

PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
PRINCE GEORGE, VIRGINIA
March 7, 2017

A special meeting of the Prince George School Board was called to order on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at the School Board Office at 6:00 P.M.

A closed meeting was held at 5:00 P.M.

Members present:

Mr. Reeve E. Ashcraft, Board Member
Mr. Kevin S. Foster, Chairman
Mr. Roger E. Franklin, Jr., Board Member
Mr. Lewis E. Stevenson, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Renée P. Williams, Superintendent
Dr. Lisa Pennycuff, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Patrick Bingham, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Rebecca Kirk, Clerk of the Board

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Foster, Chairman, called the Special Meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following School Board Members present:

Present: Ashcraft, Foster, Franklin, Stevenson
Absent: Cox

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Franklin made a motion to amend the agenda by adding Legal Matter L06/16-17 under the closed meeting section pursuant to Section 2.2-3711.A.7 of the Code of Virginia. Mr. Ashcraft seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Ashcraft, Foster, Franklin, Stevenson
Absent: Cox

IV. CLOSED MEETING – pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia

- A. Student Matters – Section 2.2-3711.A.2
 - 1. Student Matter R53/16-17 (approximately 5:35 p.m.)
- B. Legal Matters – Section 2.2-3711.A.7
 - 1. **Legal Matter L06/16-17 [added to the agenda]**

Mr. Ashcraft made a motion to go into a closed meeting to discuss specific student and legal matters pursuant to the student and legal exemptions of the VA Code §§2.2-3711.A.2 and 2.2-3711.A.7. Mr. Stevenson seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Ashcraft, Foster, Franklin, Stevenson
Absent: Cox

V. CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Mr. Franklin made a motion to go back into an open meeting and certified that nothing had been discussed in the closed session other than what was stated in the original motion. Mr. Ashcraft seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Ashcraft, Foster, Franklin, Stevenson
Absent: Cox

Mr. Stevenson made a motion that in Student Matter R53/16-17 student shall continue to attend Prince George Schools. Mr. Ashcraft seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Ashcraft, Foster, Franklin, Stevenson
Absent: Cox

No action was taken on Legal Matter L06/16-17.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Personnel Report

Mr. Franklin made a motion to approve the Personnel Report at presented. Mr. Ashcraft seconded the motion.

Appointments

- Margoree Coleman – Driver II, Transportation – March 1, 2017
- Mandy Cook – Driver I, Transportation – March 1, 2017
- Curtis Allen – Night Custodian, Moore – March 1, 2017

Resignations

- Debra Johnson – Driver II, Transportation – February 14, 2017
- Debra Thornburgh – Driver II, Transportation – March 7, 2017
- Diann Delk – Aide, Transportation – March 6, 2017
- Theresa Belcher – SPED Teacher, Walton – June 16, 2017
- Elizabeth Rothera – Art Teacher, Moore – June 16, 2017

Laura Rowe – SPED Teacher, Moore – June 16, 2017
Revised Contracts (Effective March 1, 2017)
Kristen Dize – Teacher, PGHS – 12 Graduate Hours
Jamie Gilliam – Teacher, Clements – 21 Graduate Hours
Pandora Ford – Teacher, Moore – Master’s Degree
Ryan Harter – Teacher, Clements – Master’s Degree
Brandon Scheivert – Teacher, North – 21 Graduate Hours

Retirement

Sandra Correll – School Psychologist, SBO – June 30, 2017
Ruth Morrison – Occupational Therapist, Beazley – July 1, 2017
Nelson Britt – Teacher, PGHS – June 23, 2017
Lisa Britt – Teacher, PGHS – June 23, 2017
LaEunice Bouldin – Speech Pathologist, Beazley – July 1, 2017
Boris Jones – Head Custodian, Beazley – August 1, 2017
Mary Musto – Administrative Associate, Beazley – August 1, 2017
Cheryl Reifer – CTE, PGHS – June 30, 2017
Terry Walker – CTE CAD Drafting Teacher, PGHS – June 30, 2017
Eileen Mozucha – Administrative Associate, Beazley – March 1, 2017
Julie Perry – Teacher, Moore – June 16, 2017

