Administrative Matters and Reports:** Ms. Anderson mentioned attending the GSA play and it was fantastic, the students were amazing; Chair Melnyk mentioned the June 4 Special School Board meeting for the Superintendent’s evaluation, meeting start time is 4:00 p.m.; sign-up sheet for June meetings with the Superintendent; School Board committee assignments, reassigned in July, let the Chair and Vice Chair know your committee interests.
Dr. Robertson mentioned still waiting for the CAL Tool to prepare the budget, should have information by the end of the week, there will be a budget workshop on June 4; updated the School Board on shooting event that happened over the weekend, conversation with VBPD and setting up a meeting to deal with challenge of gun violence; and will provide the School Board with any updates.
 - B. **CIP Funded Facilities Maintenance Projects Update:** Melisa Ingram, Executive Director, Facilities Services, provided the School Board information regarding the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) at it relates to CIP funded facilities maintenance projects; Jack Freeman, Chief Operations Officer, shared a brief introduction regarding the adopted CIP, planning for maintenance projects, summertime to preform work; Ms. Ingram continued the presentation and reviewed the approved FY24-25 CIP funding summary; shared chart of funding summary for maintenance strategy; existing schools building systems maintenance needs: HVAC (CIP 1-018), reroofing (CIP 1-019), and various (CIP 1-020) – foundation repairs, fire alarm replacements, etc.; reviewed list of schools for renovations and replacements HVAC and shared an example; school kitchens – HVAC additional needs: HVAC needs at 23 sites, operational safety and health concern, mitigation strategies – supplemental systems, optimize ventilation, continued monitoring and maintenance, summer 2024: Rosemont Elementary School and Kings Grant Elementary School; reviewed list of schools for renovations and replacements roofing and shared example and video of leaking ceiling; reviewed list of schools for renovations and replacements various projects (fire alarm replacement, ceiling replacement, foundation repair) and shared an example;

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deferred maintenance – new construction projects: Princess Anne High School – 14 building systems being reviewed; B.F. Williams Elementary School – 12 building systems being reviewed; Bayside 6th Grade Campus – 10 building systems being reviewed; Bayside High School – 10 building systems being reviewed; outdoor athletic facilities accessibility improvements (CIP 1-017 Grounds); SY 23-24 improvements: high school athletic sites ADA compliant; SY 24-25 and SY 25-26 middle school athletic sites: assessments underway, implementation Phase I, continued collaboration; funding summary – maintenance strategy: goal – support safe, healthy, and effective learning environments; maintenance replacement strategies – lower operating and utility costs, update systems to prolong life cycles, and continue preventative maintenance.

The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding information on renovation projects and priority projects; Bayside Middle School repair project; approved funding in CIP; funding of maintenance and new construction over six years; facilities being made ADA compliant; list of various renovations and replacements projects.

- C. Employee Input Survey Results Summary: Robert Veigel, Research Specialist, Office of Planning, Innovation, and Accountability, provided the School Board information about the 2024 Employee Input Survey results; about the survey – express ideas and make suggestions for continuous improvement (working conditions, benefits), 5-point response scales with neutral option, anonymous, online survey, response rate: 5,088 of 10,832 (47%) of staff; agreement levels for 2024: resources and information - overall agreement levels ranged from 67 to 83 percent; working relationships – overall agreement levels ranged from 67 to 86 percent; professional development – overall agreement levels ranged from 59 to 70 percent; opportunities within VBCPS – overall agreement levels ranged from 62 to 83 percent; benefits – satisfaction levels ranged from 43 percent for financial support for professional learning to 70 percent for the BEWell program; provided a handout regarding results by employee groups; summary of findings by employee group: four main employee groups (instructional, administrative, clerical, school division services), administrator group – highest agreement and satisfaction on almost all items in all categories, school division services – lowest agreement on majority of items in the resources and information category and all items in the working relationships category, clerical personnel – lowest agreement on all items in professional development category, instructional staff – lowest agreement level on items about being proud to work in VBCPS, lowest satisfaction on nearly all benefit items; items with higher levels of agreement across all employee groups: proud to work in school/department (82%-87%), individual differences are respected (79%-91%), encouraged to work as part of a team (79%-88%), have quality resources to do job well (78%-91%).

