

*School Board of the City of Virginia Beach*  
*School Administration Building #6, Municipal Center*  
*2512 George Mason Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23456*

Tuesday, January 3, 2012  
Organizational/Regular Meeting  
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<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>		<b>MEMBERS ABSENT:</b>
Mr. Daniel D. "Dan" Edwards, Chairman Mr. William J. Brunke, IV, Vice Chairman Dr. Todd C. Davidson Ms. Emma L. "Em" Davis Ms. Dorothy M. "Dottie" Holtz	Mr. Brent N. Mckenzie Ms. Ashley K. McLeod Mr. Samuel G. "Sam" Reid Mr. Patrick S. Salyer Ms. Carolyn D. Weems	– At-Large Vacancy
Dr. James G. Merrill, Superintendent		

1. **Formal Meeting Call to Order and Electronic Roll Call:** Acting as Chairman pro-tem, Superintendent Merrill called the formal meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. All Board members were present with the exception of Dr. Davidson who arrived shortly thereafter at 4:18 p.m.
2. **School Board Organizational Matters:**
  - A. Election of School Board Chairman: Superintendent Merrill explained the procedure for election of chairman as specified in School Board Bylaw 1-37. There being no objections or questions regarding the procedure, he called for nominations. Mr. Reid nominated Mr. Edwards to be re-elected as chairman and spoke to the nomination. There being no further discussion or nominations, Superintendent Merrill declared nominations and discussion closed and called for the vote resulting in Mr. Edwards being re-elected chairman for the 2012 calendar year by a vote of 9-0 (Davidson had not yet arrived). Superintendent Merrill then turned the gavel over for Chairman Edwards to proceed.
  - B. Election of School Board Vice Chairman: Chairman Edwards noted the same procedure would be used for election of vice chairman. Ms. Weems nominated Mr. Brunke to continue to serve as vice chairman and spoke to the nomination. There being no further discussion or nominations, Chairman Edwards declared nominations and discussion closed and called for the vote resulting in Mr. Brunke being re-elected vice chairman for the 2012 calendar year by a vote of 9-0 (Davidson had not yet arrived).
  - C. Appointment of Clerk and Deputy Clerk: Mr. Reid made a motion, seconded by Ms. McLeod, that the Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation to re-appoint Ms. Dianne P. Alexander as Clerk of the Board, and Ms. Debra D. Cook as Deputy Clerk for the 2012 calendar year. The motion was approved (ayes 9, nays 0 – Davidson had not yet arrived).
  - D. Schedule of Meetings: January 2012 through June 2013: Chairman Edwards noted the proposed annual retreat is scheduled for the second week in July 2012. Mr. Salyer then made a motion, seconded by Ms. Weems, that the Board approve the schedule of meetings for the period January 2012 through June 2013. The motion was approved (ayes 9, nays 0 – Davidson had not yet arrived) and the schedule of meetings adopted as follows:

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REAFFIRMED 2012 AS APPROVED DECEMBER 21, 2010 WITH FEBRUARY DATES CORRECTED	JULY 1, 2012 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2013 APPROVED
January 3 (Organizational Matters) January 17	July 9-10 (Mon-Tues) Annual Retreat July 24 (4 <sup>th</sup> Tues)
February 4-7 February 15-21	August 7 August 21
March 6 March 20	September 5 (Wed) 9/4 1 <sup>st</sup> day of school September 18
April 3 April 24 (4 <sup>th</sup> Tues)	4/9-13 Spring Break October 2 October 16
May 8 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues) May 22 (4 <sup>th</sup> Tues)	November 7 (Wed) 11/6 Election Day November 20
June 5 June 19	December 4 December 18
	January 8 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues) January 22 (4 <sup>th</sup> Tues)
	February 5 February 19
	March 5 March 19
	April 9 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues) 4/1-5 Tentative Spring Break April 23 (4 <sup>th</sup> Tues)
	May 7 May 21
	June 4 June 18

- E. School Board Committee Assignments CY2012: Prior to a motion, Chairman Edwards reported for the most part committee assignments were roll forwards with a couple of reshufflings to accommodate Board member specific requests. There being no questions or discussion, Ms. Davis made a motion seconded by Mr. Reid, that the Board approve the committee assignments for the 2012 calendar year as presented. The motion was approved (ayes 9, nays 0 – Davidson had not yet arrived) and CY2012 committee assignments approved as follows. Chairman Edwards noted some committee assignments contained blanks to be reviewed and filled after the appointment of a Board member to fill the At-Large vacancy:

Revenue Sharing Formula Committee - Reinstatement	Ad Hoc Committee	TBD
ACCESS College Foundation	Non-School Board Committee Out of the Division	Todd Davidson , Alt.
CUBE – Nat'l Affiliate Advocacy Info Network (NSBA)	Non-School Board Committee Out of the Division	Ashley McLeod Dottie Holtz, Alt.
Governor's School for the Arts	Non-School Board Committee Out of the Division	Em Davis Carolyn Weems, Alt.
Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities	Non-School Board Committee Out of the Division	Todd Davidson Brent Mckenzie, Alt.
Southeastern Cooperative Education Programs (SECEP)	Non-School Board Committee Out of the Division	Carolyn Weems Em Davis, Alt.
NSBA Federal Relations Network (FRN) Committee (by VSBA invitation only) Washington, DC	Non-School Board Committee Out of the Division	Ashley McLeod
Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA)	Non-School Board Committee Out of the Division	Dottie Holtz , Alt.

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Hampton Roads Educational Telecommunications Association (HRETA) WHRO	Non-School Board Committee Out of the Division	Em Davis Ashley McLeod, Alt.
Building Utilization Committee a/k/a Redistricting	Non-School Board Committee Within the Division	Ashley McLeod Sam Reid Carolyn Weems
Equity Council (formerly Diversity Task Force)	Non-School Board Committee Within the Division	Todd Davidson
CIP/Modernization Review Committee	Joint CC/SB Ad Hoc Committee	Ashley McLeod, Chair Dottie Holtz
Deferred Compensation Board as the Local Finance Board for purposes of Administering the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)	Joint City Council / School Board Standing Committee	Bill Brunke
Kempsville/PA intersection & Witchduck Project (up to 264) Citizens Advisory Committeea/k/a Kempsville Center Advisory Committee	City Council Advisory Committee	Patrick Salyer Dan Edwards, Alt.
Oceanfront Enhancement Committee a/k/a City Behavior Committee	City Council Standing Committee	Sam Reid Dottie Holtz, Alt.
School Site Selection Committee	Joint CC/SB Standing Committee	Bill Brunke, Chair Dottie Holtz
Internal Audit Committee	School Board Standing Committee	Ken Palmer, Chair Em Davis Bill Brunke
Legislative Committee	School Board Standing Committee	Carolyn Weems, Chair Ashley McLeod Brent Mckenzie Patrick Salyer
Student Discipline Committee I	School Board Standing Committee	Patrick Salyer, Chair Carolyn Weems Dottie Holtz
Student Discipline Committee II	School Board Standing Committee	Todd Davidson, Chair Em Davis Ashley McLeod
Student Discipline Committee III	School Board Standing Committee	Brent Mckenzie, Chair Sam Reid Substitute

3. **Student, Employee and Public Awards and Recognition – Special Recognition:** The School Board recognized the service of Dr. Jared E. Cotton, Associate Superintendent of Educational Leadership and Assessment, departing the division to become the district superintendent of Henry County Public Schools on January 17, 2012.
4. **Hearing of Citizens and Delegations on Agenda Items:** The School Board heard comments from Charlie Lawrence, Lonnie Sykes and Herman Clark in support of the finalist, Mona Gunn, for the School Board At-Large vacancy.
5. **Approval of Minutes: December 20, 2011 deferred until January 17, 2012 due to winter break**
6. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Prior to a motion, Chairman Edwards noted the Board would take a brief recess prior to Item 12 – At-Large School Board Applicant Interviews. Mr. Salyer then made a motion, seconded by Ms. McLeod, that the Board adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was approved (ayes 10, nays 0).

