

MINUTES
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD
March 21, 2024 (6:30 p.m.)

ROLL CALL

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

BOARD MEMBERS: Meagan L. Alderton
Tim Beaty
Kelly Carmichael Booz
Abdel-Rahman Elnoubi
Jacinta Greene
Christopher Harris
Tammy Ignacio (absent)
Michelle Rief
Ashley Simpson Baird

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Susan Neilson, Alexandra Bourdouane, Zeinab Yassin, Dr. Alicia Hart, Erika Gulick, Arthur Carpenter-Holmes, Robert Falconi, Matt Smith

Call to Order

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Rief

Chair Rief called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. All members of the School Board were present at the start of the meeting except for Ms. Ignacio who was absent and Ms. Booz who arrived during Public Comments.

Pledge of Allegiance

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moment of Silence

3. Observe a Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

4. Adopt the Meeting Agenda for the March 21, 2024 School Board Meeting

Mr. Beaty moved to adopt the meeting agenda for the March 21, 2024 School Board Meeting.

Ms. Greene seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the meeting agenda for March 21, 2024 was unanimous, 7-0. The motion carried.

5. Participation of Board Members by Electronic Means

There were no Board Members participating virtually.

Recognitions

6. “Simply the Best” School Spotlight—Jefferson Houston K-8 School

Mr. Howard Van der Sluis, Orchestra Director at Jefferson-Houston K-8 School, and the Chamber Orchestra gave a performance in honor of Music in Our Schools Month.

7. ACPS Vision, Integrity and Passion (VIP) Awards

The VIP Awards program, launched during the 2021-22 school year, honors outstanding employees who work every day to make a difference in our school division. The program recognizes staff throughout ACPS across all levels of employment.

The following recipients were recognized in the category of Leadership:

- Michael Burch, Lead Administrator for Operations and Student Support, ACHS
- Molly McCabe, Assistant Principal, Early Childhood Center
- Michael Covington, Director of Accounting, Central Office
- McChale' Johnson, Director, Office of Pupil Transportation and Fleet Management

Superintendent's Report

8. Report from Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt

Superintendent Kay-Wyatt reported on the following:

- Foreign Language Exchange Program status
- Milken Educator Award recipient Eva Irwin, English teacher at ACHS
- New Executive Director of Communications, Daryl Johnson
- Four ACHS Students named as Finalists in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program
- ACHS Sophomore named as Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington's Youth of the Year
- George Mason Elementary School 4th Grade student received Brightest Student Worldwide Award by the John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth
- ACPS Summer Learning registration is open until May 5
- Virtual School Registration for 2024-2025 due by April 12
- Calendar Reminders

Communications & Addresses to the Board

9. Public Comments

Ilona Boehm-O'Connor, ACPS student, spoke in support of the German Exchange Program.

Deborah J. McKeeman, community member, spoke about Women's History Month and that women should be included in equity in the Strategic Plan.

Kloe Cella, ACPS parent, spoke about secure firearm storage information for the ACPS website.

Adrienne Connolly, community member, spoke about the benefits of the World Language Exchange Programs.

Matthew Schilling, staff member, spoke about the student-to-student foreign language exchange programs.

Andrew Wright, ACPS parent, spoke about the George Washington Middle School German Exchange Program.

Mark Sweet, ACPS parent, spoke in support of the Foreign Language Exchange Program.

Dr. Shannon R. Waite, ACPS parent, spoke about overcrowding in West End Title I Schools.

David Paladin-Fernandez, staff member, spoke about language in the collective bargaining resolution.

Jennifer Schneider, ACPS parent, spoke about overcrowding at Polk Elementary School.

Kate Moore Rodriguez, ACPS parent, spoke about the need for immediate relief of overcrowding at Polk Elementary School.