Summary of findings by years of experience: 24+ years of experience – highest agreement on all items in the resources and information category, 8 to 23 years of experience – highest satisfaction with saving/spending accounts, 7 years or experience or less – highest agreement and satisfaction on the following items: proud to work in VBCPS, health plan, health plan premiums, dental benefits, financial support for professional development/training; next steps: preparing to share summary results reports for all staff to view, senior staff and departments engaging in a review of the data to identify implications for their work, Human Resources planning to share how emerging trends in the EIP data will be addressed as part of an upcoming School Board meeting. The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding participation rates; distribution of survey to employees; reaching out to School Division Services (transportation, food services, custodians) regarding taking the survey; information shared with staff, how broken down (by school); transportation; chief officers received data/information, determine action steps; staff participation; benefits; difference between VRS plans.

2. **Closed Session**: At 5:05 p.m., Vice Chair Franklin made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Riggs, 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, 2, 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.

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2. Discussion or consideration of admission or disciplinary matters or any other matters that would involve the disclosure of information contained in a scholastic record concerning any student of any public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth or any state school system. However, any such student, legal counsel and, if the student is a minor, the student's parents or legal guardians shall be permitted to be present during the taking of testimony or presentation of evidence at a closed meeting, if such student, parents, or guardians so request in writing and such request is submitted to the presiding officer of the appropriate board.

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:

- A. Superintendent's contract and/or evaluation.
- B. Appointment of a specific administrator.
- C. Status of student related cases – student discrimination complaints, student injury case.
- D. Old Donation School 2024-25 options discussion with legal counsel.
- E. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases.
- F. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters.

There was a brief discussion; Mr. Culpepper requested to defer item D. Old Donation School 2024-25 options discussion with legal counsel; Ms. Manning concurred regarding differing the item; Ms. Brown made a motion to remove item D at this time until after the formal meeting, Ms. Manning seconded the motion; Chair Melnyk confirmed item D will not be discussed in Closed Session at this time and will be deferred to the end of the meeting. Without further discussion, Chair Melnyk called for a vote to convene into Closed Session. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion to recess into Closed Session: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Manning, Ms. Owens, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems. There was one (1) abstention: Ms. Brown. The motion passed, 10-0-1.

The School Board recessed in Closed Session at 5:10 p.m.

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

- B. Appointment of a specific administrator: School Board Members: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Manning, Ms. Owens, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems; Kamala H. Lannetti, School Board Attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Superintendent; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.
- C. Status of student related cases – student discrimination complaints, student injury case: School Board Members: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Manning, Ms. Owens, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems; Kamala H. Lannetti, School Board Attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Superintendent; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.

The School Board reconvened at 5:34 p.m.

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Certification of Closed Session: Vice Chair Franklin 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.

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. Riggs made the motion, seconded by Ms. Kendrick for the Certification of Closed Session. Without discussion, Chair Melnyk called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion for Certification of Closed Session. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

3. **School Board Recess:** Chair Melnyk adjourned the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session at 5:36 p.m.
4. **Formal Meeting (School Administration Building #6 – School Board Room) 6:00 p.m.**
5. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chair Melnyk convened the meeting of the School Board at the School Administration Building #6, School Board Chamber at 6:00 p.m. on the 28th day of May 2024.
In addition to Superintendent Robertson, the following School Board Members were present in the School Administration Building #6, School Board Chamber: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Manning, Ms. Owens, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems.
Chair Melnyk thanked the members of the public joining the meeting in person and online.
6. **Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance**
7. **Student, Employee and Public Awards and Recognition**
 - A. Virginia Beach Future Teachers for Tomorrow: The School Board recognized recipients of Virginia Teachers for Tomorrow from each high school as well as the Technical and Career Education Center. This “grow your own” program is an opportunity for the division to develop and cultivate new teachers from our very own students. This year, a total of 38 contracts have been awarded.
 - B. Virginia Mathematics Leader of the Year, Virginia Council for Mathematics Supervision: The School Board recognized Tina Mazzacane as the Virginia Mathematics Leader of the Year from Virginia Council for Mathematics Supervision.
 - C. 2024 VSBA Tidewater Regional Art Contest winner: The School Board recognized Oliva Kennon, a senior at Landstown High School, as a 2024 VSBA Tidewater Regional Art Contest Winner. The winning artwork is framed and displayed in the offices of the VSBA in Charlottesville.
 - D. Top 20 Under 20, Hampton Roads Workforce Council: The School Board recognized the following three students for the Top 20 Under 20 Award given by the Hampton Roads Workforce Council: Madeline Lane and Erin Sutton, both juniors at Kempsville High School in the Entrepreneurship and Business Academy, and Smit Kothair, a freshman at Ocean Lakes High School.
 - E. VBCPS Digital Citizenship winners: The School Board recognized the VBCPS Digital Citizenship Contest winners from the following schools: Rowan Pope, Trantwood Elementary School; Noemi Lopez, Corporate Landing Elementary School; Jakhia Morris, Katie Wilkins, and Stella Swartz, Independence Middle School; and Kara Miller, Kempsville High School. The Judges’ Choice Winners were Parker Phillips, and Kayla Marie Pagtakhan, Virginia Beach Middle School.
 - F. VBCPS Podcast Contest winners: The School Board recognized the winners of the first-ever district-wide podcast contest. The theme for the contest was “Elevate Your Voice!”. The winners were: Michelle Pearce, Scarlett Cokley, Lyla Nash, and Addison Headley from Tallwood Elementary School; Jude Fulgencio and Harrison Rousseau from Kempsville Middle School; and Kalena Botelho from Tallwood High School.

