

WESTMORELAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

MONTROSS, VIRGINIA

BOARD MINUTES

April 19, 2021

The Westmoreland County School Board met in regular session on Monday, April 19, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gerald B. Roane Center for Excellence Building, Montross, Virginia.

Present:

Mr. Ralph Fallin, Chair

Ms. Iris Lane, Vice Chair

Dr. Daniel Wallace, Member - Participated via Electronic Communication

Mrs. Katherine Lewis, Member

Absent:

Mrs. Sandra Ramsey, Member

Others Present:

Dr. Michael Perry, Superintendent

Ms. Cathy Rice, Deputy Superintendent

Mrs. Tina Withers, Clerk of the Board

Mr. Chris Evans, Director of Technology

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Fallin, Chair.

Dr. Wallace made a motion that the Board convene into closed session as provided in Section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of discussing personnel matters dealing with specific personnel of the Westmoreland County School system pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1) of the Code of Virginia and student matters pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(2) of the Code of Virginia. Board member Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was reconvened into public meeting on the motion by Board member Dr. Wallace, and seconded by Board member Ms. Lane.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

The motion for the approval of the following certification was made by Board member Dr. Wallace, and seconded by Board member Ms. Lane.

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

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification 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 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.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

The Board was led in prayer by Dr. Perry and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mr. Fallin read the Westmoreland County Public Schools' mission statement and vision statement to the public.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

Delegations/Presentations

Attendance Recognition

Dr. Perry presented the student attendance report for the month of March to the Board. Washington District Elementary School had the best student attendance for the month of March. Dr. Perry presented the staff attendance report for the month of March to the Board. Washington District Elementary School had the highest staff attendance for the month of March. (Appendix I)

Child Abuse Prevention Month

Mr Fallin introduced Elizabeth Bowen, Family Services Supervisor, Westmoreland County Department of Social Services to the Board. Ms. Bowen shared information on Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Virginia Partnership for Out-of-School Time (VPOST)

Ms. Lane introduced Blaire Denson, Executive Director of the Virginia Partnership of Out-Of-School Time (VPOST) to the Board. Mrs. Denson provided an overview of the Virginia Partnership of Out-Of-School Time program. Mrs. Denson presented books to the school division.

Open Public Comment

A public comment from Billy Hollins was read expressing his concerns on student safety.

Consent Agenda

Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Lane seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

A. Approval of Personnel Appointments & Resignations

B. Board Minutes - March 15, 2021 Regular Meeting

Information Items

Return To Learn

Dr. Williams joined the meeting and shared updated information on COVID-19. Dr. Williams stated about 40% of the three rivers district population have received the COVID-19 vaccination.

Dr. Perry provided information on Washington and Lee High Schools' graduation plans. Dr. Perry shared information on teacher retention and recruitment. Dr. Perry discussed transportation plans with the Board. Dr. Perry shared that the division is anticipating a spring sports season. Dr. Perry also shared that meetings are being held on summer school details. (Appendix II)

Facility Update

Dr. Perry presented the facility update to the Board. Dr. Perry highlighted athletic field concerns with the Board.

(Appendix IV)

Upcoming Events

Dr. Perry reviewed upcoming events with the Board.

Action Items

Approval of Bills

Ms. Lane made a motion to approve the monthly expenditures in the amount of \$406,163.48 and food service expenditures in the amount of \$46,271.57 as presented. Dr. Wallace seconded the motion. (Appendix V)

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

Health Insurance Credit

Dr. Perry recommended for the Board to approve the Virginia Retirement System Enhanced Health Insurance Credit (EHIC) For Non-Teacher Retirees.

Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve the following resolution as presented. Ms. Lane seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

WHEREAS, localities may elect to provide, for employees of a local school division who are not teachers as defined in § 51.1-124.3 of the *Code of Virginia*, an additional health insurance credit of \$1 per year for each full year of the retired member's creditable service, the costs of which shall be borne by the locality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Westmoreland County School Board (the "Employer") hereby irrevocably elects to provide an additional health insurance credit of \$1 per year of creditable service as provided in § 51.1-1402.1(B) of the *Code of Virginia* as applicable for its eligible current and future retired employees who are not teachers as defined in § 51.1-124.3 of the *Code of Virginia*; and
2. The Employer elects to allow its eligible retirees who are not teachers as defined in § 51.1-124.3 to receive the enhanced health insurance credit for school divisions effective the first day of July, 2021; and
3. The Employer agrees to accept all liability for any current or future additional employer contributions and any increases in current or future employer contribution rates resulting from its election to provide the benefits of the enhanced health insurance credit for school divisions for its current and future retirees who are not teachers as defined in § 51.1-124.3.

NOW, THEREFORE, the officers of Employer are hereby authorized and directed in the name of Employer to carry out the provisions of this resolution and to pay to the Treasurer of Virginia from time to time such sums as are due to be paid by Employer for this purpose.

Governing Body Chair

CERTIFICATE

I, Ralph Fallin, School Board Chairman of the Employer, certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed at a lawfully organized meeting of the Employer held at Montross, Virginia at 6:00 p.m. on April 19, 2021. Given under my hand and seal of the Employer this 19th day of April, 2021.

Signature

Rural Broadband Initiative

Mr. Fallin introduced Heather Krauss from Dominion Power to the Board. Mrs. Krauss shared information on the Rural Broadband Initiative which will provide broadband internet service to rural areas in the Northern Neck.

Dr. Perry recommended for the Board to approve the Supplementary Communication Rights Easement Agreement with Virginia Electric and Power Company.

Ms. Lane made a motion to approve the Supplementary Communication Rights Easement agreement as presented by Mrs. Krauss. Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion. (Appendix III)

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

Dominion Power - Right of Way Easement

Dr. Perry recommended for the Board to approve the Dominion Energy Right of Way Agreement as presented.

Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve the Dominion Energy Right of Way Agreement as presented by Dr. Perry. Ms. Lane seconded the motion. (Appendix VI)

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

Approval of 2021-2022 Local Plan for CTE Perkins

Mr. Savoy requested for the Board to approve the 2021-2022 Local Plan for CTE Perkins application as presented.

Ms. Lane made a motion to approve the plan as presented. Dr. Wallace seconded the motion. (Appendix VII)

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

VSBA Policy Updates

Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve the VSBA Policy Updates presented at the last meeting. Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion. (Appendix VIII)

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

School Board Member Comments

School Board members comments reflected thanks to all for joining the meeting.

Dr. Perry recognized former employees of the division Alice Saunders, Catherine Tate Johnson and Coach Arthur Jones who had passed.

Adjournment

There being no further business a motion was made by Dr. Wallace, seconded by Mrs. Lewis and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.

Clerk

Chairman

