

School Board Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Leah Paladino, Chair; Harry Daniel, Vice-Chair; Rodney Kibler, Member; Sharon Mack, Member; Jason Collier, Member; Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent

MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELEPHONE: N/A

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shanna Deane, Clerk

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: Jim Frydl

The closed session was called to order at 6:30 pm in the school board office conference room.

Dr. Kibler made a motion to reconvene into open session in the County Meeting Room at 7:00 p.m.; Mr. Collier seconded, motion carried.

Board certified by roll call vote that only such matters identified in the motion were heard or discussed. All certified.

There was no closed meeting action.

Mrs. Mack made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Collier seconded. No discussion. All ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Whitmarsh and Mrs. Paladino presented a recognition certificate to Lisa Lawson for submitting the “Coders of Today: Innovators of Tomorrow program which earned a \$5,000 grant for William Monroe Middle School.

Dr. Whitmarsh and Mrs. Paladino presented recognition certificates to Kaidence Jenkins and Ethan Morris for placing second in the Toshiba and the National Science Teachers Association 25th annual ExploraVision Challenge.

Mrs. Paladino stated public comments could be made on matters not below on the agenda.

Mrs. Paladino closed public comments.

Mr. Huber presented action item #11-337, Federal Consolidated Application 2017-2018. Mr. Huber stated the federal application is an annual process that the school division goes through to obtain federal funds. Mr. Huber stated the federal consolidated application contains Title I, Part A, Title II, Part A and Title III. Mr. Huber explained the funding is currently based on 2016-2017 amounts, whereas, actual amounts will be received in early fall. Mr. Huber explained what each grant amount would be used for in the 2017-2018 school year. Mr. Huber requested approval of the application to be sent to the Virginia Department of Education by the July 1st deadline. Mrs. Mack made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 federal consolidated application as presented. Dr. Kibler seconded. No discussion. All ayes, motion carried.

Mr. Bryce Powell of VMDO presented information item #11-338, Phase I Facilities Project – Schematic Design Initial Cost Estimate Review. Mr. Powell reviewed the initial cost estimates for the Middle School and High School Media Center and Dining/Cafeteria renovations as well as the Stanardsville

Campus and Ruckersville Site projects. Mr. Powell included the cost comparisons of current schematic design to initial concepts and a discussion of current market trends in construction costs.

Mr. Powell stated since the May school board meeting there have been two meetings held with the teachers at William Monroe High School and William Monroe Middle School. Mr. Powell stated when teachers and students return after summer break additional meetings will be held to share information and have discussions of the current status of the facilities project.

Mr. Powell stated schematic designs were sent to the cost estimators in late April. Mr. Powell stated he received preliminary costs in mid-May and the design team spent a little over a week checking the dollar amounts. Mr. Powell stated true numbers were received the day of the June school board meeting based on final reconciliation from the design team.

Mr. Powell state since February 2017 there has been a drastic increase in construction costs. Mr. Powell stated the increase in construction costs is happening nationwide. Mr. Powell stated the increase is going to make general construction costs different than what was discussed in August 2016. Mr. Powell commented that for areas such as Charlottesville and Harrisonburg the construction escalation is between 7% and 8%. To provide additional information, Mr. Powell provided historical Virginia construction cost escalation data.

Mr. Powell discussed each one of the projects focusing on the concept cost, estimated cost and the schematic costs of each. Mr. Powell stated there were two add-alternates figured separately. They were the Middle School Administration Add-Alternate with a schematic estimate cost of \$1.1 million and the William Monroe High School Courtyard with a schematic estimate cost of \$1,032,466.

Mr. Powell presented a summary of the project costs which only included the construction costs. The figures are as follows:

- Concept costs (construction costs only) = \$16.5 million
- Schematic estimate costs (construction costs only and taking out the add-alternates) = \$20.82 million
- Schematic estimate costs (construction costs only and including the add-alternates) = \$22.98 million

Mr. Powell summarized the schematic estimate total cost which includes the construction and project costs. Mr. Powell stated the total concept cost was \$21.1 million and the total schematic estimate was \$25.7 million. Mr. Powell stated if the middle school add-alternate and high school courtyard were included the schematic estimate would be \$28.3 million.

