

REGULAR MEETING of the NOTTOWAY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD – 7 p.m.
Nottoway High School Mini Auditorium
July 9, 2020

Board Members Present: Bill Outlaw, Jamie Higgins, Clive Pettis, Jimmy Fowlkes and Shelli Hinton

Administrative Staff Present: Dr. Tameshia V. Grimes, Superintendent; Dr. Joan Dooley, Director of Exceptional Education; Amy Eberly, Director of Finance; Marcia Martin, Director of Instruction, Grants and Testing; Donna Wade, Deputy Clerk; Charlotte Wood, Clerk; Candace Barnette, NHS Assistant Principal; Dr. Chandra Lewis, NIS Principal; Jane Geyer, NMS Principal; Lloyd Page, CPS Principal; Reggie Wilson, NHS Principal

Agenda Item #1 – CALL TO ORDER – Mrs. Hinton opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item #2 – MOMENT OF SILENCE / PRAYER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Agenda Item #3 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- A. Mrs. Hinton asked if there was a motion to approve the July 9, 2020 agenda. Pettis made a motion. Outlaw seconded the motion, all in favor.

Agenda Item #4 – AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- A. Crewe Primary School and Nottoway Middle School were recognized Virginia Board of Education Continuous Improvement Exemplar Award

Agenda Item #5 - DELEGATIONS / PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. None

Agenda Item #6 - CONSENT AGENDA:

Outlaw offered a motion to approve the consent agenda. Pettis seconded the motion, all in favor.

- A. Approval of Minutes: June 11, 2020
- B. Financial Report: June 30, 2020
- C. Payrolls: June 15 & 30, 2020
- D. Monthly Warrants
- E. Budget Adjustments – A1, A2, A3 and A4
- F. Authorization of signatures on Virginia Department of Education documents in the absence of the Division Superintendent – Dr. Grimes

Agenda Item #7 ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Second Reading of the 2020 School Board Policy Updates by Dr. Grimes. Question was asked about the policy regarding meeting electronically. Pettis made a motion to accept. Fowlkes seconded. All in favor.
- B. Reopening School for the 2020-2021 school year by Dr. Grimes. The “phase approach” was presented as per the July 7 work session. The board is tasked discussing and approving how to proceed with reopening. Discussion was made regarding cleaning, having enough custodians, vocational center, producing a master plan for cleaning based on guidance and procedures, and how other divisions in Region 8 are moving forward.

The board was asked when they would prefer to start: Fowlkes: cannot move forward until a cleaning plan is in place. Pettis: would not let them come back until after Christmas. Outlaw: Observation – COVID continues to be a moving target. We need to be flexible because we do not know all the answers. But be on our guard. Hinton: employee and parent survey – 70% they are likely or certain to send their children to school; 73% employees would like to return. Students will have the opportunity to do virtually. We need to take the data into consideration... would like an after Labor Day start to give more time for training and preparation (students coming back Sept. 8th). Outlaw: likes starting after Labor Day, and then watch data to see if we need to move back further. Fowlkes: is not comfortable for kids returning in the building – cannot give a date. Outlaw: all families will have the option to participate in a remote learning option. Higgins would like after Labor Day with strong reevaluations. Dr. Grimes - VDOE and the Governor said we have to provide new instruction beginning in the fall. Pettis: what is the expected ADM and how many of the students do expect to come back based on the survey? Answers: 1,900 students; 130 responses – 54 responded yes; 55 responded virtual. Outlaw: can teachers provide virtual learning for those who are concerned about their health. Answer: it's possible, but depends on how teachers are endorsed.