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- G. Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) first place state competition winners: The School Board recognized 24 students as first-place winners in the Future Business Leaders of America competition. To earn a first-place award, students demonstrate expertise in a role-playing scenario, providing feasible solutions to a plan developed by the students – demonstrating confidence, poise, and assertiveness during their presentation, or by earning the highest score on a 100-multiple choice question assessment.
- H. Area 5 Drill, Athletic and Academic Invitational Champion – Green Run High School (Navy Junior ROTC): The School Board recognized the students and staff from Green Run High School NJROTC as the Area 5 Navy Junior ROTC Champions. The Green Run team took first place in curl-ups, pushups, unit personnel inspection and unarmed exhibition. The team also placed first in academics and second in armed exhibition, armed standard drill, and unarmed standard drill.
- 8. *Adoption of the Agenda***: Chair Melnyk called for any modifications to the agenda as presented. Ms. Manning made a motion to move item 17B (Old Donation School 2024-25 options discussion) to Information item #12G. Ms. Weems seconded the motion. A discussion followed regarding the motion; discussion of topic in open session and closed session; transparency and public input; attorney-client privilege; emails from public; reasons for closed session (i.e., personnel, property, etc.); Freedom of Information Act; motion restated – Old Donation School 2024-25 options discussion; Code of Virginia 2.2-3711 Part A, Section 8. Without further discussion, Chair Melnyk called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were two (2) ayes in favor of the motion to move item 17B (Old Donation School 2024-25 options discussion) to Information item #12G: Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems. There were nine (9) nays opposed to the motion to move item 17B (Old Donation School 2024-25 options discussion) to Information item #12G: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs. The motion failed, 2-9-0.
- Chair Melnyk called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Owens made the motion, seconded by Ms. Brown. Without discussion, Chair Melnyk called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine ayes in favor of the motion to approve the agenda as presented: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs. There were two (2) nays opposed to the motion to approve the agenda as presented: Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems. The motion passed, 9-2-0.
- 9. *Superintendent's Report (second monthly meeting) and recognitions (first and second monthly meetings)***: Superintendent Robertson shared the following information: 1) The feedback from the Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Committee was invaluable and helped division leadership make adjustments in real time to support teaching and learning. Thanked the Teacher Forum Leadership Council and the Teacher Assembly for providing invaluable input to division leadership this school year; 2) school communities are doing a great job celebrating Teacher Appreciation Month; thanked community partners, volunteers, and PTA members for showing support for our teachers; 3) over 600 people came to the Family and Wellness Expo at Bayside High School on May 11, thanked the Office of Student Support Services and community partners for a successful event; 4) students embarked on their journey to a bright future at the Junior Career Fair at Bayside 6th Grade Campus earlier this month. They explored a variety of possible career tracks and the educational path to get there; 5) more than 300 student athletes and their peer buddies filled Tallwood High School stadium on May 8 for the annual Little Feet Meet; 6) over 1,000 VBCPS students collaborated in teams at the 15th annual STEM Trifecta Challenge on May 15 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. Teams participated in one of three challenges: robotics, "maker" or cybersecurity; and 7) reminders for students and families: register students by June 14 for transportation for the 2024-25 school year, encourage community to participate in "Love for VB Day on May 31, celebrating graduation of our senior classes at the Virginia Beach Convention Center from June 11 through June 15, and last day of school is Friday, June 14.
- 10. *Approval of Meeting Minutes***
- A. May 14, 2024 Regular School Board Meeting: Chair Melnyk called for any modifications to the May 14, 2024 regular School Board meeting minutes as presented. Hearing none, Chair Melnyk called for a motion to approve the May 14, 2024 as presented. Ms. Brown made the motion, seconded by Ms. Riggs. Without discussion, Chair Melnyk called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were seven (7) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the May 14, 2024 meeting minutes as presented: Chair Melnyk, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan,

