



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CHARTING THE COURSE

School Board Services

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District 10

Carolyn D. Weems, Vice Chair
District 9

Mark Bohenstiel
District 3

Michael Callan
District 6

David Culpepper
District 8

Matt W. Cummings
District 7

Rose M. Dwyer
District 1

Sharon R. Felton
At-Large

Dr. Alveta J. Green
District 4

Kimberly A. Melnyk
District 2

Melinda J. Rogers
District 5

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

School Board Regular Meeting MINUTES **Tuesday, March 11, 2025**

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 Brown convened the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop Session at 4:00 p.m. on the 11th day of March 2025.

In addition to Superintendent Robertson, the following School Board Members were present in the School Administration Building #6, School Board Chamber: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems (arrived at 4:03 p.m.), Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer (arrived at 4:01 p.m.), Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers.

- A. **School Board Administrative Matters and Reports:** Chair Brown mentioned the Student Advisory Council meeting, March 20th at Kempsville High School from 3:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and two School Board Members may attend. Ms. Rogers and Mr. Callan shared a brief overview from the meeting with Dr. Lisa Coons, superintendent of public instruction, regarding the School Performance Framework.
- B. **CTE and Work-Based Learning Overview:** Sara Lockett, Ed.D., director, Office of Technical and Career Education, provided the School Board information about Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programming available to students in schools and CTE centers. In middle schools, grades 6-8, classes are offered to encourage exploration of careers, financial skills, engineering, coding, computers, and culinary arts. There are a variety of elective classes at each high school in the following categories: business education, engineering and technology education, family and consumer science, marketing and entrepreneurship, and NJROTC. Dr. Lockett mentioned the Technical & Career Education Center, which offers 23 programs with over 700 students attending each day. She provided information on the new welding lab and the practical nursing program along with student enrollment data. The Advanced Technology Center (ATC), the second CTE center, is located on the TCC campus in Virginia Beach and in the learning laboratory at Lynnhaven Mall. The ATC offers 17 programs and in the fall of 2024 the center was at 91.2% capacity.

Last year, high school students completed work-based learning experiences, invested over 96,000 hours, and had more than \$1.2 million dollars in economic impact. Dr. Lockett provided an overview of the advisory groups (General Advisory Council for Technical and Career Education, Virginia Beach Community Roundtable, and the Ad Hoc School Board and City Council Workforce Committee) and

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regional and city workforce partners. Dr. Lockett highlighted several new and expanding workforce initiatives. These initiatives included the launch of a CTE Informational Video Series, the addition of a 10-month Work Based Learning Specialist, and the expansion of a Navy-funded Welding Lab at Renaissance Academy. Additionally, there will be new curriculum and equipment for Middle School Technology Education, as well as expanded course offerings and career-focused dual enrollment programs. The funding for CTE and workforce development was reviewed. A little over \$3 million dollars supports workforce focused instruction, professional development for teachers, equipment, and industry credential testing. The following challenges were identified regarding expansion: ATC and Tech Center – no space for expansion, CTE space in middle and high schools, challenges staffing CTE openings, dependence on grants, and student elective choice.

The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding the informational video series; welding lab; committees working together; application process and waiting list; rolling admissions; internships; medical institutions as partners; welding program; importance of CTE programs; funding for programs, grants (Carl D. Perkins); staffing shortages; consideration for early decision to a program; recognition for VBCPS programs; maximizing student schedules for elective opportunities; and cultivating partnerships.

- C. ALL in Virginia Update: Danielle Colucci, Ed.D., chief academic officer, provided the School Board an update on the utilization of All In Virginia funding. The breakdown for funding included 70% for tutoring, 20% for Virginia Literacy Act (VLA), and 10% for attendance (chronic absenteeism). The All in Tutoring included in-person tutoring, summer learning, educational resources: Image Math, and Lexia. The 2024-25 Virginia Literacy Act (VLA) was briefly highlighted and the 2025-26 VLA additions were reviewed. The additions included VLA extends to grades 4-8, K-8 Division Literacy Plan – biennial, 6-8 supplemental and intervention resources, and VALLSS, intervention, and reading plans in grades 4-8. The attendance portion mentioned information on Student Response Team (SRT) interventions, flexible in-person instructional time, and continuing implementing EveryDay Labs. A video was shared on the attendance ambassador program pilot. An overview of the All In spending was briefly discussed with estimated remaining funds and obligated funds.

