

The Amherst County School Board met in regular session on Thursday, February 8, 2018, in the Board Room of the School Administration Office, Amherst, Virginia at 6:01 p.m.

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

Haleigh Tomlin, Student Representative

ABSENT: None

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

Mr. Henderson asked if there were any changes to the agenda for the February 8, 2018, regular School Board meeting.

Dr. Nichols stated that the closed meeting could be removed from the agenda for the February 8, 2018, regular School Board meeting.

Mr. Henderson asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda with the deletion of Item 12: Closed Meeting.

Upon motion by Mrs. Liggon, seconded by Mr. Mayo and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda for the February 8, 2018, regular School Board meeting, with the deletion of Item 12: Closed Meeting.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was a presentation by the Monelison Middle School Robotics Team.

Dr. Nichols introduced Mrs. Regina Phillips, Principal of Monelison Middle School. Mrs. Phillips introduced members of the Monelison Middle School Robotics Teams known as the Trobots. The Trobots gave an overview of the team and provided a brief presentation on how the robot works.

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

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

Mr. Michael O'Brien, Principal at Temperance Elementary School
Mrs. Carmen Sitton, Teacher, Madison Heights Elementary School

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to consider approval of proposed policy, File: JR, Videotaping of Students, to the Amherst County Public Schools Policy Manual.

Dr. Nichols stated the Board had discussed the proposed policy at prior Board meeting. Dr. Nichols stated the revision of the proposed policy regarding videotaping of a student was at each Board member's place.

After much discussion by the Board, the consensus of the Board was to delay taking action on the proposed policy. Board members asked the attorney to be present at the next School Board meeting to discuss and clarify the policy.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was the consent agenda.

Upon motion by Mrs. Liggon, seconded by Mr. Terwilliger and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following consent agenda: minutes of the January 11, 2018, regular School Board meeting, minutes of the January 25, 2018, special School Board meeting, confirmation of the Superintendent's personnel actions for the period January 8, 2018 through February 2, 2018, a field trip request for Amherst County High School AP European History and Pre-AP English 10 students to travel to Washington, D.C., on Friday, March 30, 2018, to attend the National Mall and the Holocaust Museum, and a field trip request for the Amherst County High School Indoor Track Team to travel to New York City on Thursday, March 8, 2018 through Sunday, March 11, 2018, to attend the Track National Competitions.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to discuss the proposed 2018-2019 School Operational Budget.

Mr. Henderson provided Board members and senior staff members a consolidated list of questions Board members had regarding the proposed 2018-2019 School Operational Budget. Mr. Henderson reviewed the questions with senior staff members. During the review some of the questions were discussed and answered. The members of the Amherst County School Board will discuss the proposed 2018-2019 School Operational Budget at the School Board Retreat on Wednesday, February 28, 2018.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was an update on accountability measures.

Dr. Nichols stated that Dr. Norman would provide the update on accountability measures.

Dr. Norman provided Board members an overview of the new graduation information and reminded Board members the Virginia Department of Education would be meeting with Dr. Nichols, Dr. Rogers, Dr. Norman and principals at Amelon Elementary School, Central Elementary School, and Madison Heights Elementary School to review accountability measures.

Dr. Norman stated the travel authorization report for October 2017 through December 2017 was available to Board members on BoardDocs.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was an update from Human Resources.

Dr. Nichols stated Dr. Rogers would provide an update from the Human Resources Department.

Dr. Rogers informed the Board that the Department of Health Services was not going to continue with the State Health Insurance Plan because there was not enough participation.

Dr. Rogers stated that Mr. Fitz Rogers, representative of RCM & D, was ready to post Request for Proposals for Health Insurance.

Dr. Rogers stated that Dr. Roger Jones and Dr. Mary Anne Mayhew, with Lynchburg College Education Program, met with mentor teachers.

Dr. Rogers stated during the month of March employees would participate in a Nutrition Wellness activity.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was budget monitoring, revenue receipts and other financial reports.

Dr. Nichols stated Mrs. Crouch would provide an update on this matter.

Mrs. Crouch stated the Board had at its place revenue receipts and budget monitoring reports for the month of January 2018. Mrs. Crouch stated the budget summary by object code and enrollment information was also at their place.

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

Dr. Nichols stated Mr. Cocke provided him the following update on facilities:

- Learning Lane was complete
- PPEA overview
- Building automation system at Amherst Elementary School, Central Elementary School, Amelon Elementary School, and Amherst Middle School was not working properly. Southern Air has been working to correct the problem.

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

In observance of School Board Appreciation Month, Dr. Nichols recognized and awarded each Board member and the student representative with a Certificate of Recognition for their dedication and service to the Amherst County Public Schools.

In observance of School Board Clerk Appreciation month, Dr. Nichols recognized and awarded Mrs. Teresa Crouch a Certificate of Recognition for her dedication and service to the Amherst County Public Schools.

Dr. Nichols stated a list of student suspensions for the month of January 2018 was available to them on BoardDocs.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was additional items from the Superintendent.

Dr. Nichols stated the Amherst County School Board will recognize retirees on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., in the Public Meeting Room at the School Administration Office.

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

Ms. Tomlin stated she attended the Central Elementary School family game night and the 24 Games at Monelison Middle School. Ms. Tomlin encouraged Board members to attend the play *Murder at the Malt Shop* at Amherst County High School on Friday, February 9, 2018.

Mrs. Cumby stated she had a request for employees to receive bi-monthly paychecks and asked if staff could provide employees with an explanation if bi-monthly paychecks could not be processed.

Mrs. Cumby stated parents have asked that the administration consider the students on Long Mountain when deciding whether or not to close schools.

Mrs. Liggon stated she attended a Laurel Board meeting and everything was going well.

Mrs. Liggon stated she attended the Amherst County Public Schools' Education Foundation luncheon.


Mrs. Liggon stated she had attended some basketball games.

Mr. Henderson stated that the members of the Amherst County School Board contracted with a vendor for the Superintendent Search.

Mr. Henderson provided Board members a copy of the proposed schedule that the vendor developed regarding the Superintendent search. Mr. Henderson stated there will be individual interviews with stakeholders over the next two weeks. The Board will have a public hearing to receive input from citizens of Amherst County. Board members discussed having the public hearing on February 28, 2018 or March 1, 2018. Mr. Henderson stated a survey will be developed to also receive input. Mr. Henderson stated the schedule was very aggressive.

Mr. Henderson asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Cassise, seconded by Mr. Mayo and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.



Teresa C. Crouch, Clerk
Amherst County Public Schools



W. Michael Henderson, Chairman
Amherst County Public Schools