

**MINUTES
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD**

January 18, 2024 (6:45 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 (absent)
Tammy Ignacio
Michelle Rief
Ashley Simpson Baird

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Susan Neilson, Alexandra Bourdouane, Zeinab Yassin, Dr. Pierrette Finney, Carmen Sanders, Matt Smith.

Call to Order

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Rief

Chair Rief called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. All members of the School Board were present at the start of the meeting except for Mr. Harris who was absent.

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 January 18, 2024 School Board Meeting

Ms. Greene moved to adopt the meeting agenda for the January 18, 2024 School Board Meeting.

Mr. Elnoubi seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the meeting agenda was unanimous, 8-0. The motion carried. A hand vote was taken.

5. Participation of Board Members by Electronic Means

There were no Board Members participating virtually.

Communications & Addresses to the Board

6. 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 licensed specialists:

- Jessica Angelo, Academic Interventionist, Douglas McArthur Elementary School
- Jaelyn Lusk, School Social Worker, Naomi L. Brooks Elementary School
- Shannon McLaughlin, Speech Language Pathologist, Early Childhood Center
- Janet Reese, Parent Support Specialist, Division-Wide

7. Public Comments

Avy Alvarado, ACPS parent, spoke about ACPS school transportation.

Gina Baum, community member, spoke about collective bargaining policies and teacher steps.

Ricardo Roberts, ACPS parent, spoke about safety measures in ACPS schools.

8. Report by Student Representatives Torenzo Ricks and Zeinab Yassin

Ms. Yassin reported on:

- Recognition of teacher Mr. Lou Kokonis
- Rescheduling of Career Fair event at ACHS
- Rescheduling of Academic Orientation and Curriculum Night Event

Mr. Ricks was absent.

9. Report by International Academy Student Representative Zahra Rahimi

Ms. Rahimi was absent.

Superintendent's Report

10. Report from Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt

Superintendent Kay-Wyatt reported on the following:

- Principal Appreciation Week
- "Thank Your Mentor" Day/National Mentoring Month
- "Your Future Today" Mentoring Event at ACHS
- ACPS Parent Portal Phone Application
- Virginia Outstanding Crossing Guard Nominations
- 2024 Athletic Hall of Fame Nominations
- Teacher Work Day
- Upcoming Snow Day
- Samuel Tucker Elementary School's 100th Day Celebration
- Alexandria City Science Fair Event
- ACPS Poetry Contest
- Equity For All Climate Survey

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting (if needed)

11. Closed Meeting

12. Certification of Closed Meeting

No Closed Meeting was held.

Consent Calendar

- 13. FY 2024 Monthly Financial Report ending November 30, 2023**
- 14. Donation to ACPS: TangerKids Grant Program**
- 15. Contract: 1703 N Beauregard GMP 2 Amendment**
- 16. Contract: The High School Project: Minnie Howard Redevelopment GMP 5B: Phase II, Part II**
- 17. Community Use of Facilities for December 2023**
- 18. Personnel Actions Report from January 5 through January 12, 2024**
- 19. Policy Adoption**
- 20. Advanced Academic Services Advisory Committee (AASAC) 2023-2024 Scope of Work**
- 21. Minutes for the January 4, 2024 School Board Meeting and the January 11, 2024 Work Session**

Ms. Booz moved to adopt the Consent Calendar. Ms. Alderton seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the Consent Calendar was unanimous, 8-0. The motion carried.

Items Pulled from the Consent Calendar

There were no items pulled from the Consent Calendar

Old Business & Action Items

22. Superintendent's Final Recommendation for New ACPS Logo

In December, the School Board was presented with two options for a new ACPS logo, and conducted community feedback into January. The Superintendent was recommending logo option one which resembled the George Washington Masonic National Memorial and surrounding water to represent both knowledge and light.

Ms. Greene moved that the School Board direct the Superintendent to redesign the logo to better represent our mission and vision for Alexandria City Public Schools.

Dr. Simpson Baird seconded the motion.

School Board Members held a discussion about the logo recommendation and process.

Mr. Elnoubi moved to amend the motion on the table and direct the Superintendent to not develop a new ACPS logo and use the current ACPS logo as it is presently.

No second was received. The motion did not move forward.

The vote to adopt the motion to direct the Superintendent to re-design the ACPS logo to better represent the mission and vision for ACPS was 5-3. The motion carried. Ms. Alderton, Ms. Booz, and Mr. Elnoubi voted against the motion.

New Business and Reports to the Board

23. Elementary and Secondary Instructional Analysis Committees

Dr. Pierrette Finney, Chief Academic Officer, and Carmen Sanders, Executive Director of Instructional Support, presented information on the Elementary and Secondary Instructional Analysis Committees and how the committees gather feedback from staff and leadership, how the department of Teaching, Learning and Leadership will plan and prepare for the next school year to address weaknesses and challenges of Encore scheduling, and next steps for continued implementation.

24. Policy Revisions

Mr. Matt Smith, Policy Consultant, presented proposed revisions of several ACPS policies and regulations. The following policies were reviewed for code alignment and VSBA model policy alignment, audited for equity, edited by a team of staff members, and reviewed by the SLT and the Board Policy Subcommittee.

- BDA - Regular School Board Meetings
- BDB - Special Called School Board Meetings
- BDC - Closed Meetings
- BDCA - Calling and Certification of Closed Meetings
- BDDD - Quorum

These policies are will be presented for adoption at the February 8, 2024 School Board Meeting.

Chair’s Report

25. Report from Dr. Michelle Rief

Chair Rief gave an update from the Collective Bargaining Steering Committee. She also shared with the public upcoming meetings on the Board’s calendar.

Board Member Announcements

26. Announcements

Ms. Greene announced the Athletic Hall of Fame nominations are due on January 31, 2024.

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 8:55 p.m.

Dr. Michelle Rief, Chair

Clerk/Deputy Clerk

These minutes were adopted at the **DATE** School Board Meeting.