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Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs. The following School Board members abstained: Vice Chair Franklin, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems. The motion passed, 7-0-4.

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

There were seventeen (17) in person speakers (including five (5) student speakers) and three (3) online speakers (including one (1) student speaker); topics discussed were ODS; selection process; adding a third grade class; rating system; gifted education; Policy 5-35; raises; seat belt lock; gifted cluster classes; gifted testing; racism; bullying; vouchers and tax credits; racial discrimination; Kempsville High School; DEI policy; race, equity, equality; safe learning environment; and increasing access to gifted education.

The Public Comments concluded at 7:44 p.m.

12. Information

- A. Policy Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations: Recommended that the School Board approve Policy Review Committee (PRC) recommendations regarding review and amendment of certain bylaws and policies as reviewed by the PRC at its May 20, 2024 meeting. Kamala Lannetti, School Board Attorney presented the following:
1. Bylaw 1-28/Committees, Organizations and Boards – School Board Member Assignments: The PRC recommends removing the Planning and Performance Monitoring Committee from the Bylaw and the reference to it from the Governance Committee section. There was a brief discussion regarding changes to Bylaw 1-28 for members of the Governance Committee.
 2. Policy 5-10/Admission Requirements: The PRC recommends adding clarifying language regarding applying and consideration for Continued Enrollment after a student moves out of the City. There was a brief discussion regarding a different policy for students in a kinship care agreement; legislation regarding kinship care.
 3. Policy 5-15/Transfer Students: There are no recommended changes to this policy. This policy is being presented to comply with the 5-year review period.
 4. Policy 5-20/Married Students: The PRC recommends adding language pertaining to a spouse's access to a married student records and removing the Editor's Note to align with other recent policy changes.
 5. Policy 5-35/Discipline and Control of Students: The PRC recommends removing the Editor's Note to align with other recent policy changes.
 6. Policy 5-47/School Sponsored Associations, Club and School Organizations: The PRC recommends adding "will" to the clarify the requirements of school-sponsored associations, clubs, and organizations.
 7. Policy 5-48/Student Social Activities Sponsored by School Division: There are no recommended changes to this policy. This policy is being presented to comply with the 5-year review period.
 8. Policy 5-51/Student Vehicles: The PRC recommends adding language to limit the intent of the Policy to school hours and to clarify language regarding consent to search student vehicles.
 9. Policy 5-53/Activities: Access to School Facilities: The PRC recommends removing the Editor's Note to align with other recent policy changes.
 10. Policy 5-56/Contagious and Infectious Diseases: Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV): The PRC recommends removing the Editor's Note to align with other recent policy changes and other scrivener's changes.
 11. Policy 5-73/Voter Registration: There are no recommended changes to this policy. This policy is being presented to comply with the 5-year review period. There was a discussion regarding authorizing teachers; review policy language; feedback from administrative staff; recommendation from staff regarding wording; policy 5-73 to go back to the Policy Review Committee.
 12. Policy 6-56/Student Travel for School-Sponsored Events: The PRC recommends clarifying language regarding the appropriate use of School Board vehicles and the request for use of commercial transportation.
 13. Policy 7-48/Community Use of School Facilities/Generally: The PRC recommends adding language that authorizes the Superintendent to create regulations and procedures regarding the report to the School

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Board. There was a brief discussion on policy; clarification on what to report; facilities use form; use of athletic fields; and development of process.

