

The Amherst County School Board met on Thursday, January 10, 2019, in the Public Meeting Room of the School Administration Office, Amherst, Virginia at 6:03 p.m.

PRESENT: W. Michael Henderson, Chairman  
Priscilla M. Liggon, Vice Chairman  
David S. Cassise  
Francisco D. Mayo  
Craig S. Terwilliger  
Abby J. Thompson  
Amanda Wright

Indeya Paige, Student Representative

ABSENT: None

Dr. Arnold called the meeting to order, asked that a moment of silence be observed and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Arnold stated he would preside over the start of the meeting until a new Chairman is appointed.

Dr. Arnold asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda for the January 10, 2019, regular School Board meeting.

Mr. Henderson asked that Item Number 5.01 Consider Approval of Supplemental Appropriations to the 2018-2019 School Operational Budget be removed from the consent agenda and placed under Action Item 4.09 for discussion.

Dr. Arnold asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda for the January 10, 2019, regular School Board meeting as amended.

Upon motion by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mrs. Liggon and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda for the January 10, 2019, School Board meeting as amended.

Dr. Arnold stated the next item on the agenda was to elect a Chairman for the period of January 2019 through December 2019.

Mrs. Liggon made a motion to appoint Mr. W. Michael Henderson as the Chairman of the Amherst County School Board for the period of January 2019 through December 2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mayo.

Dr. Arnold asked if there were any other nominations.

Mr. Terwilliger made a motion to appoint Mrs. Priscilla Liggon as Chairman of the Amherst County School Board for the period of January 2019 through December 2019. Mrs. Wright seconded the motion. Mrs. Liggon declined to be appointed as Chairman of the Amherst County School Board.

There being no other nominations, Dr. Arnold stated the motion by Mrs. Liggon, seconded by Mr. Mayo was carried, and the Board unanimously approved Mr. Henderson to serve as Chairman of the Amherst County School Board for the period of January 2019 through December 2019.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to elect a Vice-Chairman for the period of January 2019 through December 2019.

Mr. Mayo made a motion to nominate Mrs. Priscilla Liggon as Vice-Chairman of the Amherst County School Board for the period of January 2019 through December 2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cassise and unanimously carried.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was public comment.

Mr. Henderson asked if anyone wished to address the Board.

Ms. Carman Crowder, President of the Amherst Education Association, asked Board members to consider salaries for all employees a high priority. Ms. Crowder stated she would be attending Lobby Day in Richmond, Virginia on Monday, January 28, 2019.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was approval of the reorganization of the Amherst County School Board for the period of January 2019 through December 2019.

Upon motion by Mr. Mayo, seconded by Mr. Terwilliger and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following for the period of January 2019 through December 2019.

- Appointment of Teresa Crouch as Clerk and Dr. Robert Arnold as Deputy Clerk.
- Use of a facsimile signature stamp of the Chairman of the School Board in signing certain reports.
- Appointment of Teresa Crouch as fiscal agent to issue and sign warrants to pay the salaries of the School Board employees and all other financial obligations of the School Board
- Authorization of Dr. William Wells, Assistant Superintendent, as the Superintendent's designee to attend School Board meetings when the Superintendent is unable to do so
- Authorization of Teresa Crouch and Kevin Harrison as designees to make electronic submissions to the Virginia Department of Education
- Authorization of Teresa Crouch as the designee to enter into lease agreements and contracts approved by the Amherst County School Board and designate David

Proffitt, County Purchasing Agent, as the purchasing agents for the school division

- Authorization of Dr. William Wells, Assistant Superintendent, as designee to sign reports in the absence of the Division Superintendent

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to appoint a representative and alternate to Laurel Regional Board for the period January 2019 through December 2019.

Mr. Mayo made a motion to appoint Mrs. Priscilla Liggon as representative and Mrs. Abby Thompson as alternate to serve on the Laurel Regional Board for the period of January 2019 through December 2019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cassise and unanimously carried.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to appoint a voting delegate and alternate to represent Amherst County School Board at the VSBA Annual Convention.

