

The Amherst County School Board met in regular session on Thursday, August 10, 2017, in the Board Room of the School Administration Office, Amherst, Virginia at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: W. Michael Henderson, Chairman
Priscilla M. Liggon, Vice Chairman
Francisco D. Mayo
Randy V. Summers
Abby J. Thompson

Haleigh Tomlin, Student Representative

ABSENT: Jennifer E. Cumby
Craig S. Terwilliger

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 agenda for the August 10, 2017, regular School Board meeting.

Mr. Henderson asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda for the August 10, 2017, regular School Board meeting.

Upon motion by Mrs. Liggon, seconded by Mrs. Thompson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda for the August 10, 2017, regular School Board meeting.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was recognitions.

Dr. Nichols introduced Mrs. Amy Snead, Principal at Amherst Middle School. Mrs. Snead introduced two middle schools for "Giving Back" to Amherst Middle School.

Dr. Nichols stated it was his pleasure to introduce Ms. Haleigh Tomlin as the Student Representative for the Amherst County School Board for the 2017-18 school year.

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

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

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was approval of the consent agenda.

Upon motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Mayo and unanimously carried, the Board approved the following consent agenda: minutes of the July 5, 2017, Reorganizational School Board meeting, the confirmation of the Superintendent's personnel actions for the period July 3, 2017 through August 4, 2017, and a supplemental appropriation to the 2016-17 School Operational Budget.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was the proposed revisions to the Amherst County Public Schools Policy Manual.

Dr. Nichols stated Board members were provided proposed revisions to the Amherst County Public Schools Policy Manual for Administration, Instruction, and Supports Services. Dr. Nichols asked if the Board wished to review the proposed revisions and discuss at the September 14, 2017, regular School Board meeting. The Board agreed to wait until the September 14, 2017, regular School Board meeting to consider approval of the proposed policy revisions.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was information regarding the 2017-18 out-of-zone students for Amherst County Public Schools.

Dr. Nichols informed Board members that 209 out-of-zone student requests had been received for the division. Dr. Nichols stated he approved 204 out-of-zone requests and denied 5 of the out-of-zone requests.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was an update concerning the County Comprehensive Plan and the Six-Year School Improvement Plan.

Dr. Nichols shared information with the Board regarding the Amherst County Comprehensive Plan regarding education. Dr. Nichols discussed how the Amherst County Comprehensive Plan, the Six-Year Plan and the Superintendent's evaluation are interwoven to support each other.

Board members reviewed and discussed the information provided and decided they would discuss and make changes to the Amherst County Comprehensive Plan at the next School Board meeting.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was an update with the Board concerning the Safety Assessment.

Dr. Nichols shared information with the Board regarding the Safety Assessment for Amherst County Public Schools. Dr. Nichols stated per state law information regarding the Safety Assessment had to be provided to the Board.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was information regarding a Special School Board meeting with Senator Mark J. Peake on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at 5:30 p.m., in the Public Meeting Room of the School Administration Office.

Dr. Nichols stated he would be sharing his concerns with Senator Peake's legislative assistant. Dr. Nichols asked Board members to decide what they would like to discuss with Senator Peake on September 12, 2017.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was the School Board Retreat.

Dr. Nichols reminded Board members the School Board Retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the Public Meeting Room of the School Administration Office. Dr. Nichols informed the Board there would be a mandated update regarding OCR, testing data, and a presentation from Mr. Fitz Rogers, representative for RCM &D.

Dr. Nichols reminded Board members that a joint meeting between Amherst County School Board and Amherst County Board of Supervisors has been scheduled for Monday, November 13, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room of the School Administration Office.

Mr. Henderson 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 provided an overview of the following information:

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Virginia Board of Education and the Amherst County Public School Board the following is an update regarding on-going accountability measures. This update is specific to the timeline for the public release of school assessment data from the Virginia Department of Education.

The following dates are subject to change based on VDOE release of information;

- 1. August 15, 2017 VDOE releases statewide, division and school pass rate, overall and by student reporting group.*
- 2. August 31, 2017 Appeals for reconstituted school status is due to the Office of School Improvement.*
- 3. September 13, 2017 VDOE releases state accreditation ratings which will include Priority and Focus school status.*
- 4. September 26, 2017 VDOE releases cohort graduation and dropout rates for high schools.*

A review of data will be presented to the Board on September 14, 2017, after the release of information.

Upcoming VDOE Meetings:

- 1. Members of the Accountability Team for ACPS will once again meet with Dr. Bev Rabil, Director of the Office of School Improvement on August 28, 2017 from 9-4pm in Richmond to review school designations and efforts made by Amelon, Central and Madison Heights.*

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

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was the Travel Authorization Report for April 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017.

