

CULPEPER COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
Minutes
January 29, 2014

A meeting of the School Board of Culpeper County was held January 29, 2014 at the School Board Office (Colin Owens Conference Room) at 450 Radio Lane at 6 p.m. Present were Robert Beard (East Fairfax District); Robert A. Houck (West Fairfax District); Elizabeth Hutchins (Stevensburg District); Russell E. Jenkins (Catalpa District); Anne C. Luckinbill (Salem District); Michelle North (Jefferson District); Elizabeth “Betsy” Smith (Cedar Mountain District); Superintendent Dr. Bobbi Johnson, Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Rob Hauman, Executive Director of Student Services Dr. Russell Houck, Executive Director of Finance/Clerk Jeff Shomo, Executive Director of Special Education Angela Neely, Executive Director of Human Resources Dr. Stacey Timmons, and Deputy Clerk Pearl Jamison.

At 6 p.m., Mr. Houck called the meeting to order.

On motion of Ms. Hutchins seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the Board went into closed session at 6:01 p.m. regarding:

- [a] Discussion of Student Matters of Named Students A & B (Compulsory Release) and Named Students C (Religious Exemption) as permitted by the Code of Virginia 2.2-3711 (A) (2)

Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

On motion of Ms. Hutchins seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the Board ended the closed session at 6:18 p.m. and certified that to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted 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.

YEAS: 7

Robert Beard
Robert Houck
Elizabeth Hutchins
Russell Jenkins
Anne Luckinbill
Michelle North

Betsy Smith

Those present observed a moment of silence. Mr. Houck led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Houck asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

On motion of Mr. Beard seconded by Ms. North, the School Board approved the agenda. Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

The board considered the following action items:

- (a) Disposition of Named Student A (Compulsory Release)
On motion of Mr. Beard seconded by Ms. Hutchins, the School Board approved the compulsory release for Named Student A. Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.
- (b) Disposition of Named Student B (Compulsory Release)
On motion of Mr. Beard seconded by Ms. Smith, the School Board approved the compulsory release for Named Student B. Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.
- (c) Disposition of Named Students C (Religious Exemption)
On motion of Ms. Hutchins seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the School Board approved the religious exemption for Named Students C. Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

Work Session

Mr. Jenkins noted that he has a personal interest in the budget discussion because his spouse is employed in the school system. He noted that he is able to participate in the transaction fairly, objectively, and in the best interest of the public. He filed a copy of his disclosure statement with Deputy Clerk Pearl Jamison. He further noted he will disclose his interest at each meeting where there is discussion pertaining to the budget.

Budget

Dr. Johnson distributed the following documents:

- Superintendent Proposed Budget Considerations FY' 15 (PowerPoint)
- Position Requests from the Schools/Departments (not all positions are in the recommendation)
- Current school allocations (based on per pupil basis)
- Proposed school allocations

Minutes

January 29, 2014

Page 3 of 5

- Projected enrollment (rolling everything forward a grade and keeping kindergarten steady)

Dr. Johnson shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Board detailing the Superintendent's Proposed Budget Considerations for FY' 15.

Mr. Houck noted there is proposed legislation requiring an SRO in each school. Dr. Johnson said we hope funding comes with that requirement if it comes to fruition because we would be required to hire four SROs.

Ms. North asked how often textbooks are adopted. Mr. Hauman said every seven years. She asked how long it has been since we adopted science textbooks. Mr. Hauman responded 2004.

Ms. Hutchins asked if the elementary summer school would be remediation. Dr. Johnson said yes.

Mr. Beard asked if the Naviance high school transcript management program is \$19,000 annually. Mr. Hauman said yes.

The Board observed a 5 minutes recess at 7:23 p.m.

Dr. Johnson reviewed the estimated pupil teacher ratio for next year. She noted that A.G. Richardson will not qualify for class-size reduction funds next year; therefore, we can redistribute the teachers in the building and come up with a class-size ratio; with the largest class estimated at 24.

Mr. Jenkins asked why A. G. Richardson will not receive class-size reduction funding. Dr. Johnson said it is based on the percentage of students who receive free-reduced lunches as of October 2012. Mr. Hauman said they were at 29.4% and they had to be at 30% to qualify. He said during the next budget they will not receive class-size reduction funding.

Dr. Johnson said each school that qualifies for class-size reduction funds will have a different pupil-teacher ratio requirement based on free-reduced numbers.

Ms. North asked when kindergarten registration is held. Dr. Johnson said April. Ms. North asked if it would help to move the registration earlier. Mr. Hauman said we could move it forward; however, lots of students don't register until the fall.

Mr. Hauman shared a summary of student teacher ratios by grade level for 2014/2015.

Minutes

January 29, 2014

Page 4 of 5

Mr. Beard noted that the budget starting out includes a \$2M increase that we have no control over (VRS increase 2.8% and health insurance increase 5%).

Dr. Johnson noted that the proposed budget is an increase of 8.7% overall.

Dr. Johnson said we received the former governor's budget in December and under that budget we would receive an additional \$3.7M in revenue from the state.

Dr. Johnson said the total budget request is over \$6M but perhaps \$3.7M will come from the state.

Mr. Beard asked if lunch prices will increase again next year. Mr. Beamer said he hopes not; however, the regulation stated that every year school divisions will be required to increase the price to meet the equity of the reimbursable meal. Divisions may be offered a waiver if their program is running in the black. Further discussion ensued.

Mr. Beard said the County's general fund revenue is projected to remain constant. He asked if that includes the rollover of the fund balance into operating funds for next year. Dr. Johnson said that has not been discussed. Dr. Johnson said our current operating budget has \$750,000 in last year's carryover. She said this year we have a carryover of \$1.1M.

Dr. Johnson said if we receive the funding from Governor McDonnell's budget and we were to keep everything requested in the budget we would be roughly \$3M short. She said we would either have to adjust the request or take it forward requesting an additional \$3M from the county.

Ms. Hutchins asked why the projected insurance increase is so low. Dr. Timmons said Mark III said our claim experience has been good and is starting to level off. Mr. Shomo said the HSA plan is starting to payoff as well.

Dr. Johnson said staff will look at the pupil teacher ratio at Sycamore Park and bring forward a recommendation.

Ms. Luckinbill asked for clarification on the \$600,000 placeholder to phase in the salary study recommendation. Dr. Johnson said the \$600,000 will allow the division to begin adjusting the teacher scale. Ms. Luckinbill asked if other employee salaries would be corrected. Dr. Johnson said the first \$600,000 will just be used to correct the teacher scale and other scales would be corrected in the future.

Minutes

January 29, 2014

Page 5 of 5

On motion of Mr. Beard seconded by Ms. Hutchins, the School Board voted to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

JEFFREY R. SHOMO, CLERK

ROBERT A. HOUCK, CHAIR