

FREDERICKSBURG CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Fredericksburg, Virginia

A regular meeting of the Fredericksburg City School Board was held at 2:30 p.m. on August 3, 2015 in the Lecture Hall at James Monroe High School, 2300 Washington Avenue. Board members present were:

Mrs. Patricia B. Green, Chairperson
Ms. Jannan W. Holmes
Mrs. Barbara A. Miller-Richards
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Rehm

Absent: Rev. Jarvis E. Bailey, Vice-Chairperson
Ms. Malvina Rollins Kay

Others Present:

Dr. David G. Melton, Division Superintendent
Mrs. Deborah B. Wright, Clerk of the Board

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 p.m. by the Chairperson.

15-16-20: APPROVAL OF AGENDA. The Chairperson called for a motion to amend the agenda to move closed session and personnel actions to the end of the meeting (Items XII and XIII). A motion to amend the agenda was made by Mrs. Miller-Richards, seconded by Ms. Holmes, and unanimously approved.

15-16-21: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 14, 2015 REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING. Minutes of the July 14, 2015 Regular School Board Meeting were presented for approval. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Mrs. Rehm, seconded by Ms. Holmes, and unanimously approved by the Board.

15-16-22: RECOGNITIONS. As part of the school division's character education program, Ms. Holmes presented the "Word of the Month" for August – Patience.

The next recognition was presented by Ms. Marjorie Churchbourne on behalf of the American Heart Association (AHA). Ms. Churchbourne, Youth Market Director for the AHA, recognized Cathy Stafford Hawkins, for her work as a heart health promoter since programs began 36 years ago. Mrs. Hawkins is currently a health and physical education teacher at Lafayette Upper Elementary School. Ms. Churchbourne presented Mrs. Hawkins with a recognition award from the AHA for 36 years of generous support of life-saving youth programs in Fredericksburg City Schools.

15-16-23: CONSENT AGENDA. The following items were included on the consent agenda:

- Extra-Curricular Activities for 2015-16- Lists of extra-curricular activities for Hugh Mercer Elementary School, Lafayette Upper Elementary School, Walker-Grant Middle School, and James Monroe High School for the 2015-16 school year were recommended for approval. A copy of the list of activities for each school is attached to the minutes.

- School Age Child Care Program – A recommendation was made that the School Board approve the contract with Minnieland Private Day School, Inc. to provide before and after school child care during the 2015-16 school year. The program ran smoothly during the 2014-15 school year and served three students in the Before-School Program, 24 students in the After-School Program and 11 students in the Before and After School Program.
- Policy Revisions – Second Reading – A recommendation was made that the School Board approve several policy revisions as recommended by the Virginia School Boards Association Policy Services on second reading. Copies of the policy revisions are attached to the minutes.
- Adult Lunch Price Increase – School Meals – A recommendation was made that the Board approve a \$.75 increase to \$4.00 for the adult lunch meal price at all schools for the 2015-16 school year.

The Superintendent recommended approval of the items which were included on the consent agenda. A motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation was made by Mrs. Miller-Richards, seconded by Mrs. Rehm and unanimously approved by the Board. Copies of the consent agenda items are attached to the minutes.

15-16-24: APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL BOARD'S STUDENT DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE.

The Superintendent recommended that the Board appoint three School Board members to serve on the Student Disciplinary Committee for the 2015-16 school year. A motion was made by Mrs. Rehm to appoint Jarvis Bailey, Patricia Green, and Barbara Miller-Richards to serve as the Student Disciplinary Committee with an alternate sought whenever necessary should a member not be available for a hearing. The motion was seconded by Ms. Holmes, and unanimously approved.

15-16-25: 2015-2020 LOCAL PLAN FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE GIFTED. Virginia requires that each school division provide for the identification of gifted students; assist in the preparation of teachers to serve the educational needs of gifted students; and evaluation programs for the gifted following the Board of Education's regulations. The following changes have been made in the 2015-2020 Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted:

- To initiate a cognitive screening in one of the primary grades.
- Some goals have been adjusted to emphasize more differentiation.
- Included the International Baccalaureate classes as an option for advancing cognition at the secondary level.