Mr. Powell presented a project schedule that showed the next steps in the process of moving forward with the project. Mr. Powell emphasized to the school board that it is important to do what you can really well as further discussion and progress takes place with phase I of the facilities project. Mr. Powell stated the next steps are to define the scope of phase I and present a funding request to the Board of Supervisors.

There was board discussion regarding the time of the Ruckersville Elementary parking project and storm water work.

Dr. Whitmarsh introduced Ms. Spencer to present information about the retiring debt. Ms. Spencer presented the retiring debt structure to the year 2029. Ms. Spencer presented documentation that showed 25 and 30 year loans based on 3%, 4%, and 5%. Ms. Spencer contacted the Virginia School Public Authority to check on bond rates. Ms. Spencer stated for spring 2017 the bond rate is currently 2.93%. Ms. Spencer stated the next rate will be released in the fall.

Ms. Spencer stated some of the storm water mitigation costs could be offset through the Culpeper Conservation fund. Ms. Spencer stated this organization is interested in helping fund some of the bio-retention, meadow grass and possibly some of the gardens going behind the kitchens. Ms. Spencer stated Stephanie Golon of the Planning Office is going to assist in coordinating between the Culpeper Conservation organization and the school division.

Mrs. Paladino asked if there was a recommendation.

Dr. Whitmarsh recommended moving forward by going to the Board of Supervisors to share the information that has been received by the school board then discuss a fund request between both boards. The members of the school board agreed with Dr. Whitmarsh's recommendation.

Mr. Sparks presented information item #11-339 Career & Technical Education Update. Mr. Sparks reviewed the class offerings that were available for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Sparks discussed the importance of the CTE staff. Mr. Sparks listed the key aspects of what instructional strategies are needed from the CTE staff. Mr. Sparks reviewed the list of professional development opportunities the CTE staff will be involved in for the 2017-2018 school year.

Mr. Sparks discussed the K-12 focus of Career & Development, the innovation of CTE instruction, industry certification, new programs for the upcoming 2017-2018 school year and the future of Career & Development

Dr. Whitmarsh presented item #11-340, Superintendent's Update. Dr. Whitmarsh commented that it has been great to see all of the recognitions over the past few months involving students, staff and community organizations. Dr. Whitmarsh announced that HVAC received an \$8,000 grant from BAMA works which is an organization in Charlottesville.

Dr. Whitmarsh thanked Mr. Powell of VMDO for all of his work with the facilities project.

Dr. Whitmarsh stated it was a fantastic end to the 2016-2017 school year. Dr. Whitmarsh stated there were 231 graduates with over \$2 million in scholarships. Administration participated in the Leadership Retreat on June 7, 2017.

Dr. Whitmarsh announced that the Summer Enrichment Academy started the week of June 12, 2017. Dr. Whitmarsh announced that Summer School is starting on June 19th.

Dr. Whitmarsh reminded school board members that there is no July meeting.

Mrs. Mack congratulated all those who were recognized. Mrs. Mack hoped that everyone enjoyed their summer.

Mr. Collier had no comments.

Mr. Daniel congratulated Samantha Brunelle for bringing home the gold medal for U16 USA Basketball. Mr. Daniel commented that he is excited about moving forward with the facilities project. Mr. Daniel commented that he enjoyed the presentations from the meeting.

Dr. Kibler commented that he was thankful for being a part of a safe community.

Mrs. Paladino thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Mrs. Paladino thanked Mr. Frydl for attending the school board meeting. Mrs. Paladino commented that the process for the facilities project

will be similar to the budget process between the school board and Board of Supervisors. Mrs. Paladino commented that she hopes everyone enjoys their summer.

Mrs. Paladino adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Clerk