Minutes
School Board Meeting
Greene County Schools
County Meeting Room
October 14, 2026

Members Present: Ms. Kelly Greer, Chair; Ms. Cherish Alberts, Member; Mr. Dave Mastervich, Member; Ms. Rebecca Roach, Member; Ms. Cara Bickers, Member; Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent; Ms. Rhonda Houchens, Clerk; Mr. Mukund Marri, Student Board Member; and Ms. Iris Kang, Student Board Member.

Note: Dr. Whitmarsh was not present for the Superintendent Search Process portion of the meeting.

Ms. Greer called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. in the County Meeting Room.

Ms. Greer stated we will begin this meeting with discussing the Superintendent Search Process. Ms. Greer shared she sent an email in September giving data on VSBA search process and wanted to see if we wanted to go ahead with that. She invited a motion.

Ms. Roach moved to approve the use of the VSBA for the Superintendent Search. Mr. Mastervich seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

VSBA representatives Samantha Bosman and Bella Corbos reviewed the search process, confidentiality of applicants, Virginia superintendent licensure requirements, community engagement, qualifications, application review, interviews, and anticipated appointment procedures. The Board discussed gathering public input through an online and paper survey and a public hearing. Student participation in the survey was encouraged.

The Board and VSBA discussed the following tentative schedule: public hearing October 28 at 6:00 p.m.; paper surveys due October 29; electronic surveys due November 1; survey results provided November 2; public meeting to establish superintendent qualifications November 4; application period November 6 through December 1; and application review meeting December 9. The December 9 regular meeting was discussed for a later start to accommodate the review session. Dates remain subject to public notice and confirmation.

Ms. Bickers moved that the Board go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code section 2.2-3711(A)(1) to consider and discuss appointments, salaries, and retirements of specific officers, appointees, and employees, as personnel matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirement. Mr. Mastervich seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Greer called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. in the County Meeting Room.

Ms. Bickers moved to reconvene in open session in the County Meeting Room. Ms. Alberts seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Greer stated: The Board will certify by roll call vote that to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and identified in the motion to convene in the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered.

Ms. Bickers - certified
Mr. Mastervich - certified
Ms. Roach – certified
Ms. Alberts – certified
Ms. Greer – certified

Ms. Greer requested a motion to approve the agenda.

Ms. Bickers moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Mastervich seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Greer invited everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence.

Ms. Greer requested a motion for the consent agenda:

11-2074 September 9, 2026 Meeting Minutes
11-2075 September 8, 2026 Expenditures
11-2076 September 15, 2026 Expenditures
11-2077 September 24, 2026 Expenditures
11-2078 Monthly Finance Report
11-2079 Enrollment
11-2080 Field Trip Requests
11-2081 Staff to be Approved List

Ms. Roach moved to approve the consent agenda items 11-2074 to 11-2080 as presented. Ms. Bickers seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Bickers moved to approve consent agenda item 11-2081 as presented. Mr. Mastervich seconded. No discussion.

Cara Bickers - Aye
David Mastervich – Aye
Cherish Alberts – Aye
Kelly Greer – Aye
Rebecca Roach – Nah

Motion carried.

Ms. Greer stated at this time we will hear public comment on any matters not listed below on the agenda.

A student, Kayla Dunnivan, addressed the Board regarding concerns about school communication and responsiveness in connection with a class scheduling issue.

There were no other speakers. Ms. Greer closed public comment.

Ms. Brunelle presented action item #11-2082 Capital Improvement Plan. Katie Brunelle presented the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), which had been reviewed as an information item at the September meeting. Discussion centered on the projected need for additional elementary school capacity, the timing of a potential new elementary school, anticipated residential growth, and interim capacity measures. Board members emphasized the importance of communicating the urgency of long-range facility needs. Administration clarified that the CIP is a planning document rather than a funded appropriation and is reviewed annually.

The Board discussed moving the proposed new elementary school to an earlier fiscal year in the plan.

Mr. Mastervich stated he doesn't want the board (BOS) taking money from our Capital Fund. We experience that once and he would rather that not happen again.

Mr. Mastervich moved to approve action item #11-2082 Capital Improvement Plan as amended by moving the new elementary school to 2030. Ms. Alberts seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented action item #11-2083 Budget Development Calendar. Dr. Whitmarsh stated the FY 2028 Budget Development Calendar was shared at the last meeting. Her recommendation was to approve the FY 2028 Budget Development Calendar. Ms. Bickers moved to approve action item #11-2083 Budget Development Calendar with an amended time for the VSBA meeting. Mr. Mastervich seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Pursel presented action item #11-2084 July Policy Update. Dr. Pursel shared these policies were shared at the September meeting and are up for action tonight. He stated that no changes had been made since the September presentation. Dr. Pursel's recommendation is to approve the policies as presented. Ms. Bickers moved to approve action item #11-2084 July Policy Update as presented. Ms. Alberts seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Kozuch presented information item #11-2085 School Activity Fund Audit. Mr. Kozuch reported a successful audit across all six schools, with no significant deficiencies, material weaknesses, or reportable noncompliance identified. The Board recognized school bookkeepers and principals for their financial stewardship and attention to audit recommendations.

