

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

June 20, 2024 (6:30 p.m.)

ROLL CALL

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Susan Neilson, Alexandra Bourdouane, Zeinab Yassin, Dr. Alicia Hart, Dominic Turner

Call to Order

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Rief

Chair Rief called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All members of the School Board were present at the start of the meeting except for Mr. Elnoubi who was absent. Ms. Booz and Ms. Greene joined the meeting virtually.

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 June 20, 2024 School Board Meeting

Mr. Beaty moved to adopt the meeting agenda for the June 20, 2024 School Board Meeting.

Ms. Ignacio seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the meeting agenda for June 20, 2024 was unanimous, 6-0. The motion carried.

5. Approve Participation of Board Members by Electronic Means

Mr. Harris made the following motion:

“Whereas Board Members Kelly Carmichael Booz and Jacinta Greene have notified the Board that they are unavailable to be physically present for tonight’s School Board Meeting due to a personal family matter and Business matter, respectively, and where they have not

participated in more than two or 25% of Board meetings by electronic means during 2024; and where Board Members Booz and Greene request the opportunity to participate in the meeting by video conference call from out of town and where the conference call shall be heard by all participants in this Board room; and where a quorum of the Board is physically assembled;

Therefore, I move, pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3708 that the Board approve the participation of Board Members Kelly Carmichael Booz and Jacinta Greene in this meeting by video conference call.”

Ms. Ignacio seconded the motion.

The vote to allow Vice Chair Booz and Ms. Greene to participate in the meeting by electronic means was unanimous, 6-0. The motion carried.

Vice Chair Booz and Ms. Greene joined the meeting via Zoom.

Superintendent’s Report

6. Report from Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt

- Collective Bargaining Unit Elections
- Summer School Learning
- ACPS Four Day Work Week
- Summer Food Service and Mental Health Programs
- George Washington Middle School Music Competition Successes
- ACHS JROTC Drill Team places 4th in the nation
- Teacher Leadership Project
- Capstone Presentations
- View Virtual Tour of Minnie Howard Campus on ACPS Website
- Back to School Information
- Step Up to Kindergarten Information
- First Day of School for Samuel Tucker Elementary School on July 22
- First Day of School for other ACPS schools is August 19

Communications & Addresses to the Board

7. Report from Student Representative Zeinab Yassin

Ms. Yassin did not give a report.

8. Report from International Academy Student Representative Zahra Rahimi

Ms. Rahimi was absent.

9. Public Comments

Attaurrahman Noorzad, ACPS student, spoke about the ACPS bilingual registrar position in the office of English Learners.

Carolyn Meza, ACPS parent, spoke about special education services at Francis C. Hammond Middle School.

Victoria Cruz, ACPS parent, spoke about Special Education Services.

Steve Decker, community member, spoke about the ACPS EL bilingual registrar position.

Scott Robinson, ACPS parent, spoke about special education services at Francis C. Hammond.

Kursten Phelps, ACPS parent, spoke about overcrowding and equity within west end schools.

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

Joanna Kuo, staff member, spoke about the ACPS EL bilingual registrar position.

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting

10. Closed Meeting

Mr. Harris moved that the Board convene a Closed Meeting pursuant to Code of Virginia sections 2.2-3711(A)(6) and 2.2-3711(A)(29) for discussion and consideration of specific public contracts and the investment and expenditure of public funds where bargaining or competition is involved, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Board, regarding a building renovation contract. He further moved that the Board convene a Closed Meeting pursuant to Code of Virginia Sections 2.2-3711(A)(1) for consultation with staff pertaining to personnel matters related to the discipline of specific public employees. Lastly, Mr. Harris moved that the Board convene a Closed Meeting pursuant to Code of Virginia Sections 2.2-3711(A)(1); and 2.2-3711(A)(2) to discuss prospective candidates for appointment as student representatives to the School Board, where information contain in scholastic records will be disclosed regarding students attending Alexandria City Public Schools.

Ms. Alderton seconded the motion.

The vote was unanimous, 8-0, to convene a Closed Meeting. Ms. Booz and Ms. Greene voted orally. The motion carried.

