

BRISTOL VIRGINIA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR SESSION
MARCH 3, 2008
6:00 P.M.

The Bristol Virginia School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, March 3, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. in the Virginia High School Library, 1200 Long Crescent Drive, Bristol, Virginia. The following Board members were present:

Mr. Butch Tolley, Chair
Mr. Eric Clark
Mr. Randall J. White

Mr. Ronald Cameron, Vice Chair
Mrs. Virginia Goodson

Also present were:

Dr. Douglas E. Arnold, Superintendent
Mrs. Tammy Jones, Clerk

Dr. Michael K. Amstein, Assistant Superintendent

Among those in the audience were:

Mrs. Patty Bowers
Mr. Dennis Staton
Mr. Gary Ritchie
Mr. Jeff Shelton
Mrs. Mary Shaffer

Dr. Terry Caldwell
Dr. Linda Brittle
Mrs. Andrea Birchfield
Ms. Kathy Hicks
Mr. David McGee, *Bristol Herald Courier*

Mrs. Debbie Leonard
Mr. Mike Braswell
Mrs. Janet Jones
Mrs. Helen Marlowe

Others may have been present, but failed to sign in.

Mr. Butch Tolley, Chair, called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Tolley asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mrs. Virginia Goodson moved that the agenda be amended to include an additional item to the Closed Session, 7(A)(2)(a) Discussion of Certain Personnel Issue. Mr. Ronald Cameron seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Tolley asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Randy White so moved. Mr. Cameron seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approval of Minutes
 - (1) Regular Session – February 4, 2008
 - (2) Called Session – February 18, 2008
- B. Approval of Payment of Bills
- C. Approval of Additions to Substitute Teacher List
- D. Approval of Requests for Transfer of Sick Leave Days
- E. Approval of Letter of Retirement from Dwight Kirk, Stonewall Jackson Elementary School
- F. Approval of Letter of Resignation from Jill Matchett, Virginia High School

(Copies of the Additions to Substitute List, Requests for Transfer of Sick Leave Days, Letter of Retirement from Dwight Kirk, and Letter of Resignation from Jill Matchett are included with these minutes.)

At this time, Dr. Doug Arnold, Superintendent, commended Mr. Dwight Kirk for his 34 years of service and wished him well on his retirement.

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No one addressed the Board during the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Included in the Focus on Instruction reports were presentations on the Skills USA and Special Education programs. Virginia High School Career and Technical Education students demonstrated Skills USA opening/closing procedures. Mrs. Patty Bowers, Director of Student Services and Special Education, presented the report on Special Education.

Dr. Arnold presented the Superintendent's Report which included the following:

- He informed the Board that March was designated as National Professional Social Workers Month.
- Presentation of VIP (Virginia Index of Performance) Awards

Dr. Arnold addressed Item 5(A) Approval of 2007-2008 Budget Revision #7. He outlined the revisions in revenues and expenditures. Mrs. Goodson moved approval of 2007-2008 Budget Revision #7 as presented. Mr. White seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. (A copy of 2007-2008 Budget Revision #7 is included with these minutes.)

Dr. Michael Amstein, Assistant Superintendent, addressed Item 5(B) Approval of 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 School Calendars. Mrs. Goodson moved approval of 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 School Calendars. Mr. White seconded the motion. There was considerable discussion and concerns were presented about approving a two-year calendar as well as the make-up of the calendar committee and the access for staff to review the calendars. The motion failed with Mr. Clark and Mrs. Goodson voting "nay" and Mr. White and Mr. Tolley voting "aye" and Mr. Cameron abstaining. It was the consensus of the Board to vote on the 2008-2009 School Calendar only. Mr. White moved approval of the 2008-2009 School Calendar. Mr. Cameron seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Cameron, Mrs. Goodson, Mr. White, and Mr. Tolley voting "aye" and Mr. Clark voting "nay." (A copy of the 2008-2009 School Calendar is included with these minutes.)

