

The Amherst County School Board met on Thursday, October 25, 2018, in the Public Meeting Room of the School Administration Office, Amherst, Virginia at 6:01 p.m.

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

Indeya Paige, Student Representative

ABSENT: Craig S. Terwilliger

VACANT: District 2 Seat

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 October 25, 2018, regular School Board meeting agenda.

Mr. Henderson stated there was a need to add a closed meeting to the end of the agenda to address a personnel matter and a student matter.

Mr. Henderson asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda for the October 25, 2018, School Board meeting as amended.

Upon motion by Mrs. Liggon, seconded by Mr. Mayo and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda for the October 25, 2018, School Board meeting as amended.

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

Mr. Glenwood Burley recognized Mrs. Elizabeth Gamble for her service to Amherst Cares.

Mr. Burley provided an overview of his life and stated his regret in life was not graduating from high school. Mr. Burley requested the members of the Amherst County School Board consider allowing him to stand with the 2019 Graduates of Amherst County High School in May to receive an honorary diploma.

Mr. Burley provided a *Letter of Intentions and commitment to contribute \$10,000 in the form of student scholarships to individual 2019 graduates from Amherst County High School. The scholarship gifts will specifically be in memory and recognition of two deceased public servants, Mr. Harold H. Higgins and Mr. Haney "Bobby" Motley.*

Mr. Henderson thanked Mr. Burley for his comments.

Dr. Arnold stated with the resignation of Mrs. Cumby, District 2 School Board member, the next item on the agenda was to consider appointing a representative to the Board of the Central Virginia Governor's School for the remainder of the 2018 calendar year. Dr. Arnold stated currently Mr. Mayo is the alternate.

Mrs. Thompson made a motion to appoint Mr. Mayo to serve as representative to the Central Virginia Governor's School for the remainder of the 2018 calendar year. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Liggon and unanimously carried.

Mr. Mayo made a motion to appoint Mrs. Thompson to serve as alternate on the Central Virginia Governor's School for the remainder of the 2018 calendar year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cassise and unanimously carried.

Dr. Arnold stated the next item on the agenda was to discuss and consider approval of a resolution designating the \$250,000 from the sale of Pleasant View Elementary School for capital improvement projects. Dr. Arnold stated after reviewing the items on the capital improvement projects list, the recommendation to the Board was to approve the resolution and to use the funds for vestibules at the entrance of all schools.

After reviewing and discussing the information provided, Mr. Cassise made a motion to approve a resolution designating the \$250,000 from the sale of Pleasant View Elementary School for vestibules at the entrance of all schools. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thompson.

AYES: Henderson, Liggon, Mayo, Thompson, Cassise

NAYES: None

Upon motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Liggon, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes of the September 13, 2018, regular School Board meeting, confirmation of the Superintendent's personnel actions for the period of September 10, 2018 through October 19, 2018, and a field trip request for Amherst County High School band and choral students to travel to Gatlinburg, Tennessee, to participate in band and choral competitions on Friday, April 26, 2018, through Sunday, April 28, 2018.

Dr. Arnold stated the next item on the agenda was an update on administrative services of which Dr. Wells would be sharing information.

Dr. Wells provided Board members an update on the safety meeting. Dr. Wells stated information discussed at the meeting included upgrading the physical structure of buildings; upgrading the intercom systems; mental health training; and crisis planning.

Dr. Wells stated that fencing at elementary school playgrounds was currently being installed.

Dr. Wells stated the school resource officer for Monelison Middle School has completed her training and would begin work on Monday, October 29, 2018.

Dr. Wells shared with Board members that Amherst County Public Schools received a School Security Equipment Grant which will be used to update the intercom system at Amherst Elementary School and upgrade the entry system with scanner ID cards.

Dr. Wells stated the student suspension report for August/September 2018 was available to Board members on BoardDocs.

Dr. Arnold stated Mrs. Crouch would provide information from the finance department.

Mrs. Crouch informed the Board that the budget monitoring reports, revenue receipts, budget summary by object code, and enrollment information was available to Board members on Board Docs. Board members reviewed the information. No action was taken.

Mrs. Crouch shared information with the School Board concerning the School Activity Audit for the 2017-2018 school year. Mrs. Crouch expressed appreciation to the principals and secretaries/bookkeepers for their dedication to ensuring the accuracy of the books. Mrs. Crouch stated while there are comments on internal controls and other suggestions for considerations, there were no significant findings regarding the 2017-2018 audit.

