

MINUTES
VIRTUAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD
February 18, 2021 (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: Meagan L. Alderton
Cindy Anderson
Ramee A. Gentry
Jacinta Greene
Margaret Lorber
Veronica R. Nolan
Michelle Rief
Christopher A. Suarez
Heather Thornton

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Susan Neilson, Shanel Hill, Ashley Sanchez-Viafara, Dominic Turner, Dr. Terri Mazingo, Dr. Anthony Sims, Dr. Julie Crawford, Clinton Page, Kennetra Wood, Darrell Sampson, Jasibi Crews, Michael Routhouska, Dr. John McCain, Pierrette Peters, Carmen Sanders, Erika Gulick, Dr. Alicia Hart, Dr. Gerald Mann, Sean O'Donnell, Kathryn Mimberg,

Call to Order

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Alderton

Chair Alderton called the meeting to order at 4:05 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 February 18, 2021 Virtual School Board Meeting

Ms. Lorber moved to adopt the meeting agenda for the February 18, 2021 Virtual School Board Meeting.

Ms. Gentry seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the meeting agenda for February 18, 2021 was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried. The vote was taken by roll call.

Communications & Addresses to the Board

4. Public Comments

Ms. Gina Baum, ACPS parent, spoke about spacing issues in classrooms for the hybrid learning model. Ms. Baum encouraged proper planning for all students to return to school on a full-time basis next fall.

Report from Student Representatives Lorraine Johnson and Ashley Sanchez-Viafara

- Ms. Sanchez-Viafara shared a report detailing the work of T.C. Williams High School's Black Student Union (BSU). The BSU has organized events celebrating black identity, thought and culture in recognition of Black History Month. The virtual events that were held included a movie night, a two-day natural hair day forum, a Black-owned business day discussion, black love day affirmations, and a celebration of black art via ZOOM. Ms. Sanchez-Viafara also shared that she had been given an opportunity to work with Charles Houston Recreation Center to assist them in their communications efforts with youth. She will also be a part of a discussion panel focusing on the *Remember the Titans* movie and the history of Alexandria.

Ms. Johnson was absent from the meeting.

Consent Calendar

- Personnel Actions for the Month of January 2021**
- Community Use of Facilities Report, January 2021**
- Minutes for the February 4, 2021 Virtual School Board Meeting, the February 10, 2021 Virtual Special Called School Board Meeting, the February 9, 2021 Virtual Advisory Committee Leadership Meeting, and the February 10, 2021 Virtual Work Session**
- Revisions to C, D, G, I, and J Policies and Regulations**

Ms. Gentry 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

There were no items pulled from the Consent Calendar.

Old Business & Action Items

10. Adoption of FY 2022 Combined Funds Budget

Mr. Dominic Turner, Chief Financial Officer thanked the staff in the Budget Office for their hard work.

Vice Chair Nolan, moved to approve the FY 2022 Combined Funds Budget as follows:

- The FY 2022 Operating budget in the amount of \$294,936,803 for both revenues and expenditures as shown in Attachment 2, including the adjustments shown in the Memo, as discussed and supported by the School Board during the February 10, 2021 budget work session. This includes other financing sources and uses, as well as a \$5,114,453 planned use of general fund balance. The operating budget includes:
 - 2,416.99 FTEs, a decrease of 0.3% from FY 2021
 - A total City appropriation request of \$239,037,296, an increase of 2.1% over FY 2021
- The FY 2022 Grants and Special Projects budget in the amount of \$17,142,622 for both revenues and expenditures as shown in Attachment 2. There was one adjustment recommended to the proposed budget presentation. One position was reclassified from Title I – Instructional Assistant II (SPED) to Title I – Instructional Assistant II – (EL). This budget includes other financing sources and uses, and a total of 98.75 FTEs, the same as FY 2021.
- The FY 2022 School Nutrition Services budget totals \$11,194,167 for both revenues and expenditures as shown in Attachment 2. There are no adjustments recommended to the proposed budget presentation. This budget includes 120.00 FTEs, which represents a 4.2% decrease from FY 2021.

Vice Chair Nolan further moved that the Superintendent is granted the authority to make the necessary minor changes to comply with the intent of the School Board.

Mr. Suarez seconded the motion.

The vote to approve the FY 2022 Combined Funds Budget was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried. The vote was taken by roll call.