Dr. Pursel, Dr. Payne, Ms. Dojack and Ms. Peregoy presented information item #11-2086 Culture of Excellence. Division staff presented examples of student-centered learning aligned with the division's Culture of Excellence priorities. Highlights included hands-on elementary learning, cross-curricular activities, middle school physical education and music, collaboration, student choice, and future-ready learning experiences. The presentation emphasized high expectations, student engagement, growth, innovation, and meaningful opportunities to prepare students for life after graduation.

Ms. Greer stated at this time we will hear public comment on information items. There were none. Ms. Greer closed public comment.

Ms. Greer welcomed Student Board Member Comments.

Iris Kang shared ways they have been communicating with students. She shared the results of the student input survey.

Ms. Greer welcomed Superintendent updates.

Dr. Whitmarsh shared Superintendent Updates:

Dr. Whitmarsh welcomed, Iris. She shared we are excited to work with you this year.

Thanks to Kyle, Donna, Christie, and Jess for the outstanding presentation on our Culture of Excellence core value. We will be highlighting each core value in the coming months in preparation for the development of our next Strategic Plan. Next month is Safe, Supportive, and Caring Schools.
As we all know, fuel costs are rising. Our data from the first couple of months of school show significant increases compared to this time last year. As such, we are keeping a close eye on all trips and using community stops for after school.

Celebrations

The WMHS Golf Team qualified for Regionals and participated in the Region 3B Tournament where they finished 3rd. Golfer Ainsley Ford qualified for the State Championships. Brayden Norford and Ainsley Ford earned All-Region honors.

Congratulations to our Cosmetology students for their outstanding performance at the State Fair. Their team placed 2nd in the SkillsUSA Nail Competition.

Alpha Delta Kappa, Gamma Omicron grant recipients this year are Shaina Conley, NGPS, Bailey Wayland, WMHS and Catie Sillman, NGES. These educators received grant funds that can be used in their classrooms to enhance instruction.

Upcoming Events

October is a busy month highlighting a number of different initiatives. This month is National Bullying Prevention Month and National Principal Appreciation Month. Additionally, this month will celebrate National Custodian Day, National Instructional Coaches Day, Digital Citizenship Week, National School Lunch Week, National School Bus Safety Week, School Transportation Employee Day, and National

Mentoring Day. There will be many events and celebrations throughout the division in honor of these observances this month.

Dragonfest will be this Friday, October 16th and will take place at the William Monroe Middle School field. The community is encouraged to join us for a free event prior to the football game that includes a number of school organizations hosting games, inflatables, and fun. The event begins at 5PM.

October 16th is also our Homecoming football game (vs. Broadway). William Monroe High School invites the school community and alumni back home to Martin Mooney Field for homecoming festivities. The homecoming dance for high school students will be October 17th.

October 21st is Unity Day. There will be a number of special events across the division in honor of Bullying Prevention Month. This includes a joint event hosted by NGES & RES where both schools will come together in honor of bullying prevention.

Monster Mash and Trunk-or-Treat events are scheduled for Thursday, October 29th. William Monroe High School and Nathanael Greene invite the community to an evening of trick-or-treat themed fun at NGPS beginning at 5:30PM

PREP Meeting October 21

Our next scheduled School Board meeting is Wednesday, November 11th.

Ms. Greer welcomed board member comments.

Ms. Roach thanked Michael for the School Activity Fund Audit. Kudos to all the school for keeping up with that. She appreciated the Culture of Excellence presentation. She thanked Iris for her presentation. Ms. Roach shared she wanted to let the community and staff know that in the future we will be providing information on the School Board and what we actually do. She thinks it's very important for our staff and community to be educated on that.

Ms. Alberts shared she loved seeing all the students at the meeting. She would love to see more students in the gallery. She thanked them for being here. Ms. Alberts gave a shout to regarding voting and a message to the seniors, graduates, and families. She cautioned everyone to learn and collect information. Ms. Alberts shared that on October 24th is the PREP 5K. She thanked the presenters for the Culture of Excellence presentation.

Ms. Bickers spoke about the presentations and how much effort goes into them. She thanked everyone. She commended educators for everything they are doing. She spoke about the student's presentation and how important it is to see it. Ms. Bickers shared there is going to be information coming out and surveys and she encourage everyone to take part.

Mr. Masterich thanked the students for being there. He asked everyone to help get those over 18 to vote. We need votes. Mr. Mastervich highlighted the developing high school Leo Club partnership with the Lions Club and a culinary program collaboration with the local Chamber of Commerce. He shared there were 45 pages of policy and pointed service animals part b.

Ms. Greer thanked all the presenters. She thanked Iris for being there and for the survey. Ms. Greer shared thoughts on the public comment. She congratulated the student athletes. Ms. Greer congratulated all the staff celebrations. She shared the earlier part of the meeting start with information regarding the superintendent search. It's imperative that we hear from the community.

Ms. Alberts shared the three things the school board does. One employee that's the Superintendent. We don't employee everyone else we trust the Superintendent to take care of all the rest. We set the budget and we set policy or we approve policy. That's it. The Superintendent Search is a big one.

Ms. Bickers echoed how important it is to hear from everyone. Please get involved.

Ms. Bickers made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Mastervich seconded. No discussion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Meeting ended at 7:27 pm.

Kelly Greer

Chair

Rhonda M. Houdeshell

Clerk