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**7. Consent Agenda:** Dr. Davidson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Weems, that the Board approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was approved (ayes 10, nays 0) and the following items approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

A. Resolution: Bullying Prevention Awareness Month as follows:

**Resolution for Bullying Prevention Awareness Month  
January 2012**

**WHEREAS**, school bullying has become an increasingly significant problem in the United States and Virginia; and

**WHEREAS**, bullying can take many forms, including verbal, physical, and most recently in cyberspace, and can happen in many places on and off school grounds; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important for Virginia Beach parents, students, teachers, and school administrators to be aware of bullying and to encourage discussion of the problem as a school community; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach has developed a policy on anti-bullying to encourage positive behaviors and to eliminate bullying behaviors; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, through sustained and dedicated efforts, has implemented programs for all employees and students that recognize a deep commitment at all levels to raise awareness of bullying and its prevention.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED:** That the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach designates the month of January 2012 as Bullying Prevention Awareness Month in the Virginia Beach City Public Schools, and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the issue of bullying and its prevention be discussed in Virginia Beach City Public Schools classrooms during this time, and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That a copy of this resolution be spread across the official minutes of this Board.

- B. The School Board authorized the Superintendent to execute a contract with Bay Side Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$815,000 for the Princess Anne High School Cooling Tower, Boiler & 500 Hall HVAC replacement
- C. Approval and support of the Health Risk Incentive Program in coordination with the health insurance coverage for employees intended to reduce health care costs
- D. Appointments, Resignations and Retirements as presented on the January 3, 2012 personnel report, adjusted to include an additional resignation. Additionally, Superintendent Merrill presented, and the Board affirmed, the recommended administrative appointment of Dr. Donald E. Robertson, current principal of Salem High School, to assume the position of Assistant Superintendent in the Department of Education Leadership and Assessment, upon appointment of a replacement for the vacated position.

**8. Action**

A. **Textbook Adoptions:** Mr. Christopher T. Tarkenton, Director of Instructional Services and Academy Programs, presented an overview of the proposed first-choice textbooks for five high school courses and two middle school courses as recommended by the respective Textbook Adoption Committees for implementation in the fall of 2012. Following discussion where committee members responded to Board questions, Mr. Reid made a motion, seconded by Ms. Davis, that the Board approve the recommended textbooks adoptions as presented. The motion was approved (ayes 10, nays 0) and textbooks adopted as follows:

1.	Advanced Placement (AP) Comparative Government	
	Title:	<i>Comparative Government: Domestic Responses to Global Challenges</i> , 8 <sup>th</sup> edition
	Author:	Charles Hauss
	Publisher:	Holt McDougal, Inc.
	Copyright:	2012

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2.	Mathematics: AP Calculus AB and BC
	Title: <i>Calculus: Graphical, Numerical and Algebraic</i> , 4 <sup>th</sup> edition
	Author: Finney, Demana, Waits and Kennedy
	Publisher: Pearson Prentice Hall
	Copyright: 2011
3.	Computer Solutions I and II
	Title: <i>It! Series (Word It!, Excel It!, Access It!, Publish It!, Present It!)</i>
	Authors: <i>Access It!, Excel It!, Word It!</i> , The Development Team at B.E. Publishing and Linda Viveriros & Diane Silvia, Editors; <i>Publish It!</i> , Rebecca Olson-Brown; <i>Present It!</i> , Kathleen Hicks & Tommie Lee Greer Morrison
	Publisher: B. E. Publishing
	Copyright: 2007 ( <i>Publish It!</i> ), 2011 (all others)
4.	Health Sciences Academy Introduction to Health Occupations
	Title: <i>Health Science Fundamentals: Exploring Career Pathways</i>
	Authors: Shirley A. Badasch and Doreen S. Chesebro
	Publisher: Pearson
	Copyright: 2011
5.	Global Studies and World Languages Academy AP World History
	Title: <i>Traditions &amp; Encounters</i> , 5 <sup>th</sup> edition (AP Edition)
	Authors: Bentley and Ziegler
	Publisher: McGraw Hill
	Copyright: 2011

**9. Information**

A. **Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Resignations and Appointments:** Dr. Sheila S. Magula, Deputy Superintendent, presented to the Board for information a resignation and proposed reappointments to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC). She advised the Board of the resignation of Sara MacDonald who relocated to Chesapeake, and proposed reappointments of Sandra Hermann, who currently serves as committee chair, and Cheryl Ward.

**10. Committee Reports:** Mr. Salyer passed on good wishes to his replacement on the Equity Council with the approval of committee assignments earlier in the meeting, and reflected on his experience serving on the Council. Ms. McLeod reported the Building Utilization Committee (BUC) is scheduled to meet January 4, 2012 to finalize their report for presentation to the Board before taking to the community for input.

