

**MINUTES**  
**VIRTUAL SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION**  
**ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD**  
**February 10, 2021 (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.

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## **ROLL CALL**

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Susan Neilson, Dominic Turner, Jennifer Abbruzzese, Kurt Huffman, Dr. Anthony Sims, Terry Werner, Natalie Mitchell, Dr. Erin Stone

### **Call the Work Session to Order**

The Work Session began at 5:08 p.m. All Board Members were present at the start of the meeting.

### **Discussion Topics**

#### **1. Add/Delete Work Session #1**

The were no Add/Deletes formally submitted by School Board Members for the FY 2022 Combined Funds Budget. Dr. Hutchings reviewed his recommended adjustments as the following:

1. Additional State revenue of \$2.1 million
2. Add 1.00 FTE for a Senior Buyer position in the Financial Services Department

3. Add 1% Incentive Bonus for staff
4. Add funding to support MRAs for employee groups significantly below market based on third-party compensation study (phase 2)

Mr. Dominic Turner, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed recommendations for technical adjustments that do not change the proposed budget amount.

School Board Members asked questions regarding the realignment of School Leadership Staffing and thanked the Superintendent and the Finance Department regarding their considerations of Staff in their budget recommendations.

The School Board reached a unanimous consensus to approve the technical and Superintendent's recommended adjustments. The Board unanimously agreed there was no need for a second Add/Delete Work Session, and therefore cancelled that item for the February 16, 2021 Work Session. It was noted that the work session will still be held as there are two item additional items on that agenda.

## **2. Revisions to D, I, and J Policies**

Jennifer Abbruzzese, Director of Policy and Board Initiatives, presented revisions to D, I and J Policies that were driven by changes to the Code of Virginia and Virginia Board of Education regulations, to reflect current practice or the changing needs of the school division, and in order to comply with the state of Virginia's five-year policy review requirement.

School Board Members discussed and asked clarifying questions regarding IGBC-R: Guardian and Family Engagement regulations and Policy JM: Management of Student Behavior in Emergency Situations.

## **Adjournment**

The work session ended at 6:28 p.m.



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Meagan Alderton, Chair



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Clerk/Deputy Clerk

These minutes were adopted at the February 18, 2021 School Board Meeting.