- B. Revised General Fees Schedule 2024-2025: Crystal Pate, Chief Financial Officer provided the School Board additional revisions to the FY 2024-2025 General Fees Schedule; Adult Learning Center - PN I-II Adult Student Licensed Practical Nursing Program: \$2,7450; PN2 New Adult Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) Program: \$4,730; PN3 Adult Student Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) Program: \$6,985; Technical and Career Education Center Courses – Practical Nursing I and II (LPN High School): \$995; Cosmetology (tool kits): \$300; Pharmacy Technician: no fees required for SY 24-25
- C. Academic Support Update: Monica Robinson, Ed.D., K-12 Academic Support Programs Coordinator, provided the School Board information regarding Academic Support Programs; defined Academic Support – a wide variety of instructional methods, educational services, or school resources provided to students to help remediate or accelerate learning; reviewed alignment to goals: Goal 1: Educational Excellence, Equity Emphasis, Strategies 3, 7, and 8; Goal 2: Student Well-Being – Equity Emphasis, Strategies 1 and 3; Goal 3: Student Ownership of Learning – Equity Emphasis, Strategies 1, 2, 3, and 6; Goal 5: Mutually Supportive Partnerships – Equity Emphasis, Strategies 1 and 4; National Math + Science Initiative (NMSI) purpose – increase enrollments in AP/IB and Dual Enrollment Programs; increase success on AP exams through year-round training, coaching, resources for teachers, and study materials for student; monitor academic progress through action planning, regular meeting, and focused recruitment and retainment support; Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS) purpose – increase access to AP math, science, computer science and English Language courses for all students; additional resources for student success; supports for advance level coursework: NMSI – 50% off all math and science assessments, academic supports and tutoring, content specific professional learning; EOS – outreach lists, Insight Cards, pathways report, support and belonging report; shared example of a sample Insight Card; shared student voice from Insight Cards, “What do you wish your teacher knew about you?”; reviewed data regarding advanced level coursework (Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and Dual Enrollment) - all high schools, AP and DE – Tallwood High School, AP – Green Run High School, noted there was improvement in all groups; core content academic supports – effective and independent reading courses, tutoring; Read 180 – teacher-led instruction: whole and small group, student app, independent reading; Lexile growth for reading intervention students: Lexile gain: 78%, met EOY growth goal: 56%, met 2x growth goal: 33%, advanced reading level: 29%; VBCPS partner with FEV Tutor, 24/7 tutoring: targeted, self-scheduled, and on-demand; shared sample of FEV Tutoring dashboard; FEV Tutor – 2023-2024 (May 2024) tutoring: number of students participating: 2,233; number of attended scheduled lessons: 10,515; number of on-demand lessons: 2,827; shared QR codes for academic support and acceleration program for tutoring (ASAP tutoring) and virtual summer academy.

The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding supports for math and science assessments; grants provided to schools; accessing FEV Tutoring; Classlink; AP and Dual Enrollment classes; READ 180 – lower numbers on high school level, want students to be on reading level, don’t want high numbers at the secondary level; and READ 180 well received at the elementary level.

D. Textbook Adoptions:

1. AP Psychology
2. AP European History

Recommended that the School Board receive information regarding textbook adoptions for AP Psychology and AP European History. The recommendation is for the School Board to review and approve the following high school AP Psychology and AP European History textbooks and materials sent by publishers for implementation in the Fall of 2024.

Course Title	Textbook	Publisher	Copyright
AP Psychology	<i>Myers’ Psychology, 4th Edition</i>	Bedford, Freeman, Worth	2024
AP European History	<i>Western Heritage Since 1300, 12th Edition</i>	Pearson	2020

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Thomas Quinn, Executive Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning presented the School Board information on the above textbook adoptions; reviewed the textbook adoption process; noted no OER (Open Educational Resources) was found; AP Psychology first-choice textbook: *Myers' Psychology, 4th Edition*; rationale: aligned to the new College Board objectives and promotes traits in the VBCPS Graduate Profile; includes color graphs, charts, diagrams, images, videos, and visuals that support learning; provides practice exams and assessments that can be assigned through Canvas; integrates with Canvas and is available offline; implementation costs: 850 student enrollment, approximately \$151,622.77 initial implementation cost, approximately \$163,703.24 total implementation cost (over seven years); digital text for each student; one class set of 15 for each teacher. AP European History first-choice textbook: *Western Heritage Since 1300, 12th Edition*; rationale: aligned to the College Board objectives and promotes the traits of the VBCPS Graduate Profile; integrates with Canvas; provides robust digital resources with interactive opportunities, including reading and note-taking guides; provides extensive test preparation, including tips, topics, and full practice assessment; implementation costs: 640 student enrollment, approximately \$116,697.76 initial implementation cost, approximately \$126,195.91 total implementation cost (over seven years); digital text for each student; one class set of 15 for each teacher. There was a brief discussion regarding the AP European History textbook and a request to review the recommended textbooks.