Dr. Norman informed Board members the Travel Authorization Report for April 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017, was at their place.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was an update concerning Human Resources.

Dr. Rogers informed Board members that all teachers for the 2017-18 school year had been hired. Dr. Rogers stated thirty-two teaching positions, thirty-two classified positions, and four administrators had been hired for the 2017-18 school year. Dr. Rogers stated that Mr. Gallagher was planning to contract services for the school psychologist position.

Dr. Rogers shared with Board members' information regarding the number of students attending the Y program at Temperance Elementary School.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was budget monitoring reports.

Dr. Nichols stated that Mrs. Crouch would provide the update regarding the budget monitoring reports and financial reports for June 2017.

Mrs. Crouch informed Board members the budget monitoring reports, revenue receipts and other financial reports for June 2017 was at their place. Mrs. Crouch stated the carry-over was around \$400,000.

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

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

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

Mr. Cocke shared the following information with the Board:

➤ *PPEA*

○ *LED Lighting*

- *The LED lighting retrofit was completed in March of this year.*
- *The number of fixtures retrofitted or changed numbered in the thousands, with only four minor issues noted (that were promptly corrected) on the final completion walk through inspection.*

○ *HVAC Systems*

▪ *Amelon & Madison Heights Elementary Schools*

- *The HVAC and accompanying building automation systems (BAS) at these two schools were brought on-line in August of 2016 and everything continues operating properly.*
- *There were some communications issues between the BAS system software and the LG Electronics' equipment last year that knocked the system offline. LG has addressed them and provided new thermostat's which have been installed. Those "new generation" thermostats were part of the new installations at AES, CES & TES and will be included at EES, MMS and AMS. We will continue to monitor these systems to make sure they are operating properly.*

▪ *AES & TES*

- *Work started at these two schools in November of 2016 at nights with Southern Air installing the individual room cassettes, make up air ducting and refrigerant piping.*

- *Starting at the end of school in June they began the demolition of the old PTAC equipment, repairing the walls and floors where the old equipment was and began the work in the kitchens.*
 - *All installation and startup commissioning was completed by the end of July before new teachers started.*
 - *Work continues on final balancing and BAS synchronizing and should be completed by the end of August.*
 - *CES*
 - *At CES there was some piping and duct work done at night starting in the spring after SOL's were completed but the MAJORITY of work took place over the summer during June and July.*
 - *All installation and startup commissioning was completed by the end of July before new teachers started.*
 - *Work continues on final balancing and BAS synchronizing and should be completed by the end of August.*
 - *ACHS*
 - *Currently Southern Air has been working along the two main hallways (downstairs & upstairs). They have removed the drop in ceilings and are installing the piping to convert the building from a 2-pipe to a 4-pipe water system that began in April of 2017.*
 - *In the areas where the ceilings have been removed, the light fixtures, cameras, speakers and wiring have been secured and a sheet of plastic installed.*
 - *Work is scheduled to continue at nights throughout the school year with estimated completion near the end of 2018.*
 - *Beginning in June 2018 at the end of the current school year the major mechanical work will begin. Removal of the old and installation of the new chillers and conversion of the boilers from fuel oil to propane at which time the associated propane tanks and piping will be installed.*
 - *MMS, EES & AMS*
 - *All three schools will get VRF systems.*
 - *Work will begin in the next several weeks.*
 - *At MMS the pre-construction meeting was held yesterday 8/9/17 work will begin August 21, 2017 with completion August 2018.*
 - *Meetings at AMS & EES Sep. 6, 2017*
- *Roofing*
- *Work is complete and the roofing system manufacturer have done their inspections and warranties have been issued for :*
 - *ACHS, AES, Amelon, EES, MHES, MMS and TES.*
 - *At CES work continues with an estimated completion by end of September at which time the manufacturer will inspect and issue the warranty.*

