

School Board Meeting Minutes/FY2018
Public Hearing Minutes
November 9, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rodney Kibler, Chairman; Jason Collier, Vice-Chairman; Leah Paladino, Member; Sharon Mack, Member; Harry Daniel, Member; Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent; Rhonda Houchens, Deputy Clerk

MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELEPHONE: N/A

MEMBERS ABSENT: N/A

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: N/A

The closed session was called to order at 6:15 pm in the school board office conference room.

Mrs. Mack made a motion to move into closed session pursuant to 2.2-3711(A)(29), as it pertains to the award of a public contract for architectural services involving the expenditure of public funds, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, because discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the School Board. Mr. Collier seconded, motion carried.

Mrs. Mack made a motion to reconvene into open session in the County Meeting Room at 7:00 pm; Mr. Collier seconded, motion carried.

Mrs. Mack made a motion to amend the agenda to include item number 11-221a, Architectural Services Contract. Mr. Collier seconded. All ayes, motion carried. Mrs. Paladino made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Mrs. Mack seconded. No discussion. All ayes, motion carried.

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

Mrs. Paladino made a motion for the Board to authorize the Chair to execute the contract with VMDO for architectural services as a part of the multiphase project which includes upgrading facilities at the middle and high schools and master site traffic and safety improvements, provided the terms discussed are satisfied, based upon the finding that the nature of the work is such that the best interests of the School Board require awarding this contract. Mr. Collier seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Dr. Whitmarsh and Dr. Kibler presented a recognition certificate to Andy Dojack and Donna Shifflett for receiving a \$5,000 grant from Esri, an ArcGIS mapping software builder. This grant has allowed Andy and Donna to provide professional development to teachers all throughout our region in the areas of Web GIS, GIS story map basics, and organizational account fundamentals.

Dr. Whitmarsh and Dr. Kibler presented a recognition certificate to Thomas Berry from Johnson Controls for volunteer work and \$1,000.00 grant to William Monroe Middle School. Johnson Controls also provided and planted a tree in front of the building in honor of Ethan Paladino.

Dr. Kibler stated public comments could be made on matters not below on the agenda.

Mrs. Michelle Flynn, a parent of two freshman at William Monroe High School, thanked the board for the informational session regarding school start times. She voiced concerns regarding the amount of

homework students are given and requested that the board take a look at research and data available to see why homework is not effective in improving achievement and test scores. Mrs. Flynn implored the board to look at homework and make changes to improve the quality of life for students, for families and for teachers.

Dr. Kibler closed public comments.

Dr. Kibler opened the public hearing on the FY2018 budget.

Gail Daniel, a teacher at Ruckersville Elementary School and a member of the Greene County Education Association, requested that the board look at teacher salaries and advances in technology when preparing for the FY2018 budget.

Michelle Flynn, a parent of two freshman at William Monroe High School, requested that the board look at the programs that are offered and consider innovations in technology. Mrs. Flynn asked that the board look beyond bricks and mortar and see what virtual options are available.

Dr. Kibler closed the public hearing on the FY2018 budget.

Dr. Whitmarsh and Vyvyan Rundgren presented information item #11-222, LOVE Project. Vyvyan Rundgren shared that The Palette Art Gallery, owned by the Art Guild of Greene has applied and been approved for the LOVEwork Project. The request is to erect the letters on the property in front of the Greene County Technical Education Center. Ms. Rundgren stated that the Virginia is for Lovers/Virginia Tourism Corp. requires that the structure be large enough for an adult to stand beside it for a photo and that it remains in place for a minimum of one year. It must be constructed in a highly visible location that can be reached easily and safely to be photographed.

Mr. Daniel asked how tall the letter would be. Ms. Rundgren stated they would be between 5 & 6 feet tall.

Mrs. Paladino suggested that the carpentry class should help observe the installation process.

Dr. Whitmarsh asked if there were any concerns. No concerns.

Dr. Whitmarsh stated the LOVE Project would be up for action at the next School Board meeting.

Teddy Carpenter, Geometry and Calculus teacher at William Monroe High School, presented information item #11-223 Innovation Grant Update. Ms. Carpenter along with the following students: Dasia Tompkins, Amanda Hampton, Zak Teal, and Ryan Flynn provided an overview of the ALT Project (Authentic Learning Technologies Project). The students shared how they worked collaboratively to brainstorm, design, calculate and build 3D models for real-world scale tables and benches. Ms. Carpenter stated the students used 3D modeling software and 3D blue prints. Mr. Mallory co-taught with Ms. Carpenter to help with answering questions regarding real world measurements. Ms. Carpenter shared that the 3D model designs were sent to Mr. Mallory's carpentry class and these items are now being built by hand. This project was in part funded by an Innovate 2021 Grant to help encourage division staff to embrace innovative and engaging learning for students. Mrs. Carpenter asked if there were questions.

Mr. Daniel asked how many benches and tables were being made. Ms. Carpenter responded that there were 5 of each and some will go to the art class to be painted.

Mr. Huber presented information item #11-224 Talent Ed. Mr. Huber provided an overview on the TalentED Perform Project. He stated that this project was a budgeted item that was implemented this year in order to conduct on-line evaluations and manage the process for employees in a virtual environment. Mr. Huber shared that the product allows administration to look at analytics for results and leverage the data to help make improvements. Some strengths include teachers doing well in the classroom, having constructive feedback and engaging students in active learning.

Areas for growth include differentiation instruction to meet the students' needs and incorporate technology to enhance student learning. Mr. Huber stated that the project is off to a good start. Mr. Huber asked if there were any questions.

Ms. Paladino asked if the walkthroughs were scheduled. Mr. Huber responded the walkthroughs were done frequently in order to get snap shot over time to have an overall picture.

Mr. Daniel asked how the teachers receive feedback. Mr. Huber responded that it's all online.

Dr. Whitmarsh presented superintendent's report #11-225, Superintendent's Comments. Dr. Whitmarsh thanked Ms. Carpenter and the students for their presentation.

Dr. Whitmarsh shared that during the month of October she held office hours at each of the schools to speak with staff members. Items that were brought up included: lack of substitutes, need for a work day during the first quarter, and placement of fall conferences in relation to fall break.

Dr. Whitmarsh announced the start time presentation was well attended. Students, parents and teachers were in attendance. The next step will be putting together a survey to hear about items that need to be considered.

Dr. Whitmarsh stated it is budget season and budget process has started. She mentioned staff will be surveyed to find out about their needs. Administrators, directors and principals will be meeting next month to come up with a comprehensive budget plan.

Mrs. Paladino thanked Johnson Controls for their volunteer work, grant and tree planting. She also thanked Ms. Carpenter and students for their nice presentation.

Mr. Collier echoed Mrs. Paladino's comments about Johnson Controls, Mrs. Carpenter and the students for their presentation. Mr. Collier commented the LOVE Project is exciting and thanked all the staff in attendance.

Mrs. Mack thanked the students for coming out to be a part of a great presentation.

Mr. Daniel congratulated Donna Shifflett on her recognition.

Dr. Kibler thanked everyone in attendance.

Dr. Kibler adjourned the meeting.

Chairman

Clerk