



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARTING THE COURSE

School Board Services

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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, September 9, 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 3:30 p.m. on the 9th day of September 2025. In addition to Superintendent Roberston, the following School Board Members were present in the School Administration Building #6, School Board Chamber: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers.
 - A. ***School Board Administrative Matters and Reports:*** Chair Brown distributed the sign-up sheet for the VSBA November Conference. Ms. Melnyk shared compliments to the transportation department and bus drivers regarding the first week of school. Ms. Rogers mentioned commemorative celebrations for the month of September and shared some data regarding book reviews at the schools.
 - B. ***School Opening Update:*** Jack Freeman, chief operations officer; Melisa Ingram, executive director, Office of Facilities Services; Kenneth Stealing, assistant director, Office of Maintenance Services; Sam Nix, director, Office of Custodial and Distribution Services; Thomas C. Shattuck, director, Office of Security and Emergency Management; James T. Lash, executive director, Office of Transportation and Fleet Management Services; Chef Rachel Amato, director, Office of Food Services; and Frank Fentress, administrator, Park & Landscape Services provided the School Board updates from the various departments.

The Office of Facilities Services reported on summer work at over 90 sites, including maintenance projects, cleaning protocols, and special event support. The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) involved work on over 30 sites, including roof replacements, HVAC installations, and structural repairs. The Office of Maintenance Services highlighted learning environment enhancements, such as moving the Bayside 6th Grade Campus to Bayside MS and preparing portables at Woodstock ES. They also completed 70 repair projects, including HVAC, electrical, and plumbing systems.

The Custodial and Distribution Services teams completed various summer projects, including screening and recoating gym floors, integrating the Bayside Sixth Grade Campus into Bayside Middle School, and performing comprehensive cleaning protocols. The Distribution Services team processed over 6,000 work orders. The projects included delivery of student records, textbooks, and furniture.

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The Office of Transportation and Fleet Management Services reported on the total number of students registered for transportation, the number of school bus routes, and the staffing status of bus drivers. They also successfully piloted the Zum Routing and Tracking Software and implemented the BusPatrol Camera System for safety.

The Office of Food Services operated the traditional National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP), serving over 8.8 million student meals during the fiscal year 2024-2025. Over the summer, four kitchens were modernized and added HVAC to three kitchens. To date, 53 school kitchens have been modernized and have new scratch cooking equipment. The Office of Security and Emergency Management provided training for school administrators and security personnel, installed new security cameras and access control devices, and conducted assessments of the newly installed EPIC School Safety System. The Park & Landscape Services team maintained a 16- to 18-day maintenance cycle, completed various site infrastructure maintenance projects, and supported athletics-focused initiatives.

After the presentation, a discussion followed with questions and comments regarding bus safety and BusPatrol Camera System; thanks to all staff preparing for the start of the school year; summer internships for students; protocols for inclement weather; culinary clubs; security and trainings; development of bus routes; Zum software; transition to Bayside Middle School; security personnel; and hard to fill positions (custodians, bus assistants, cafeteria assistants).

- C. CIP Committee Update: Due to time constraints, the presentation was shared at the end of the meeting. See Agenda Item # 17.
- D. Mercer Update: Note, School Board Member, Mr. Cummings stated for the record – to avoid any conflict of interest, he recused himself from the discussion on health plans because of his work with Sentara Health Plans.

Crystal Pate, chief financial officer, and David Keough, Mercer Representative, provided the School Board with updated financial information. The presentation covered several key areas including historical claims trends, utilization metrics, and large claims experience. The historical claims trend analysis revealed year-over-year fluctuations in medical and pharmacy claims through June 2025, with notable volatility in trends from 2019 to 2024. The utilization metrics highlighted significant increases in mental health costs and professional services, while inpatient costs showed a decrease compared to the previous year. Additionally, high-cost claimant activity saw a reduction in average spend per claimant and total spend amount, despite an increase in the number of claimants exceeding \$200K.

