

The Amherst County School Board met in special session on Thursday, March 15, 2018, in the Amherst County Board of Supervisors Board Room, Amherst, Virginia at 6:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: David S. Cassise
 Jennifer E. Cumby

Mr. Henderson called the meeting to order.

Mr. Henderson stated the purpose of the Special School Board meeting was a budget work session on the 2018-19 School Operational Budget.

Mr. Henderson asked if there was a motion to approve the March 15, 2018, agenda for the Special School Board meeting.

Upon motion by Mrs. Liggon, seconded by Mrs. Thompson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda of the March 15, 2018, Special School Board meeting.

Mr. Henderson stated the first item on the agenda was to discuss an information request by Mrs. Claudia Tucker, Chair, for the Amherst County Board of Supervisors.

Mrs. Crouch provided members of the Amherst County School Board a copy of the information that will be shared with Mrs. Tucker as well as all members of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors, members of the Amherst County School Board, Mr. Dean Rodgers, County Administrator and Ms. Stacey Wilkes, Director of Finance. Attached is the document provided.

The Board reviewed the information. Mrs. Crouch informed the Board the information would be emailed on Friday, March 16, 2018.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to discuss the bus grant information.

Mr. Cocke and Mrs. Crouch shared information with the Board regarding the potential of receiving \$140,000 rebate for seven school buses. Mr. Cocke provided an overview of the grant.

Board members discussed the options for the grant. Board members asked Mrs. Crouch to find out if the rebates can be submitted as buses are received. Mrs. Crouch stated she would find out if rebates could be filed as the buses are purchased. Mrs. Thompson asked Mrs. Crouch to email Board members with the answer.

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

Dr. Rogers informed Board members that bids for employee health insurance had been received by Mr. Fitz Rogers, representative for RCM&D. Mr. Rogers informed Dr. Rogers that Anthem's renewal rate for health insurance was 1.4%; however, 2% remained in the budget for health insurance based on current usage. Dr. Rogers stated the proposed budget could be reduced by \$332,030. Dr. Rogers stated that Mr. Rogers will present information to the Board on April 12, 2018, regarding employee health insurance options for the 2018-19 school year.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was a proposed reading program for Madison Heights Elementary School.

Dr. Norman reviewed information regarding the proposed reading program and stated at this time the recommendation was not to implement a new reading program at Madison Heights Elementary School.

Board members discussed the information provided. The consensus of the Board was not to purchase a new reading program for Madison Heights Elementary School for the 2018-19 school year. Board members stated the reading program may need to be revisited in the future.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was to review the 2018-19 School Operational Budget.

Mrs. Crouch shared information with Board members regarding Option 1 with a deficit of \$824,190. This option included making changes to the health insurance renewal rates.

Board members reviewed and discussed Option 1. Board members considered Option 2, which eliminated the 2% salary increase for all employees and eliminated the additional one-half hour for instructional assistants and the main school secretaries. Option 2 had a deficit of \$88,983.

Board members also asked for another option which eliminated the additional one-half hour for instructional assistants and the main school secretaries and kept the two percent salary increase for all employees. Option 3 had a deficit of \$721,205.

Board members reviewed and discussed the information provided. After much discussion, the consensus of the Board was to present Option 3 to the members of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors at the meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2018.

Dr. Rogers reminded Board members the meeting had been changed to 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Rogers shared information with the Board about how well the students from Amherst County Public Schools did at the State Archery Tournament held in Doswell, Virginia.

Upon motion by Mr. Mayo, seconded by Mr. Terwilliger and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Handwritten signature of Teresa C. Crouch in blue ink, underlined.

Teresa C. Crouch, Clerk
Amherst County Public Schools

Handwritten signature of W. Michael Henderson in blue ink, underlined.

W. Michael Henderson, Chairman
Amherst County Public Schools