Other

Davina Robinson – Night Custodian, North

VOTE: Ayes: Ashcraft, Foster, Franklin, Stevenson
Absent: Cox

VII. BUDGET WORK SESSION

Mr. Foster thanked the people in the audience for attending tonight’s meeting. He stated a joint meeting between the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the School Board and Board of Supervisors, including the Finance Directors from both groups, Mr. Ashcraft and Mrs. Williams had met earlier in the day with a list of things to discuss (carry over funds, impact aid, CIP projects, health insurance, water/sewage bills, 2017-18 budget). Mr. Robertson, Board of Supervisors Chairman, shared that the county had some county reissue debt and cash proffers it wanted to offer the School Board and wanted consensus to use the money to fix replacements windows at South Elementary School (originally on the CIP list) and purchase a new bus with these funds. Also there was discussion on where to spend the \$408,239 carry over funds. Staff (represented by superintendent, assistant superintendents, directors, school representatives/school budgets) prioritized a list: Rotary bus lift (\$151,318), wireless access upgrade (\$80,000), increase technology bandwidth (\$44,000), summer enrichment program (\$31,000), furniture and carpet replacement at schools/school board office (\$101,921). The Board wanted to know specifically what schools and items would be requested for the \$101,921. Knowing where the money is going would help them field questions. Mr. Stevenson questioned whether this money would be better spent elsewhere. He then questioned the manufacture of the security camera at N.B. Clements Junior High School stating it is new equipment and the vendor must be held accountable to get it fixed quickly.

Ms. Hicks provided the Board with final General Assembly figures reflecting and additional \$83,980 in funds from the state. She provided staff with a state and local funds summary. The County Administrator's proposed budget shows school funding in accordance with the School MOU funding calculated with a local transfer of \$15,813,565, which is a \$236,315 increase over the total budgeted FY17 transfer. Mrs. Williams' proposed budget calls for a local funding request of \$16,233,379. The gap between the Superintendent's request and the County Administrator's proposal is \$419,814. Ms. Hicks provided parts of the County Administrator's proposed budget. Thirty percent of the county's general fund expenditures is transferred to the school division.

Ms. Hicks discussed the 12% health insurance increase the upcoming year and the shortfall in our budget. This rate is driven by the large number of claims over the past year. She provided the Board with 5 scenarios calculating higher rates for employees, reducing HSA contributions for employees and keeping employee rates flat. All scenarios are disturbing and still does not give us the money we need to sustain the budget. We can't find \$600,000 from current budget to fund health insurance without jeopardizing other areas of the budget. Staff will continue to run multiple scenarios and bring back to the board for review. Dental insurance rates will also increase 4.1% but the vision stayed at the same rate.

The acceleration of repaying VRS is costing over \$700,000 in our budget. The county is not cash rich and they have project priorities too on top of the school's needs. The division has requested 4 new positions that are "needed" positions. The division is in a 9-year replacement cycle for technology and still behind in sustainable technology. Funds have been built into the budget to decrease this to a 7-year replacement cycle. Employees have been operating in "crisis mode" for some time and we need to find relief now. Staff has been tasked to start looking at the retiree list and the hiring with new employers (lower scale) and do a "true-up" salary calculation and provide information to the Board. The ADM for 2017-18 will be 6,295 students and we have to find money to fund programs and sustain our quality education. A lot of tough decisions must be made, but where do we go from here? Education is important for all students and we need to make the right decisions to make it happen. We also have to look out for our employees with competitive salaries, insurance benefits, etc. so we do not lose our workforce to other divisions.

Mr. Foster announced that the Board of Supervisors would have a budget work session March 8, 2017 in the Board Room and invited members and staff to attend to hear their discussions on school's requests. The School Board would meet again on Thursday, March 9, 2017 in the School Board Training Room. Topics and information will include health insurance and HSA accounts, potential true-up information, technology fund, furniture/carpet replacement list, and percentage of local donations to schools by other divisions.

Mr. Foster referred to Mrs. Williams presentation reiterating that Prince George County is ranked 121 out of 132 divisions at \$9,345 per pupil expenditure by locality. "We get a

good value for our dollar. What could we do with \$10,000 per pupil?" He did say for all the doom and gloom that we have heard tonight there is a silver lining as we continue to do a lot of great things in our division academically and athletically, noting our educational programs, sporting program, lunch program, etc. "We know it's hard to keep people motivated but please thank the employees for what they do and let them know they are respected!"

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Stevenson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Franklin seconded the motion.

VOTE: Ayes: Ashcraft, Foster, Franklin, Stevenson
Absent: Cox

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we set our signatures this 13th day of March, 2017.

Approved:

/s/ Kevin S. Foster – Chairman

Attest:

/s/ Rebecca B. Kirk – Clerk

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

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

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this school board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince George County School Board hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered.

VOTE
Ayes: 4

/s/ Rebecca B. Kirk – Clerk
March 7, 2017
Meeting Date