

BRISTOL VIRGINIA SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR SESSION
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009
6:00 P.M.

The Bristol Virginia School Board met in Regular Session on Monday, September 14, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. at the School Board Office, 222 Oak Street, Bristol, Virginia. The following Board members were present:

Mrs. Virginia Goodson, Chair
Mr. Ronald Cameron

Mr. Randall J. White, Vice Chair
Mr. Tyrone Foster

Absent: Mr. Eric Clark

Also present were:

Mrs. Ina Danko, Superintendent
Mrs. Tammy Jones, Clerk

Dr. Michael K. Amstein, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Cathy Moss, Deputy Clerk

Among those in the audience were:

Dr. Martin Ringstaff
Mr. Dennis Staton
Mrs. Patty Bowers
Mr. Randy Alvis
Mr. David McGee, *Bristol Herald Courier*

Mr. Jeff Shelton
Dr. Terry Caldwell
Mrs. Mary Shaffer
Mr. Gary Maggard

Mr. Gary Ritchie
Mrs. Jennifer Hurt
WCYB-TV 5

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

Mrs. Virginia Goodson, Chair, called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Goodson asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Ronald Cameron so moved. Mr. Randy White seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Goodson asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Cameron so moved. Mr. Tyrone Foster seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approval of Minutes
 - (1) Regular Session – 8/3/09
 - (2) Called Session – 8/17/09
- B. Approval of Payment of Bills
- C. Approval of Additions to Substitute Teacher List
- D. Approval of Advisory Committees for 2009-2010
 - (1) Career and Technical Education

- (2) Advanced Programs
- (3) Curriculum

(Copies of the Additions to the Substitute Teacher List and 2009-2010 Advisory Committees are included with these minutes.)

During the Public Comment portion of the meeting, Mr. Gary Maggard from Wise, Virginia, addressed the Board. He represented the Fellowship of Christian Athletes organization and requested the use of the football facilities to hold the 2009 High School Senior All Star Football Battle of the Border, Virginia vs. Tennessee, on Saturday, December 5, 2009. He noted that the event was being scheduled in honor and memory of Senior Jake Logue, Sullivan South's #54. He indicated that he had talked with Mr. Kevin Dye, Bristol Virginia Parks and Recreation.

Mrs. Goodson commented that scheduling availability would be determined and that the Board would respond in writing to his request.

At this time, Mrs. Goodson commended the VHS baseball player who was interviewed during the August NASCAR race. She noted that he did a great job with the television interview.

Mrs. Goodson also reminded the Board of the upcoming VSBA Leadership Conference to be held on October 2, 2009, in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Mrs. Goodson commended Mr. Mike Braswell, Mr. Randy Flinchum, and Mrs. Vicie Dotson for their work for the community involving the Rhythm and Roots Festival.

Mrs. Goodson thanked the Board for changing the regularly scheduled meeting to accommodate her recent trip.

Mr. Cameron commended Mr. Dennis Staton, Van Pelt Principal, and the Van Pelt staff for the event which was held before school started. He noted that over 500 were in attendance.

Mrs. Ina Danko, Superintendent, presented the Superintendent's Report which included the following:

- She informed the Board that additional grant funding had been approved to equip a new serving line at the Washington-Lee Elementary School cafeteria. She added that this would make a total of five new serving lines in the division.
- She informed the Board that the annual United Way of Bristol campaign was underway. She encouraged participation.
- She noted that the SOL Perfect Score Recognition Program was scheduled for Monday, September 21, 2009, at 7 p.m. in the VHS auditorium. She also noted that the Board would meet in a Called Session at 6 p.m. in the VHS library to approve bids for the replacement of the VHS gym floor.
- Mrs. Danko commended the Board members for their participation in VSBA activities and presented certificates from the VSBA as follows:
 - Certificates of Recognition – Mr. Clark and Mr. Foster

- Award of Excellence (with lapel pin) – Mr. Cameron and Mr. White
- Award of Distinction (with lapel pin) – Mrs. Goodson

At this time, Mrs. Goodson presented Mrs. Danko with an Award of Achievement certificate from VSBA with a lapel pin for her participation in VSBA activities.

Mrs. Tammy Jones, Director of Finance, addressed Item 5(A) Approval of 2009-2010 Budget Revision #1. She outlined the revisions to both revenues and expenditures. Mr. Foster moved approval of 2009-2010 Budget Revision #1 as presented. Mr. White seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. (A copy of the 2009-2010 Budget Revision #1 is included with these minutes.)

Mrs. Jones addressed Item 5(B) Adoption of Resolution Approving Material Modification of Section 125 Plan. She noted that due to new legislation, this resolution was required for compliance. Mr. Cameron moved adoption of the resolution as presented. Mr. Foster seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. (A copy of the resolution is included with these minutes.)

