

MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD
September 10, 2020 (5:00 p.m.)

Meeting Held via Zoom

On March 12, 2020, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam declared a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, in accordance with Va. Code § 2.2-3708.2(A)(3) and Acts of Assembly Chap. 1283 § 4-0.01(g), virtual School Board meetings held during the State of Emergency are limited to:

- addressing the public health emergency declared on March 12, 2020 (Va. Code § 44-146.17); and
- business that is necessary to continue school division operations and to discharge the School Board's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.

Notice of any virtual School Board Meetings will be posted on the ACPS Calendar and on the School Board Meeting web page, where the public may link to join or watch live meetings. Virtual Special Called School Board Meetings may also be watched live in Alexandria on Comcast Channel 71. Video recordings and minutes for these meetings are posted online as soon as available after the meeting.

ROLL CALL

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

BOARD MEMBERS: Cindy Anderson
Veronica R. Nolan
Meagan L. Alderton
Ramee A. Gentry
Jacinta Greene
Margaret Lorber
Michelle Rief
Christopher A. Suarez
Heather Thornton

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Susan Neilson, Lorraine Johnson, Dr. Elizabeth Hoover, Dr. Julie Crawford, Jennifer Abbruzzese

Call to Order

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Anderson

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. All members of the School Board were present at the start of the meeting.

Moment of Silence

2. Observe a Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

3. Adopt the Meeting Agenda for the September 10, 2020 Virtual Special Called School Board Meeting

Ms. Gentry moved to adopt the agenda for the September 10, 2020 Virtual Special Called School Board Meeting.

Ms. Alderton seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the meeting agenda was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried. The vote was taken by roll call.

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting

4. Closed Meeting

5. Certification of Closed Meeting

There was no Closed Meeting held.

Consent Calendar

6. Minutes for the August 14 and August 28, 2020 Virtual Special Called School Board Meetings

7. Re-Appoint Erin Dahlin to the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC)

8. Re-Appoint Nancy Drane to the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC)

9. Appoint Amy Creed to the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committee

10. Appoint Octavius Fulton to the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committee

11. Appoint Jessica Fundalinski to the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committee

12. Appoint Julie Kelleher to the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committee

13. Re-Appoint Linda Zanin to the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committee

14. Accept the Resignation of Katie Aimone from the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committee

15. Accept Resignation of LaTrease Rich from the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory Committee

16. Re-Appoint Janet Eissenstat to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and Grant a Term Limit Waiver

17. Re-Appoint Cindy Hart to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

18. Appoint Sabrina Reilly to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

19. Re-Appoint Sandra Strachan-Vieira to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) and Grant a Term Limit Waiver

20. Policy Revisions Reflecting COVID-19 Public Health Protocols and Distance Learning Guidance for SY 2020-2021

Ms. Lorber moved to adopt the Consent Calendar. Ms. Greene seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the Consent Calendar was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried. The vote was taken by roll call.

Items Pulled from the Consent Calendar

No items were pulled from the Consent Calendar.

Superintendent's Report

21. Report from Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr.

Dr. Hutchings gave a report on the first week of school under the Virtual+ Plus model. He thanked his leadership team and staff working behind the scenes to help get everything ready for the first day. He especially wanted to thank the technology staff who have worked tirelessly to make sure students and families are set up for virtual learning, and the Food Services personnel who have made meals available to families since March.

Dr. Hutchings explained that detailed planning went into the reopening of schools, and he has been hearing from parents about how well the Virtual+ Plus model is working for their students. He acknowledged that there are constraints under the virtual model, and that not every adjustment will be able to be made simultaneously, especially as ACPS hears more feedback from families. Dr. Hutchings emphasized that there have only been three days of school and asked parents to let ACPS know through the Helpline what needs to be addressed.

Board Members asked questions about whether any feedback has been received from teachers on how the virtual model is going, how ACPS will reassess the 100% virtual model, if it is possible for younger students to transition sooner into an in-person model, and about student attendance and enrollment.

Adjournment

22. Adjourn

On a motion by Ms. Gentry and seconded by Ms. Alderton, the Board voted unanimously, 9-0, to adjourn. The vote was taken by roll call.

The meeting ended at 5:43 p.m.



Cindy Anderson, Chair



Clerk/Deputy Clerk

These minutes were adopted at the September 17, 2020 School Board Meeting.