

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MONTROSS, VIRGINIA**  
**BOARD MINUTES**  
**November 21, 2022**

The Westmoreland County School Board met in regular session on Monday, October 17, 2022 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 (remotely)  
Mrs. Sandra Ramsey, Member (remotely)  
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. Mr. Fallin shared that Board Members Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Ramsey would like to participate remotely due to illness. Board Member Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Ramsey to participate remotely due to illness. The motion was seconded by Board Member Ms. Lane.

Voice Vote: 3 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, 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.

Board Chairman Mr. Fallin asked if there were any suggested changes to the agenda. Board Member Dr. Wallace asked to move the Executive Closed Session and the Consent Agenda to the end of the agenda. The motion was approved by a unanimous consent.

## **Delegations/Presentations**

### **Attendance Recognition**

Dr. Perry shared the attendance recognition for October. The school with the highest student attendance was Washington District Elementary School with an average percentage present of 93.58%.

### **Character Trait Honorees**

Ms. Rice presented the Character Trait honorees for the month of October and the trait of Responsibility. Students recognized this month included Lesley Romero in grade five at Cople Elementary School; Eliza Scherm in grade four at Washington District Elementary School; Anna Hill in grade ten at Westmoreland High School; and Jordyn Danchak in grade eight at Montross Middle School.

## **Bus Driver Recognition**

Mr. Rich, Transportation Supervisor, recognized four Bus Drivers who received the Clean Bus Award. These drivers work hard to maintain a clean interior and exterior of the school bus. The drivers who received the award were Harold Dickerson, Albert Henry, Lisa McCoy and Bruce Legge.

Superintendent Dr. Perry shared that one of the Washington District Elementary Bus Drivers had recently passed away. Dr. Perry requested a moment of silence in memory of Michael Comer.

## **Open Public Comments**

Mr. Terry Evans, parent, shared two items of concern. The first item was the security at Washington District Elementary School. The second item was harassment and bullying at Westmoreland High School.

Chairman Mr. Fallin thanked Mr. Evans for sharing his concerns and informed him that he would receive a response to his concerns in a few days.

Superintendent Dr. Perry requested to move Information Item 7A before the Action Items so that the presenter would not have to wait a long time.

## **Information Items**

### **Youth Outpatient, School Based Mental Health Services – Ms. Emily Eanes, CSB**

Deputy Superintendent Ms. Rice shared that Westmoreland County Public Schools will be partnering with the Community Services Board to provide outpatient services to students in the school setting.

Ms. Emily Eanes from the Community Services Board shared that a therapist has been hired who will provide counseling services in the schools. The therapist will rotate between the schools to provide counseling. Services offered will include individual and family counseling, consultation with staff and parents, and participation in meetings and conferences related to the emotional, mental, and behavioral needs of the students and their families.

## **Consent Agenda**

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

- A. Approval of Board Minutes
- B. Approval of Bills

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

### **Calendar Request**

Ms. Rice shared that the winter break is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. She shared that the first two days missed due to inclement weather in each semester will not need to be made up due to time built in to the calendar. Ms. Rice submitted a request to convert December 19 and 20, 2022 from instructional days to holidays if Westmoreland County Public Schools does not need to cancel any instructional days through December 16, 2022.

Board member Mrs. Lewis made the motion to approve the request. 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.

### **Winter Break for Twelve-Month Employees**

Ms. Rice shared that in accordance with Policy GCBD-R6, twelve-month employees would be required to work six days during the scheduled holiday break. Ms. Rice submitted a request to close all schools and offices for the duration of the holiday break and to permit twelve-month employees to be off, without using leave, for the six days they would be required to work, so long as the hours for these six days are made up some time during the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.

Board member Mrs. Lewis made the motion to approve allowing all 12-month employees to take off the entire Christmas Break and that hours are made up prior to the end of the year. 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 2022 Title IC Consortium Incentive Grant**

Ms. Rice shared that Westmoreland County Public Schools is eligible to submit a 2022 Title IC Consortium Incentive Grant. Grant funds will be used to support the Migrant Education Program. Ms. Rice presented the completed Title IC Consortium Incentive Grant application for Board approval.

Dr. Wallace made the motion to approve the application for the Title IC Consortium Incentive Grant. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lane.

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

### **Budget Resolution**

Ms. Rice presented a Budget Resolution for Board approval. The resolution requests that the Westmoreland County Board of Supervisors appropriate to the 2022-2023 School Board Budget (fund 205) additional grant funds, totaling \$663,805.46 that have been applied for and awarded to the school division by the Virginia Department of Education.

Board Member Ms. Lane made the motion to approve the budget resolution. The motion was seconded by Board Member Dr. Wallace.

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

### **Information Items (continued)**

#### **VSBA Delegate Assembly Update**

Ms. Lane shared that she had attended the Delegate Assembly for the Virginia School Boards Association in early November. At the recommendation of the Board, Ms. Lane presented a

request to amend legislative position number four, which discusses the purchase of school buses, to include propane buses. The request was approved.

### **Food Services – Rising Costs**

Dr. Perry shared information he received from Hazel Hickman, Food Service Supervisor. Companies that provide items for the Food Service Program will be increasing their prices beginning in January 2023. The amount of the increases most likely will cause a need to raise the price of adult lunches. Some of the companies will no longer be offering specific products.

### **VSBA Policy Updates**

Ms. Rice presented the VSBA Policy Update from October 2022 for first review. Policy IIA: Instructional Materials and Policy IIAB: Supplementary Materials Selection and Adoption have been updated to reflect enactment of Va. Code Section 22.1-16.8 by SB 656. Action will need to be taken at the December 2022 board meeting. Superintendent regulations to accompany Policy IIAB will be presented at the January 2023 board meeting.

### **Facility Report**

Dr. Perry has spoken with the contractor and architect but is still unsure of a final completion date. He will share the date with the school board as soon as he gets it. Dr. Perry shared the following information:

- Project Statistics
- Leveling the Track
- Chandler Road
- Concession Stand and Weight Room
- Practice Field
- To Do List

### **Upcoming Events**

Dr. Perry shared upcoming events for Board members.

- December 14, 2022: Communication Forum 2:00 p.m. (Ms. Lane)
- January 30-31, 2023: VSBA Hybrid Capital Conference – Richmond
- February 15, 2023: Communication Forum 2:00 p.m. (Mrs. Ramsey)
- March 15, 2023: VSBA March Hot Topic Conference
- April 21, 2023: Employee Recognition Banquet 5:30 p.m. WHS

### **School Board Member Comments**

Ms. Lane commended students who were inducted into the National Honor Society at Westmoreland High School and the students inducted for the first time into the National Technical Honor Society. Ms. Lane shared that the Technical Center Principal, Butch Gross, has resigned.

Dr. Wallace shared that he enjoyed a special speaker at the VSBA Annual Conference who talked about the importance of integrating citizenship skills into schools.

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

School Board Work Session: Monday, December 5, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Regular School Board Meeting: Monday, December 12, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

## **Closed Session**

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

At 8:20 p.m. the meeting was reconvened into open session on the motion of Board Member Dr. Wallace, seconded by Board Member Ms. Lane.

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 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 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.

## **Approval of Appointments & Resignations**

Board Member Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve Appointments and Resignations, seconded by Board Member Ms. Lane.

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

## **Adjournment**

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