



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARTING THE COURSE

School Board Services

Kathleen J. Brown, Chair
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, May 12, 2026**

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 12th day of May 2026. 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 4:02 p.m.), Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings (arrived at 4:29 p.m.), Ms. Dwyer (arrived at 4:05 p.m.), Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. The following School Board Members were not in attendance: Mr. Bohenstiel and Mr. Callan.
 - A. **School Board Administrative Matters and Reports:** Superintendent Robertson mentioned the summer retreat and the development of the draft agenda. Ms. Melnyk mentioned Teacher Appreciation Week and thanked the teachers for all the work they do. Ms. Felton and Ms. Rogers mentioned commemorative celebrations for the month of May. Dr. Green inquired about how to recognize certain months, days, etc. on the website and possible discussion of topic at a later date.
 - B. **Mercer Update:** Crystal Pate, chief financial officer, Linda Matkins, director, Office of Consolidated Benefits, and David Keogh, senior principal, Mercer, provided the School Board an update. The presentation provided a quarterly update on the health plan, including claims experience through March 31, 2026, projected plan year and fiscal year costs, and the impact of a proposed 10% increase in employee and retiree contributions for 2027. It reported that 2026 health plan costs had improved slightly based on updated claims data, but the health fund balance was still projected to decline significantly below the desired reserve target. For 2027, the projections showed higher total costs, but under the proposed contribution scenario, a modest contribution back into the health fund was anticipated, resulting in only limited improvement in reserve levels.



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After the presentation, a discussion followed with questions and comments regarding sustainability; self-insured plans versus other plans; claims expenses; employee retention and competitiveness with other school districts; projected health fund reserves; and contributions to the fund.

- 2. Closed Session:** At 4:00 p.m., Vice Chair Weems made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Dwyer, 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, 8, 19, and 29 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. 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



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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.
19. Discussion of plans to protect public safety as it relates to terrorist activity or specific cybersecurity threats or vulnerabilities and briefings by staff members, legal counsel, or law-enforcement or emergency service officials concerning actions taken to respond to such matters or a related threat to public safety; discussion of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 2 or 14 of § [2.2-3705.2](#), where discussion in an open meeting would jeopardize the safety of any person or the security of any facility, building, structure, information technology system, or software program; or discussion of reports or plans related to the security of any governmental facility, building or structure, or the safety of persons using such facility, building or structure.
29. Discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

Namely to discuss:

- A. Appointment of citizen members to School Board Advisory Committees effective July 1, 2026.
- B. Personnel matters related to VDOE investigation.
- C. Pending student matters.
- D. Determination regarding student discrimination complaint appeal.
- E. Princess Anne High School CIP project - discussion on RFQ for Owner Agent and design-build



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status.

- F. Discussion with legal counsel and staff regarding security matter.
- G. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases.
- H. 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. Cummings, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers.

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

- F. **Discussion with legal counsel and staff regarding security matter:** School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Cummings, 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; David Din, chief information officer; Melisa Ingram, executive director, Office of Facilities Services; Alicia Smith, director, Office of Procurement Services; Laura Beth Mattson, intergovernmental affairs and constituent services specialist; Dannielle Hall-McIvor, senior school board attorney (joined Closed Session at 4:48 p.m.); Simone S. Boothe, associate school board attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

At 4:57 p.m., David Din, chief information officer, left the Closed Session.

- A. **Appointment of citizen members to School Board Advisory Committees effective July 1, 2026:** School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Cummings, 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; Melisa Ingram, executive director, Office of Facilities Services; Alicia Smith, director, Office of Procurement Services; Laura Beth Mattson, intergovernmental affairs and constituent services specialist; Dannielle Hall-McIvor, senior school board attorney; Simone S. Boothe, associate school board attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

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At 4:59 p.m., Laura Beth Mattson, intergovernmental affairs and constituent services specialist, left the Closed Session.

E. Princess Anne High School CIP project - discussion on RFQ for Owner Agent and design build status:

School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Cummings, 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; Melisa Ingram, executive director, Office of Facilities Services; Alicia Smith, director, Office of Procurement Services; Dannielle Hall-McIvor, senior school board attorney; Simone S. Boothe, associate school board attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

At 5:23 p.m., Melisa Ingram, executive director, Office of Facilities Services, and Alicia Smith, director, Office of Procurement Services, left the Closed Session.

G. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases: School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Cummings, 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-McIvor, senior school board attorney; Simone S. Boothe, associate school board attorney; 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



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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. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Dr. Green. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion for Certification of Closed Session: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. The motion passed, 9-0-0.

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 12th day of May 2026. 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 (arrived at 6:36 p.m.), Mr. Callan (arrived at 6:45 p.m.), 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. Youth of the Year – Bayside High School
 - B. AAA National Safety Patrol Award – Kempsville Meadows Elementary School
 - C. National Scholastic Art Competition Silver Medallions – Visual and Performing Arts Academy at Salem High School
 - D. Future Business Leaders of America awards – Advanced Technology Center; Cox, Kempsville, First Colonial, Princess Anne high schools

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- E. 2026 Constantino Community Impact Award – Office of Family & Community Engagement
- F. National Art Education Association Southeastern Region Elementary Art Educator – Princess Anne Elementary School
- G. Virginia School Board Association 2026 Honor Roll – BayPort Credit Union

The School Board recognized Bayside High School student, Alexander Rivers, who was named Virginia/DC Military Youth of the Year; Noah Mason, a Kempsville Meadows Elementary School student who received the AAA National Safety Patrol Award; and Salem High School students, Li Reyes, and Rae Jordan, who earned silver medallions in the National Scholastic Art Competition. The School Board also recognized nine students from several schools for first-place Future Business Leaders of America awards and noted their advancement to national competition.

In addition, Dr. Admon Alexander was honored for receiving the 2026 Constantino Community Impact Award in recognition of his leadership in family and community engagement, and Meredith Snyder of Princess Anne Elementary School for earning the National Art Education Association Southeastern Region Elementary Art Educator Award. The School Board acknowledged BayPort Credit Union for being named to the Virginia School Boards Association 2026 Business Honor Roll for its continued partnership and support of Virginia Beach City Public Schools.

- 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. Dr. Green made the motion, seconded by Ms. Dwyer. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the agenda as presented: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. The motion passed, 9-0-0.
- 9. ***Superintendent's Report (second monthly meeting) and recognitions (first and second monthly meetings):***
There was no Superintendent's Report or recognitions this evening.
- 10. ***Approval of Meeting Minutes***

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- A. **April 28, 2026 Regular School Board Meeting:** Chair Brown called for any modifications to the April 28, 2026 regular meeting minutes as presented. Hearing none, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the April 28, 2026 minutes as presented. Ms. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Mr. Culpepper. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the April 28, 2026 minutes as presented: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. The motion passed, 9-0-0.

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

There were eight (8) in-person speakers. The topics included Tri-Campus schools; Newtown Elementary School and B.F. Williams Elementary School; overcrowding; impact on PE, size of gym; music program at Newtown Elementary, capacity and storage, increase of students; size and capacity of kitchen and cafeteria; building plans for merger of schools; art program at school, need for space, storage of art materials; 504 plan, safety of students; gifted education, ODS; and budget for gifted education.

The Public Comments concluded at 6:43 p.m.

12. Information

- A. **Policy Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations:** Recommended that the School Board review recommendations regarding the amendment of certain policies as recommended by the Policy Review Committee at its April 22, 2026 meeting. Kamala Lannetti, school board attorney, reviewed the following:
1. **Policy 3-2/Ethics in Public Contracting:** The PRC recommends adding language to align with current law and to clarify the intent of the policy.
 2. **Policy 4-6/Healthy Work Environment:** The PRC recommends minor formatting changes.
 3. **Policy 4-18/Dismissal or Placement on Probation:** The PRC recommends repealing Policy 4-18 because dismissal and probation procedures are covered in another policy and regulation. Policy 4-18 is duplicative and is causing confusion.

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4. **Policy 4-39/Employee Professional Development & Growth in Job Skills:** The PRC recommends adding language to align with current practices and law.

- B. **All in VA Update:** Kimani Vaughan, director, elementary schools, Department of School Leadership, provided the School Board information regarding All in VA Update. The state appropriated approximately \$20 million to Virginia Beach City Public Schools across three focus areas — high-intensity tutoring, the Virginia Literacy Act, and chronic absenteeism — with a spending deadline of June 30, 2026. As of the reporting date, the division had obligated \$18.1 million of the \$20 million budget, leaving approximately \$1.9 million remaining. Tutoring accounted for the largest share followed by VLA and absenteeism. Cumulative tutoring hours reached 4,135 across FY 24–26, and leadership projected that most remaining tutoring funds would be spent by the deadline.