The presentation also included projections for the plan years 2025 to 2027, detailing projected costs, employee contributions, and the health fund balance. The projections were based on claims data through June 2025 and reflected final budget decisions for 2025 and 2026. Overall, the presentation provided a detailed financial overview and projections for the upcoming years, highlighting key trends and assumptions that would impact financial planning.

After the presentation, a discussion followed with questions and comments regarding health care companies; POS (Point of Service); inpatient costs, administrative fees; projected increases; trends; claims from employees versus retirees; percentage of employees in the plan; employee and retiree contributions; sources of funding for the health fund; health fund balance, two months reserve in fund; and retiree costs.

- 2. **Closed Session**: There was no Closed Session during the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session. See Agenda Item #17.

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3. **School Board Recess:** Chair Brown adjourned the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session at 5:30 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 9th day of September 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. Bohenstiel, 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**
7. **Student, Employee and Public Awards and Recognition**
 - A. VHSL Class 5 1600-meter state champion – Cox High School: The School Board recognized Danielle Maynor from Cox High School, as the VHSL Class 5 1600-meter state champion. In June, Danielle, a junior, placed first in the 1600-meter Class 5 VHSL competition, becoming the first female in school history to achieve this.
 - B. VHSL Class 5 National Guard Cup – Kellam High School: Kellam High School received the VHSL National Guard Cup for the 2024-2025 school year. They had 13 regional championships, four state runners-up, and two state champions. This was the first time Kellam received this award.
 - C. VHSL Claudia Dodson Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity Award and the VHSL Stay in the Game Award – Kellam and Tallwood high schools: Kellam and Tallwood high schools were awarded the VHSL Claudia Dodson Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity Award and the VHSL Stay in the Game Award. Both schools were recognized for their commitment to sportsmanship, with no player ejections throughout the entire school year.
 - D. VHSL Class 5 Coach of the Year – Ocean Lakes High School: The School Board recognized Coach Pete Zell of Ocean Lakes High School, who was named VHSL Class 5 Coach of the Year after leading the school to its first baseball state championship in its 31-year history. Coach Zell led the team to a 21-5 record and was also named VHSL Region 5A Coach of the Year.
8. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Chair Brown mentioned the following amendment to the agenda regarding the Committee Assignment for Sister Cities. The committee only needs one liaison. Chair Brown added item #15C to the agenda – a vote related to Committee Assignments for Sister Cities. Without further modifications to the agenda, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented and modified. Ms. Dwyer 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 and modified. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.
9. **Superintendent's Report** (second monthly meeting) **and recognitions** (first and second monthly meetings):
Administrative Recognitions: Superintendent Robertson introduced the following appointments, which were approved at the August 12, 2025 School Board Meeting: **Denise R. Ficco**, administrative assistant, White Oaks Elementary School, as assistant principal of Diamond Springs Elementary School; **Schylar M. Harrison**, school counselor, Strawbridge Elementary School, as assistant principal of Red Mill Elementary School; **Kathryn E. Johnson**, principal, Center Cass School District, IL, as assistant principal of Strawbridge Elementary School; **Caitlin H. Bucholz**, administrative assistant, Kempsville Middle School, as assistant principal of Independence Middle School; **Diane M. Rockhill**, administrative assistant, Green Run High School, as assistant principal of Kempsville Middle School; **Tori H. Beck**, assistant principal, Kempsville Middle School, as assistant principal of Landstown High School; **Derek R. Braxton**, teacher, Greenbrier Middle School, Chesapeake Public Schools, as assistant principal of Salem High School; and **Sarah A. Routsis**, teacher, Kempsville High School, as coordinator, business information technology, Office of Technical and Career Education.

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10. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- A. August 12, 2025 Regular School Board Meeting: Chair Brown called for any modifications to the August 12, 2025, Regular School Board Meeting minutes as presented. Hearing none, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the August 12, 2025, minutes as presented. Mr. Callan made the motion, seconded by Ms. Dwyer. 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 August 12, 2025, minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

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

There were six (6) in person speakers. The topics included leadership; diversity; freedom of speech; employee compensation and benefits; SOL scores; chaplaincy and education; Chaplain program; teacher appreciation, supporting staff, underpaid, Wellness Days; raises for staff; health insurance premiums; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and Dual Language Immersion program.

