

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

January 4, 2024 (6:30 p.m.)

ROLL CALL

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

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

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Alexandra Bourdouane, Zeinab Yassin, Dominic Turner, Matt Smith, Taneika Taylor Tukan, and Gerson Paniagua

Call to Order

1. Meeting Called to Order

Chair Rief called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. The following Board members were present when the meeting was called to order: Meagan L. Alderton, Kelly Carmichael Booz, Abdel-Rahman Elnoubi, Jacinta Greene, Christopher Harris, Michelle Rief, Ashley Simpson Baird

Pledge of Allegiance

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Alexandria City High School JROTC Cadets presented the colors and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 4, 2024 School Board Meeting

Ms. Greene moved to adopt the meeting agenda for the January 4, 2024 School Board Meeting.

Ms. Alderton seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. Participation of Board Members by Electronic Means

Vice Chair Booz made the following motion:

“Whereas Board Member Tammy Ignacio has notified the Board that she is unavailable to be physically present for tonight’s School Board Meeting due to a personal matter specifically travel, and whereas she has not participated in more than two or 25% Board meetings by electronic means during 2024; and whereas Board Member Ignacio requests the opportunity to participate in the meeting by video conference call from out of state where the conference call shall be heard by all participants in this room; and whereas a quorum of the Board is physically assembled in this room;

Therefore, I move, pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3708 that the Board approve the participation of Board Member Tammy Ignacio in this meeting by video conference call.

Ms. Greene seconded the motion.

The vote to allow Ms. Ignacio to participate in the meeting by electronic means was unanimous. The motion carried.

Ms. Ignacio joined the meeting via Zoom.

Communications & Addresses to the Board

6. Public Comments

Deborah J. McKeeman, community member, spoke about the strategic plan, FACE and ACHS accreditation.

Meredith Forbes, community member, spoke about the budget, sharing the opinions of the Children, Youth, and Families Collaborative Commission.

David-Paladin Fernandez, ACPS staff, spoke about collective bargaining.

Ricardo Roberts, ACPS parent, spoke about safety.

7. Report by Student Representatives Torenzo Ricks and Zeinab Yassin

Ms. Yassin reported on:

- Auditions for the spring musical
- Mental Health club fundraising
- DECA students obtains slots for the Virginia Beach
- Encouraging students to have the college applications submitted
- ACHS is working on improving student mentoring at all four campuses
- Encouraged the Board to restarting the MS student representatives program

Mr. Ricks was absent.

8. Report by International Academy Student Representative Zahra Rahimi

Ms. Rahimi was absent.

Superintendent’s Report

9. Report from Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt

Superintendent Dr. Kay-Wyatt reported on the following:

- Celebrating Principals with Principals Week
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day observation
- College information planning session for students with disabilities
- High School Curriculum planning nights to learn about grade level expectations and
- Middle School Curriculum Fair Nights to learn about curriculum and electives
- Virtual Meet and Greet for new potential teachers
- Nominations for the 2024 Athletic Hall of Fame
- Licensed Staff Hiring Fair

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting (if needed)

10. Closed Meeting

11. Certification of the Closed Meeting

No Closed Meeting was held.

Consent Calendar

12. Appoint Designee of the Division Superintendent

13. Personnel Actions for December 11, 2023 through January 2, 2024

14. Policy Adoption

15. Appointment to Superintendent's Evaluation Criteria Development Committee

16. Appoint Donna Henley to the Special Education Advisory Committee

17. Appoint RaShonda Goode to the Special Education Advisory Committee

18. Minutes

Mr. Elnoubi 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.

Items Pulled from the Consent Calendar

There were no items pulled from the Consent Calendar

Old Business & Action Items

There were no Old Business and Action Items.

New Business and Reports to the Board

19. Superintendent's FY 2025 Proposed Combined Funds Budget - Start time

Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt presented the FY 2025 Proposed Combined Funds Budget in the amount of \$373.7M.

20. Parent Square Implementation Update

Ms. Taneika Taylor Tukan, Executive Director of Community Partnerships and Engagement, and Mr. Gerson Paniagua, Assistant Director, School Engagement and Community Partnerships, presented the ParentSquare Implementation Update. The presentation included the number of staff and families that are being reached through ParentSquare, measures to monitor platform use, and the results of several key measures. Staff presented next steps in the implementation, including the future introduction of StudentSquare.

21. Policy Revisions

Mr. Matt Smith, Policy Consultant, presented on the following listed policies. These policies have been 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.

These revisions are proposed for adoption at the January 18, 2024 School Board Meeting.

- BDDA- Notification of School Board Meetings
- BDDC- Agenda Preparation and Dissemination
- JBB- Equitable Access to Essential Information
- JBB-R- Equitable Access to Essential Information Regulations
- KB- Public Information Program

Chair's Report

22. Report from Dr. Michelle Rief

Chair Rief shared with the public information about upcoming meetings on the School Board's calendar. Dr. Simpson-Baird provided a correction that the January 11th policy subcommittee meeting has been canceled.

Board Member Announcements

23. Announcements

Ms. Greene spoke about the Athletic Hall of Fame Nominations

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting

24. Closed Meeting

Vice Chair Booz made the following motions:

“Madam Chair, I move that the Board convene a Closed Meeting pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3711(A)(7) and 2.2-3711(A)(8) for consultation with legal counsel employed by a public body pertaining to actual litigation, specifically case GV23006164, in the General District Court in the City of Alexandria, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the Board; and Madam Chair, I move that the Board convene a Closed Meeting pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3711(A)(29) for the discussion of the award of public contracts, specifically guaranteed maximum price (GMP) amendment 2 for the 1703 Swing Space Project and GMP 5B: Phase II, Part II for the High School Project: Minnie Howard Redevelopment, involving the expenditure of public funds, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contracts, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Board.”

Ms. Greene seconded the motion.

The vote to go into the closed session was unanimous, 8-0. The motion carried.

The Board moved into closed session at 8:25 p.m.

25. Certification of Closed Meeting - 9:08

Vice Chair Booz moved that pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3712, that 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 which are lawfully exempted by the Freedom of Information Act, were heard, discussed or considered by the Board in the Closed Meeting held on January 4, 2024.

Ms. Greene seconded the motion.

The vote was unanimous, 8-0, to certify the Closed Meeting. The motion carried.

The Board returned to open session at 9:09 p.m.

Adjournment

26. Adjourn

Chair Rief adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Dr. Michelle Rief, Chair

Clerk/Deputy Clerk

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

DRAFT