➤ *Maintenance & CIP Projects*

- *Stage Curtains: new stage curtains and associated hardware had been installed on the stages at ACHS, AES, Amelon, CES, EES, MHES, MMS and TES (stage curtains at AMS were replaced in 2010)*
- *Painting*
 - *Amelon Elementary: all interior walls, door frames, and metal lockers were painted as well as the walls and ceiling in the gymnasium.*
 - *Madison Heights Elementary: all interior walls, all interior and exterior doors and frames, all interior and exterior window frames were painted along with the walls and ceilings in the gymnasium.*
 - *SAO: All interior walls*
 - *AMS: hallways and door frames*
 - *TEA: computer lab and reading rooms*
- *Doors*
 - *At MMS & AES there was a delay by the manufacturer of the doors*
 - *Interior fire doors for MMS have been delivered and installation is in process delivery of the exterior entry doors for MMS and AES will be week of Aug 14 at which time installation will begin.*
- *Restrooms*
 - *ACHS*
 - *The boys and girls downstairs main hallway restrooms and the cafeteria boys and girls restrooms were updated by: the installation of resinous poured epoxy floor over the old ceramic tile flooring, installation of FRP (fiber glass reinforced plastic) wall panels over the ceramic tile walls, installation of new plastic privacy partitions, installing new sinks, water closets, urinals and bathroom accessories. Contractor will be working throughout this weekend in order to have substantial completion and usable by the 14th.*
 - *Amelon & MHES*
 - *The boys and girls student restrooms were updated with: installation of resinous poured epoxy flooring over the old ceramic tile floor (where there was vinyl composite tile the tile was removed), installation of FRP (fiber glass reinforced plastic) wall panels over the ceramic tile walls, installation of new plastic privacy partitions, installing new sinks, water closets, urinals and bathroom accessories. Contractor will be working throughout this weekend in order to have substantial completion and usable by the 14th.*
- *PVES*

- *During the month of June, all staff, instructional materials and the majority of the furniture were relocated from PV to other ACPS locations. The building was cleaned, checked and returned back to the County BOS on June 30.*
 - *Playgrounds*
 - *On the playgrounds at AES, Amelon, CES, EES, MHES and TES the grass and decayed mulch was cut out and new mulch (416 cubic yards) put back and spread in place.*
 - *Driveways and Parking Lots*
 - *At EES the section of parking lot between the church and school lots was surface treated.*
 - *At MMS the driveway to the IT department was repaved*
 - *Flooring*
 - *Floor Tile*
 - *At ACHS in three classrooms and part of the cafeteria the glue from the vinyl composite tile (VCT) due to moisture in the slab was seeping out and getting on students and staffs books, backpacks and clothing. The old tile was taken up, a moisture barrier was installed and new tile put back down.*
 - *CES replaced tile flooring in mobile classroom*
 - *New Carpeting was installed*
 - *At the SAO*
 - *On the stage carpet at TES*
 - *At TES old quarry and ceramic tile floor and walls at were upgraded and replaced with new underlayment and vinyl composite Tile (VCT) on the floor and fiberglass reinforced plastic panels on the walls.*
 - *Electrical Repair ACHS*
 - *A failed electrical circuit from the main electric room to a sub-panel adjacent to the auditorium was repaired by installing a new conduit rung and pulling new wiring.*

Mr. Cocke also provided Board members an updated copy of the Capital Improvement Plan for Amherst County Public Schools.

Mr. Henderson asked if Dr. Nichols had any other information to share.

Dr. Nichols informed the Board that the 2017 VSBA Annual Convention will be held November 15-17, 2017, in Williamsburg, Virginia. Dr. Nichols stated the deadline for registration is October 31, 2017.

Dr. Nichols informed Board members that the Amherst County Public Schools Education Foundation raffle will be held on Friday, October 6, 2017, at the Madison Heights Community Center.

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

Mrs. Thompson stated she attended the Democratic Caucus in Madison Heights and the community wishes to make a connection with the Board.

Mr. Mayo stated he believes the freshman orientation at Amherst County High School is a good program.

Mr. Mayo discussed the possibility of having a social media presence in order to communicate with the public.

Mr. Summers welcomed Haleigh Tomlin, Student Representative, to the Amherst County School Board.

Mr. Summers stated he attended a STEM Academy meeting and he believes that program does a lot of good for the students.

Mrs. Lignon stated she attended registration at Amelon Elementary School, Madison Heights Elementary School and Monelison Middle School.

Mrs. Lignon stated she believes that it might be a good idea to have a special day for upcoming Sixth graders at the middle school similar to the Freshman Academy.

Mrs. Lignon asked if there were volunteers that could help in the office. Dr. Nichols stated volunteers are available to assist.

Mrs. Lignon stated there is a new director at Head Start.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was information from Board members.

Mr. Henderson stated he enjoyed the New Teacher Luncheon as well as the Convocation at Amherst County High School.

Ms. Haleigh Tomlin informed the Board members that Amherst County High School has an internship where high school students can work with elementary school students.

Ms. Tomlin stated that orientation at Amherst County High School went well.

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

Upon motion by Mrs. Lignon, seconded by Mr. Mayo and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.



Teresa C. Crouch, Clerk
Amherst County Public Schools



W. Michael Henderson, Chairman
Amherst County Public Schools