The Public Comments concluded at 6:33 p.m.

12. Information

- A. WHRO Educational Services Update: Bert Schmidt, WHRO President and Chief Executive Officer and Elmer Seward, WHRO Vice President of Education provided the School Board an update on WHRO services and program. A video was shared with the School Board highlighting the various programs, resources, and events by WHRO. The WHRO Annual Impact Statement was also shared with the School Board.

A discussion followed with questions and comments regarding accessing WHRO resources; STEM Vans; professional development programs; Kids Writers Contest; Impact Statement and return on investment.

- B. Policy Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations: Recommended that the School Board review recommendations regarding the amendment of certain policies by the Policy Review Committee at its August 27, 2025 meeting. Kamala Lannetti, school board attorney, reviewed the following:
1. Policy 3-23 Sale/Exchange/Lease/Disposal of Property: The PRC recommends minor formatting changes and adding language to align with other recent changes made to other policies, as well as to clarify the procedures outlined in this policy.
 2. Policy 3-25 Trust Funds: There are no recommended changes to this policy; it is being reviewed in accordance with the 5-year review requirement.
 3. Policy 3-26 Investments: The PRC recommends updating the legal references.
 4. Policy 3-42 Financial Record Keeping of Individual School Funds: The PRC recommends updating the legal references.
 5. Policy 7-44 Awards to Students: The PRC recommends removing the Editor's Note to align with changes made to other policies.
- C. Middle School Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Considerations: Crystal Wilkerson, Ed.D., director, Office of K-12 and Gifted Programs and Kelly Arble, coordinator, World Languages, provided the School Board information about the Middle School Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Program. The presentation provided an overview of the Dual Language Immersion (DLI) program, identified implementation challenges, and outlined proposed solutions. The presentation detailed the VBCPS DLI program models, including one-way and two-way immersion, and highlighted the benefits of the middle school DLI program, such as the development of bilingualism, biliteracy, and cross-cultural competence.

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The presentation also discussed the current DLI feeder patterns and proposed expansions, as well as the enrollment statistics for the 2025-2026 school year. Challenges with the current middle school DLI model, including staffing, scheduling, and content course offerings, were addressed, and two options for future implementation were proposed: consolidating the DLI programs into a single site at Virginia Beach MS or phasing out the middle school DLI program. The benefits of a single DLI site at Virginia Beach MS were emphasized, aligning with the 2030 VBCPS Strategic Framework goals.

A discussion followed with questions and comments regarding student school zones and attending the program at Landstown Middle School; development and knowledge of Spanish, reading and writing in Spanish; transportation costs; staffing challenges; development of the two options presented; electives available; budget impacts; communication to stakeholders about topic, parental input; class size; other options; certification of students as bilingual; middle school master schedule and Thrive Time; and topic at future School Board meeting as a workshop item.

Ms. Rogers made a motion to bring the DLI (Dual Language Immersion) program back to workshop on October 14, 2025. Vice Chair Weems seconded the motion. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to bring back the DLI (Dual Language Immersion) program back to workshop on October 14, 2025. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

