

The Amherst County School Board met in regular session on Thursday, February 25, 2016, in the School Administration Office, Amherst, Virginia at 6:07 p.m.

PRESENT: Alan J. Wood, Chairman  
W. Michael Henderson, Vice Chairman  
Alan H. Bumgarner  
Jennifer E. Cumby  
Priscilla M. Liggon  
Patricia C. Massie  
Randy V. Summers

Camryn Garrett, Student Representative

ABSENT: None

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

Mr. Wood asked if there were any changes to the agenda of February 25, 2016, regular School Board meeting. There were none.

Mr. Wood asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda for the February 25, 2016, regular School Board meeting.

Upon motion by Mrs. Massie, seconded by Mr. Henderson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda for the February 25, 2016, regular School Board meeting.

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was recognition of School Board members.

Dr. Nichols stated that February was School Board Appreciation Month. Dr. Nichols recognized and awarded VSBA Certificates of Recognition to members of the Amherst County School Board for their dedication and service to excellence in education on behalf of the students of the Amherst County Public Schools. Dr. Nichols also recognized Mrs. Teresa Crouch, Clerk of the Amherst County School Board, for her service and dedication.

The Amherst County High School Saxophone Quartet played three songs to honor members of the Amherst County School Board.

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was a presentation from Mrs. Susan Chapman, representative for Brown, Edwards and Company, LLP, concerning the FY15 County Audit.

Mrs. Chapman provided an overview of the school portion of the FY15 County Audit. Mrs. Chapman shared information with the Board regarding the FY15 Audit Internal Controls.

Board members discussed and reviewed the information provided. No action was taken by the Board regarding the FY15 Audit.

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

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

The following citizen addressed the Board regarding the future of Pleasant View Elementary School:

Mrs. Meghan Davis – Buffalo Springs Turnpike

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was the consent agenda. Mr. Wood asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda.

Upon motion by Mr. Bumgarner, seconded by Mrs. Liggon and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following consent agenda items: minutes of the February 11, 2016, regular School Board meeting; confirmation of the Superintendent's personnel actions for the period February 8, 2016 through February 19, 2016, and a trip request for the Amherst County High School Marching Band to travel to Cedar Point, Ohio, to attend the Marching Band Performances and Parks, Monday, May 30, 2016 through Wednesday, June 1, 2016.

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was to discuss the Proposed FY17 School Operational Budget.

Dr. Nichols stated that senior staff was currently working on the questions from Board members. Dr. Nichols asked Board members if they had additional questions regarding the Proposed FY17 School Operational Budget.

Mrs. Liggon asked when the Board was going to be discussing the FY17 Budget as presented by the Superintendent.

Mr. Wood stated the Board members will be discussing the Proposed FY17 School Operational Budget at the School Board Retreat. The additional information that had been requested would be provided to Board members by March 10, 2016.

Mrs. Liggon asked when the Board was going to be discussing the information regarding Pleasant View Elementary School.

Mr. Wood stated information regarding Pleasant View Elementary School would be discussed at the School Board Retreat. At that time, the Board would decide what the next steps will be regarding Pleasant View Elementary School. Mr. Wood stated no decision will be made at the School Board Retreat regarding the future of Pleasant View Elementary School.

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was student suspensions.

Dr. Nichols stated a list of students suspended during December 2015 through January 2016 was at their place.

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

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

Dr. Norman shared the following information with the Board:

- Division Level Leadership Team had completed the classroom observations.
- Mr. Dave Wymer visited three of the elementary schools to observe.
- Additional support in math and reading will be provided.

Board members asked Dr. Norman questions about the information she provided. No action was taken regarding the information provided.

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

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

Dr. Rogers provided the following information to Board members:

- A copy of the service calendar from RCM-D, insurance health consultants
- A copy of the proposed 2017-2018 school calendar for their review. She stated the proposed calendar reflects the 2016-17 calendar recommended by the committee and not the Board.
- An update on the number of days the students have missed from school due to weather. She stated the grade period would end on March 24, 2016, the grades were due on March 25, 2016, and the report cards would be distributed on April 7, 2016.

Board members reviewed and discussed the information provided. No action was taken.

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

Dr. Nichols stated Mr. Cocke would provide an update on facilities.

Mr. Cocke expressed appreciation to the maintenance and grounds staff, the mechanics and custodians for their support during the recent bad weather. Mr. Cocke stated there were a lot of roof leaks.

Mr. Cocke stated the camera systems have been installed at all the elementary schools.

Dr. Nichols shared the following information with members of the Amherst County School Board:

- PPEA Committee Meeting will be held on March 3, 2016.
- Discussed the reason the LAUREL Board needed a fund balance
- Reminder that Primary Election Day is on Tuesday, March 2, 2016, and schools will be opening two hours late
- ACHS is collecting water and supplies for Appomattox County tornado victims
- On Saturday, the ACHS athletics and the IRON club will be assisting with clean-up in Appomattox County.

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

Mrs. Sandy Jennings-Neblett - Deerfield Drive, addressed the Board to request the dates the Board would be reviewing the Proposed FY17 School Operational Budget.

Mr. Samuel Mays - Sugar Hill Tunnel Road, addressed the Board concerning the future of Pleasant View Elementary School.

Mr. Wood thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

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

Mrs. Liggon stated she was excited to hear Senator Warner speak regarding more students being prepared for workforce skills. Mrs. Liggon stated she attended the basketball game at Madison Heights Elementary School. Mrs. Liggon stated there was a lot going on with the legislators.

Ms. Garrett invited Board members to attend the IMPROV Nite at Amherst County High School on Friday, February 26, 2016.

Mrs. Cumby acknowledged Ms. Garrett in the one act play at Amherst County High School. Mrs. Cumby stated she attended the Superintendent's Evaluation Conference, the cooking class at Pleasant View Elementary School and Career Day at Amelon Elementary School.

Mr. Bumgarner requested staff review the BoardDocs professional version versus the limited version. Mr. Bumgarner stated there may be a savings if the limited version was purchased instead of the professional version. Mr. Bumgarner added it appears that the limited version is what is being used. Mr. Bumgarner stated he believed citizens should be informed about the contract that Amherst County Public Schools signed with Shentel regarding upgrading the bandwidth services.

Mr. Summers stated he agreed with Mrs. Liggon, the Board needs to talk about what needs to be done with regards to the budget and Pleasant View Elementary School.

Mrs. Massie asked how Mr. Wymer was being paid for his services.

Dr. Norman stated he was being paid with local funds.

Mr. Henderson expressed appreciation to Dr. Nichols for setting up a meeting with Ms. Mays at Amherst County High School.

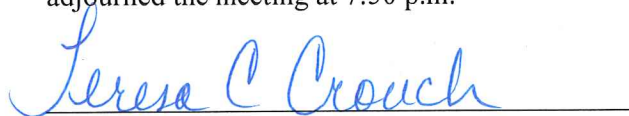
Mr. Wood stated he would be attending a Governor's School Board meeting and the 2016-17 Calendar would be discussed.

Mr. Wood asked what type of bus had been purchased this year.

Mr. Cocke stated one regular seventy-seven passenger school bus was purchased this year.

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

Upon motion by Mr. Bumgarner, seconded by Mrs. Massie, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.



Teresa C. Crouch, Clerk  
Amherst County Public Schools



Alan J. Wood, Chairman  
Amherst County Public Schools