

The Rockbridge County School Board held a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at the County of Rockbridge Administrative Building.

Present: Chairman Kathy Burant; Trustees Catie Brown, Lenna Ojure, Neil Whitmore; Superintendent Phillip Thompson and Clerk Rhonda Humphries. Absent: Trustee Corey Berkstresser.

CALL TO ORDER

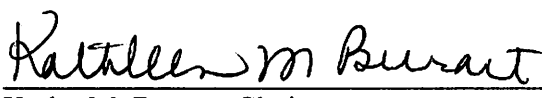
Chairman Burant called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and requested that everyone rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

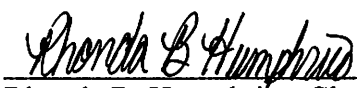
Dr. Jason Kirby, Chief Business Officer, provided the projected Categorical Estimate of Needs along with the Rockbridge County Public Schools projected Estimated Revenues for 2026-2027. He stated that the estimated budget for the 2026-2027 school year is \$40,772,066. This includes working towards the board’s priorities with a 4% raise for all employees, along with covering the cost of a potential 13.8% insurance increase. He stated that this is still a very rough estimate at this point in the budget cycle. The only budget available at this time to base our estimates on is former Governor Youngkin’s budget. The deadline for the House and Senate to report their respective budget proposals is February 22, 2026. The deadline for each chamber to act on its respective proposal is February 21, 2026. The deadline for the House and Senate to act on budget bills from the other chamber and appoint conferees as needed is March 4, 2026. He expressed his sentiments that there is a realization that we may not have an approved budget for some time, but hopefully, we will have further clarity soon. There should also be more clarity on insurance and VRS rates in the coming weeks. He stated that RCPS received our renewal rate from The Local Choice, which we currently use, in late February last year. He expressed his hope that it will come in lower than the estimates, as it has previously. He stated that he is also awaiting word on the lower recommended VRS rates that their board has passed, and hope our legislature and Governor will approve these as well as part of their budget.

There were no persons to address the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Trustee Whitmore, seconded by Trustee Ojure, and passed by 4-0 vote, the Public Hearing was closed and adjourned at 5:04 p.m.


Kathy M. Burant, Chairman


Rhonda B. Humphries, Clerk of the Board