Spring budget adjustments, approved by VDOE, reallocated funds from select categories into additional tutoring support and purchased targeted instructional materials. The division adopted *HMH Into Reading* as its core literacy textbook alongside supplemental phonics and comprehension programs. Absenteeism interventions, including EveryDay Labs, attendance ambassadors, and a court improvement partnership, improved attendance for over 19,000 students. The initiative was on track to fully spend allocated funds before the deadline.

After the presentation, a discussion followed with questions and comments regarding chronic absenteeism; All in VA funds ending; funds for tutoring; engagement of students; decrease in absenteeism; and notifications to parents regarding absenteeism.

- C. **Federal Grant Applications:** Lorena Kelly, Ph.D., executive director, Office of Elementary Teaching and Learning, provided the School Board information regarding the federal grant application plan for the 2026–2027 school year. The total projected funding is approximately \$18.9 million, reflecting a decline of approximately \$2.1 million. The following grants were reviewed: **Title I, Part A** – Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies (LEA); **Title I, Part D** – 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; **Title III, Part A** – Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students; and **Title IV, Part A** – Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants.



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After the presentation, a discussion followed with questions and comments regarding reduced allocations; level funding; and notification of grant-approved funding.

- D. **Budget Transfers:** Crystal Pate, chief financial officer, provided the School Board information on the budget transfers within the FY 2025-26 Operating Budget. The transfer totaled \$420,000, moving funds between elementary classroom and social workers. The purpose was to cover an increase in McKinney-Vento transportation costs.
- E. **VSBA Recognition:** Chair Brown presented the School Board information regarding the Virginia School Board Association (VSBA) inaugural recognition award for School Board Clerk of the Year. Nominations must be submitted by the chair with unanimous approval of the full board. Chair Brown read the nomination letter for Regina M. Toneatto. It was noted that the item is also on the Consent Agenda this evening for a vote.
- F. **Use of Facilities Proposed Fee Structure Changes:** Steve LePock, risk manager, Office of Risk Management, provided the School Board with updates to the fee structure. The presentation provided an overview of the proposed school facility rental fee changes, including comparisons with neighboring school divisions, updates to group classifications, and projected revenue impacts. The revised rates were generally comparable to or lower than those of surrounding divisions, some proposed charges had been adjusted based on Board feedback and estimated that the changes could increase monthly revenue while helping offset maintenance, custodial, and facility replacement costs. The changes included: Group II: VBCPS Expanded – Grounds changed from \$25/day to No Charge; and Group IV: Community Adult Non-Profit – Auditorium changed from 5 hours to 4 hours, and the rate changed from \$375 to \$300; also, Classroom changed from 5 hours to 4 hours, and the rate changed from \$125 to \$100.

After the presentation, a discussion followed with questions and comments regarding concerns about the rates affecting nonprofit and community groups; fee structure of Facilitron; maintenance and use of buildings; hidden costs (electrical, water, cleaning products, etc.); funds to general fund to help with replacement costs; non-profit status of groups; and fee rates to begin July 1.

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13. Return to public comments if needed: As noted, under Agenda Item #11, the Public Comments concluded at 6:43 p.m.

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

- A. **Budget Transfers:** Recommended that the School Board approve budget transfers within the FY 2025-26 Operating Budget.
- B. **Kempsville Middle School Foundation Repair Phase II:** Recommended that the School Board approve a motion authorizing the Superintendent to execute a contract with Master Contractors of VA, Inc. for the Kempsville Middle School Foundation Repair Phase II in the amount of \$617,000.00.
- C. **VSBA Recognition:** Recommended that the School Board approve the inaugural recognition.