- D. 403(b) Oversight Committee Membership: Crystal Pate, chief financial officer, provided the School Board information on adding a Retiree Representative to the Committee. Virginia Beach City Public Schools established the 403(b) Retirement Savings Plan Oversight Committee on February 25, 2020. After much discussion, the committee members agreed that adding a retiree representative would be beneficial. This addition is intended to bring the perspective of someone who has retired from Virginia Beach City Public Schools and help ensure that the needs of retirees are effectively represented. The recommendation of Scott Zellner as the retiree representative was presented to the School Board.
- E. Budget Calendar/Staff Engagement: Crystal Pate, chief financial officer, provided the School Board information on the Budget Calendar for the FY 2026/27 Operating Budget and the 2026/27 – 2030/31 Capital Improvement Program. The presentation detailed the key dates and activities involved in the budget development process, starting with the presentation of the budget calendar to the School Board on September 9, 2025, and culminating in the approval of the School Operating Budget and the Capital Improvement Program by the City Council no later than May 15, 2026. The presentation highlighted the involvement of various stakeholders, including senior staff, budget managers, and the community, through workshops, public hearings, and surveys. The goal was to ensure a comprehensive and collaborative approach to budget planning and development.
- F. SOL Pass Rates Based on 2024-2025 Performance: Martin Barritt, testing specialist, Office of Planning, Innovation, and Accountability, provided the School Board with information regarding SOL Pass Rates Based on 2024-2025 Performance. The presentation provided an in-depth analysis of the Standards of Learning (SOL) pass rates for the 2024-2025 academic year. The presentation compared Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS) data to state data and other divisions, highlighting areas of focus and support.

The data revealed that VBCPS showed improvement in 64% of the tests, with scores on all science and history tests improving from the previous year. The overall pass rates for mathematics, reading, science, and history were presented, with detailed breakdowns by grade and subject. The presentation also included comparisons of SOL pass rates by reporting groups and against other Hampton Roads cities and comparable school divisions.

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Key findings indicated that VBCPS outperformed the state on 26 of 28 SOL tests and excelled in reading, writing, science, and history compared to local school divisions. The presentation concluded with a summary of the improvements and areas for future focus, including middle school mathematics, early literacy, and the expansion of the Virginia Literacy Act.

A discussion followed with questions and comments regarding changes to Math SOL's, planning for new curriculum and standards; improvement of Science scores; data on SOL scores; Grade 3 pass rates; student groups and SOL scores, supports to help students; reading on grade level; future topic at School Board meeting regarding literacy update; improvements with Chemistry test scores; retaking tests; data for a cohort of students; and thanks to staff for hard work.

13. Return to public comments if needed: As noted under Agenda Item #11, the Public Comments concluded at 6:33 p.m.

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

- A. Policy Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations: Recommended that the School Board approve recommendations regarding the amendment of certain policies by the Policy Review Committee at its June 25, 2025 and July 23, 2025 meetings.
1. Policy 2-57/Staff Members as Consultants Outside the School Division: The PRC recommends clarifying the types of leave that can be used when staff members are on leave working as a consultant.
 2. Policy 3-12/Capital Improvement Program (CIP): The PRC recommends updating the related links and legal references.
 3. Policy 3-14/School Board Funds: The PRC recommends updating the legal references.
 4. Policy 3-16/Local Funds: Virginia Beach Education Foundation, Inc.: The PRC recommends removing the editor's note to align with recent changes to the formatting of policies and updating the legal references.
 5. Policy 3-17/State Funds: The PRC recommends updating the legal references.
 6. Policy 3-18/Federal Funds: There are no recommended changes to this policy, it is being reviewed in accordance with the 5-year review requirement.
 7. Policy 4-57/Licensed Personnel: Contracts: The PRC recommends changing the dates in the notes to bring the policy current.
 8. Policy 4-91/Observation Students, Practicum Students, Student Teachers, and Interns: The PRC recommends adding Section B to reflect what is currently in practice, minor scrivener's changes, and the addition of legal references and related links.
 9. Policy 5-18/Attendance Records: The PRC recommends minor scrivener's changes.
 10. Policy 5-43/Threats: The PRC recommends updating the legal references.
 11. Policy 5-44/Sexual Harassment, sexual violence, and inappropriate sexual conduct prohibited – students: There are no recommended changes to this policy; it is being reviewed in accordance with the 5-year requirement.
 12. Policy 5-66/Student Directory Information: The PRC recommends updating the legal references.
 13. Policy 5-76/Homeless Children and Youth: There are no recommended changes to this policy; it is being reviewed in accordance with the 5-year requirement.
 14. Policy 6-39/Mathematics: The PRC recommends adding language that reflects recent changes to the Code of Virginia requiring automatic enrollment of certain students in advanced mathematics courses.
 15. Policy 6-41/Digital Literacy and Internet Safety Policy: The PRC recommends that the policy be amended to reflect changes in the law required by the Virginia General Assembly.