New Business and Reports to the Board

11. MTSS and SEAL First Semester Analysis

Dr. Terri Mazingo, Chief of Teaching, Learning and Leadership, and staff members collectively provided an update to the quarter one grades and chronic absenteeism data by comparing it to quarter two data, COVID-19 Brief Screener data, and current practices and refinements in place within MTSS and SEAL to address the needs of the whole student and to reduce current disparities. School Principals Ms. Jasibi Crews (Charles Barrett ES), Mr. Michael Routhouska (William Ramsay ES), Dr. John McCain (Jefferson-Houston K-8), Ms. Pierrette Peters (Francis C. Hammond MS), and Ms. Carmen Sanders (T.C. Williams HS) discussed MTSS and how their schools used problem solving, data analysis, discussion protocols, tiered interventions, and the schoolwide MTSS teams to support students. Next steps include ongoing professional learning, guidance and support; consistency and refinement, and division-wide progress monitoring.

School Board Members asked questions about the relationship between internet access and student disparities, results between Q1 and Q2 grading, correlating interventions with success, supports in place for academic gains and growth, and for minority graduation rates, and about adjustments to the grading policy.

12. The High School Project: Site Specific Educational Specifications

Ms. Erika Gulick, Executive Director of Capital Programs, Planning and Design, Dr. Gerald Mann, Executive Director of Instructional Support and Mr. Sean O'Donnell presented the Site-Specific Educational Specifications for the High School Project. The Site-Specific Ed Specs will be published as a Board Brief on February 19, 2021 and were not included as part of the presentation.

Ms. Gulick reviewed what Site-Specific Educational Specifications are, what has guided the development of the draft, how the Educational Design Team influence the document, how the Ed Specs align with the proposed CIP Budget, and what the School Board is being asked to approve. The Ed Spec document considers both the King Street and Minnie Howard campuses in how they will be organized and function as a connected network, while focusing on the new development requirements at the Minnie Howard Campus. The Ed Spec document includes site-specific recommendations for the Minnie Howard Campus including proposed capacity, an associated list of spaces and budget requirements and is currently under review by the appropriate departments.

Ms. Gulick reviewed the timeline for the High School Project and noted that the School Board will hold a work session on March 3, 2021 regarding the Ed Specs, which are set for approval at the March 4, 2021 School Board Meeting.

Board Members asked questions about space flexibility, open space classrooms, repeated spaces between campuses, and capacity projections.

13. 2020 ACPS Athletic Hall of Fame Nominations

Ms. Jacinta Greene thanked the Athletic Hall of Fame (AHOF) Advisory Committee for all of their hard work putting this presentation together and for their hard work throughout the years. She shared that during the 2019-2020 school year, the COVID-19 pandemic and closure of schools caused the AHOF Advisory Committee to halt mid-process on their selection for candidates to be inducted into the ACPS Athletic Hall of Fame. The induction for these nominees would have taken place in the fall of 2020. Since resuming their meetings, the committee has finalized their selections for the 2020 class of inductees and are as follows:

- Katherine McAdoo, Swimming, T.C. Williams High School, Class of 2000
- Roberta Elliott Speight, Track and Field, T.C. Williams High School, Class of 1984
- Bob Kessler, Basketball, George Washington High School, Class of 1952
- Cedric Matterson, Track and Field, T.C. Williams High School, Class of 1984
- Craig Harris, Basketball, T.C. Williams High School, Class of 1977
- Lynwood Robinson, Football, George Washington High School, Class of 1971
- Mike Hynson, Basketball Coach at TCW and GWHS; Francis C. Hammond HS, Class of 1959
- 1971 T.C. Williams High School Football Team

Ms. Greene further announced that the AHOF Induction Ceremony has not been scheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, the committee is reviewing nomination forms for selection into the 2021 class of inductees. Those nominations will be presented to the Board in May. Nominations received by March 31, 2021 will be considered.

Chair's Report

14. Report from Meagan Alderton

Chair Alderton reported that the second poll is open for the community to participate in the renaming process for Matthew Maury Elementary School and T.C. Williams High School. She also shared comments from Ms. Cindy Hart, Chair of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), who indicated SEAC's support of changes to Policy JM detailing the management of student behavior in emergency situations.

Chair Alderton thanked Susan Neilson, Clerk of the School Board and Shanel Hill, Deputy Clerk of the School Board for all of their hard-work in recognition of School Board Clerk Appreciation Week.

Superintendent's Report

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

Superintendent Hutchings shared that his team will be finalizing the data on the number of Staff that will be returning to in-person work and also gave a brief update on the number of classroom monitors.

Announcements by School Board Members

16. Announcements

School Board Members individually shared stories and expressed their gratitude for the School Board Clerks and for Jennifer Abbruzzese, Director of Policy and School Board Initiatives.

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting

17. Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting

No Closed Meeting was held.

Adjournment

18. Adjourn

On a motion by Ms. Gentry 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 7:50 p.m.



Meagan Alderton, Chair



Clerk/Deputy Clerk

These minutes were adopted at the March 4, 2021 School Board Meeting.