

SCOTT COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING (ELECTRONIC MEETING), MAY 5, 2020

The Scott County School Board met for their regular meeting via electronic meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Pursuant to the approval of Resolution No. 20-001 – VSBA Legal and Regulatory Changes to Comply with State Temporary Laws and Regulations and Resolution No. 20-002 – Adoption of Procedures of the Locality for Electronic Public Meetings to ensure the continuity of Government during the COVID-19 Pandemic Disaster/adoption of Ordinance 2020-02 (Emergency) of the Board of Supervisors to effectuate temporary changes in certain deadlines and to modify public meetings and public hearing practices and procedures to address continuity of operations associated with the Pandemic Disaster. This will outline the business to be discussed on the agenda with the following members present via teleconference and two members present in office:

David Templeton, Chairman
Lon Stephen “Steve” Sallee, Jr., Vice-Chairman
Linda D. Gillenwater
Gail L. McConnell
Robin Hood
William “Bill” Houseright

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: John I. Ferguson, Division Superintendent; Jason Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Will Sturgill, School Board Attorney; Beverly Stidham, Clerk of the Board/Purchasing Agent; Angela Johnson, Deputy Clerk of the Board/School Nutrition Agent, Head Start Payroll Clerk.

A You Tube Link was available for the public to view this meeting.

CALL TO ORDER/MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Templeton called the May 5, 2020 regular (electronic) meeting of the Scott County School Board to order at 6:40 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. After doing so, he took a moment to acknowledge that the first week of May is Teacher Appreciation Week and he wanted to thank the Teachers and staff of Scott County for all they have been doing especially during this Pandemic, reaching out to the students, and he wanted everyone to know that he and the Board appreciated their dedication and service to the students. With those sentiments, the Board then observed a moment of silence. After the moment of silence, Chairman Templeton then asked Superintendent Ferguson to lead in citing the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairman Templeton noted that an item to add to the agenda under Superintendent’s Report is 8. W. asking the Board to approve the Budget close out meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. With this addition, he asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Steve Sallee, seconded by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the agenda with the addition of 8W. under Superintendent’s Report.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 7, 2020 REGULAR (ELECTRONIC) MEETING MINUTES: On a motion by Mr. Gail McConnell, seconded by Mr. Robin Hood, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the April 7, 2020 regular (electronic) meeting minutes as written.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: On a motion by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, seconded Mr. Steve Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the claims as follows:

School operating fund invoices and Payroll in the amount of \$625,927.55 as shown by warrants #8131175-8131260 & electronic payroll deposit in the amount of \$1,318,861.10 & electronic tax deposits in the amount of \$509,623.16 Cafeteria fund invoices & payroll in the amount of \$79,394.67 as shown by warrants #1019815-1019864; electronic payroll direct deposit for cafeteria in the amount of \$43,287.54; and electronic tax deposits in the amount of \$13,663.74. Head start invoices totaling \$130,206.54 as shown by warrants #21332-21414 (with check #21333 voided).

UPDATE OF COVID 19: Chairman Templeton stated that this was a general discussion and asked anyone if they had anything to contribute to the meeting concerning this topic. Mr. Bill Houseright asked the Board if there is something that can be done in regards to recognizing the seniors for graduation in some way that will be safe for them and in a manner that will be special for them. He pointed out that other school systems have been exploring other avenues of doing this. Mr. Smith pointed out that the Principals have been meeting and devising a plan for some type of graduation for our Seniors. He stated that the Board will have to schedule a special called meeting in May to approve the Budget and this can be looked at during this time to see what is best for everyone. Mr. Houseright pointed out several options for the Graduates. Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Sallee stated that we would follow the State's guidance and VA's Dept of Health on this and follow the established guidelines of what we can do. Chairman Templeton reiterated that the Principals are getting a lot of calls and he and the Board would love to do what they can do to make this year special for the graduates. He stated that he himself has a Senior and he would love to see him walk across the stage and get his diploma; however, he reinforced what had been said and they would do what has been established by the State and the VA Dept. of Health.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment at the Regular meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