The Superintendent recommended that the School Board approve the 2015-2020 Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted. A motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation was made by Mrs. Miller-Richards, seconded by Mrs. Rehm, and unanimously approved by the Board. A copy of the plan is attached to the minutes.

15-16-26: RECREATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENT. At the June 1, 2015 meeting, the School Board approved the nomination of Dr. John B. Gordon III to a four-year term on the Recreation Commission beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2019 and that this information be forwarded to City Council for their action. Since that meeting, it has been brought to our attention that the City Code states that all members of the Recreation Commission shall be legal residents and qualified voters of the City. Therefore, Dr. Gordon is not eligible to serve on the Commission.

Hugh Mercer Assistant Principal Sandra Gillenwater has expressed a willingness to serve if the Board so desires. The Superintendent recommended that the School Board nominate Sandra Gillenwater to a four year term on the Recreation Commission beginning August 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2019 and that the nomination be forwarded to City Council for action at their next regular meeting. Mrs. Miller-Richards noted her appreciation for Mrs. Gillenwater's willingness to serve but she felt Dr. Gordon should remain possibly as a liaison since he is the person responsible for facilities and is readily able to make decisions or share information about available facilities. Mrs. Miller-Richards expressed a desire to address this topic with the City to determine if a change could be made to allow Dr. Gordon to continue as the school representative while serving as a liaison rather than a voting member. Ms. Holmes concurred with Mrs. Miller-Richards' comments. Following comments, a motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation was made by Mrs. Rehm and seconded by Mrs. Miller-Richards. The motion failed on a 2-2 vote (Mrs. Miller-Richards and Ms. Holmes voted no.) A motion to table the topic until September was then made by Ms. Holmes, seconded by Mrs. Miller-Richards, and unanimously approved by the Board. Mrs. Miller-Richards offered to draft a letter to City staff requesting that the City Code be changed to allow Dr. Gordon to continue to serve as a liaison.

15-16-27: VSBA MEDIA HONOR ROLL. Dr. Gordon shared background information concerning the VSBA Media Honor Roll which notes that reporters and local media outlets play an important role in public education. School division leaders rely on responsible reporting by local media representatives so that our community members receive timely information about division initiatives and programs. Considering the impact that media coverage can have on community attitudes and beliefs, the Virginia School Boards Association created the *Media Honor Roll* to recognize fair and balanced reporting about our schools and Virginia's public education system.

The *Media Honor Roll* recognizes media representatives in three categories: **print, radio, and television.** Dr. Gordon noted that Advanced Media Solutions serves the school division in a number of ways including:

- Produce and maintain FCPS TV to include newsletter updates, and FCPS important activities and events
- Update Program Information Channel – this includes our responses for inclement weather
- Produce and broadcast school board meetings
- Video and broadcast James Monroe High School football games
- Produce and broadcast our choice of four additional programs – this includes the broadcast of FCPS Graduation Week at our four schools.

The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the attached resolution recognizing and nominating Advanced Media Solutions for inclusion in the Virginia School Boards Association Media Honor Roll for 2015. A motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation was made by Mrs. Miller-Richards, seconded by Mrs. Rehm, and unanimously approved by the Board.

15-16-28: INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATION – SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENTATION. Dr. Gordon introduced a team of administrators who prepared a social media presentation for the recent administrative retreat. The team included Dr. Gordon, Mike George, Melanie Kay-Wyatt, Pam Diggs, and Tim Duffy. Mr. George shared an overview of FCPS social media outlets and provided an explanation of how information is distributed to the various outlets including Twitter and Facebook. Other outlets include the district webpage, school webpages and the city notification system. Dr. Kay-Wyatt outlined types of social media which are available to educators and how it can be used in positive

ways by educators. Some uses are to announce school events or to use to share professional development material from conferences. Administrators then led Board members through some fun activities using knowledge of social media. Mrs. Diggs shared information on social media for learning. These included professional development, community outreach and distance learning. Mrs. Diggs provided a brief summary of conduct/misconduct on social media sites outlining common do's and don'ts for posting.

