

**MINUTES  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD  
December 15, 2016 (7:00 p.m.)**

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**ROLL CALL**

UPON THE ROLL BEING CALLED, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:

**BOARD MEMBERS:** Karen Graf  
Christopher J. Lewis  
Cindy Anderson  
Ronnie Campbell  
William E. Campbell (arrived during the Pledge of Allegiance)  
Henry E. Cardwell  
Ramee A. Gentry  
Margaret Lorber  
Veronica R. Nolan

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Dr. Alvin Crawley, Jennifer Abbruzzese, Susan Neilson, Amanda Eisenhour, Sugeivis Gomez, Stacey Johnson, Michael Covington, Clinton Page, Clarence Stukes, and Kurt Huffman.

**Call to Order**

**1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Graf**

Chair Graf called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. All members of the School Board were present at the start of the meeting except for Mr. Campbell who arrived during the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting**

**2. Closed Meeting**

**3. Certification of Closed Meeting**

There was no closed meeting held.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students Abigail Gerstein, Evelyn Keene and Elizabeth Peyton from George Mason Elementary School. Students from the West African Drum and Band Ensemble performed music from Ghana.

**Moment of Silence**

**5. Observe a Moment of Silence**

A moment of silence was observed.

**Adoption of Meeting Agenda & Approval of Minutes**

**6. Adopt the Meeting Agenda for the December 15, 2016 School Board Meeting**

Vice Chair Lewis moved to adopt the meeting agenda for the December 15, 2016 School Board Meeting. Ms. Gentry seconded the motion.

Ms. Lorber moved to amend the agenda to add “Redistricting Update” to Old Business & Action Items. Dr. Cardwell seconded the motion.

The vote to amend the agenda to add “Redistricting Update” was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried.

The vote to adopt the meeting agenda as amended was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried.

**7. Approve the Minutes for the November 7, December 6, and December 8, 2016 Special Called School Board Meetings**

Ms. Gentry moved to approve the minutes from the November 7, December 6, and December 8, 2016 Special Called School Board Meetings. Ms. Campbell seconded the motion.

The vote to approve the minutes from the November 7, December 6, and December 8, 2016 Special Called School Board Meetings was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried.

**Communications & Addresses to the Board**

**8. Public Comments**

There were no Public Comment speakers this evening.

Dr. Crawley asked if he could take this time to recognize the ACPS Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Stacey Johnson, who will be leaving ACPS. He noted that as Superintendent, he has been impressed with her knowledge and dedication in moving ACPS forward and doing the good work to serve our students. The Board also expressed their appreciation for her professional and dedicated service to ACPS.

**9. Report from Student Representatives Amanda Eisenhour and Sugeivis Gomez**

Ms. Eisenhour also thanked Ms. Johnson for involving students in the budget process. She reported that the two “We the People” teams competed in the District competition and while both teams earned first place, only one team will be advancing to the state competition in January. She also reported on the “Hour of Code” held at several schools, which involved activities for coding and computer science to get students more involved in computers. Ms. Eisenhour noted the Virginia Breakfast Challenge competition, and invited the public to attend winter concerts at the various schools. Lastly, she reported on student course evaluations, and is looking forward to their impact on having more effective classes and course selections.

Ms. Gomez expressed her appreciation to Ms. Johnson for listening to student input during the budget process. She reported on events held at various schools and invited the public to attend a Barnes & Noble book fair to help schools raise money, but also to have holiday gifts wrapped. She then invited the community to come hear Mr. Michael Steele, former Republican National Committee Chair, who will be speaking at T.C. Williams on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:45am.

**Old Business & Action Items**

**10. 2017-2018 Program of Studies**

Dr. Crawley indicated that the 2017-2018 Program of Studies was presented for approval tonight. It has been reviewed at a previous Work Session as well as at the December 1, 2016 School Board Meeting.

Mr. Campbell moved to approve the 2017-2018 Program of Studies. Ms. Gentry seconded the motion.

The vote to approve the 2017-2018 Program of Studies was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried.

## **11. 2017-2018 Academic Calendar**

After review of the proposed 2017-2018 Academic Calendar at the December 1, 2016 School Board Meeting, this item is presented to the Board for approval.

Mr. Campbell moved to adopt the 2017-2018 Academic Calendar. Ms. Anderson seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the 2017-2018 Academic Calendar was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried.

## **12. Adoption of the FY 2018-2027 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Budget**

On December 8, 2016, the Superintendent presented recommended adjustments to the FY 2018-2027 Capital Improvement Program. The School Board's add/deletes were discussed during the December 8<sup>th</sup> Work Session as well and were incorporated in the budget adoption motion.

Vice Chair Lewis made the following motion:

Madam Chair,

WHEREAS, for several years the Alexandria City School Board has deferred capacity projects due to City fiscal projections that predicted slow revenue growth; and

WHEREAS, the enrollment projections, agreed upon by the City and Schools staff through the Long Range Educational Facilities Plan, show that capacity needs continue to mount; and

WHEREAS, the School Board requests that the City Council seek dedicated funding to meet ACPS capacity needs using all revenue options at its disposal, including adjustments to its debt policy; and

WHEREAS, the School Board recognizes the challenge of meeting elementary and secondary capacity needs over the next ten years in a fiscally constrained environment and is taking measured steps to consider all available options, including exploring alternative swing space options and the purchase of available land; and

WHEREAS, the approved CIP expenditures for FY 2018-2027 incorporate all of the adjustments discussed at the School Board's add/delete work sessions on December 6 and 8, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent is granted the authority to make any necessary minor changes to comply with the intent and policies of the School Board;

Madam Chair, I therefore move that the Alexandria City School Board approve the FY 2018-2027 Capital Improvement Program Budget in the total amount of \$611,121,367, including \$89,766,372 in FY 2018.

