

**CULPEPER COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**  
**Minutes**  
**December 8, 2014**

A meeting of the School Board of Culpeper County was held December 8, 2014 at the Board of Supervisors Meeting Room at 302 N. Main Street, Culpeper, VA 22701. Present were Robert Beard (East Fairfax District); Nathaniel “Nate” Clancy (Catalpa District); Robert A. Houck (West Fairfax District); Elizabeth Hutchins (Stevensburg District); Anne Luckinbill (Salem District); Michelle North (Jefferson District); Elizabeth “Betsy” Smith (Cedar Mountain District); Superintendent Dr. Bobbi F. Johnson; Executive Director of Curriculum; Executive Director of Student Services Dr. Russell Houck; Executive Director of Special Education Angela Neely; Executive Director of Finance/Clerk Jeff Shomo; Executive Director of Human Resources Dr. Stacey Timmons and Deputy Clerk Pearl Jamison.

At 7 p.m., Mr. Houck called the meeting to order. A closed session was not deemed necessary prior to the meeting.

Mr. Houck welcomed Mr. Clancy to the Board.

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

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

**On motion of Ms. Luckinbill seconded by Ms. Hutchins, the School Board considered approving the agenda. Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.**

***Reports***

(a) Superintendent/Student Advisory Group (SSAG) Report

Mitchell Luckinbill, Senior at EVHS, said at the last SSAG meeting they discussed what the program NAVIANCE has to offer. NAVIANCE is a comprehensive college and career readiness application for middle and high school students that helps them connect academic achievement to post-secondary goals.

(b) Principal Report – Sue Bridges

Susan Bridges, A.G. Richardson Elementary School Principal, shared with the Board information about A.G. Richardson’s IPAD initiative. She showed a video showcasing how the kindergarten students are using the IPADs to study shapes.

### ***Presentations/Recognitions***

The CCHS Artistic Choir and Voices of Men Choir performed several lovely holiday songs.

Dr. Johnson and Mr. Houck presented Zealous Appreciation for Positive Performance Awards to the following:

- For earning First Place in the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Pitch George Elevator Pitch Competition and First Place in the “Fan Favorite” competition that was open to graduates and undergraduates at George Washington University, and high school students in DC and surrounding areas – Kyle Laker and Carmen Musso
- For supporting Carmen Musso and Kyle Laker on their quest to earn First Place in the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Pitch George Elevator Pitch Competition and First Place in the “Fan Favorite” competition – Elizabeth Lane
- For being selected to perform with the 2014 Virginia Music Educators Association Honors Choir in Norfolk, Virginia – Alton Peters
- For being selected to perform with the 2015 All District 13 Choir on February 13-14, 2015 at Monticello High School in Charlottesville, Virginia – Emma Ackerman, Alyssa Bauer, Melita Blue, Blake Brooking, Morgan Brown, Hunter Elliott, Lily Fernandi, Shawn Harrah, Makayla Hawkins, Ross Hedlund, Alexis Hinton, Timothy Kern, Kristiana Krebs Turner, Alianna Kyle, Jacob Laws, Micah Leuterio, Caroline McCarthy, Alton Peters, Korin Phillips, Erin Pollack, Corey Poteat, Brian Sauerwald, Logan Thompson, Rhiannon Werkheiser, Gabrielle Beville, Matt Borja, Julianne Brick, Cyndee Croft, Peyton Dewald, Amelia Elias, Hailey Featherstone, Reagan Flemming, Taylor Franklin, Aryana Henson, Madison Herzog, Kailyn Huff, Taylor Hunley, Christy Kobert, Ben Ramey, Jessica Ritz, LeeKwai Scott, Meghan Settle, Madison Slater, Hannah Thompson, Riahna Timbers, Hlitshab Txakeeyang, Hannah Vernon, Sean Weaver, and Hope Young
- For being selected to be an alternate for the 2015 All District Choir on February 13-14, 2015 at Monticello High School in Charlottesville, Virginia – Noah Bartlett, Paul Thomas, and Richelle Timbers
- For encouraging their choir students to audition for the 2015 All District 13 Choir – Doray Walker and Tiffany Richtarski

