

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MONTROSS, VIRGINIA**  
**BOARD MINUTES**  
**March 20, 2023**

The Westmoreland County School Board met in regular session on Monday, March 20, 2023 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  
Mrs. Katherine Lewis, Member  
Mrs. Sandra Ramsey, 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. Ramsey seconded the motion.

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

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

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

## **Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**

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

## **Statement of Mission and Statement**

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**

### **Attendance Recognition**

Dr. Perry shared the attendance recognition for February. The school with the highest student attendance was Montross Middle School with an average percentage present of 95.56%.

### **Character Trait Honorees**

Ms. Rice presented the Character Trait honorees for the month of February and the trait of Respect. Students recognized this month included Makenzie Brooks in grade three at Cople Elementary School; Michael Foster in grade five at Washington District Elementary School; David Churchill in grade twelve at Westmoreland High School; and Eric Pereira-Rivera in grade eight at Montross Middle School.

### **Bus Driver Recognition**

Mr. Rich, Transportation Supervisor, recognized bus drivers and aides who drive for our students with special needs. The drivers and aides go above and beyond the call of duty to make sure his/her students are accommodated and receive outstanding care. Mr. Rich shared a picture of the drivers and aides at each school.

### **ARISS Contact**

Ms. Alexander shared that Montross Middle School is one of nine schools chosen to participate in the ARISS program (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station). Twelve students who win the essay contest will have the opportunity to ask an astronaut a question. This special occasion will be streamed for all schools and the community to review. Save the dates April 17-20, 2023!

### **Montross Middle School Boys Basketball**

The Montross Middle School Boys Basketball team was recognized for their hard work and finishing the season 10 and 0. This is the first time a team has had an all female coaching staff. The team had two goals for every game; "Stay focused and finish."

## **Open Public Comments**

There were no public comments at this time.

## **Consent Agenda**

Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Ramsey seconded the motion. Voice Vote: 5 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye; and Dr. Wallace, Aye.

## **Action Items**

### **Donations/School Gifts**

Dr. Perry presented information regarding school donations. Dr. Wallace made the motion to accept the donations. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ramsey.

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

### **Budget Resolution – Food Service**

Board Member, Dr. Wallace, made a motion to approve the Food Service Budget Resolution. The motion was seconded by Board Member, Mrs. Ramsey.

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

### **Approval of Revised Local Plan for Gifted Education**

Ms. Weicht presented upcoming changes to the Westmoreland County Gifted Education Program. The first change was in the wording. Gifted Resource Teacher was replaced with designated teachers of the gifted. The second change was the addition of the CogAT testing for second graders. Dr. Wallace, Board Member, made a motion to approve the changes to the Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ramsey, Board Member.

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

## **Public Hearing on the 2023-2024 Budget**

### **Presentation of 2023-2024 Budget**

Ms. Rice presented the 2023-2024 Budget for Westmoreland County Public Schools and the School Nutrition Program.

### **Public Comments on the Budget**

There were no public comments on the 2023-2024 Budget.

### **Approval of 2023-2024 Budget**

Dr. Wallace, Board Member, made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Ramsey, Board Member.

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

## **Information Items**

### **VSBA Policy Updates**

Ms. Rice shared upcoming VSBA Policy updates.

### **Facility Report**

Dr. Perry shared the progress of Westmoreland High School from October 12, 2022 to the present. The television monitors are now working, clocks are now working, and the washer and dryer have been installed.

## **Upcoming Events**

Dr. Perry shared upcoming events for Board members.

- March 22, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m.: Tri-Board Meeting, George D. English Building
- March 30 – April 2, 2023: COSSBA National Conference, Tampa, FL
- April 13, 2023: VSBA April Hot Topic Conference, Charlottesville, VA
- April 14, 2023: VSBA Master Board Continuing Education, Virtual
- April 21, 2023: Employee Recognition Banquet 5:30 pm WHS

## **School Board Member Comments**

Mrs. Lewis, Board Member, asked if a future board meeting could be held at Washington and Lee or Westmoreland High School. She also asked about the audit report.

Mrs. Ramsey, Board Member, said to “stay focused and finish”.

Dr. Wallace, Board Member, asked Ms. Alexander to please notify them when the students will be talking to the astronauts.

## **Date & Time of Next Board Meeting**

A School Board Work Session will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 5 p.m.; Regular School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, April 17, 2023 at 5 p.m. (Executive Closed Session) and 6:00 p.m. (Open Session).

## **Adjournment**

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