

COVINGTON CITY SCHOOL BOARD
Minutes
December 9, 2019

The Covington City School Board held its regular meeting in the Board conference room on Monday, December 9, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. with the following members in attendance:

Tamala Preston, Chair
Jonathan Arritt
Bert Baker
Erika Hunter
Tonya Jones

Superintendent Melinda Snead-Johnson was present as were Shannon Fuhrman, Director of Instruction and Technology; Derek Cantrell, Principal of CHS; and Rebecca Irvine, Clerk.

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

RECOGNITIONS/DELEGATIONS

Charity Hale, Athletic Director, updated Board members on plans for the girls' basketball trip to Florida, December 18 – 22, 2019.

MINUTES

Upon a motion by Mr. Arritt, seconded by Mrs. Hunter, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of November 11, 2019.

FINANCE

Upon a motion by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Jones, the Board unanimously approved invoices totaling \$950,975.42.

The Board reviewed expenditure allocations from CHS, JWIS, and EPS and the division-wide budget analysis through November, 2019.

Mrs. Snead-Johnson noted that Governor Northam will release his budget in mid-December and the Virginia Department of Education will post revenue templates shortly thereafter.

SMART GOALS UPDATE/STRATEGIC PLAN

Mrs. Snead-Johnson noted that Dr. Fuhrman has updated the strategic plan to include Board SMART goals. Ms. Jones noted that the Virginia State Reading Association Conference in March was an important professional development opportunity. Mrs. Snead-Johnson noted that January 2 – 3, 2020 are staff work days, with professional development scheduled on these dates.

MINUTES – DECEMBER 9, 2019

STATE GOLF TEAM – OVERNIGHT TRIP

Mrs. Snead-Johnson requested Board approval of overnight field trips for the CHS wrestling team to travel to Harrisonburg on December 13-14, 2019 and Grundy on December 27-29, 2019.

Upon a motion by Mr. Baker, seconded, by Mr. Arritt, the Board unanimously approved the overnight field trip for the CHS wrestling team.

DISCUSSION/OTHER NEW BUSINESS – SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Arritt updated the Board on recent Joint Services Committee meetings. The Committee has held two meetings November 14th and December 5th. At the November 14th meeting the consensus was to propose a seven-member Board with two representatives from the City, two from the County and three at-large. An at-large vote across two localities would most likely require new legislation. At the December 5th meeting, the consensus was for each locality to maintain existing debt obligations. The Committee also agreed on the need for a comprehensive facility study of all schools. Mrs. Snead-Johnson noted that a facility study was completed on CHS in March of 2015, and staff are currently working on a capital improvement plan. The next meeting is scheduled for December 12th.

COMMITTEE & JOINT BOARD REPORTS

The JRTC Joint Board of Control will meet on Tuesday, December 10th at noon.

The Jackson River Governor's School Board will meet on January 29th.

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORTS

Mrs. Snead-Johnson presented a membership report and noted that current enrollment is 966.

Mrs. Snead-Johnson shared with the Board her comments from the VSBA conference.

Mrs. Snead-Johnson, Miss Irvine, and Mrs. Lambert, attended a webinar on Board Docs, an electronic system used by several School Boards across Virginia, and a company representative is available to present at the January 13, 2020, Board meeting.

Ms. Jones commended the staff of CHS on their Facebook page as way to inform the community.

Mrs. Preston commended CHS staff and students for their SOL preparation and EPS staff for Career Day.

Mr. Baker noted that the membership report presented shows that enrollment is trending upward.

MINUTES – DECEMBER 9, 2019

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion by Mr. Baker, seconded by Mr. Arritt, the Board unanimously approved an executive session at 7:15 p.m. to discuss matters in relation to the Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) Personnel.

Upon a return to open session at 8:14 p.m., 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 Ms. Jones, seconded by Mr. Arritt, the Board unanimously approved the following personnel resignations and appointments:

Resignations:

Brewster, Tara
Samuels, Jamel
Copenhaver, Ruth Lowe

Head Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach
Assistant Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach
Edgemont Primary School/Special Education
Teacher – Effective at the end of the 2019 – 2020
school year

Appointments:

Redmon, Roy
Balsler, Pricilla
Morgan, Chris
Smith, Bobby
Sower, Myia/ProCare Therapy
Taylor, Darrick

Head Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach (interim)
JV Head Girls' Basketball Coach (interim)
Assistant JV Boys' Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Assistant JV Boys Basketball Coach (Volunteer)
Speech Language Pathologist Services
Substitute Teacher/Aide

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Tamala Preston, Chair

Rebecca Irvine, Clerk

