

The Amherst County School Board met in regular session on Tuesday, July 2, 2013, in the Board Room of the School Administration Office, Amherst, Virginia at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Elizabeth S. Gamble
Priscilla Liggon
Patricia Massie
Margaret Morton
Jones Stanley
Randy Summers
Alan Wood

ABSENT: None

Dr. Steven Nichols, Superintendent, called the meeting to order and stated that during the organizational meeting the Superintendent presides over the election of the School Board Chairman.

Upon motion by Mr. Wood seconded by Mrs. Massie and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda of the July 2, 2013, regular School Board meeting.

Mrs. Morton nominated Mr. Jones Stanley to serve as chairman for the Amherst County School Board for the 2013-2014 school year. This nomination was seconded by Mrs. Gamble. Dr. Nichols asked if there were any other nominations for Chairman.

Mr. Wood stated that he had asked another member of the Board to serve as Chairman of the Amherst County School Board; however she declined.

There were no other nominations for Chairman of the Amherst County School Board. Dr. Nichols stated nominations for Chairman for the Amherst County School Board were closed.

Dr. Nichols asked for all those in favor of Mr. Stanley as Chairman of the Amherst County School Board, to raise their hand.

AYES: Liggon, Gamble, Morton, Summers

NAYS: Massie, Wood

Mr. Stanley did not vote.

Dr. Nichols turned the meeting over to Mr. Stanley.

Mr. Stanley asked if there were nominations for Vice Chairman for the 2013-2014 school year.

Mrs. Liggon nominated Mrs. Gamble to serve as Vice Chairman for the Amherst County School Board for the 2013-2014 school year. This nomination was seconded by Mrs. Morton. Mr. Stanley asked if there were any other nominations for Vice Chairman of the Amherst County School Board. There were no other nominations.

Mr. Stanley asked for all those in favor of Mrs. Gamble as Vice Chairman of the Amherst County School Board for the 2013-2014 school year raise their hand. Mrs. Gamble was unanimously appointed Vice Chairman of the Amherst County School Board for the 2013-2014 school year.

Mr. Stanley asked that a moment of silence be observed.

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

Mrs. Gamble welcomed Dr. Nichols, as Superintendent of the Amherst County Public Schools.

Mrs. Gamble shared information with the members of the Board regarding a book titled "Insights from Inside". Mrs. Gamble stated this book is a collection of letters from inmates who are serving time in prison. Mrs. Gamble stated she believed that Board members should review the book and explore the possibility of sharing the book with the schools.

Mrs. Massie asked if this was a book students at Amherst County Public Schools should read.

Dr. Nichols stated if the Board agrees this book could be available in the School Counselor Offices at the middle schools and high school.

Dr. Rogers stated Mr. Penn is reviewing the book to use at Amherst Education Center.

Mr. Stanley asked if the Virginia Department of Education had to approve the book. Dr. Rogers stated the Virginia Department of Education approved textbooks used in the classroom and would not need to approve this particular book.

Dr. Nichols stated the Board may require students to read the book as part of the readmission procedure for long-term suspensions.

Mrs. Morton welcomed Dr. Nichols, Superintendent, and Mr. Randy Summers, new School Board Member.

Mrs. Massie welcomed everyone.

Mrs. Massie asked if the Amherst County Public Schools are prepared for the new State mandates for cardio pulmonary recession classes for the upcoming year. Mrs. Massie asked if the employees will be required to pay for the class. Dr. Rogers stated that all teachers will be required to have the cardio pulmonary recession classes prior to their recertification. Dr. Rogers stated employees will not be required to pay for the class.

Mrs. Massie asked if the schools are prepared for the required two lockdowns as mandated by the Virginia Department of Education. Dr. Rogers stated schools will be required to have two lockdowns per year, however, schools will be having additional lockdown drills.

Mr. Wood stated he was glad to see that the position for Director of Curriculum and Instruction was advertised in the paper and on the website. Mr. Wood stated he believes the position should be advertised broadly. Mr. Wood asked if VSBA and VASS could advertise the

position as well. Dr. Nichols stated that VASS does not normally advertise for this type of position. Dr. Nichols stated VSBA will be contacted to see if the position can be advertised on their website.

Mr. Wood asked if an update on roof repair projects can be provided at the July 25, 2013, regular School Board meeting. Mr. Wood also requested that information be provided on what funds were left from the construction projects and what the plans were for the remaining construction funds.

Mr. Wood stated he believed there was a particular student disciplinary matter that was to be brought back during the summer to be reviewed by Mr. Stanley, Mrs. Massie, and himself. Dr. Nichols stated he will have to research and bring that student back if necessary.

Mr. Summers welcomed Dr. Nichols. Mr. Summers stated he was looking forward to working with Amherst County Public Schools.

Mrs. Liggon stated she was excited about the new beginning for the new session. Mrs. Liggon stated there are great challenges ahead for the upcoming school session. Mrs. Liggon stated her mission and goal is to represent and serve District Four, serve the students of Amherst County Public Schools, and the staff of Amherst County Public Schools.

Mrs. Liggon stated she would like to have information in the near future regarding the length of time students are riding school buses.

Mr. Stanley stated he checked with the School Board attorney regarding reappointments of staff and was informed that the action taken by the School Board last year and at the last meeting was completely legal.