Silda Nikaj, ACPS parent, spoke about safety and security communication procedures.
Brooke Glisson, community member, spoke about safe firearm storage.
Ricardo Roberts (virtual), ACPS parent, spoke about school safety procedures.
Kurstyn Phelps (virtual), ACPS parent and Patrick Henry PTA Vice President, spoke about overcrowding and facilities equity.
Chaaron Pearson (virtual), ACPS parent, spoke about capacity issues at Polk Elementary.
Barri Branker (virtual), ACPS parent, spoke about overcrowding at Patrick Henry Elementary School and asked for immediate solutions.

10. Report by Student Representatives Torenzo Ricks and Zeinab Yassin

Ms. Yassin reported on:

- Wished everyone a Happy Spring Break
- Iftar Celebration Dinner held at ACHS
- ACHS Music Department recipient of the VMEA Blue Ribbon Award
- Annual Essential Workers Celebration Event held at Mount Vernon Community School
- Town Hall Meeting planned for April with Student Representatives and the Executive Principal Advisory Board

Mr. Ricks was absent.

11. Report by International Academy Student Representative Zahra Rahimi

Ms. Rahimi was absent.

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting (if needed)

12. Closed Meeting

13. Certification of Closed Meeting

No Closed Meeting was held.

Consent Calendar

14. Personnel Actions for the Period of March 4 through March 15, 2024

15. FY 2024 Monthly Financial Report ending January 31, 2024

16. Community Use of Facilities for February 2024

17. Superintendent Evaluation Procedures

18. Policy Adoption

19. Appoint Allison Goetz as the Student Representative to the Athletic Hall of Fame (AHOF) Advisory Committee

20. Minutes for the March 6, 2024 Joint City Council/School Board Budget Work Session, the March 7, 2024 School Board Meeting and Collective Bargaining Work Session, and the March 14, 2024 Special Called School Board Meeting

Ms. Booz moved to adopt the Consent Calendar.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the Consent Calendar was unanimous, 6-0. The motion carried.

Mr. Elnoubi and Dr. Simpson Baird were not present for the vote.

Items Pulled from the Consent Calendar

There were no items pulled from the Consent Calendar

Old Business & Action Items

21. The High School Project: Construction Update

Mr. Arthur Carpenter-Holmes, Senior Capital Project Manager presented a construction update on The High School Project.

22. Collective Bargaining Resolution

Mr. Robert Falconi, Division Counsel, presented on the Collective Bargaining Resolution and responded to Board Member questions.

Mr. Elnoubi moved to adopt the Collective Bargaining Resolution.

Ms. Alderton seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the Collective Bargaining Resolution was unanimous, 8-0. The motion carried.

New Business and Reports to the Board

23. Policy Revisions

Mr. Matt Smith, Policy Consultant, reported on the following policies for revision.

- AA - School Division Legal Status
- BBBB - Student Representatives to the School Board
- BBBB-R - Student Representatives to the School Board
- CA - Superintendent Duties
- GAE-JHG - Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting

These policies will return for adoption at a future Board Meeting.

24. 2024 VSBA Business Honor Roll Resolution

Ms. Greene moved to approve the 2024 VSBA Business Honor Roll Resolution.

Dr. Simpson Baird seconded the motion.

The vote to approve the 2024 VSBA Honor Roll Resolution was unanimous, 8-0. The motion carried.

Board Chair's Report

25. Report from Dr. Michelle Rief

Chair Rief reported on upcoming meetings from the School Board's calendar.

Announcements by Board Members

26. Announcements

Mr. Elnoubi reported on attending the Polk PTA Meeting along with Mr. Harris. He relayed the conversations on redistricting and overcrowding at the school.

Ms. Booz reported on attending a national educators conference which showcased the documentary in which featured Student Representative, Zahra Rahimi.

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting (if needed)

27. Closed Meeting

28. Certification of Closed Meeting

No Closed Meeting was held.

Adjournment

29. Adjourn

Chair Rief adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Dr. Michelle Rief, Chair

Clerk/Deputy Clerk

These minutes were adopted at the DATE School Board Meeting.

DRAFT