

The Amherst County School Board met in regular session on Thursday, June 9, 2016, in the School Administration Office, Amherst, Virginia at 6:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Patricia C. Massie

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 for the June 9, 2016, regular School Board meeting. There were none.

Mr. Wood asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda for the June 9, 2016, regular School Board meeting.

Upon motion by Mrs. Liggon, seconded by Mr. Henderson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda for the June 9, 2016, regular School Board meeting.

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was recognition of special guest.

Dr. Nichols recognized Ms. Elizabeth Ewing, VSBA Attorney.

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was recognition of certain elementary schools.

Dr. Nichols stated the Virginia Department of Education awarded Temperance Elementary School the Education Excellence Award. Dr. Nichols recognized Mr. Michael O'Brien, Principal of Temperance Elementary School.

Dr. Nichols stated the Virginia Department of Education awarded Amherst Elementary School the Distinguished Achievement Award. Dr. Nichols recognized Mrs. Julie Steele, Principal of Amherst Elementary School.

Dr. Nichols stated the Virginia Department of Education awarded Elon Elementary School the Distinguished Achievement Award. Dr. Nichols recognized Mrs. Kimberly Scott, Principal of Elon Elementary School.

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

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

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was the proposed Pleasant View Elementary School Transition Committee. The Transition Committee was being established to ease the transition of students from Pleasant View Elementary School to Temperance Elementary School and Elon Elementary School. Mr. Wood stated a recommendation from Board members was to appoint someone from Elon Elementary School and Temperance Elementary School to serve on the committee. Mr. Wood stated additional members could be added at a later date.

Upon motion by Mr. Bumgarner, seconded by Mrs. Liggon and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Pleasant View Elementary School Transition Committee.

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

Dr. Nichols stated there was an amendment to the personnel report at each Board member's place.

Upon motion by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Summers and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following consent agenda: minutes of the May 26, 2016, regular School Board meeting, confirmation of the Superintendent's personnel actions for the period of May 23, 2016 through June 3, 2016, which included an amendment to the personnel report, and the Federal Assurances for Title I, Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies, Title II, Part A, Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund, and Title III, Part A, English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement and Academic Achievement.

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

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

Dr. Norman provided an overview of the reconstitution process which was discussed at the June 9, 2016, regular School Board meeting. Dr. Norman stated Board members have been presented with the first draft of the applications for the reconstitution plan for Amelon Elementary School, Central Elementary School and Madison Heights Elementary School. Dr. Norman informed Board members that the application would need to be approved at the June 23, 2016, regular School Board meeting. Dr. Norman introduced Ms. Elaine Duke, Principal at Amelon Elementary School, Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, Principal at Central Elementary School, Dr. Marvin McGinnis, Principal at Madison Heights Elementary School, and Ms. Wanda Smith, Assistant Principal at Madison Heights Elementary School. Each principal and their division liaison presented information to the Board regarding the reconstitution plan for the individual schools.

Board members reviewed and discussed the information provided by each school. Mr. Wood expressed appreciation to the schools for their hard work. No action was taken regarding the first draft of the reconstitution applications for the schools.

Dr. Norman encouraged Board members to contact her and/or the principals if there were questions. Board members will have to consider approving the application at the June 23, 2016, regular School Board meeting. If approved, information will be submitted to the Virginia Department of Education on Friday, June 24, 2016.

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

Dr. Nichols stated there was not an update from the Human Resources Department.

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was the budget monitoring forms, revenue receipts and budget summary by object code.

Dr. Nichols stated that Mrs. Crouch would discuss information regarding the budget monitoring information.

Mrs. Crouch informed Board members the budget monitoring, revenue receipts and budget summary by object code for the month of May 2016 was at their place. Mrs. Crouch informed the Board that the final revenue projections had not been received from the Virginia Department of Education; however, based on the information received in March 2016, there would be a shortfall of State revenue of approximately \$223,000. Also, Mrs. Crouch stated that senior staff would like the Board to consider not transferring the textbook local funds to the regular operational budget this year. Mrs. Crouch stated these funds would be used to assist in the purchase one-on-one devices for students. Mrs. Crouch reminded Board members that a technology plan for one-on-one devices was reviewed at the March 16, 2016, School Board Retreat. Based on the information shared with Board members, Mrs. Crouch stated there would be approximately \$312,000 carry-over. Mrs. Crouch also informed Board members there was a need to purchase furniture for several schools. Dr. Nichols recommended the Board consider allocating up to \$75,000 for furniture.