The Board moved into a Closed Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

11. Certification of Closed Meeting

Mr. Harris, moved that pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3712, the Board certifies 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 June 20, 2024.

Ms. Ignacio seconded the motion.

The vote to certify the Closed Meeting was unanimous, 7-0. Ms. Booze voted orally. The motion carried. Ms. Greene was not present for the vote.

The Board returned to open session at 7:58 p.m.

Consent Calendar

12. FY 2024 Monthly Financial Report ending May 31, 2024

13. Personnel Actions for the Period of June 3 through June 14, 2024

14. Custodial Attrition Plan Update

15. Entitlement Grants: Title I, Title II, and Title III - Part A

16. Community Use of Facilities for May 2024

17. George Washington Middle School HVAC Renovation Contract

18. 1703 N Beauregard Swing Space Project: GMP 4 Award

19. Superintendent Contract

20. Architectural and Engineering Services Contract Award for George Mason ES Modernization

21. Appoint 2024-2025 Student Representatives to the School Board

22. Minutes for the June 6, 2024 School Board Meeting

Ms. Alderton moved to adopt the Consent Calendar.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the Consent Calendar was unanimous, 8-0. The motion carried. Ms. Booz and Ms. Greene voted orally.

Old Business and Action Items

23. Weapons Abatement Pilot Program Update, Pt. II

Dr. Alicia Hart, Chief Operating Officer, provided a final update on the weapons abatement pilot program and recommended that the program be removed from “pilot” status so it can become a formal part of security at secondary schools.

Mr. Beaty moved that the Board adopt the weapons abatement “pilot” program on a permanent basis provided that the Superintendent provides the Board with updates on the efficacy of this program at least once per school year.

Mr. Harris seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the weapons abatement “pilot” program on a permanent basis and receive yearly updates each school year was unanimous, 8-0. The motion carried. Ms. Booz and Ms. Greene gave an oral vote.

24. Division Priorities SY 2024-2025

The draft ACPS Priority Areas for the 2024-2025 school year and their direct alignment into the SY 24-25 Division Support Plan allow for clear organizational alignment, prioritization, and cohesion of work across the entire system. This year the ACPS Priority Areas have been aligned to the new Virginia Support Framework.

Dr. Simpson Baird moved to approve the Division Priorities for SY 2024-2025.

Mr. Beaty seconded the motion.

The vote to approve the division priorities for SY 2024-2025 was unanimous, 8-0. The motion carried. Ms. Booz and Ms. Greene gave an oral vote.

25. ESSER III Update

Mr. Dominic Turner, Chief Financial Officer, gave an update on the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) Fund which was created to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impacts of COVID-19 on the nation’s students by addressing students’ academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs.

New Business and Reports to the Board

26. 2024-2027 School Board Meeting Calendars

The School Board adopts a School Board Meeting Calendar at the organizational meeting held each year in July. This year, the School Board Office is asking the Board to adopt the School Board Meeting Calendars for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years, and are presenting the 2026-2027 calendar for information only. The calendars will return for adoption at the July 11, 2024 Organizational Meeting.

27. DRAFT FY 2026 Budget Calendar

Mr. Turner presented the draft FY 2026 Budget Calendar for School Board Member feedback. The calendar will be adopted at a future meeting.

Chair’s Report

28. Report from Dr. Michelle Rief

Chair Rief reported on three new standing board committees—Operational Excellence, Governance, and Strategy and Accountability. These committees were formed in an effort to provide guidance to the full board, support the division’s strategic plan and priority areas, and to distribute leadership and workload between different board members. This new structure will result in more efficient board meetings, increased productivity and improved outcomes.

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

Board Member Announcements

29. Announcements

Mr. Beaty congratulated EAA on their election as the exclusive representative of two ACPS bargaining units.

Dr. Rief congratulated Ms. Greene and Mr. Elnoubi on their successful primary for City Council seats. The election for City Council will be held in November.

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting (if needed)

30. Closed Meeting

31. Certification of Closed Meeting

There was no Closed Meeting held.

Adjournment

32. Adjourn

Chair Rief adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Dr. Michelle Rief, Chair

Clerk/Deputy Clerk

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