The Board will do the reorganizational meeting at the first meeting in July of each year.

Upon motion by Mrs. Massie, seconded by Mr. Wood and unanimously carried, the Board approved Mrs. Teresa Crouch as Clerk for the Amherst County School Board for the 2013-2014 school year.

Upon motion by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mrs. Massie and unanimously approved, the Board approved Dr. Steven Nichols as Deputy Clerk for the Amherst County School Board for the 2013-2014 school year.

Upon motion by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mrs. Gamble and unanimously carried, the Board approved the use of a facsimile signature stamp of the Chairman of the School Board in signing certain reports for the 2013-2014 school year. Mr. Stanley stated there were policy revisions regarding this matter.

Upon motion by Mrs. Gamble, seconded by Mrs. Massie and unanimously carried, the Board approved Mrs. Teresa Crouch as fiscal agent to issue and sign warrants to pay salaries of the School Board employees and all other financial obligations of the School Board for the 2013-2014 school year; authorized Dr. Julie Rogers, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, as the Superintendent's designee to attend School Board meetings when the Superintendent is

unable to do so for the 2013-2014 school year, and authorized Mrs. Teresa Crouch and Mrs. Lavonne Mawyer as the designees to make electronic submissions to the Virginia Department of Education for the 2013-2014 school year.

Upon motion by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mrs. Massie and unanimously carried, the Board authorized Teresa Crouch as the designee to enter into lease agreements and contracts approved by the Amherst County School Board and designated Mr. David Proffitt, County Purchasing Agent, as purchasing agent for the school division for the 2013-2014 school year.

Upon motion by Mrs. Massie, seconded by Mrs. Morton and unanimously carried, the Board authorized Dr. Julie Rogers, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, as designee to sign reports in the absence of the Division Superintendent for the 2013-2014 school year.

Upon motion by Mrs. Gamble, seconded by Mrs. Morton and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Mrs. Liggon as representative and Mrs. Massie as alternate to the Laurel Regional Board for the 2013-2014 school year.

Upon motion by Mrs. Gamble, seconded by Mrs. Morton and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Mrs. Liggon as voting delegate and Mr. Summers as alternate to represent the Amherst County School Board at the VSBA Annual Convention, November 20-22, 2013.

Upon motion by Mrs. Morton, seconded by Mrs. Gamble and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Mr. Wood to serve as representative and Mr. Summers to serve as alternate to serve a one-year term on the Central Virginia Governor's School Governing Board for the 2013-2014 school year.

Upon motion by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mrs. Morton and unanimously carried, the Board approved the meeting dates for the 2013-2014 school year. The motion included holding the September 26, 2013, regular School Board meeting at Pleasant View Elementary School and the April 24, 2014, regular School Board meeting at Amherst Middle School.

Upon motion by Mrs. Gamble, seconded by Mrs. Morton and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following revisions to the FY14 School Operational Budget:

- Reassignment/reorganization of Maintenance and Transportation departments of approximately \$41,517.
- Reduction of one high school teaching position which resulted in a transfer with savings of \$64,911 (salary and benefits).
- Expected attrition to date \$48,074.

Recommendations:

- Additional full-time (12-month) elementary assistant principal position - \$81,934 (salary/benefit). Dr. Nichols stated this position could be changed to an administrative assistant position (10 month). After discussion by the Board, they approved the administrative assistant position as a 10 month position.

- Stipend for athletic trainer (10% base salary) - \$5,136 (salary/benefit)
- Additional position for dispatcher for pupil transportation (included in #1 above) - \$35,525 (salary/benefits).
- An instructional assistant for Amelon Elementary School and an instructional assistant for Madison Heights Elementary School.

Upon motion by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mrs. Massie and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes of the June 20, 2013, regular School Board meeting, the personnel report and addendum, an application for a non-resident student to attend Amherst County Public Schools for the 2013-2014 school year, and an overnight field trip for Amherst County Public Schools wrestling students to travel to Virginia Beach, Wednesday, July 17, 2013, through Saturday, July 20, 2013.


Dr. Nichols informed Board members the New Teachers' Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, July 30, 2013, at 12:00 noon, at the Florence Elston Conference Center at Sweet Briar College.

Dr. Nichols informed Board members the opening of school meeting and lunch with all Amherst County Public Schools colleagues will be held on Friday, August 9, 2013, at 10:30 a.m., at Amherst County High School.

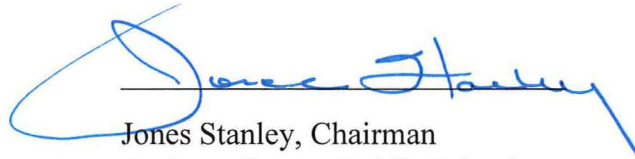
Mr. Stanley asked if anyone wished to address the Board.

Mrs. Charlotte Gilbar, Principal at Madison Heights Elementary School, expressed appreciation to the Board for the positions that were added to the FY14 School Operational Budget.

Upon motion by Mrs. Gamble, seconded by Mrs. Massie and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.



Teresa C. Crouch, Clerk
Amherst County Public Schools



Jones Stanley, Chairman
Amherst County Public Schools