The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding receiving materials from VDOE; attendance ambassadors; chronic absenteeism and illness; flexible tutoring; school social workers; notification to parents when student is absent; notifications to help improve attendance; Lexia program; additions to VLA, teacher workload, supports to teachers; keeping track of progress and offering support.

2. **Closed Session:** At 5:15 p.m., Vice Chair Weems made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Melnyk 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, Paragraphs 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. Any teacher shall be permitted to be present during a closed meeting in which there is a discussion or consideration of a disciplinary matter that involves the teacher and some student, and the student involved in the matter is present, provided that the teacher makes a written request to be present to the presiding officer of the appropriate board.

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Nothing in this subdivision, however, shall be construed to authorize a closed meeting by a local governing body or an elected school board to discuss compensation matters that affect the membership of such body or board collectively.

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. Pending student investigations and complaints.
- B. Pending employee investigations and complaints.
- C. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases.
- D. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters.

Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to recess into Closed Session. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

The School Board recessed into Closed Session at 5:19 p.m.

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

- C. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases; and
- D. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters: School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers; Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., superintendent; Cheryl R. Woodhouse, chief of staff; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.

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- A. Pending student investigations and complaints: School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers; Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., superintendent; Cheryl R. Woodhouse, chief of staff; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.
- B. Pending employee investigations and complaints: School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers; Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., superintendent; Cheryl R. Woodhouse, chief of staff; and Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk.

The School Board reconvened at 5:31 p.m.

Certification of Closed Session: Vice Chair Weems 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. Rogers made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bohensiel. Without discussion, Chair Brown 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 Brown adjourned the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session at 5:32 p.m.

4. Formal Meeting (School Administration Building #6 – School Board Room) 6:00 p.m.

5. Call to Order and Roll Call: Chair Brown convened the meeting of the School Board at the School Administration Building #6, School Board Chamber at 6:00 p.m. on the 11th day of March 2025.

In addition to Superintendent Robertson, the following School Board Members were present in the School Administration Building #6, School Board Chamber: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers.

6. Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

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7. Student, Employee and Public Awards and Recognition

National Board Certified Teachers – Windsor Oaks, Kingston, Pembroke Meadows, White Oaks, Salem, Kempsville and Bettie F. Williams elementary schools, Tallwood High School, Department of Teaching and Learning, Office of Programs for Exceptional Children: National Board Certification is an advanced teaching credential achieved through a rigorous, peer-reviewed process. The certification consists of four components: written assessment of content knowledge, reflection on student work samples, video analysis of teaching practice, and documented impact and accomplishments as a teaching professional. The School Board recognized the following teachers who have recently been certified by the National Board: Rebecca Davidson, an instructional specialist in the Department of Teaching and Learning; Becky Feld, a library media specialist at Windsor Oaks Elementary; Stephanie Fletcher, a first-grade teacher at Kingston Elementary; Brita Hampton, a hearing impaired teacher in the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children; Jason Huffman, a cross category ED/LD teacher at Windsor Oaks Elementary; Amy Keltner, a fifth grade teacher at Bettie F. Williams Elementary; Susan Schutte, an art teacher at Tallwood High School; Melanie Soscia, an art teacher at Pembroke Meadows Elementary; Lesley Stranger, a fifth grade teacher at White Oaks Elementary; Ashley Veraque, a first grade teacher at Salem Elementary; and Erin Zeder, a reading specialist at Kempsville Elementary.

- 8. Adoption of the Agenda:** Chair Brown called for any modifications to the agenda as presented. Hearing none, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Callan made the motion, seconded by Dr. Green. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

9. Superintendent's Report (second monthly meeting) and recognitions (first and second monthly meetings):

Administrative Recognition: Superintendent Robertson introduced the following appointment, which was approved at the February 25, 2025, School Board Meeting: Brittany E. Gulick, administrative assistant, Bayside and Luxford elementary schools, as assistant principal for Glenwood Elementary School.

10. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- A. February 18, 2025 Special School Board Meeting: Chair Brown called for any modifications to the February 18, 2025, special School Board Meeting minutes as presented. Hearing none, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the February 18, 2025, minutes as presented. Mr. Callan made the motion, seconded by Ms. Melnyk. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the February 18, 2025, minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.
- B. February 25, 2025 Regular School Board Meeting: Chair Brown called for any modifications to the February 25, 2025, regular School Board Meeting minutes as presented. Hearing none, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the February 25, 2025, minutes as presented. Ms. Rogers made the motion, seconded by Dr. Green. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the February 25, 2025, minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

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

There were thirteen (13) in-person speakers. The topics included school chaplains and the National Chaplain Program; fossils and megalodon; Princess Anne High School; replacement costs; DEI in curriculum; Policy Review Committee, Appendix B; discipline in classroom, parent support, homework and time management; teacher vacancies, unfilled teaching positions, teacher pay; 5% salary increase for teachers; competitive pay for teachers; early release days; increase cost of living; resolutions; equitable access to resources; Recovery School; limited planning time for teachers (ES); VDOE training; support cap; state funds (additional) wages for instructional staff; pay scale; and recruitment and retention of teachers.

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The Public Comments concluded at 6:48 p.m.

12. Information

- A. Policy Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations: Recommended that the School Board review Policy Review Committee (PRC) recommendations regarding the amendment of certain policies as recommended by the PRC at its February 25, 2025 meeting. Kamala Lannetti, school board attorney, presented the following:
1. Policy 3-30/Purchasing and Procurement of Goods and Services: The PRC recommends changing the word Purchasing to Procurement with respect to the title of the Director and adding "School" before Division to be consistent with language in other policies.
 2. Policy 3-31/ Purchasing Cooperative Procurement: The PRC recommends changing the word Purchasing to Procurement with respect to the title of the Director and updating the title of the legal reference.
 3. Policy 3-74/ New Construction/Additions/Alterations: Naming of Schools or Parts Thereof, Commemorative Displays: The PRC recommends adding language to clarify that schools and existing buildings that have been replaced or have had a portion replaced will maintain the name of the school until the School Board votes to change it. The PRC also recommends adding language to allow the School Board and School Division to remove or alter any commemorative, memorial or ornamentation. There was a brief discussion regarding the policy; still allow to honor a person; suspension of policies; naming a building; commemorative displays; items on buildings; removal of items; and clarification on policy – sections C and D.
 4. Policy 6-62/Computer Systems: The PRC recommends adding language to clarify the cost and replacement of computer systems issued to students and to remove the Editor's Note to align with recent changes to other policies. There was a brief discussion regarding the policy; parental consent, Acceptable Use Form; use of device and consent; Title I PreK program, at-risk students; limited usage of computers; damages, investigating, and collecting fees; and replacement costs.
 5. Appendix B/School Board Standing Rules: The PRC recommends removing reference to commemorative resolutions. A discussion followed regarding the policy; legal concerns and resolutions; commemorative resolutions; representing the community; vetting resolutions; providing historical information; lived experience of staff and students; excluding groups, focus on educational topics (math, language, science, etc.); time reading resolutions; need to focus on education and preparing students; preparing meeting agenda, adoption of agenda, and requesting to add items to the agenda; resolutions bring sense of value, belonging and inclusion; and possibility of shorter resolutions.

Ms. Rogers made a motion to bring Appendix B/School Board Standing Rules back to PRC (Policy Review Committee). Mr. Cummings seconded the motion. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were seven (7) ayes in favor of the motion to bring Appendix B back to the PRC: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. There were four (4) nays opposed to the motion to bring Appendix B back to the PRC: Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, and Ms. Dwyer. The motion passed, 7-4-0.