15-16-29: FINANCIAL REPORT. Chief Financial Officer David Baker was absent from the meeting due to attendance at CPA training. The Board was provided with the Budget Status Report for June 30, 2015. Board members were asked to submit any questions to Mr. Baker for response.

15-16-30: PRE-SCHOOL WEEKS SCHEDULE. Dr. Thomas shared the schedule for pre-school weeks. As in the past, the first week will be for new teachers and the second week will have all staff members reporting to work. Board members were reminded about invitations to attend various programs including the new teacher picnic on Thursday, August 27, breakfast with new employees on Friday, August 28 which will be held at Lafayette Upper Elementary School, and the opening convocation on Tuesday morning, September 1 at James Monroe High School. A Benefits Fair will also be held on Tuesday morning for staff to meet with various vendors who offer services or discount programs for division employees. Board members were also provided with information about orientation schedules and various training sessions.

15-16-31: OLD BUSINESS. The VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference will be held in Charlottesville on September 10, 2015. Ms. Holmes and Dr. Melton are planning to attend. Ms. Holmes stated that the conference is an opportunity to hear from state legislators about what they see coming up for discussion during this year's legislative session. Mrs. Miller-Richards indicated she may plan to attend.

15-16-32: NEW BUSINESS. The following items of new business were discussed:

- New Teacher Picnic - Board members are invited to the new teacher picnic on August 27, 2015. The picnic will be held at Snowden House at 5:30 p.m.
- VSBA Hot Topic Conference – The VSBA Hot Topic Conference will be held on October 2, 2015 in Charlottesville. Board members were asked to let Mrs. Wright know if they wish to attend.
- VSBA Annual Convention - Board members were informed that the VSBA Annual Convention is scheduled for November 18-20, 2015 in Williamsburg. Board members were asked to let Mrs. Wright know if they wish to attend so that registrations may be submitted.

15-16-33: GOOD OF THE ORDER. Mrs. Green expressed appreciation to the schools for all the publications and efforts to communicate with the public. Mrs. Green asked that the public do their part to take advantage of various communications by reading newsletters and watching the educational television channel.

15-16-34: BOARD CONVENES INTO CLOSED SESSION; RECONVENES INTO OPEN SESSION. The Superintendent recommended that the Board convene into closed session under FIA 2.2-3711(A), Section 1 - Personnel (discussion regarding employment recommendations, change in

positions/adjustments, extra-duty adjustments, resignations/contract release recommendations, retirement recommendation, substitute teacher recommendations for 2015-16, substitute custodian recommendations for 2015-16, and substitute bus/car driver recommendations for 2015-16 and Section 28 – Discussion or consideration of records excluded from this chapter pursuant to subdivision 11 of § 2.2-3705.6 in relation to the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act Proposal. A motion to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation was made by Mrs. Miller-Richards, seconded by Mrs. Rehm, and unanimously approved by a roll call vote. The Board convened in closed session at 3:34 p.m. On a motion by Mrs. Rehm, seconded by Mrs. Miller-Richards, and unanimously approved by a roll call vote, the Board reconvened in open session at 4:15 p.m. and approved Certificate of Closed Meeting No. 15-16-2 which involves a statement concerning items discussed in closed session. A copy of Certificate of Closed Meeting No. 15-16-2 is attached to the minutes.

15-16-35: PERSONNEL MATTERS. The Superintendent recommended approval of the personnel list as presented. A motion to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation was made by Mrs. Miller-Richards, seconded by Mrs. Rehm, and unanimously approved by a roll call vote. A copy of the personnel list is attached to the minutes.

15-16-36: ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to conduct at this regular meeting of the Fredericksburg City School Board for August 3, 2015, the meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Holmes, seconded by Mrs. Rehm, and unanimously approved.

Patricia B. Green, Chairperson
Fredericksburg City School Board

Deborah B. Wright
Clerk of the Board

MOTION: Mrs. Rehm

SECOND: Mrs. Miller-Richards

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED MEETING
15-16-2

WHEREAS, the Fredericksburg City School Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fredericksburg City School Board hereby certifies 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.

VOTE:

AYES: 4

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 2 (Rev. Bailey and Ms. Kay)

Clerk of Fredericksburg City School Board

August 3, 2015

Meeting Date