(APPENDIX A): APPROVAL OF REQUEST OF \$4 MILLION LINE OF CREDIT FROM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: Superintendent Ferguson explained to the Board that each year he presents a request to the Board of Supervisors for the Treasurer to seek bids for a \$4 million line of credit to establish the School Board for expenditures at the beginning of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 until the tax base comes in to the County for the School Operating fund. Mr. Sallee asked the rate of interest and Mr. Ferguson replied that he thought that it was approximately 3.25%. This line of credit is paid back each fiscal year. The Board asked how much interest is paid to the County each year from this line of credit and Superintendent Ferguson replied that approximately \$28,000 each year is paid in interest. Mr. Ferguson stated that \$29,572.27 was paid the previous year. Superintendent Ferguson later stated in the meeting to the Board members that the interest paid on the 2019-2020 line of credit was \$27,891.04. Mr. Sallee asked if legally the Board could ask the Board of Supervisors for the local effort in July if they chose to and Superintendent Ferguson said the Board could do so. School Board Attorney Will Sturgill agreed that this could be done.

On a motion by Mr. Gail McConnell, seconded by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, all members voting aye except for one nay vote, the motion was carried to approve the request for the \$4 million line of credit from the Board of Supervisors.

Superintendent Ferguson presented for informational purposes the Waiver Request (**APPENDIX B**) for Missed Days of the 2019-2020 School Year. With no questions raised or comments, the next agenda item was presented.

Superintendent Ferguson also presented the 2020-2021 VaCorp Renewal for the Board's review.

APPROVAL OF AOA RENEWAL: (APPENDIX C): Superintendent Ferguson explained to the Board about the changes in the AOA (Appalachian Official's Association) Contract, he explained that for the upcoming school year there would be no changes in fees and pointed out that this serves all sports except for soccer and track.

On a motion by Mr. Gail McConnell, seconded by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the renewal of the AOA contract for the 2020-2021 year.

APPROVAL OF VSBA POLICY SERVICES RENEWAL 2020-2021: (APPENDIX D): On a motion by Mr. Steve Saltee, seconded by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 2020-2021 VSBA policy services renewal.

APPROVAL OF 8TH GRADE COURSE OF STUDY: (APPENDIX E): On behalf of Ms. Jennifer Frazier, Mr. Ferguson presented a new course of 8th grade study: Middle School Exploratory Dramatics I. The course description is as follows: The Middle School Exploratory Dramatics standards are designed to provide students with an introduction to the study of theatre history, dramatic literature, and theatrical production. Through research, planning, scripting, production, and performance experiences, students will acquire skills in communicating ideas, critical thinking, and collaborative problem solving. This course prepares students for further theatrical study and nurtures an appreciation for the many forms of theatre.

On a motion by Mr. Robin Hood, seconded by Mr. Bill Houseright, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 8th grade course of study, Middle School Exploratory Dramatics I.

APPROVAL OF VDOE PART B, SECTION 611, (FLOW THROUGH FUNDS) GRANT PERIOD JULY 1, 2020-SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 (APPENDIX F):

On a motion by Mr. Steve Saltee, seconded by Mr. Robin Hood, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the VDOE Part B, Section 611 Flow Through Funds Grant period July 1, 2020-September 30, 2021 in the amount of \$797,595.00.

APPROVAL OF VDOE PART B, SECTION 619 (EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANT) GRANT PERIOD JULY 1, 2020-SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 (APPENDIX G):

On a motion by Mr. Gail McConnell, seconded by Mr. Robin Hood, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the VDOE Part B, Section 619 Early Childhood Special Education Grant for the grant period July 1, 2020-September 30, 2021 in the amount of \$32,079.00.

APPROVAL OF EARLY HEAD START MARCH 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT: (APPENDIX H): On a motion by Mr. Steve Saltee, seconded by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the March 2020 Early Head Start financial report as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

APPROVAL OF HEAD START MARCH 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT: (APPENDIX I): On a motion by Mr. Steve Saltee, seconded by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the March 2020 Head Start financial report as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

APPROVAL OF EARLY HEAD START SELF-ASSESSMENT RESULTS, 2020: (APPENDIX J): On a motion by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, seconded by Mr. Gail McConnell, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 2020 Early Head Start Self-Assessment results as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

APPROVAL OF EARLY HEAD START CONTINUATION APPLICATION INCLUDING PROGRAM GOALS & OBJECTIVES, 2020-2021: (APPENDIX K): On a motion by Mr. Steve Sallee, seconded by Mr. Robin Hood, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 2020-2021 Early Head Start Continuation Application including program goals & objectives as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

