

WESTMORELAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
MONTROSS, VIRGINIA
BOARD MINUTES
August 15, 2022

The Westmoreland County School Board met in regular session on Monday, August 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gerald B. Roane Center for Excellence Building, Montross, Virginia.

Present:

Mr. Ralph Fallin, Chair

Mrs. Katherine Lewis, Member

Dr. Daniel Wallace, Member

Others Present:

Dr. Michael Perry, Superintendent

Ms. Cathy Rice, Deputy Superintendent

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

Board Member 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 division pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1) of the Code of Virginia. Board Member Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, 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. Lewis.

Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

The motion for the approval of the following certification was made by Board Member Dr. Wallace and seconded by Board Member Mrs. Lewis.

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 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.

Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

The Board was led in prayer by Dr. Perry and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Dr. Wallace read the Westmoreland County Public Schools' mission and vision statements to the public.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Delegations/Presentations

Character Trait Honorees

Ms. Rice presented the individuals selected for the Character Trait Forgiveness. During the month of July character traits are not recognized but these individuals were not able to be recognized for the month of June. Yuri Mendez, Cople Elementary, Latrell Purce, Washington District Elementary and I'Jae Singletary of Montross Middle were recognized.

COVID-19 Pandemic Update – Dr. Richard Williams

Dr. Williams stressed that there are still a lot of COVID cases, but the numbers are coming down. Three Rivers has about 31-35 new cases. Westmoreland County has a medium level of transmission. The new CDC guidelines will be tied to community transmission levels. The BA5 is the dominant strain at the moment. The CDC no longer makes a distinction between records for vaccinated/unvaccinated. Long COVID is very real condition. Its symptoms include fatigue, brain fog, loss of taste/smell and cardiovascular. The CDC is not currently making provisions to quarantine for exposure.

Open Public Comments

There were no public comments at this time.

Consent Agenda

Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion. Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

- A. Approval of Appointments & Resignations
- B. Approval of Board Minutes
- C. Approval of Bills

Information Item

Facility Update

The report presented information on security measures that were being utilized within the division. Several measures, including SRO's, cameras, metal detectors, mapping of schools, new vestibules were described in details. An additional plus to the report was the presence of many of our local law enforcement officers. Lieutenant Hoover spoke for the group to emphasize the ways the schools and law enforcement partner to keep our children safe.

Action Items

Crisis Management Plans

Dr. Perry presented the Crisis Management Plans. The process for updating the plans was described. Each school had contributed to making changes in the plan. The different levels of distribution were described before the Board voted. Dr. Wallace made the motion to accept the Crisis Management Plans. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lewis.

Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

Donations/School Gifts

Dr. Perry presented a list of school donations. Dr. Wallace made the motion to accept the donations. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lewis.

Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

Information Items

A. School Start Up – Dr. Perry

Dr. Perry shared general observations as well as school specific observations to give a picture of the first days of returning to schools. Most of the schools had to adjust to new entrances, driveways, parking lots, or locations. Specific school issues ranged from the popularity of the salad bar at WHS to a new sidewalk at Cople. All schools are awaiting the completion of the keyless entry system.

B. Superintendent Goals 2023 – Dr. Perry

Dr. Perry shared his goals for the new year. He included twelve goals as opposed to his usual ten because of the carryover of several goals.

C. Revised 2022-2023 School Division Budget – Ms. Rice

Ms Rice shared with the Board the increases in the final budget for the upcoming year. Most of the increase centered in the over one-million-dollar appropriation for construction.

D. Upcoming Events – Dr. Perry

Dr. Perry shared the upcoming events. A short discussion ensued on participation in VSBA conferences.

Closed Session

Board Member Dr. Wallace made a motion that the Board convene into closed session based upon a personnel issue. The motion was seconded by Board Member Mrs. Lewis.

Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

Return to Open Session

Board Member Dr. Wallace made a motion to return to open session. The motion was seconded by Board Member Mrs. Lewis.

Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

The motion for the approval of the following certification was made by Board Member Dr. Wallace and was seconded by Board Member Mrs. Lewis.

Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

Board Member Dr. Wallace made a motion to not accept the resignation of Employee #1. The motion was seconded by Board Member Mrs. Lewis.

Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

School Board Member Comments

None

Date & Time of Next Board Meeting

A. School Board Work Session: Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.; Regular School Board Meeting: Monday, September 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

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