- E. Citizens' Advisory Committee Appointment Recommendations: Recommended that the School Board approve appointments to Citizens' Advisory Committees for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2026 reflecting the outcome of School Board discussion of applications as personnel matters during a closed meeting on May 14, 2024; Laura Beth Mattson, Intergovernmental Affairs and Constituent Services Specialist read the recommendations to fill voting member vacancies as listed below:

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR GIFTED EDUCATION:

Chanel Minter – Kempsville
Holly Edwards – Bayside
Amanda Ash – At Large
Samuel Levin – Tallwood
Mary (Cathy) Smith – At Large
Holly Bennett – First Colonial

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Samantha-Ann Hagger
Amber Miller
Alternative – Tracey Olson
Meghan Ashburn – Reappoint
Katie Ali – Reappoint
Lee Woodard – Reappoint
Sarah Cook – Reappoint
*Remove Matthew Gentile

GENERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL AND CAREER:

Chandler Pitcher – Ocean Lakes
James Cervera – Salem
Yvonne Swain – Landstown

After the names were read, there was a brief discussion regarding the process and how the members were selected.

- F. Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) Legislative Positions: The School Board discuss certain VSBA Legislative Positions and determine whether amendments or other actions regarding positions are needed; School Board Member and Legislative Committee Chair, Mr. Culpepper reviewed the following information: In the spring of each year, the VSBA begins an eight-month process to determine statewide legislative positions for the next year. This process has numerous steps: (1) position proposals from member boards are solicited (usually in March or April); (2) the VSBA Legislative Positions Committee reviews them (July) and forwards the

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proposed new or modified positions to the VSBA Board of Directors, which (3) considers them (August) and recommends changes to the VSBA Delegate Assembly (November), which, in turn, (4) approves, deletes, revises and proposes changes to old and new legislative positions.

No school board in Virginia is bound by any position of the Association. Any board that wishes to adopt a legislative position differing from the actions taken by the VSBA Delegate Assembly needs only to meet after the VSBA Delegate Assembly meeting and adopt a local position. Absent that action, and notification to VSBA, school boards that participate in the VSBA Delegate Assembly - even if they were on the losing side of a particular vote - will be represented as supporting the VSBA position. If the Virginia General Assembly or the U.S. Congress enacts a law that is voted against by a state or federal lawmaker, it is still the law of the land, even in that lawmaker's jurisdiction, and every citizen must abide by the decision.

VSBA Legislative Positions for discussion: 4.16 Employee Criminal Background Checks, 5.5 Local Choice Health Benefits for School Board Members, 5.7 Fiscal Authority of School Boards, 7.1 Support for Private Education, Vouchers, and Tax Credits, 9.13 Election of Board of Education Members, 10.9 Guns at School-Related Functions.

A discussion followed regarding background checks; costs; VBCPS employees and paying for background checks; need to have legislation matching VSBA positions; positions from other school districts; state funds to help with cost of background checks; vouchers and tax credits; Ms. Riggs shared a statement regarding vouchers, tax credits and private education; recovery school, concerns and questions regarding item from VSBA...The VSBA also opposes measures requiring the transfer of local taxpayer funds to other jurisdictions or to private providers should a student choose to enroll in a virtual program outside of their home school division; Virtual Virginia; changes/additions to VSBA positions; reaching out to the VSBA regarding legislative process; and voting at VSBA convention in November on legislative positions.