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- B. Program Evaluation Schedule for 2025-2026: Recommended that the School Board approve the schedule of program evaluations that will be completed by the Office of Planning, Innovation, and Accountability (PIA) during the 2025-2026 school year.
- C. Pre-Kindergarten Program: Evaluation Readiness Report: Recommended that the School Board approve the Pre-Kindergarten Program goals, objectives, evaluation questions, and recommended two-year comprehensive evaluation plan developed during the evaluation readiness process. In response to a request from several members of the School Board at the August 12, 2025 meeting, an evaluation update will also be conducted following the two-year comprehensive evaluation that will continue to monitor the performance of former pre-kindergarten students throughout their first-grade year.
- D. Scratch Cooking Initiative: Evaluation Readiness Report: Recommended that the School Board approve the Scratch Cooking Initiative goals, objectives, evaluation questions, and recommended one-year comprehensive evaluation plan developed during the evaluation readiness process.
- E. Religious Exemption(s): Recommended that the School Board approve RE-26-01, RE-26-02, RE-26-03, RE-26-04, RE-26-05, RE-26-06 and RE-26-07.

After reading the items on the Consent Agenda, Chair Brown asked if there were any objections to voting on the Consent Agenda as presented. Hearing none, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Cummings made the motion, seconded by Vice Chair Weems. Chair Brown called for a vote. 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 Brown called for a motion to approve the September 9, 2025, personnel report and administrative appointments. Ms. Rogers made the motion, seconded by Vice Chair Weems, that the School Board approve the appointments, and the acceptance of the resignations, retirements and other employment actions as listed on the September 9, 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 September 9, 2025 personnel report. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0. There were no administrative appointments.
- B. Policy Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations:
 - 1. Policy 6-10/Guest Speakers: Chair Brown called for a motion to approve Policy 6-10/Guest Speakers as presented. Vice Chair Weems made the motion, seconded by Ms. Rogers. A discussion followed regarding Policy 6-10; explanation of policy on Action agenda; vague changes to the policy; removal of the approving authority; PRC reviewed and recommended an abbreviated version, there is a more extensive regulation; attendance at the PRC meeting; and reasons for not voting for policy.

Without further discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eight (8) ayes in favor of the motion to approve Policy 6-10/Guest Speakers: Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. There were three (3) nays opposed to the motion to approve Policy 6-10/Guest Speakers: Chair Brown, Mr. Callan, and Mr. Culpepper. The motion passed, 8-3-0.

- C. A vote related to Committee Assignments for Sister Cities: Note, item was added during the Adoption of the Agenda. See Agenda Item #8. Chair Brown called for a motion. Ms. Rogers made the following motion: motion to modify School Board Committee assignments to assign Matt Cummings as the School Board's only liaison to Sister Cities Association of Virginia Beach. Ms. Melnyk seconded the motion. There was a brief discussion regarding the motion; Sister Cities Association asked for only one School Board Member;

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and explanation of the modification of committee assignments. Without further discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion by Ms. Rogers to modify School Board Committee assignments to assign Matt Cummings as the School Board's only liaison to Sister Cities Association of Virginia Beach. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

- 16. *Committee, Organization or Board Reports:*** Dr. Green mentioned the upcoming Legislative Committee Meeting on Friday, September 12 at 9:30 a.m. Ms. Melnyk mentioned she attended the Governor's School for the Arts Back to School event; if any School Board Members wish to attend any of the performances, to please reach out to Ms. Melnyk for information. Chair Brown mentioned the Congressional App Challenge; more information is online at congressionalappchallenge.us. Also, if School Board Members have anything to add to the Legislative Agenda to email Dr. Green.
- 17. *Return to Administrative, Informal, Workshop or Closed Session matters:*** The CIP Committee Update presentation from the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session.