The Board recessed at 4:43 p.m. and reconvened in the School Board Room at 5:06 p.m. to conduct the public interview process with five finalists for the School Board At-Large vacancy.

**11. At-Large School Board Applicant Interviews:** Chairman Edwards explained the procedure to be used to interview five applicants identified by the Board to interview for the At-Large School Board vacancy in the following order determined by a random selection made at the December 20 meeting: Mona T. Gunn, Tim Crowley, Leonard C. Tengco, Sharon R. Felton and D. Scott Seery. Each Board member was allocated 2 to 2-1/2 minutes to question applicants from a list of questions provided to candidates in advance. However they were not constrained to the question and could substitute based on an earlier question or if answers were short and they wished to elicit additional information during the thirty minute time allotted each finalist. Below outlines the framework of questions used during the interview process.

Questions

- What community experience have you been involved with & how has it influenced you to seek this appointment? (McLeod)
- Why do you want to be a School Board Member? (Holtz)

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- What do you feel you can contribute to the school governance process? What leadership skills would you bring? (Weems)
  - Tough decisions - redistricting, student discipline, cell phone policies: What criteria would you use in voting? (Brunke)
  - How do your experience and background relate to your anticipated duties as a School Board Member? (Mckenzie)
  - Who do you think the stakeholders in our schools are & what is their role? (Davidson)
  - If forced to reduce school expenditures significantly, what would you cut? (Davis)
  - What would be your top priorities for the schools & how would you achieve them? (Reid)
  - Do you anticipate running for the Board if appointed? If not appointed? (Edwards)
  - What does diversity on the School Board mean to you? (Salyer)

Interviews concluded at 6:55 p.m.

**12. *Closed Meeting:*** Vice Chairman Brunke made a motion, seconded by Ms. Weems, that the Board recess into a closed meeting pursuant to the exemptions from open meetings allowed by Section 2.2-3711, Part A, Paragraphs 1 & 7 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for the following purposes:

- A. **Personnel Matters:** Discussion of or consideration of interviews of prospective candidates for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711, (A) (1); namely to discuss: candidates for appointment to the School Board vacancy.
- B. **Legal Matters:** Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the Board or consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A) (7); namely to discuss: potential legal issues related to the appointment process.

The motion was approved (ayes 9, nays 1 – Mckenzie) and the Board recessed at 6:58 p.m. and reconvened in Room 113 in a closed meeting at 7:15 p.m.

**Individuals present for discussion:** School Board members; Ms. Kamala H. Lannetti, Deputy City Attorney; Ms. LaRana J. Owens, Associate City Attorney; and Ms. Dianne P. Alexander, Clerk of the Board.

The Board reconvened in an open meeting at 8:30 p.m.

**Certification of Closed Meeting:** Vice Chairman Brunke made a motion, seconded by Ms. Davis, that the Board certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed; and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered. The motion was approved (ayes 9, nays 1 - Mckenzie). Mr. Mckenzie stated his nay vote was because he felt side-bar discussions during the closed meeting may have strayed from the stated intent, and as reflected in his nay vote to enter into a closed meeting, he did not agree discussion of the appointment should have taken place in a closed meeting.

The Board recessed at 8:32 p.m. to return to the School Board Room, and reconvened in formal meeting format at 8:38 p.m.

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- 13. *Vote on Remaining Action Items: Appointment to At-Large School Board Vacancy:*** Ms. Weems made a motion, seconded by Mr. Salyer, that the Board approve the appointment of D. Scott Seery to fill the unexpired term of an At-Large vacancy for the period ending December 31, 2012. Prior to the vote, Mr. Mckenzie advised he would be voting against the motion and explained it was not so much an objection of Mr. Seery who he felt would make a more than adequate School Board member, but because he had certain objections he has not been able to overcome; primarily the rejection by the voters. He stated he felt Mr. Seery should subject himself to the voters again instead of asking the Board to give him a position. Additionally, he stated he was deeply disappointed that the Board continues its “destructive history of overlooking exceptionally qualified, minority candidates” when making appointments to the Board. The motion was then approved (ayes 7, nays 3 – Davidson/Holtz/Mckenzie).
- 14. *Adjournment:*** There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Edwards adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dianne P. Alexander, Clerk of the Board

Approved:

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Daniel D. Edwards, Chairman