Mrs. Danko addressed Item 5(C) approval of Donation from “Winners Club.” She noted that activity fund procedures require that any donation greater than \$5,000 be approved by the Board. Since there is a possibility that the donations could be more than \$5,000, Board approval is requested. She added that all funds would be deposited into the VHS football activity account. Mr. Cameron moved acknowledgement and approval of donations from “Winners Club.” Mr. White seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. (Information outlining the process for receiving donations is included with these minutes.)

Mrs. Jones addressed Item 5(D) Approval of School Nutrition 2009-2010 Budget Revision #1. She outlined the revisions to both revenues and expenditures which reflect additional grant funding. Mr. Foster moved approval of the School Nutrition 2009-2010 Budget Revision #1 as presented. (A copy of the budget revision is included with these minutes.)

Mr. White indicated that he had requested that Item 5(E) Approval of Designation of Grades 1-5 Playground at Van Pelt Elementary School be included on the agenda. He requested that this item be struck from the agenda since the issue has been resolved satisfactorily. It was the consensus of the Board to strike this item from the agenda.

Dr. Michael Amstein, Assistant Superintendent, addressed Item 6(A) First Reading and Discussion of Revised School Board Policy JHCB – Student Immunizations. He indicated the policy was revised to include the use of the State Department Form CRE-1, Commonwealth of Virginia Certificate of Religious Exemption, when declaring exemption from immunizations due to religious convictions. No additions or deletions were suggested to the revised policy. Dr. Amstein indicated the policy would be considered for adoption on second reading in October.

Mrs. Goodson addressed Item 6(B) Superintendent Search. She updated the Board members on correspondence with VSBA. She noted that VSBA representatives would provide seven

applications for review and she would pick the applications up during the Leadership Conference on October 2. She added that the Board would review the applications and determine if any of the applicants would be interviewed.

Mrs. Goodson addressed Item 6(C) Discussion of School Board Policy KG and Regulation KG-R- Community Use of School Facilities. She indicated that the fee schedule for using school facilities was included in the regulation. She noted that since some requests have been received from various churches, she wanted the Board members to be aware of the fee schedule in place.

Dr. Terry Caldwell, Director of Personnel and Support Services, addressed Item 6(D) Report on GCA (Cleaning Service) Services. He reviewed the summer cleaning plan and the performance of the cleaning service. He indicated that deadlines were not met initially. He updated the Board on the status of the cleaning in each school and the extra precautions in place due to H1N1 and other health issues. He also expressed the need for consistent criteria for evaluations among the schools to rate the performance of the cleaning service. There was considerable discussion about ongoing issues with the cleaning service. It was the consensus of the Board to pursue offering in-house cleaning with school board employees if at all possible.

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712(A) of the Code of Virginia, Mr. White 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 Off-Site Academic Placement (OAP) Teacher
 - (2) Discussion of Job Performance of Certain School Board Employee

Mr. Foster seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:20 p.m.

Back in Public Session at 8:02 p.m., Mr. White 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. Mr. Foster seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Foster moved approval of employment of Janet Meadows, Off-Site Academic Placement (OAP) Teacher. Mr. Cameron seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. (A copy of the letter of recommendation of employment is included with these minutes.)

During the Old and New Business portion of the meeting, the following was discussed:

- Mrs. Danko distributed a packet of information to Board members about email correspondence and the ramifications of communications between teachers and parents as it relates to student records. Mrs. Patty Bowers, Director of Special Education Services, indicated that emails are considered a part of the student record. She noted that attorneys

recommend no email correspondence regarding students. She noted that right now principals make the determination as to whether teachers should use email to correspond with parents. Mrs. Danko noted that parents email teachers often and both teachers and parents prefer email. After considerable discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to require all emails be printed out and a hard copy filed.

- Mrs. Danko noted that the division has three mini-buses which are often used by athletic teams for transportation. She noted that no CDL is required to drive these vehicles due the occupancy numbers. She also noted that coaches without CDL's were being allowed to drive these vehicles, i.e., golf, volleyball, and cross country. She stated that this practice would probably save the division \$8,000-\$10,000 per year.
- Mrs. Goodson asked for clarification on an item in the FYI section of the packet – VMS after-school ZAP program. Mrs. Danko noted that this program was offered last year and would continue this year using stimulus funds.
- Mrs. Goodson indicated that she had concerns about a recent picture in the local paper of VHS football players as one player was sporting a blue bandana which could be associated with gang activity.

Mrs. Goodson adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Cathy M. Moss, Clerk

Virginia Goodson, Chair