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

Mrs. Crouch informed Board members that the proposed budget calendar for the 2019-2020 budget discussions was available to them on BoardDocs. Mrs. Crouch asked Board members to provide recommended dates in February 2019 for a School Board Retreat. Information regarding this matter will be considered for approval at the November 8, 2018, regular School Board meeting.

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

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

Dr. Norman expressed appreciation to the supervisors for their support.

Dr. Norman provided the following overview on accountability measures:

- ACPS Division at a glance
- SOL Data
 - Division and School Data Combined Rate
 - Official Pass Rate by Division and School Data by Subgroup
 - Official Pass Rate by Test Overall Division
- Regional/State Comparison
 - All students
 - Students with Disabilities (SPED)

- Career and Technical Education (CTE)
 - 3-Year Completer/Credentialing
 - 2017-2018 Completers by Career Pathway
 - Total Credentials Earned (1 or more)
- Advanced Placement Data
- Graduation Rates
 - 4-Year Trend Data for OGR, FGI and GCI
 - On-Time Graduation Rate
 - Federal Graduation Indicator
 - Graduation Completion Index

Information was shared with Board members on individual school data.

Board members expressed appreciation to Dr. Norman and the team for their hard work and dedication.

Dr. Norman stated the travel authorization report for July 2018 through September 2018, was available to Board members on BoardDocs.

Dr. Arnold stated that Mr. Gallagher would provide an update from the Human Resources Department.

Mr. Gallagher shared information with the Board on the proposed 2019-2020 School Calendar. Mr. Gallagher provided a brief overview of how the proposed calendar was developed. Mr. Gallagher asked Board members how they wished to proceed.

Mr. Henderson stated there is a new administrative team in place and he would welcome the opportunity for them to review and recommend any desired changes.

Mrs. Thompson stated she would value teacher input on the proposed calendar.

Mr. Mayo asked if two-year calendars would be developed in the future.

Dr. Arnold stated if the Board desires, the calendar can be developed each year.

After discussion on the proposed calendar, information will be shared with staff, and a proposed 2019-20 calendar will be reviewed by Board members for approval at a future date.

Mr. Gallagher shared information with the Board regarding open positions for custodians, grounds worker, and bus drivers.

Dr. Arnold stated Mr. Gallagher recently attended a state-wide pre-summit where a key topic was retention of employees.

Dr. Arnold said he attended the state-wide summit where the information from the pre-summit was provided to superintendents for review and discussion.

Dr. Arnold stated the next item on the agenda was from the student representative, Miss Indeya Paige.

Miss Paige stated she has been in touch with Monelison Middle Schools' Student Government Association. In the future she will be able to provide information to the Board from the high school as well as the middle school. Miss Paige stated she hopes to meet with other schools to get additional input to share with Board members.

Dr. Arnold stated on November 1, 2018, the School Board will hold a Public Hearing and interview process for the District 2 School Board position of the Amherst County School Board. Dr. Arnold stated the Board will consider appointment of the District 2 position at the November 8, 2018, regular School Board meeting.

Dr. Arnold provided Board members a summary of the October 16, 2018, joint meeting between the Amherst County School Board and the Amherst County Board of Supervisors. Dr. Arnold stated it was a good first step in communicating the needs of the school division to the Amherst County Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Henderson stated he believed it was a positive dialog. Mr. Henderson stated he believes the meetings open the door of transparency between the two Boards.

Mr. Henderson reminded the Board of the Legislative meeting on November 20, 2018.

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

Mr. Burley shared his view and suggestions on security at Amherst County High School.

Mrs. Thompson stated she was excited about the good news that had been shared at the School Board meeting. Mrs. Thompson stated she was excited about the student data; a future goal to show all green on the student accountability chart; safety and security; vestibules; school resource officer; conversation regarding capital improvement projects; graduation rates; mission and vision statements.

Mr. Mayo expressed appreciation to the staff for their hard work in getting the school accredited. Mr. Mayo stated the atmosphere was positive.

Mrs. Liggon stated she was excited about all the hard work with good results. Mrs. Liggon stated she enjoyed the School Board Retreat.

Mr. Henderson stated he believed the School Board Retreat was very productive. Mr. Henderson stated he was excited about the vision and mission statement.

Mr. Henderson stated he had the opportunity to read to kindergarten students.

Mr. Henderson stated the next item on the agenda was a closed session.

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) and (2), of the Code of Virginia, upon motion by Mr. Mayo, seconded by Mr. Cassise and unanimously carried, the Board convened a closed meeting for (A) (1) personnel matter – performance of an employee and (A) (2) student matter.

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

