

COVINGTON CITY SCHOOL BOARD
Minutes
August 8, 2016

The Covington City School Board held its regular meeting in the Board conference on Monday, August 8, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. with the following members in attendance:

Cynthia Bennett, Chair
Nicole Rickett, Vice-Chair
Bert Baker
Eddy Clemons
Dizzy Garten

Superintendent Melinda Snead-Johnson was present as were Shannon Fuhrman, Director of Instruction and Technology; Marc Smith, Supervisor of Student Services; Derek Cantrell, Principal of Covington High School; Robert Bennett, Principal of Jeter-Watson Intermediate School; Cynthia Morgan, Principal of Edgemont Primary School, and Rebecca Irvine, Clerk.

Mrs. Bennett called the meeting to order and requested a moment of silence. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION/DELEGATION

Kit Staunton was present from the CHS Quarterback Club. The concession stand at Casey Field suffered \$9,400 in damages due to the June 27th flood. Mr. Staunton noted that the Quarterback Club is making every effort to secure replacement equipment to be open for the Fall sports season. He also thanked all volunteers who helped with flood cleanup.

Tammy Scruggs-Duncan was present to update the Board on the Alleghany Highlands Arts Council campaign to raise \$75,000 in match funds for the QZAB loan for CHS improvements. Eighty percent (80%) of the funds needed have been secured.

MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mr. Garten, seconded by Mr. Baker, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of: June 20th; June 29th; July 1st; July 11th; and July 26th, 2016.

FINANCE

Upon a motion by Mr. Clemons, seconded by Mr. Garten, the Board unanimously approved invoices for July and August totaling \$434,247.58.

2016 VSBA MEDIA HONOR ROLL RESOLUTION

Upon a motion by Mr. Garten, seconded by Mr. Baker, the Board unanimously approved the nomination of Jerome Johnson, from The Virginian Review to the 2016 VSBA Media Honor Roll. The Media Honor Roll recognizes responsible and exemplary reporting on Virginia public schools. Mrs. Bennett read the resolution.

MINUTES – AUGUST 8, 2016

QZAB RESOLUTION

Mrs. Snead-Johnson requested Board approval of a resolution regarding Qualified Zone Academy Bonds (QZAB). City Council has authorized the School Board to make application to the Virginia Department of Education to issue QZABs to finance roof and auditorium improvements to CHS in an amount not to exceed \$750,000.

Upon a motion by Mr. Garten, seconded by Mr. Clemons, the Board unanimously approved this resolution. Mrs. Bennett read the resolution.

DISCUSSION – SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Garten suggested we have a table at the ACH/CHS football game requesting donations for concession stand equipment replacement.

Mr. Baker suggested that the donation drive be a community-wide effort.

Mr. Clemons noted that efforts need to be spearheaded by the Quarterback Club.

Mrs. Rickett updated the Board on the Jackson River Governor's School.

COMMITTEE & JOINT BOARD REPORTS

The JRTC Joint Board of Control meets on August 9th at noon.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

Mrs. Snead-Johnson introduced principals to present crisis management plans for each school. Mr. Cantrell reviewed the plan for CHS, and Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Morgan reviewed the plans for JWIS and EPS.

Upon a motion by Baker, seconded by Mr. Garten, the Board unanimously approved the crisis management plans as presented. Plans will be certified to the Virginia Safety Commission this week.

Mrs. Snead-Johnson reported that preliminary accreditation results have been received, and the news is positive. CHS has met all benchmarks, including graduation rate and is fully accredited in all areas. JWIS is also fully accredited in all areas. EPS needs improvement in English and Reading, and this will be its first year in warning. A corrective action plan will need to be developed. A celebration will be held at CHS tomorrow.

Mrs. Snead-Johnson noted that new teachers reported last week, and today all teachers reported and attended a joint convocation with Alleghany County Public Schools for a presentation by Dave Weber. ACPS provided a continental breakfast and box lunches for all staff present. She looks forward to a great opening. Mrs. Morgan reported that "fill the bus" at Wal-Mart was held on Saturday, and an open house will be held at EPS on August 11th from 12 – 5. Mr. Bennett noted that he enjoyed the message from Dave Weber. Mr. Cantrell reported that full accreditation was a major boost for staff at CHS.

MINUTES – AUGUST 8, 2016

Brenda Perkins reported that both EPS and JWIS qualified for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), which means that every child in both schools will receive a free breakfast and lunch. The Board thanked Mrs. Perkins for her efforts and noted that this is great news for the community. Mrs. Perkins noted that participation in CEP may also make schools eligible for additional programs that she is exploring.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion by Mr. Clemons, seconded by Mr. Garten, the Board unanimously approved an executive session to discuss matters in relation to the Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) Personnel.

Upon a motion by Mr. Garten, seconded by Mr. Baker, the Board came out of executive session at 9:10 p.m.

Upon a return to open session, the Board agreed to certify the closed session under the Code of Virginia, Section 2.1-3711 (A) (1) Personnel with a roll call vote.

PERSONNEL

Upon a motion by Mr. Clemons, seconded by Mrs. Rickett, the Board unanimously approved the following personnel recommendations:

Appointments:

Hinkle, Addison	Paraprofessional/Full-time
Lindsay, Matthew	Volunteer Football Manager
Phillips, Randy	Head Wrestling Coach
Gibson, W. Austin	Assistant Football Coach/Volunteer
Moore, Keith	Boys Head Varsity Basketball Coach
Hale, Charity	Co-Assistant Athletic Director
Jones, Christopher	Co-Assistant Athletic Director
Anderson, Anderson	Nurse
Hume, Melinda	Paraprofessional/Full-time

Substitute Teachers/Aides:

Bennett, Vanessa	Hanna, Clara
Cooper, Robert	Hudson, Terri
Cosby, Donna	Jones, Debbie
Crawford, Margaret	Jones, Maddie
Crawford, Wayne	Mann, Megan
DiBenedetto, Francesca	McCallister, Beverly
Dressler, Charles (Jr.)	Meyer, Susan
Dressler, Machel	Morris, Jody
Fasig, Holly	Pillow, Hannah
Forbes, Karie	Preston, Tamala
Fisher, Rose	Rice, Anita

MINUTES – AUGUST 8, 2016

Fuhrman, Richard
Gibson, M. Vance
Givens, Susan
Hall, Deanna
Halsey, David (Sr.)

Rice, Bobby
Scruggs, Nanci
Stapleton, Daniel
Wallace, Diane
Wood, Kathryn

Resignation:

Gibson, M. Vance

Assistant Varsity Football Coach

The Board adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Cynthia Bennett, Chair

Rebecca Irvine, Clerk