13. Return to public comments if needed: As noted under Agenda item #11, Public Comments concluded at 7:44 p.m.

14. Consent Agenda: Chair Melnyk read the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- A. **Resolution: Juneteenth:** Recommended that the School Board approve a resolution recognizing the 19th day of June of each year, also known as Juneteenth.
- B. **Divisionwide Literacy Plan:** Recommended that the School Board approve the Division Literacy Plan as mandated by the Virginia Literacy Act (VLA).
- C. **Elementary School Playground Equipment Upgrade:** Recommended that the School Board approve a motion authorizing the Superintendent to execute a contract in the amount of \$993,487.59 with Play & Park Structures for the replacement of elementary school playground equipment at the following schools: North Landing Elementary School, Point O'View Elementary School, Landstown Elementary School, Indian Lakes Elementary School, Parkway Elementary School.
- D. **Bayside Middle School Foundation Repair – Phase I:** Recommended that the School Board approve a motion authorizing the Superintendent to execute a contract with Master Contractors of VA for the Bayside Middle School Foundation Repair- Phase I in the amount of \$568,100.

After reading the items on the Consent Agenda, Chair Melnyk called for any objections from the School Board voting on the Consent Agenda items. Hearing none, Chair Melnyk called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ms. Anderson made the motion, seconded by Ms. Kendrick. Chair Melnyk asked for the resolution to be read.

Ms. Kendrick read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION
Juneteenth
June 2024**

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates the day freedom was proclaimed to all enslaved people in the South by the Union General Gordon Granger, who arrived in Galveston, Texas, proclaiming the authority of the United States

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over Texas in the name of then President Andrew Johnson on June 19, 1865, more than two and half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, not caring so much to which day of freedom had come as to the fact it had come, the freed men and women referred to this day as “Juneteenth,” which provides the historical reference for Juneteenth National Freedom Day, also known as “Emancipation Day,” “Emancipation Celebration” and “Freedom Day” to commemorate the June 19, 1865, announcement of the abolition of slavery in the State of Texas, and in general the emancipation of enslaved African Americans throughout the Confederacy; and

WHEREAS, Americans of all ethnic backgrounds, creeds, cultures and religions share in a common love of and respect for freedom, as well as a determination to protect their right to freedom – the freedom to choose a life direction, manner of earning a livelihood and creating a community in which a free people live with dignity; and

WHEREAS, although remembering and celebrating Juneteenth promotes the unique lived experience, plight and persistence of African American, African, and Black peoples, it also provides an opportunity for those not of this demographic to seek knowledge and awareness, obtain skills necessary to interact and communicate in a global society, and to learn from the past to better serve all current and future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach observes Juneteenth and other months of cultural remembrance as the first step to acknowledging our core values and commitments to advance educational equity, cultural competency and accountability; 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 28th day of May, 2024

After the resolution was read, Chair Melnyk called for a vote on the Consent Agenda. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

15. Action

- A. Personnel Report / Administrative Appointments: Chair Melnyk called for a motion to approve the May 28, 2024 personnel report and administrative appointments. Ms. Anderson made the motion, seconded by Ms. Owens that the School Board approve the appointments and the acceptance of the resignations, retirements, and other employment actions as listed on the April 30, 2024 personnel report along with the administrative appointments as recommended by the Superintendent. Without discussion, Chair Melnyk called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eight (8) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the May 28, 2024 personnel report and administrative appointments: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Callan, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, Ms. Riggs, and Ms. Weems. There were three (3) nays opposed to the motion to approve the May 28, 2024 personnel report and administrative appointments: Ms. Brown, Mr. Culpepper, and Ms. Manning. The motion passed, 8-3-0.
Superintendent Robertson mentioned the following: Melissa W. Disher, Teacher, First Colonial High School as Coordinator of Legal Studies Academy, First Colonial High School.
- B. Federal Grant Applications: Chair Melnyk called for a motion to approve the administrations intent to apply for the following federal grants for the 2024-2025 school year:
- Title I, Part A - Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged: Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies (LEA)

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- Title I, Part D - Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged: Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth Who are Neglected, Delinquent, or At Risk
- Title II, Part A - Preparing, Training, and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals: Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund
- Title III, Part A - Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students
- Title IV, Part A - Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants

Ms. Brown made the motion, seconded by Ms. Owens. Without discussion, Chair Melnyk called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the administrations intent to apply for the federal grants as presented for the 2024-2025. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

- C. Revised General Fees Schedule 2024-2025: Chair Melnyk called for a motion to approve the revised FY 2024-25 General Fees Schedule as presented including the rates for student fees for optional/ancillary services or activities. Ms. Anderson made the motion, seconded by Ms. Kendrick. Without discussion, Chair Melnyk called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the revised FY 2024-25 General Fees Schedule as presented including the rates for student fees for optional/ancillary services or activities. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.
- D. Budget Transfers: Chair Melnyk called for a motion to approve the budget transfers as presented in the agenda packet. Vice Chair Franklin made the motion, seconded by Ms. Riggs. Without discussion, Chair Melnyk called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the budget transfers as presented in the agenda packet. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