Donald E. Robertson, Jr., Ph.D., superintendent, and Jack Freeman, chief operations officer, provided the School Board information regarding the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Committee findings. The presentation covered the purpose of the CIP Committee, which was to investigate new pathways to fund and allocate funds to the CIP, explore options for building a new Princess Anne High School, share findings, and seek feedback from the School Board.

The presentation summarized the July 9 School Board Retreat, the July 15 and August 7 committee meetings, and the joint meeting with city staff on July 15. Initial findings highlighted the challenges of addressing rising maintenance and construction costs within a level funding environment, the need to classify major maintenance projects as capital projects, and the exploration of public/private partnerships. Specific considerations for Princess Anne High School included reviewing educational and space specifications, the impact of construction costs over time, and the potential for private/public partnerships.

The updated findings reiterated the initial findings and emphasized the need to determine funding for the debt service required for Princess Anne High School, work with city staff to evaluate the impact on the city's debt metrics, and balance maintaining existing sites with allocating funds for new construction. The presentation concluded with a discussion on public procurement construction methods.

A discussion followed with questions and comments regarding population increases; aging buildings; RFP, RFI, PPEA; new construction versus maintenance; debt metrics; level funding; building specifications, 30% design from PPEA; long range master plan; guaranteed maximum price (GMP) for building; funds allocated for Princess Anne High School; debt services; public procurement construction methods; PAYGO funds; site plans; finding revenue, how to generate funds; and reversion funds.

Closed Session: At 9:44 p.m., Vice Chair Weems made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Culpepper, 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

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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. 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. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases.
- B. Status of student cases, complaints and student related matters.
- C. Personnel matters- Superintendent's annual goals and appointments to Gifted Advisory Committee.
- D. Status of federal cases and directives with legal consequences for the School Division.
- E. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters.

Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion to recess into Closed Session: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers.

The motion passed, 9-0-0.

Note: Mr. Callan and Dr. Green were not present in the School Board Chamber at the time of the vote.

The School Board recessed into Closed Session at 9:54 p.m.

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

- C. Personnel matters- Superintendent's annual goals and appointments to Gifted Advisory Committee:
School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper,

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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; Simone S. Boothe, associate school board attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

At 9:55 p.m. Dannielle Hall-Mclvor, senior school board attorney, joined the Closed Session.

- B. Status of student cases, complaints and student related 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; Dannielle Hall-Mclvor, senior school board attorney; Simone S. Boothe, associate school board attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

At 10:19 p.m., School Board Member, Mr. Cummings recused himself from the Closed Session.

- A. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases; and
E. 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, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers; Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., superintendent; Dannielle Hall-Mclvor, senior school board attorney; Simone S. Boothe, associate school board attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

At 10:25 p.m., School Board Member, Mr. Cummings returned to the Closed Session.

- D. Status of federal cases and directives with legal consequences for the School Division: 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; Dannielle Hall-Mclvor, senior school board attorney; Simone S. Boothe, associate school board attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

At 11:04 p.m., School Board Member, Mr. Culpepper left the Closed Session and returned at 11:06 p.m.

At 11:14 p.m., School Board Member, Dr. Green left the Closed Session and returned at 11:17 p.m.

The School Board reconvened at 11:18 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.

School Board of the City of Virginia Beach
School Administration Building #6, Municipal Center
2512 George Mason Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

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Dr. Green made the motion, seconded by Ms. Rogers. 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.

Vice Chair Weems made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Dwyer, that the School Board amend the following appointments to the Gifted Citizen Advisory Committee to be effective September 10, 2025, as follows:

That Hiral Patel, currently appointed to represent the Bayside zone, to now be reappointed as an At-Large Member through June 30, 2028.

That Ross Kremers, currently appointed to represent the Cox zone, to now be reappointed as an At-Large Member through June 30, 2028.

That Cathy Smith, currently appointed as an At-Large Member, to now be reappointed to represent the Kellam zone through June 30, 2027.

That Amanda Ash, currently appointed as an At-Large Member, to now be reappointed to represent the Princess Anne zone through June 30, 2027.

Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion by Vice Chair Brown. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

18. Adjournment: Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Kathleen J. Brown, School Board Chair