1. Outlaw made a motion to start September 8, 2020 for students. Higgins seconded. Motion carries with a 3:2 vote (Pettis and Fowlkes nay)
 2. Outlaw made a motion to approve Virtual Learning for all phases with a 9-week commitment. Fowlkes seconded. Discussion – Will we have a virtual learning plan at the next SB meeting... and a better report on what Nottoway County trends are. All in favor with a 5:0 vote
 3. Fowlkes made a motion to approve Phase 1 on September 8, 2020. Outlaw seconded. All in favor. Discussion: Trends will be watched carefully.
- C. Resolution to Grant School Boards Local Flexibility in Re-opening Schools in the Fall of 2020 by Dr. Grimes. Discussion: Why do we need a resolution to have flexibility? The decision is already in the hands of the School Board. The resolution gives us flexibility just for our county. Outlaw made the motion to approve. Higgins seconded. The motion failed with a 2:3 vote (Higgins, Pettis and Fowlkes nay)

Agenda Item #8 NON-ACTION ITEMS:

- A. None at this time.

Agenda Items #9 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Superintendent's Report by Dr. Grimes. Summer School will start Monday. It will be ½ days instead of full days. They will use NMS and NHS buildings. They've been separated by wings of the buildings. 10:1 ratio. Right now 90 to 100 students across the board. Requirements to attend: academically, health, and safety. Performing below grade level, credit recoveries, grad requirements, English and math requirements. Staggered lunch times and cleaning in between. Screening questions and temperature checks before entering the building. Frequent hygiene promotions – hand washing, social distancing, use of same computer, desk. They will not be changing classes.

Agenda Item #10 MATTERS OF SCHOOL BOARD INTEREST

- A. VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference – Virtual – September 24, 2020
- B. Future Agenda Items
- C. Other – Fowlkes – communication and information. We are not receiving all the information before it goes out to the community. SB members as elected official are to answer. Graduation information... verbage in contracts... ANTC. Communication is key. We need to do a better job.

Agenda Item #11 CLOSED MEETING RESOLUTION

Higgins offered a motion pursuant to section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia that the Board convene a “Closed Meeting” for the purpose of discussing the following specific matters:

- A. 43 appointments (1 school counselor, 1 elementary teacher, 1 special education teacher, 7 administrative liaisons for the 2020-21 school year, 5 technology liaisons, 3 parent liaisons, 23 summer school teachers, 1 summer school site facilitator and 1 Director of Human Resources & Community Relations)
- B. Four (4) resignations (1 school counselor, 1 food service worker, part-time, 1 Science teacher and 1 school nurse)
- C. Salaries (discussion of food service personnel and discussion of teachers)
- D. One (1) Retirement (1 Director of Finance)
- E. Reappointments (64 2020-21 Coaches and Sponsors)
as authorized by Section 2.2-3711.A.1

Fowlkes seconded. All in favor.

Agenda Item #12 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

- A. Higgins offered a motion that the Board return to “Open Meeting” and certify by recorded vote, that to the best of each Board Member’s knowledge only public matters lawfully exempted from “Open Meeting” requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and identified in the motion authorizing the “Closed Meeting” were heard, discussed, or considered in the “Closed Meeting”.

Pettis seconded the motion and the motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Outlaw, Higgins, Pettis, Fowlkes, Hinton

Motion passed by a 5:0 vote

- B. Certified

Agenda Item #13 ACTION FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

- A. Superintendent’s Personnel Agenda.

Higgins offered motion to approve the Superintendent’s Personnel Agenda 13A.1-41, 13A.43, 13B1-4, 13D1 and 13E1. Outlaw seconded the motion, and the motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Outlaw, Higgins, Pettis, Fowlkes, Hinton; Motion passed by a 5:0 vote

Higgins offered motion to approve the Superintendent’s Personnel Agenda 13A.42. Outlaw seconded the motion, and the motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Outlaw, Higgins, Hinton; NAY: Pettis, Fowlkes; Motion passed by a 3:2 vote

Agenda Item #14 ADJOURNMENT

Pettis offered motion to adjourn at 8:54 p.m. Higgins seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Shelli Hinton, Chairperson

Date

Charlotte D. Wood, Clerk