

The Amherst County School Board met for the School Board Retreat on Friday, February 17, 2017, in the Board Room of the School Administration Office, Amherst, Virginia at 9:07 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Nathan Gowdy, Student Representative

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 February 17, 2017, School Board Retreat agenda. There being none, Mr. Henderson asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Upon motion by Mr. Summers, seconded by Mrs. Cumby and unanimously carried, the Board approved the February 17, 2017, agenda for the School Board Retreat.

Dr. Nichols and Mrs. Crouch reviewed information regarding the Proposed FY18 School Operational Budget. Board members discussed enrollment information and whether or not to adjust the average daily membership (ADM) number that the Governor used to develop the proposed budget. After discussion, the consensus of the Board was leaving the average daily membership as proposed by the Governor for the 2017-18 school year. Information was provided to Board members regarding the differences in the proposed budget presented by the Governor, the proposed budget by the Senate, and the proposed budget by the House.

The Board took a brief break.

Mr. Henderson called the meeting back to order.

Dr. Nichols stated the next item on the agenda was to discuss information regarding an Alternative Suspension Center Coordinator. Dr. William Wells and Ms. Hollie Jennings provided information to the Board regarding the position request. The Board discussed the information provided. No action was taken.

Dr. Nichols stated the next item on the agenda was a review of the health insurance costs for the 2017-18 school year.

Dr. Rogers introduced Mr. Fitz Rogers, Health Insurance Representative from RCM&D. Mr. Rogers shared information with the Board regarding projections for Health Insurance for the 2017-18 school year. Mr. Rogers stated the final renewal for health insurance would not be received until April 2017, until then, he recommended a placeholder of 10% increase. Mr. Rogers shared information with

members of the Board on other health insurance options. Board members reviewed and discussed the information provided. No action was taken.

Board members recessed for lunch.

Dr. Nichols stated the Board would continue the discussions regarding the Proposed FY18 Budget at the March 2, 2017, special Board meeting-budget work session.

Dr. Nichols stated that Dr. Norman, Instructional Supervisors and Principals would present information regarding division data and school improvement plans.

Dr. Norman provided an overview of the accountability requirements for non-accredited schools. Dr. Norman provided Board members a copy of the School Improvement plans for each of the three schools.

Mr. Wayne Lyle reviewed Division Reading scores.

Dr. Brendon Albon reviewed information regarding Division and School Specific Data.

Ms. Duke, Principal, provided an overview to the Board regarding Amelon Elementary School, whose status is partially accredited – reconstituted and approaching the benchmark.

Dr. Marvin McGinnis, Principal, provided an overview to the Board regarding Madison Heights Elementary School, whose status is accreditation denied.

Ms. Wanda Smith, Principal, provided an overview to the Board regarding Central Elementary School, whose status is accreditation denied.

Dr. Albon provided an overview of the testing changes and provided information on the new testing platform - TestNav 8. Dr. Albon shared with Board members how Amherst County Public Schools is responding to the new testing formats.

Dr. Norman reviewed information with the Board regarding the next steps from the State.

Board members reviewed and discussed the information provided. No action was taken. Board members expressed appreciation for the information that was provided and shared.

Mr. Henderson expressed appreciation to the staff for all of the information that had been provided.

Upon motion by Mr. Summers, seconded by Mr. Mayo and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.



Teresa C. Crouch, Clerk
Amherst County Public Schools



W. Michael Henderson, Chairman
Amherst County Public Schools