- B. Resolution Regarding Fiscal Year 2025-2026 School Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program Fiscal Year 2025-2026 through Fiscal Year 2030-2031: Crystal Pate, chief operations officer, reviewed the FY 2025/26 School Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) FY 2025-26 through 2030-31. Ms. Pate noted a few key items from the proposed FY 2025-26 Operating Budget and reviewed the balanced budget. It was noted that no further guidance on the State budget was received.

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The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding amount of funds needed for a 5% increase; additional funding and amendments to the budget; presentation to City Council on April 1; instructional and unified pay scales; constraints of budget; suggestion of separate pay scale for administration (leadership); losing administrators and other staff; historical adjustments to unified pay scale; voting on budget resolutions; and need to move forward with budget resolutions.

The presentation continued with a review of the proposed CIP FY 2025-26 through 2030-31 and additional funding to Debt Services. A breakdown of funding sources by projects was shared along with remaining balances on projects. The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding appropriations to date; Debt Services; bonds; new construction dependent on funds; information in SEON; additional budget discussion at March 25 meeting; vote on SEON as proposed, voting on what is balanced now, other considerations possible to discuss at March 25 meeting; review of budget timeline; salary increase options; voting on funds we have now, can make adjustments when more information is provided from the State; possible additional funds from State; additional funds for raises; and amendments to the budget.

13. Return to public comments if needed:

As noted under Agenda Item #11, the Public Comments concluded at 6:48 p.m.

14. Consent Agenda: There were no items on the Consent Agenda.

15. Action

- A. Personnel Report / Administrative Appointments: Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the March 11, 2025, personnel report. Ms. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Ms. Rogers, that the School Board approve the appointments, and the acceptance of the resignations, retirements and other employment actions as listed on the March 11, 2025, personnel report along with the administrative appointment as recommended by the Superintendent. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the March 11, 2025, personnel report. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.
Note, there were no administrative appointments this evening.
- B. Resolution Regarding Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program Fiscal Year 2025-26 through Fiscal Year 2030-31: Chair Brown asked Vice Chair Weems to read the School Operating Budget for FY 2025-26. Vice Chair Weems read the following resolution:

School Operating Budget for FY 2025/26

WHEREAS, the mission of Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS), in partnership with the entire community, is to empower every student to become a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive and engaged citizen within the global community; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach has adopted a comprehensive strategic plan and school improvement priorities to guide budgetary decisions; and

WHEREAS, the School Board has studied the proposed FY 2025/26 Operating Budget in view of state and federal requirements, the strategic plan, priorities, community expectations, competitive compensation for employees, and the best educational interests of its students; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Operating Budget for the Instructional Experience-based Step Pay Scale provides a 1.5% experience step for all eligible employees on the scale with a 2% increase to the entry-level salary, and

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WHEREAS, the proposed Operating Budget for the Unified Experience-based Step Pay Scale provides a 1% step increase for all eligible employees with 1-14 years of experience, and a 1.5% step increase for all eligible employees with 15 and above years of experience; with a 3% increase to the entry-level salary, and

WHEREAS, the City/School Revenue Sharing Policy provides 49.6% of certain general fund revenues to meet obligations of the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, the total funds requested for the Operating Budget from the City of Virginia Beach to the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach are \$548,004,951, and

WHEREAS, the debt service payment is estimated to be \$50,071,611, leaving a balance of \$497,933,340 to allocate between the Operating Budget and the Capital Improvement Program (CIP); and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the \$497,933,340 be allocated as follows: \$493,933,340 to the Operating Budget, and \$4,000,000 to Schools' Pay-As-You-Go (PAYGO) for the CIP; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That federal funds of \$14,744,107, state funds of \$481,779,575, and other local funds of \$4,457,538 be added to the Operating Budget, bringing it to a total of \$994,914,560; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach requests a Lump Sum Appropriation of \$994,914,560 from the City Council of Virginia Beach for the School Board Operating Budget; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach requests an appropriation of \$182,854,107 for categorical grants and other special revenue funds comprised of categorical grants for \$108,973,471; Green Run Collegiate for \$5,043,397; and other special revenue funds in the amount of \$68,837,239; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach requests a Lump Sum Appropriation of \$1,177,768,667, for the total of all funds (\$994,914,560 for the Operating Budget plus \$182,854,107 for categorical grants and other special revenue funds); and be it

FINALLY RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be spread across the official minutes of this School Board, and the Clerk of the School Board is directed to deliver a copy of this Resolution to the Mayor, each member of the City Council, the City Manager, and the City Clerk.

Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach this 11th day of March 2025.

After the resolution was read, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the School Operating Budget for FY2025-26 resolution. Ms. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Vice Chair Weems.

Mr. Cummings made the following substitute motion, I make a substitute motion to amend the main motion to move that the funds pending the Governor's signature to Virginia Beach City Public Schools, if and when approved by the Governor and General Assembly, be utilized in fiscal year 26 operating budget to meet the requirements of the salary increase for Option A, for all instructional staff. Ms. Melnyk seconded the substitute motion.

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A discussion followed regarding earmark funds for teachers, appreciate the substitute motion; losing staff; 5% salary increase; Option A cost, \$12 million additional cost for Option A, Option A for instructional pay scale – adjusts the entry-level pay by 5%, provides a 1.5% step increase, total cost for Option A is \$26,650,360; additional funding from State, a portion needs to stay with Special Education; support cap; reductions to cover the difference; increase based on funding we have, not use a percentage.

Mr. Cummings amended his motion to reflect a 5% salary increase. Mr. Cummings read the following amended substitute motion, I make a substitute motion to amend the main motion to move that the funds pending the Governor's signature to Virginia Beach City Public Schools, if and when approved by the Governor and General Assembly, be utilized in fiscal year 26 operating budget to meet the requirements of a 5% salary increase for all instructional staff. Ms. Melnyk agreed to the modification.

There was a brief discussion for clarification; to provide a 5% increase on the instructional scale - Option 4: 3.5 % increase in the starting salary with 1.5% increase to the step, additional \$6.2 million; additional State funding toward salaries; importance of taking care of staff; and competitive salaries. After the discussion, Chair Brown asked Mr. Cummings to read the amended substitute motion again - I make a substitute motion to amend the main motion to move that the funds pending the Governor's signature to Virginia Beach City Public Schools, if and when approved by the Governor and General Assembly, be utilized in fiscal year 26 operating budget to meet the requirements of a 5% salary increase for all instructional staff. Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were five (5) ayes in favor of the amended substitute motion by Mr. Cummings: Mr. Cummings, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. There were six (6) nays opposed to the amended substitute motion by Mr. Cummings: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, and Ms. Dwyer. The amended substitute motion by Mr. Cummings did not pass, 5-6-0.

Chair Brown noted that the original motion is on the floor, the resolution as read by Vice Chair Weems. A discussion followed regarding the raises for instructional staff and unified staff; and finding funding for salary increases. Without further discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote to approve the fiscal year 2025-26 operating budget as presented. The School Board Clerk announced there were six (6) ayes in favor of the fiscal year 2025-26 operating budget as presented: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, and Ms. Dwyer. There were five (5) nays opposed to the fiscal year 2025-26 operating budget as presented: Mr. Cummings, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. The motion passed, 6-5-0.

Chair Brown asked Vice Chair Weems to read the resolution for the Capital Improvement Program. Vice Chair Weems read the following resolution:

Capital Improvement Program for FY 2025/26 - FY 2030/31 Budget Resolution

WHEREAS, the mission of Virginia Beach City Public Schools, in partnership with the entire community, is to empower every student to become a life-long learner who is a responsible, productive, and engaged citizen within the global community; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach has adopted a comprehensive strategic plan and school improvement priorities to guide budgetary decisions; and

WHEREAS, the primary funding sources for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) are charter bonds, public facility revenue bonds, and reversion funding; and

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WHEREAS, the City/School Revenue Sharing Policy provides 49.6% of certain general fund revenues to meet obligations of the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach; and

WHEREAS, the City/School Revenue Sharing Policy allocates funds first to Debt Service, while the balance is used for the Operating Budget and the CIP; and