Mr. Cassise made a motion to appoint Mrs. Liggon as the voting delegate and Mrs. Thompson as the alternate to represent Amherst County School Board at the VSBA Annual Convention.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to appoint a representative and alternate to serve on the Central Virginia Governor's School Governing Board for the period of January 2019 through December 2019.

Mrs. Thompson made a motion to appoint Mr. Mayo as representative and Mr. Terwilliger as alternate to serve on the Central Virginia Governor's School Governing Board for the period of January 2019 through December 2019. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Liggon and unanimously carried.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to appoint a representative and an alternate to serve on the Regional STEM Academy for the period of January 2019 through December 2019.

Mr. Mayo made a motion to appoint Mr. Cassise as representative and Mrs. Wright as alternate to serve on the Regional STEM Academy for the period of January 2019 through December 2019.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to approve the new Vision and Mission statements for Amherst County Public Schools.

Upon motion by Mr. Cassise, seconded by Mr. Terwilliger and unanimously carried, the Board approved the new Vision and Mission statements for Amherst County Public Schools.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to approve the 2019-20 School Calendar for Amherst County Public Schools.

Mrs. Thompson made a motion to approve Calendar B for the 2019-2020 School Calendar for Amherst County Public Schools. This motion was seconded by Mr. Cassise and unanimously carried.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to approve adding an alternative education position for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year.

Upon motion by Mr. Cassise, seconded by Mr. Terwilliger and unanimously carried, the Board approved adding an alternative education position for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year. Funding for this position would come from the resignation of the Supervisor of Math.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was consideration of approval of two resolutions requesting supplemental appropriations to the 2018-2019 School Operational Budget and Capital Improvement Budget.

Upon motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Liggon and unanimously carried, the Board approved two resolutions requesting supplemental appropriations to the 2018-2019 School Operational Budget.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to consider approval of the consent agenda.

Upon motion by Mr. Mayo, seconded by Mr. Terwilliger and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following consent agenda: minutes of the December 20, 2018, Joint Meeting with Amherst County Board of Supervisors and Area Legislators, minutes of the December 13, 2018, regular School Board meeting, and confirmation of the Superintendent's personnel actions for the period of December 10, 2018 through January 4, 2019.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was an update on administrative services.

Dr. Arnold and Mr. Cocke shared information with the Board members regarding capital improvement projects and their funding. Board members reviewed and discussed the list of capital improvement projects and the funding sources. After discussion by the Board, Mr. Mayo made a motion to approve numbers one through four of the capital improvement projects. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and unanimously carried.

Dr. Wells informed Board members the report on student suspensions for the month of December 2018 was available on BoardDocs.

Dr. Arnold stated Mrs. Crouch would provide information from the finance department.

Mrs. Crouch informed the Board that the budget monitoring reports, revenue receipts, budget summary by object code, and enrollment information through December 2018 was available to Board members on BoardDocs. Mrs. Crouch stated that the ADM is higher than budgeted which will result in additional revenue for the 2018-2019 school year. Board members reviewed the information. No action was taken.

Dr. Arnold stated Dr. Norman would provide an update on accountability measures.

Dr. Norman, assisted by Mr. Lyle, provided Board members information on the Virginia Department of Education Virginia Preschool Initiative.

Dr. Norman stated the Travel Authorization Report for October 2018 through December 2018 was available to Board members on BoardDocs.

Dr. Arnold stated that Mr. Gallagher would provide an update from the Human Resources Department.

Mr. Gallagher shared information with the Board concerning the current number of employees who have indicated retirement or resignations at the end of the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. Gallagher provided comparisons on retirement and/or resignation numbers for two prior years to the current year.

Dr. Arnold stated the next item on the agenda was from the student representative, Miss Indeya Paige.