### ***Delegations***

Mr. Houck said persons may present ideas or concerns regarding Culpeper County Public

Minutes

December 8, 2014

Page 3 of 7

Schools. He said there would be no action taken by the Board at this meeting and that such items would be referred to the appropriate administrators for future information and research. He said the personalities and behavior of employees are not to be presented during this period but are to be reported to the employee's immediate supervisor. Mr. Houck noted there would be a three minute limit for speakers.

Charles Duncan (Jefferson District) – Mr. Duncan thanked the Board for the entertainment provided earlier in the evening. He stated he didn't understand the need for a new school with the student population being down. He said there are lots of spaces taken up by preschool/Headstart students and research shows that preschool/Headstart doesn't benefit the students. He said preschool is really just a "babysitting service".

### *Consent Agenda*

Mr. Houck reviewed the items on the consent agenda for approval. Mr. Beard noted the Finance Committee met and reviewed the bills and recommended they be approved.

**Ms. North requested to move Consent Agenda – Item D (Second Reading of Budget Schedule for FY'16) to Action Item E.**

**On motion of Mr. Beard seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the School Board approved the consent agenda as amended. Dr. Johnson read the Bullying Prevention Month Resolution.**

- (a) Approval of Minutes – November 10, 2014
- (b) Payroll and Payment of Bills
- (c) Personnel Recommendations
- (d) ~~Second Reading of Budget Schedule for FY'16~~ (See Action Item E.)
- (e) Approval of Bullying Prevention Month Resolution

**Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.**

*The board considered the following action items:*

- (a) Consideration of Ownership for "Table Talk"  
**On motion of Ms. Hutchins seconded by Ms. Smith, the School Board considered waiving any ownership claim to "Table Talk".**

Dr. Johnson noted this request has been reviewed by the CCSB Administration Committee. She stated the teachers involved would like to develop instructional materials to teach elementary students how to communicate and collaborate effectively.

Ms. Smith said she completely agrees with the recommendation. She said the staff has done a great job and deserve the ownership and credit.

Mr. Beard noted that the work was performed outside of their regular working hours.

**Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.**

(b) First Reading of Policies/Regulations

**On motion of Ms. Hutchins seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the School Board approved the policies/regulations on first reading with second reading on January 12, 2015.**

Ms. North asked to discuss Bylaws Section 2.5 B which states “Members abstaining ~~may~~ shall state for the record their reason for abstaining, and if, the abstention is required for conflict of interest reasons, shall state for the record for the reason for the abstention”. She said she was interested why the change from “may” to “shall” was recommended. Ms. Luckinbill said ultimately if someone abstains the public has the right to know the reason. She said a lot of times an abstention is just an easier vote.

Ms. North said abstention is when you don’t feel one way or the other; you are in the middle. She said she felt the wording should remain the same.

Mr. Houck said he is not in favor of requiring members to explain why they are voting the way they are. He said there may be a variety of reasons for the abstention.

Mr. Beard said he does not have a strong feeling on the subject.

Ms. Hutchins stated she didn’t have a strong feeling on the subject because when she abstains she states her reason.

**Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.**

(c) Approval of Revised Rt. 299 VDOT Easement/Right of Way

**On motion of Mr. Beard seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the School Board approved the revised Rt. 229 VDOT Easement/Right of Way.**

Mr. Spencer said the revised easement reflects redesign at the intersection of Grandview and increases the amount of land they are taking. He noted that School Board counsel has reviewed the document.

**Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.**

- (d) Approval of Resolution Concerning the Funding of Public Education in Virginia  
**On motion of Ms. North seconded by Ms. Smith, the School Board approved the resolution concerning the funding of public education in Virginia. Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.**

- (e) Second Reading of Budget Schedule for FY'16  
**On motion of Ms. Hutchins seconded by Ms. Luckinbill, the School Board considered approving the budget schedule for FY'16 on second reading.**

Ms. North said she would like for the Board to accept input from constituents electronically regarding the budget.