WHEREAS, \$4,000,000 will be allocated to Schools' Pay-As-You-Go (PAYGO) for the CIP; and

WHEREAS, the School Board has comprehensively reviewed all sources of funding, projected various scenarios and prioritized the needs of the Operating and CIP budgets; and

WHEREAS, total project cost/new construction amounts are partly based on 2023 Educational Specifications, post 30% design, created with School Board input; and

WHEREAS, Educational Specifications and the associated designs will be reviewed under a separate process with the School Board which may result in a change in square footage and cost; and

WHEREAS, new construction projects will not go out for bid without School Board approval separate from this CIP; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach adopts a CIP program of \$870,409,239 (as shown on the attached School Board Funding Summary and Project Summary dated March 11, 2025), and be it

FINALLY RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be spread across the official minutes of this School Board, and the Clerk of the School Board is directed to deliver a copy of this Resolution to the Mayor, each member of the City Council, the City Manager, and the City Clerk.

Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach this 11th day of March 2025.

After the resolution was read, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the Capital Improvement Program for FY 2025-26 – FY 2030-31 Budget Resolution. Ms. Rogers made the motion, seconded by Mr. Callan. There was a brief comment regarding the Capital Improvement Program; B.F. Williams Elementary; and Princess Anne High School. Without further comments, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were six (6) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the Capital Improvement Program for FY 2025-26 – FY 2030-31 Budget Resolution as presented: Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. There were four (4) nays opposed to the motion to approve the Capital Improvement Program for FY 2025-26 – FY 2030-31 Budget Resolution as presented: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Culpepper, and Ms. Dwyer. There was one (1) abstention: Mr. Bohenstiel. The motion passed, 6-4-1.

- C. Achievable Dream Attendance Zone Expansion: Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the Achievable Dream attendance zone expansion. Ms. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Ms. Rogers. A discussion followed regarding the Achievable Dream Academy members and students attending the meeting; expanding attendance zone; time for the coordinator to recruit; increasing enrollment, middle and high school; suggestion to revisit next year; recruitment and marketing of program; Seatack Elementary; need for student transportation; cost for one bus and bus driver; bus routes; application to program; enrollment threshold of 75%; and voting on topic tonight.

Mr. Cumming made a motion to defer the vote on the Achievable Dream attendance zone expansion to the March 25, 2025 School Board meeting. Mr. Bohenstiel seconded the motion. A discussion followed

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School Administration Building #6, Municipal Center
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regarding the motion; cannot support motion; transportation involves only one bus; new data shared; timeline of applications; budget allocations; academies, and number of applications. Without further discussion, Chair Brown called for vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were five (5) ayes in favor of the motion to defer the vote on the Achievable Dream attendance zone expansion to the March 25, 2025 School Board meeting: Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, and Ms. Rogers. There were six (6) nays opposed to the motion to defer the vote on the Achievable Dream attendance zone expansion to the March 25, 2025 School Board meeting: Chair Brown, Mr. Culpepper; Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion did not pass, 5-6-0.

Chair Brown stated, the original motion is on the floor, to approve the Achievable Dream attendance zone expansion. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were six (6) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the Achievable Dream attendance zone expansion: Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Callan, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. There were five (5) nays opposed to the motion to approve the Achievable Dream attendance zone expansion: Chair Brown, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, and Ms. Rogers. The motion passed, 6-5-0.

16. **Committee, Organization or Board Reports:** Ms. Lannetti, school board attorney, mentioned the Policy Review Committee meeting is being moved to 1:30 p.m. and at Jericho Road Ad Hoc Committee meeting is being moved to 3:00 p.m. Mr. Cummings mentioned the Sister Cities event last Saturday, celebrating the Filipino delegation and there will be an upcoming German delegation. Vice Chair Weems mentioned again the Policy Review Committee meeting is on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. and the Jericho Road meeting is at 3:00 p.m.
17. **Return to Administrative, Informal, Workshop or Closed Session matters:** None. The Closed Session was during the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop Session. See Agenda Item #2.
18. **Adjournment:** Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Kathleen J. Brown, School Board Chair