

MINUTES
VIRTUAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD
December 3, 2020 (4:00 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, Shanel Hill, Lorraine Johnson, Dr. Terri Mazingo, Dr. Stephen Haering, Dr. Stephen Wilkins, Mr. Michael Carson, Ms. Julia Burgos, Dr. Gerald Mann, Dr. Alicia Hart, Dominic Turner, Dr. Bethany Nickerson

Call to Order

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Anderson

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. All members of the School Board were present at the start of the meeting. Ms. Lorber, was present but was having technical issues and could not be heard during the roll call.

Moment of Silence

2. Observe a Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

3. Adopt the Agenda for the December 3, 2020, Virtual School Board Meeting

Ms. Greene moved to adopt the meeting agenda for the December 3, 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.

Communications & Addresses to the Board

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Report from Student Representatives Lorraine Johnson and Ashley Sanchez-Viafara

Ms. Lorraine Johnson shared her experience attending the Virginia School Board Association's Virtual Student School Board Representative Workshop with Ms. Sanchez-Viafara. She expressed her astonishment when she learned that other school divisions were much smaller than Alexandria's and the knowledge on how School Board Meetings were run. Further, she reported that they made new friends by sharing student experiences with other Student School Board Representatives.

Ms. Ashley Sanchez-Viafara was absent.

Consent Calendar

6. Community Use of Facilities Report for October 2020

7. FY 2021 Budget Transfer Report Q1

8. FY 2020 Monthly Financial Report ending June 30, 2020

9. Swing Space Change Order

10. High School Project A&E Contract

11. Minutes for the October 29 and November 12, 2020 Virtual School Board Meetings, and the October 21, November 23, and November 30, 2020 Virtual Special Called School Board Meetings

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.

Items Pulled from the Consent Calendar

No items were pulled from the Consent Calendar.

Old Business & Action Items

12. Update on Virtual PLUS+ and Phased Reopening: Transition Plan to In-Person for PreK-12

Superintendent Hutchings began by thanking ACPS Staff members for all of their hard work during the pandemic. Dr. Terri Mazingo, Chief of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership; Dr. Stephen Haering, Director of the Alexandria Health Department; Dr. Stephen Wilkins, Chief of Staff; Mr. Michael Carson, Director of Employee Engagement and Relations; and Ms. Julia Burgos, Chief of School and Community Relations collectively presented an update on the Virtual PLUS+ and Phased Reopening plan that was initially introduced to the School Board on October 15, 2020. The update included a revised phased reentry timeline, health mitigation indicators, and results from the staff's Intent To Return Survey Forms. Information was also

presented about the Family Choice Form in which families will indicate their preference for either hybrid or virtual learning in order for ACPS to plan for the number of returning in-person students.

Board Members asked questions about the phased reentry of EL teachers, afterschool care, staff fear of return, private school metrics, and buses.

New Business and Reports to the Board

13. 2021-2022 Program of Studies

Dr. Gerald Mann, Jr., Executive Director of Instructional Support, presented the 2021-2022 Program of Studies, which provides information on graduation requirements and a comprehensive list of available courses across disciplines to meet diverse student needs and interests. He reviewed changes, course additions, deletions, and the supports available to struggling students.

The 2021-2022 Program of Studies will return at a later meeting for Board approval. Once approved, the Program of Studies will be available on the ACPS website and in hard copy for distribution to students by the end of January 2021.

14. FY 2021 CIP Budget Reserve Update for Q1

Dr. Alicia Hart, Acting Executive Director of Facilities and Operations, provided the Board with an update regarding the CIP Budget Reserve for Quarter 1. She shared that the CIP Reserve Account balance is currently at \$235,759.77.

Dr. Hart outlined all of the Board-approved budget transfers that have led to this current balance.

Chair's Report

15. Report from Cindy Anderson

Chair Anderson reported that the upcoming FY 2022-2031 CIP Add/Delete Work Session will take place on December 9, 2020, and that the School Board will adopt the CIP Budget at the School Board Meeting on December 17, 2020.

Superintendent's Report

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

Superintendent Hutchings acknowledged Andras Jacobson, a second grader from Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy, who submitted a question about the muscular system in space and was selected by NASA out of thousands of applicants to have his question asked. Astronaut Victor Glover answered Jacobson's question during a NASA livestream broadcast from the International Space Station.

Announcement by Board Members

17. Announcements

There were no announcements.

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting

18. Closed Meeting

19. Certification of Closed Meeting

No Closed Meeting was held.

Adjournment

20. Adjourn

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

The meeting ended at 6:16 p.m.



Cindy Anderson, Chair



Clerk/Deputy Clerk

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