After reading the item 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. Ms. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Ms. Rogers. 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 May 12, 2026 personnel report and administrative appointments. Ms. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cummings, that the School Board approve the appointments, and the acceptance of the resignations, retirements, and other employment actions, as listed on the May 12, 2026 personnel report along with the administrative appointments 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 May 12, 2026 personnel report and administrative appointments. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

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Superintendent Robertson mentioned the following appointments: **Jordan A. Barbarisi**, administrative assistant, White Oaks and Woodstock Elementary Schools, as assistant principal, Indian Lakes Elementary School; **Kevin M. Crossman**, administrative assistant, Kempsville Middle School, as assistant principal, Brandon Middle School; **Nada Zeineddine, Ed.D.**, administrative assistant, Larkspur Middle School, as assistant principal, Salem Middle School; **Michelle R. E. Brown**, assistant principal, Treacle Elementary School, Chesapeake Public Schools, as coordinator, special education, Office of Programs for Exceptional Children; **Lauren R. Girdler**, itinerant principal, Southeastern Cooperative Educational Programs (SECEP), as coordinator, special education, Office of Programs for Exceptional Children; **Daniel J. Miani, Ed.D.**, principal, First Colonial High School, as chief academic officer, Department of Teaching and Learning; and **Benjamin W. Oakes**, retired commanding officer, Amphibious Warship, USS New York, LPD21, United States Navy, as chief operations officer, Department of School Division Services.

- B. ***Use of Facilities Proposed Fee Structure Changes:*** Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the use of facilities proposed fee structure changes as presented. Ms. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Mr. Culpepper. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the use of facilities proposed fee structure changes as presented: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. There was one (1) nay opposed to the motion to approve the use of facilities proposed fee structure changes as presented: Mr. Cummings.

The motion passed, 10-1-0.

16. ***Committee, Organization or Board Reports:*** Dr. Green attended a legacy celebration event at B. F. Williams, attended a program at the Adult Learning Center for English language learners, and the Access Foundation college signing day at Old Dominion University. Mr. Cummings attended the GSA Art Crawl in Norfolk. Ms. Melnyk mentioned the upcoming GSA and SECEP Board meetings next week. Ms. Rogers attended the Brickell Scholar Reception at Old Donation School. Vice Chair Weems attended the Gifted Advisory Committee meeting and the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting. The PRC is having a meeting on Thursday, May 14 at 3:00 p.m., and on May 20 is the Harbor Hope Center Region 2 meeting.
17. ***Return to Administrative, Informal, Workshop or Closed Session matters:***



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Closed Session: At 7:55 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. 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.

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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. Personnel matters related to VDOE investigation.
- B. Pending student matters.
- C. Determination regarding student discrimination complaint appeal.
- D. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases.
- 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 ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion to recess into Closed Session: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion passed, 10-0-0. Note, Ms. Rogers was not present in the School Board Chamber at the time of the vote.

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

- B. Pending student matters:** School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, 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-McIvor, senior school board attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.
- A. Personnel matters related to VDOE investigation:** School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, 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-McIvor, senior school board attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.



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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 Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, 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; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

C. Determination regarding student discrimination complaint appeal: School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, 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; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

At 8:14 p.m., Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney, Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., superintendent, and School Board Members: Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk left the Closed Session.

The School Board reconvened at 8:33 p.m.

After the School Board reconvened, Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney, and School Board Members: Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk joined the Open Session.

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

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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. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bohenstiel. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion for Certification of Closed Session: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, and Ms. Rogers. There were two (2) abstentions: Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion passed, 9-0-2.

Vice Chair Weems read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION
STUDENT DISCRIMINATION APPEAL
5/12/2026

WHEREAS, on 3/10/26, the parents of a Great Neck Middle School student filed a complaint alleging discrimination, harassment, and retaliation regarding a student discipline matter in November-December 2026; and

WHEREAS, on 4/3/26, the School Administration issued an Investigation Report regarding the parents' complaint and concluded there was not sufficient evidence to support a finding of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation; however, the Investigation Report did recommend remedial measures to address the parents' concerns; and

WHEREAS, on 5/12/26, the School Board reviewed the Investigation Report and supporting evidence.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS DETERMINED

1. That the School Board has determined that this matter should be submitted to a hearing officer to hold a hearing and to provide the School Board with findings of fact and recommendations regarding the parents' complaint no later than 6/3/26.



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2. That the School Board Attorney or designee will retain the hearing officer and work with the hearing officer to set the date, time and conditions for the hearing.
3. That the School Administration is ordered to notify the parents and student of this decision and to place a copy of this decision, the supporting documentation, and any recording of the hearing in the student's official files.

Adopted by the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia this 12th day of May 2026.

Ms. Rogers made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cummings. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote on the resolution read by Vice Chair Weems. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the resolution read by Vice Chair Weems: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, and Ms. Rogers. There were two (2) abstentions: Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion passed, 9-0-2.

18. Adjournment: Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Kathleen J. Brown, School Board Chair