

WESTMORELAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

MONTROSS, VIRGINIA

BOARD MINUTES

September 21, 2020

The Westmoreland County School Board met in regular session on Monday, September 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gerald B. Roane Center for Excellence Building, Montross, Virginia.

Present:

Mr. Ralph Fallin, Chair

Dr. Daniel Wallace, Vice Chair - Participated via Electronic Communication

Ms. Iris Lane, Member - Participated via Electronic Communication

Mrs. Sandra Ramsey, Member

Mrs. Katherine Lewis, Member

Board members participated electronically as established by the Governor's Executive Orders due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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, student matters pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(2) and discussion of the award of a public contract pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(29) of the Code of Virginia. Board member Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, 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 Mrs. Ramsey.

Voice Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

The motion for the approval of the following certification was made by Board member Mrs. Ramsey, 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: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

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

Mrs. Ramsey 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: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

## **Open Public Comments**

None

## **Consent Agenda**

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

Voice Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye.

- A. Approval of Personnel Appointments
- B. Approval of Religious Exemptions
- C. Board Minutes - August 3, 2020 and August 17, 2020
- D. Finance Report (Appendix I)

## **Action Items**

## **Approval of Bills**

Mrs. Ramsey made a motion to approve the monthly expenditures in the amount of \$389,961.04 and food service expenditures in the amount of \$19,434.07 as presented. Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion. (Appendix II)

Voice Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

## **Budget Resolution**

Dr. Perry presented the following budget resolution to the Board for approval.

**Resolution for Appropriation of Funds from Additional Revenue Received from Westmoreland County Public Schools Scholarship Fund and a donation from Sun Tribe Solar.**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Westmoreland County School Board requests of the County Board of Supervisors to add to the 2020-2021 School Board Budget the following amount of funds in the following category:

Contingency Fund                      \$2,726.29

**WHEREAS**, the money requested to be added to the Westmoreland County School Board Budget will come from funds received from the Westmoreland County Public Schools Scholarship Fund and a donation from Sun Tribe Solar.

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Chairman

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Clerk

September 21, 2020

Voice Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve the budget resolution. Ms. Lane seconded the motion. (Appendix III)

Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

## **Donations/School Gifts**

Dr. Perry acknowledged individuals that gave donations/gifts to the school division. Dr. Perry and the Board acknowledged the importance partnerships with the community, businesses, and families to ensure students have what they need and the Board graciously accepts donations/gifts.

A motion was made in accordance with school board policy KH, to accept the gifts/donations as presented.

Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve the donations/gifts given to the school division. Mrs. Ramsey seconded the motion. (Appendix IV)

Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

## **Westmoreland County Gifted Education Plan**

Ms. Rice presented the 2020-2025 Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted to the Board for approval.

Ms. Lane made a motion to approve the gifted education plan. Dr. Wallace seconded the motion. (Appendix V)

Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

## **Strategic Plan**

Dr. Perry highlighted the following three goals of the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan: Goal 1-Personnel, Goal 2-Academics, and Goal 3-Safety. Dr. Perry requested approval of the 2020-2025 strategic plan as presented.

Mrs. Lewis made a motion to approve the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan as presented. Mrs. Ramsey seconded the motion. (Appendix VI)

Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

## **Crisis Plan**

Dr. Perry requested approval of the updated Crisis Plan. Dr. Perry stated that the primary changes are personnel, team signature page, and the record of distribution page. Dr. Perry shared that each school has updated their individual plans.

Ms. Lane made a motion to approve the updated Crisis Plan. Mrs. Ramsey seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

### **Information Items**

#### **Community Use of School Facilities (Policy KG)**

Dr. Perry presented the Board with a list of agencies that have requested the use of school facilities. Dr. Perry stated that an application and process is in place for the requested use of school facilities.

#### **Attendance Recognition**

Dr. Perry presented the teacher attendance report for the month of August to the Board. Washington District Elementary School had the highest attendance for the month of August.

#### **Legal Counsel**

Dr. Perry presented information referencing legal counsel for Westmoreland County Public Schools to the Board. After Board discussion, Dr. Perry requested to turn this item into an action item and he recommended that Westmoreland County Public Schools go with Sands Anderson as legal counsel for the school district.

Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve Sands Anderson PC as legal counsel for Westmoreland County Public Schools. Mrs. Ramsey seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 Ayes/0 Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye.

#### **Return To Learn Update**

Dr. Perry updated the Board on the Return To Learn Plan. Dr. Perry highlighted information from the Virginia Health Department, state superintendent requirements to bring students back to school, food service program, budget adjustments, custodial supplies and equipment, transportation personnel adjustments and technology. Video clips of virtual learning were shared with the Board. The Board and Dr. Perry discussed virtual learning concerns. (Appendix VII)

#### **Commission on African American History Education**

Mr. Bailey presented a powerpoint presentation on the Virginia Commission on African American History Education in the Commonwealth. (Appendix VIII)

### **VSBA Policy Updates**

Ms. Rice presented the Board with VSBA policy updates. Ms. Rice reviewed the policies and stated action will be taken at the next Board meeting.

GBA/JFHA-Prohibition Against Harrassment and Retaliation

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JM-Restraint and Seclusion of Students

KNAJ-Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities

IKFD-Alternative Paths To Attaining Standard Units of Credit

Dr. Perry shared current enrollment numbers with the Board.

### **Facility Update**

Dr. Perry clarified funding for the auditorium build out. Dr. Perry presented the facility update to the Board. Dr. Perry shared pictures of the construction at the new high school, stated the contingency funds have not changed, and shared the FF&E schedule. (Appendix IX)

### **Upcoming Events**

Dr. Perry reviewed upcoming events with the Board.

### **School Board Member Comments**

School Board members comments reflected thanks to everyone for attending the meeting. Ms. Lane recognized Ruby Taylor Wright a classmate of Ms. Lanes and a 1976 graduate of Washington & Lee. She was the first black valedictorian of Washington and Lee High School. Ms. Lane also recognized the passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Ginsberg. Dr. Wallace stated that the first town hall meeting focusing on the clergy of the county was held September 15, 2020. Mr. Fallin shared the next town hall meeting is October 13, 2020 and requested for two board facilitators. Mrs. Ramsey and Mr. Fallin will be facilitators for the October town hall meeting.

**Adjournment**

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

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**Clerk**

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**Chairman**