Ms. Hutchins said the staff may not have time to develop a survey that will provide enough relevant information.

Dr. Johnson asked if the survey would allow general comment or be specific.

Ms. North said she would like to provide enough information to garner comments from the public.

Ms. Smith said it is important for the Board to be open and accept their comments electronically.

Mr. Beard said not everyone in the county has email or internet. He said the Board also needs to accept input in writing.

**Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.**

***The Board heard the following reports:***

Minutes

December 8, 2014

Page 6 of 7

(a) Construction Report

*CCHS Renovation* – Mr. Spencer said the CCHS locker room has been turned over to us and the stage area is almost complete. He said the staff was trained last week on how to use the lighting system and the stage should be turned over to us in time for the assembly on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

*Security Grant* – Mr. Spencer stated that he is in the process of getting pricing on the last four vestibules.

***Board Member Reports***

Mr. Beard wished everyone a wonderful holiday season. He thanked Doray Walker and the young artists for the wonderful performance.

Ms. North said at the VSBA Annual Convention in Williamsburg she attended a workshop about a Volunteer Recruitment Program that is offered in Virginia Beach. She said she would like to see Culpeper implement the program and noted Virginia Beach is willing to share their program with us.

Ms. Hutchins said several board members attended the VSBA Annual Convention in Williamsburg. She said the convention is a great opportunity to learn from other counties. She noted that she attended a workshop on “Schools in Challenging Environments”. She said a lot of issues students face come from the outside not from inside the school. She said she received a lot of good information. She also acknowledged the great job the choir did performing earlier in the evening. She wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Ms. Smith said she is equally excited about the Volunteer Recruitment Program.

Ms. Luckinbill wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Houck said he also attended the VSBA Annual Convention. He said it is a wonderful educational opportunity to learn about other divisions and get new information. He thanked Senator Hanger, Reaves, Vogel and Delegate Scott and Webert for attending the Chamber Legislative Breakfast and listening to concerns.

Mr. Houck announced that he will not run for School Board next year. He stated he has enjoyed serving on the Board and wanted to announce this now to give potential candidates for the West Fairfax District time to qualify. He wished everyone a good holiday season.

Dr. Johnson said it has been an honor working with Mr. Houck. She said we are all gearing up for the next General Assembly session and the Governor is expected to release his budget next Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Information Items***

- Summary of CCSB Committee Reports
- Membership – November 25, 2014

### ***Future Meeting Dates***

- Monday, January 12, 2015 – CCSB Finance Committee Meeting, 5:45 p.m. at the County Administration Office, 302 N. Main Street
- Monday, January 12, 2015 – CCSB Regular Board Meeting, 7 p.m. (6:45 p.m. Closed Session) at the County Administration Office, 302 N. Main Street
- Tuesday, January 13, 2015 – CCSB Administration Committee Meeting, 1 p.m. at the School Board Office, 450 Radio Lane
- Wednesday, January 14, 2015 – CCSB Capital Planning Committee Meeting, 8:30 a.m. at the School Board Office, 450 Radio Lane
- Tuesday, January 20, 2015 – CCSB Talk About Budget, 6 p.m. at the School Board Office, 450 Radio Lane
- Tuesday, January 20, 2015 – CCSB Business/Budget Work Session following the TAB Time (Closed Session prior to meeting, if needed) at the School Board Office, 450 Radio Lane
- January 22, 2015 – School Board/Board of Supervisors Joint Meeting, 6 p.m. at Culpeper County High School, 14240 Achievement Drive

**On motion of Mr. Beard seconded by Ms. Smith, the School Board voted to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.**

---

JEFFREY R. SHOMO, CLERK

---

ELIZABETH S. HUTCHINS, CHAIR