Board members discussed the information provided. Mr. Cocke provided an update on facilities regarding the projects the Board had previously approved.

Mr. Wood asked for clarification of the projects.

Mr. Cocke reviewed the list of projects including resurfacing the tennis courts, paving, gym floors and funds to assist with bathroom renovations.

Mrs. Crouch stated the \$312,000 was a conservative amount.

After further discussion, Mr. Wood asked if the Board wished to allocate funds for furniture.

Mr. Summers made a motion to allocate up to \$75,000 for replacement of furniture for schools. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cumby and unanimously carried.

Mr. Wood asked Mr. Cocke if he had additional information to share regarding a facilities update.

Mr. Cocke provided Board members an update on the PPEA project at Amelon Elementary School and Madison Heights Elementary School.

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was to share information with Board members.

Dr. Nichols reminded Board members the reorganizational meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 5, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was public comment. Mr. Wood asked if anyone wished to address the Board.

Ms. Carmen Sitton, teacher and Vice-President of the Amherst Education Association, expressed appreciation to the Board for allowing her to attend a staff development conference training in New Jersey. Ms. Sitton provided an overview of information she received at the conference.

Mr. Wood thanked everyone for attending the School Board meeting.

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

Mrs. Liggon stated she attended the L.A.U.R.E.L. Graduation.

Mrs. Liggon stated she would like the administrative staff to schedule the school bus ride for School Board members to travel between Pleasant View Elementary School and Temperance Elementary School and Elon Elementary School. Mrs. Liggon stated by riding the school bus, Board members would get a better understanding of the ride for students on a daily basis.

Mrs. Liggon stated she enjoyed the VSBA Law Conference.

Mrs. Liggon stated she believes Board members need to review information regarding retention of personnel as well as salaries for administrators.

Mrs. Cumby stated she attended and enjoyed the VSBA Law Conference.

Mrs. Cumby commented on the averages of staff turnover and asked that information be provided to Board members regarding the staff turnover by school.

Mr. Summers stated according to information provided from Dr. Nichols, the turnover for Amherst County Public Schools is about the average of the state and national numbers.

Mr. Henderson apologized for missing graduation. Mr. Henderson stated that the staffing committee should be able to address some of the issues that were discussed during the presentations from Amelon Elementary School, Central Elementary School and Madison Heights Elementary School.

Mr. Wood asked Dr. Nichols to have Dr. Rogers provide the staffing plan to Mr. Henderson and Mrs. Massie prior to the meeting.

Mr. Wood stated that Mr. Bumgarner was moving from the Pleasant View area; therefore, he would vacate his position on the Amherst County School Board. Mr. Wood stated this would be Mr. Bumgarner's last meeting as a School Board member. Mr. Wood stated he appreciated Mr. Bumgarner's service as a Board member.

Mr. Wood stated the next item on the agenda was a closed meeting.

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) and (2), of the Code of Virginia, upon motion by Mrs. Massie, seconded by Mr. Summers and unanimously carried, the Board convened a closed meeting for personnel matter and student matter.

Upon motion by Mrs. Liggon, seconded by Mr. Henderson and unanimously carried, the Board resumed their meeting in open session.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Amherst County School Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative record and in accordance with provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2 – 3712 (D) and 2.2 - 3711 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this School Board that such a closed meeting was conducted in accordance with provisions of the Freedom of Information Act; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Amherst County School Board hereby certifies that to the best of each members knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted

from open meeting requirement by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which certification applies, and (ii) only such public matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered.

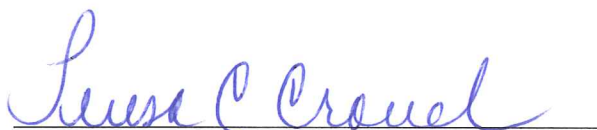
Upon motion by Mr. Summers, seconded by Mr. Bumgarner and unanimously carried, the Board certified that they discussed only permissible topics.

AYES: Liggon, Wood, Henderson, Summers, Bumgarner, Cumby

NAYS: None

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

Upon motion by Mr. Bumgarner, seconded by Mr. Summers, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:44 p.m.



Teresa C. Crouch, Clerk
Amherst County Public Schools



Alan J. Wood, Chairman
Amherst County Public Schools