Dr. Arnold addressed Item 5(C) Approval of Overnight Spring Break Baseball Trip. Mrs. Goodson moved approval of the trip as presented. Mr. White seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. (A copy of the form outlining the trip is included with these minutes.)

Dr. Amstein addressed Item 5(D) Approval of Revisions to Course Offerings at VMS for 2008-2009. He outlined the new courses to be offered as well as the elimination of certain offerings. Mrs. Goodson moved approval of the revisions as presented. Mr. Cameron seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. (A copy of the memo outlining the recommendations from the Curriculum Advisory Committee is included with these minutes.)

Dr. Arnold addressed Item 6(A) Discussion of Administrative Salary Schedule. He outlined the revised salary schedule which would be incorporated in the 2008-2009 School Board Budget, which will be presented to the Board for approval. There was discussion about increasing the coaching supplements and the supplements paid for advanced degrees.

Dr. Arnold addressed Item 6(B) Discussion of 2008-2009 School Board Budget and 2008-2009 Food Service Budget. Dr. Arnold outlined the proposed 2008-2009 School Board Budget and reviewed the budget assumptions. Ms Kathy Hicks, Food Service Supervisor, presented the proposed 2008-2009 Food Service Budget.

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Mr. Ronnie Collins, VHS Assistant Principal, addressed Item 6(C) Proposed Revision to Regulation IKF-R(3) - Repeating Courses for Credit. He reviewed the revision which would allow grades to be replaced upon repeating the course during a regular school term rather than having both grades on the transcripts and being averaged. The replacement grade would not apply to courses taken in summer school. He demonstrated how this practice would not affect the calculations for class rank, but would affect GPA calculations. Dr. Arnold indicated that the regulation would be brought to the Board for approval in April.

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712(A) of the Code of Virginia, Mr. Cameron moved that the Board convene a Closed Meeting for the purpose of discussing the following specific matters:

- A. Discussion of Personnel as Authorized by Section 2.2-3711(A) (1) of the Code of Virginia, Specifically:
 - (1) Approval of Employment of Non-Tenured Professional Staff for 2008-2009
 - (2) Approval of Employment of Part-Time Teacher at Highlands Juvenile Detention Center
 - (a.) Discussion of Certain Personnel Issue (*Added when agenda was amended*)
 - (3) Discussion of Superintendent's Contract
 - (4) Approval of Employment and Approval of Resignation(s) as needed

Mrs. Goodson seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board went into Closed Session at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Back in Public Session at approximately 9:45 p.m., Mr. Cameron moved Certification of Closed Meeting as such: the Bristol Virginia School 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 in the closed meeting and only such public matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were considered. Mrs. Goodson seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. White moved approval of employment of non-tenured professional staff for 2008-2009 as recommended granting continuing contract status for those eligible and highlighted on the list. Mrs. Goodson seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. (A copy of the list of non-tenured professional staff for 2008-2009 is included with these minutes, with highlighted individuals attaining continuing contract status upon employment for 2008-2009.)

Mr. White moved approval of employment of Barbara Cardwell as a part-time remedial teacher at Highlands Juvenile Detention Center. Mrs. Goodson seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. (A copy of the letter of recommendation for employment is included with these minutes.)

The following items were discussed during the Old and New Business portion of the meeting:

- Dr. Arnold indicated that a student hearing would be scheduled on March 17 to address a disciplinary matter.
- Dr. Arnold indicated that he was trying to coordinate a joint meeting with the Washington County School Board but had not received possible dates yet.
- Dr. Arnold indicated that he had approved a few overnight trips which due to time constraints, were not submitted in time for Board approval, since the policy was just revised last month.

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- Dr. Arnold discussed a recent accident which involved a Virginia High School student.

Mr. Tolley adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:56 p.m.

Cathy M. Moss, Deputy Clerk

Butch Tolley, Chair