Ms. Gentry seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the FY 2018-2027 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried.

## **13. Redistricting Update**

Ms. Gentry gave an update on the Redistricting process. She also thanked the Review Committee members for their dedicated work on this committee and their representation at PTA and community meetings. She also thanked ACPS staff for their hard work. Ms. Gentry noted that the process is winding down and that there will be a recommendation presented to the Board on January 10<sup>th</sup>, a Redistricting Public Hearing on January 19<sup>th</sup>, and a vote on new elementary boundaries is anticipated at the January 26<sup>th</sup> School Board meeting.

Dr. Crawley also thanked the members of the Review Committee for their hard work. He invited the community to provide their feedback and engagement during the remainder of the process. He noted that the implementation of a redistricting plan will be the next phase of the process.

## **Consent Calendar**

- 14. Third Amendment to Agreement of Purchase and Sale of 1701 & 1705 N. Beauregard**
- 15. Personnel Actions for the Month of November 2016**
- 16. Memo Regarding Superintendent's Contract**
- 17. Accept Resignation of Hal Doran from the Athletic Hall of Fame Advisory Committee**
- 18. Appoint James Worden to the Athletic Hall of Fame Advisory Committee and Grant a Residency Waiver**
- 19. Appoint Randall Borland to the CTE Advisory Committee**
- 20. Policies—Statutory Revisions**

Vice Chair Lewis moved to adopt the Consent Calendar. Mr. Campbell 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.

## **New Business and Reports to the Board**

### **21. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report 2016**

Mr. Michael Covington, Director of Accounting, introduced Mr. Greg Bussick, from Clifton Larson Allen LLP (CLA), the City and Schools' external auditor, who audited the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and issued an unmodified (or "clean") opinion indicating that the financial statements fairly represented the financial position of ACPS as of June 30, 2016.

Additionally, CLA has issued its report on ACPS' internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters. No significant deficiencies or material weaknesses of internal control or instances of noncompliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts or grant agreements or other matters were noted that could have a direct and material effect on the financial statement amounts.

Ms. Lorber moved to accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report 2016. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion.

The vote to accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report 2016 was unanimous, 8-0. Ms. Campbell was not present at the time of the vote. The motion carried.

### **22. ACPS 2020 Goal 4 Performance Update**

Mr. Clinton Page, Chief Accountability Officer, reported on the ACPS 2020 Strategic Plan Goal 4 (Facilities and the Learning Environment), Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the 2015-2016 school year. He reported that six out of 12 of the Goal 4 targets had been met. In five areas, performance remained relatively constant when compared to the previous year. There was a decline in performance in one area, Safe and Secure Facilities. Mr. Clarence Stukes, Chief Operations Officer, reviewed next steps for sustaining growth and facilitating growth in areas that had remained constant. He also reviewed improving performance for the Safe and Secure Facilities KPI would be addressed.

### **23. Community and Business Partnerships**

Mr. Kurt Huffman, Director of School, Business and Community Partnerships, updated the Board on the newly formed department that he heads (Office of School, Business and Community Partnerships). He presented information on its purpose, how it aligns with the ACPS 2020 strategic plan, and identified opportunities that will support ACPS schools.

## **Chair's Report**

### **24. Report from Karen A. Graf**

Chair Graf reported on a visit by the Hunt Institute to T.C. Williams and her opportunity to teach Shakespeare to English students there through the EAA.

## **Superintendent's Report**

### **25. Report from Dr. Alvin L. Crawley**

Superintendent Crawley thanked the Superintendent's Student Leadership Committee for their productive discussion on the Budget. He mentioned that school principals are also participating in budget discussions. The next Superintendent's Chat is scheduled for January 11, 2017 at John Adams Elementary. He wished students, parents, and staff a happy holiday season.

## **Announcements**

### **26. Announcements**

Vice Chair Lewis reported on the final Patrick Henry Community Advisory Committee meeting and thanked all the members as well as the community who came out to speak in support of the project. He also reported on attending the City Council meeting to present information on the new elementary school building.

Ms. Anderson reported on her opportunity to read to students at Polk through the EAA.

Ms. Eisenhower mentioned that she was accepted into Princeton and that she is proud to be a product of ACPS.

Ms. Gomez announced that it was Dr. Dingle's birthday. She encouraged students and the community to come out and speak to City Council to support the budget.

## **Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting**

### **27. Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting**

Vice Chair Lewis moved that the Board convene a closed meeting pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3711(A)(7) for consultation and briefing concerning actual or probable litigation, where such consultation and briefing in an open meeting would adversely affect the legal posture of the Board. He further moved that the Board convene a closed meeting pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3711(A)(1) for the discussion and consideration of employment, performance and contractual matters for ten (10) specific employees.

Ms. Gentry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 9-0, to convene a closed meeting.

The Board moved into a closed meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Vice Chair Lewis moved that pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3712, that the Board certify that to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened, and are lawfully exempted by the Freedom of Information Act, were heard, discussed or considered by the Board in the Closed Meeting held on December 15, 2016.

Ms. Gentry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 9-0, to certify the closed meeting.

## **Adjournment**

### **28. Adjourn**

On a motion by Ms. Gentry and seconded by Ms. Campbell, the Board voted unanimously, 9-0, to adjourn. The meeting ended at 11:15 p.m.

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Ramee A. Gentry, Chair

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Clerk/Deputy Clerk

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

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