Miss Paige stated she did not have anything to share.

Dr. Arnold shared the following information with the Board regarding the diploma criteria for individuals wishing to obtain an honorary diploma from Amherst County Public Schools. Board members reviewed and discussed the information provided.

*Let it be understood that a diploma from Amherst County High School can only be awarded if all graduation requirements set by the Virginia Department of Education are met by an Amherst County resident during the span of a resident's compulsory education ages 5-18. Based on a request from the Board regarding the procedures and regulations previously used for awarding an honorary diploma from Amherst County High School, the following information is being provided.*

*Honorary diplomas that are granted by the School Board and/or Virginia Department of Education adhere to a different set of requirements. Amherst County Public School Board may confer an honorary Amherst County High School diploma to an individual who demonstrates any or all of the following criteria;*

- 1. Recipient is a parent/guardian of a deceased student, accepting posthumous.*
- 2. Recipient is, or family member of, a war veteran who failed to receive a diploma due to an interruption of their education by service in the armed forces. Pursuant to § 22.1-17.4 of the Code of Virginia.*
- 3. Recipient is a person that lived in the district at the time he or she would have graduated, went on to receive their GED, and that at least 30 years have passed since that high school graduation would have occurred.*

4. *Recipient has shown high standards of excellence in their personal and professional achievements and is considered a distinguished citizen who gives back to the community.*
5. *Recipient is a foreign exchange student enrolled as a senior during the time the diploma is awarded.*

*All request for an honorary diploma must be submitted to the Superintendent of Amherst County Public Schools. Each request is reviewed by a division committee to determine if criteria have been met before being presented to the School Board for action.*

Dr. Arnold reminded Board members the Statement of Economic Interest is due by February 1, 2019.

Dr. Arnold informed Board members whose term is expiring December 31, 2019, to complete and submit information to the Amherst County Registrar's Office no later than June 11, 2019. Dr. Arnold stated the recommendation is the paperwork be submitted prior to the deadline in order to allow time for verification of signatures.

Dr. Arnold shared information with the Board on the dates for the Joint Board Committee meetings. Dr. Arnold stated Mr. Henderson and Mrs. Liggon served on this committee.

Dr. Arnold stated that he planned to present the Proposed 2019-20 School Operational Budget on January 24, 2019; however, the General Assembly is still working on the state budget. Dr. Arnold recommended the date for the presentation of the Proposed 2019-20 School Operational Budget be changed to Thursday, February 28, 2019, and the School Board Retreat be changed from February 7, 2019 to March 7, 2019. The consensus of the Board was to change the date for the presentation of the Superintendent's School Operational Budget from January 24, 2019 to February 28, 2019 and the School Board Retreat date from February 7, 2019 to March 7, 2019.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was citizen comment.

Mr. Henderson asked if anyone wished to address the Board. No one addressed the Board.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was items from School Board members.

Mr. Cassise congratulated Mr. Henderson and Mrs. Liggon on their appointments.

Mr. Terwilliger stated he would like to have information on class-size. Mr. Terwilliger stated he will formalize his request.

Mrs. Thompson stated she was excited to be working with the Board. Mrs. Thompson thanked Mr. Henderson and Mrs. Liggon for serving as Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Mayo thanked Mr. Henderson and Mrs. Liggon for serving as Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Mrs. Liggon stated the Board was very unified. Mrs. Liggon thanked Dr. Arnold for his leadership. Mrs. Liggon stated she had been attending some basketball games.

Mr. Henderson thanked the Board for entrusting him as Chairman of the Amherst County School Board. Mr. Henderson stated he was looking forward to a good year. Mr. Henderson thanked everyone for supporting the School Board.

Upon motion by Mr. Mayo, seconded by Mr. Terwilliger and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.



Teresa C. Crouch, Clerk  
Amherst County Public Schools



W. Michael Henderson, Chairman  
Amherst County Public Schools