- 16. Committee, Organization or Board Reports**: Vice Chair Franklin asked a question regarding a formal PRC meeting schedule, Ms. Owens stated dates have been chosen at the end of the PRC meetings, currently working on a schedule of meetings.
- 17. Return to Administrative, Informal, Workshop or Closed Session matters**: At 9:33 p.m. Vice Chair Franklin made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Anderson 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, 2, 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.
2. Discussion or consideration of admission or disciplinary matters or any other matters that would involve the disclosure of information contained in a scholastic record concerning any student of any public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth or any state school system. However, any such student, legal counsel and, if the student is a minor, the student's parents or legal guardians shall be permitted to be present during the taking of testimony or presentation of evidence at a closed meeting, if such student, parents, or guardians so request in writing and such request is submitted to the presiding officer of the appropriate board.
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.

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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:

- A. Superintendent's contract and/or evaluation.
- B. Status of student related cases.
- C. Old Donation School 2024-25 options discussion with legal counsel.
- D. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases.
- E. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters.

Chair Melnyk 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 Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs. There were three (3) nays opposed to the motion to recess into Closed Session: Ms. Brown, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems. The motion passed, 8-3-0.

The following School Board Members left the meeting at 9:37 p.m.: Ms. Brown, Ms. Manning, and Ms. Weems.

The School Board recessed into Closed Session at 9:39 p.m.

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

- C. Old Donation School 2024-25 options discussion with legal counsel: School Board Members: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs; Kamala H. Lannetti, School Board Attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Superintendent; Eugene F. Soltner, Ed.D., Chief of Staff; Danielle E. Colucci, Chief Academic Officer; Crystal Lewis-Wilkerson, Ph.D., Director, Office of K-12 and Gifted Programs; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.

At 9:42 p.m., School Board Members, Ms. Kendrick and Ms. Riggs left the Closed Session. Ms. Riggs returned at 9:43 p.m. Ms. Kendrick returned at 9:46 p.m.

At 9:46 p.m., School Board Member, Ms. Brown returned to the meeting and joined the Closed Session.

At 9:48 p.m., School Board Member, Ms. Anderson left the Closed Session and returned at 9:49 p.m.

Chair Melnyk left the Closed Session at 9:55 p.m. and returned at 9:56 p.m.

Eugene F. Soltner, Ed.D., Chief of Staff, left the Closed Session and returned at 10:01 p.m.

School Board Member, Mr. Culpepper left the Closed Session at 10:28 p.m. and returned at 10:30 p.m.

At 10:33 p.m., the following staff members left the Closed Session: Eugene F. Soltner, Ed.D., Chief of Staff; Danielle E. Colucci, Chief Academic Officer; and Crystal Lewis-Wilkerson, Ph.D., Director, Office of K-12 and Gifted Programs.

- A. Superintendent's contract and/or evaluation: School Board Members: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs; Kamala H. Lannetti, School Board Attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Superintendent; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.
- D. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases; and
- E. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters: School Board Members: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs; Kamala H. Lannetti, School Board Attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Superintendent; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.

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- B. Status of student related cases: School Board Members: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs; Kamala H. Lannetti, School Board Attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., Superintendent; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.

The School Board reconvened at 10:48 p.m.

Certification of Closed Session: Vice Chair Franklin 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.

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.

Mr. Callan made the motion, seconded by Ms. Owens. Chair Melnyk 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 Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs. There was one (1) abstention: Ms. Brown (missed a significant portion of the Closed Session). The motion passed, 8-0-1.

Chair Melnyk called for a motion to approve amendment number one (1) of the Superintendent's contract. Ms. Owens made the motion, seconded by Ms. Riggs. Chair Melnyk called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion to approve amendment number one (1) of the Superintendent's contract: Chair Melnyk, Vice Chair Franklin, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Brown, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Kendrick, Ms. Owens, and Ms. Riggs. The motion passed, 9-0-0.

- 18. Adjournment:** Chair Melnyk adjourned the meeting at 10:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Kimberly A. Melnyk, School Board Chair