APPROVAL OF EARLY HEAD START SCHOOL READINESS GOALS, 2020-2021: (APPENDIX L): On a motion by Mr. Gail McConnell, seconded by Mr. Steve Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 2020-2021 Early Head Start School Readiness Goals as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

APPROVAL OF EARLY HEAD START TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, 2020-2021: (APPENDIX M): On a motion by Mr. Bill Houseright, seconded by Mr. Steve Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 2020-2021 Early Head Start Training & Technical Assistance document as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

APPROVAL OF EARLY HEAD START COLA APPLICATION 2020 (APPENDIX N): On a motion by Mr. Robin Hood, seconded by Mr. Gail McConnell, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 2020 Early Head Start COLA (Cost of Living Application) as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

APPROVAL OF EARLY HEAD START QUALITY IMPROVEMENT APPLICATION, 2020 (APPENDIX O): On a motion by Mr. Steve Sallee, seconded by Mr. Bill Houseright, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 2020 Early Head Start Quality improvement application as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

APPROVAL OF HEAD START COLA APPLICATION, 2020 (APPENDIX P): On a motion by Mr. Steve Sallee, seconded by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 2020 Head Start COLA (Cost of Living Application) as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

APPROVAL OF HEAD START QUALITY IMPROVEMENT APPLICATION, 2020 (APPENDIX Q): On a motion by Mr. Gail McConnell, seconded by Mr. Robin Hood, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 2020 Head Start Quality improvement application as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

APPROVAL OF HEAD START EMPLOYEE LIST, 2020-2021: (APPENDIX R): On a motion by Mr. Steve Sallee, seconded by Mr. Gail McConnell, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the 2020-2021 Head Start employee list as presented by Superintendent Ferguson on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox.

Superintendent Ferguson presented the 2020 Head Start Director's Report on behalf of Head Start Director Kathy Wilcox for informational purposes. There being no questions or comments, the next agenda item was presented.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET CLOSE OUT MEETING: On a motion by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, seconded by Mr. Steve Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve Thursday, June 25, 2020, 6:30 p.m. as the Scott County School Board's Budget Close Out Meeting date.

CLOSED MEETING: Mr. Gail McConnell made a motion to enter into closed meeting at 7:20 p.m. to discuss Teachers, Custodians, Bus Drivers, Maintenance Staff, and Mechanics as provided in Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, the motion was seconded by Mr. Steve Sallee, all members voting aye.

RETURN FROM CLOSED MEETING: All members present returned from the closed meeting at 8:30 p.m. with a roll call vote being held, and on a motion by Mr. Gail McConnell, seconded by Mr. Steve Sallee, the Board returned to regular session, and Mr. Gail McConnell, cited the following certification of the closed meeting:

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING:

WHEREAS, the Scott County School Board has convened a closed meeting on the date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of the Information Act and,

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia requires certification, by this Scott County School Board that such meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Scott County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies and (ii) only such public matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Scott County School Board in the closed meeting

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: David Templeton, Steve Sallee, Gail McConnell, Linda Gillenwater, Bill Houseright, and Robin Hood.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT DURING THE MEETING: None.

ITEMS BY ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT JASON SMITH:

PERSONNEL:

RETIREMENT:

On a motion by Mr. Steve Sallee, seconded by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the retirement request by Ms. Judy Mullins, School Counselor, effective July 1, 2020.

On a motion by Mr. Gail McConnell, seconded by Mr. Steve Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the retirement request by Mr. Randall Laney, Maintenance worker, effective July 1, 2020.

On a motion by Mr. Steve Sallee, seconded by Mr. Bill Houseright, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the retirement request by Mr. Gary Adams, Transportation Coordinator, effective, July 1, 2020.

TERMINATION:

On a motion by Mr. Gail McConnell, seconded by Mr. Steve Sallee, all members voting aye, the Board voted to approve the termination of Laura Pascual, custodian, effective April 9, 2020.

APPROVAL OF MENTOR STIPENDS:

On a motion by Mr. Steve Sallee, seconded by Ms. Linda Gillenwater, with one abstention, the Board approved the Mentor Stipends as presented by Assistant Superintendent Jason Smith:

2019-2020 Mentors

***State monies aides in a \$500 stipend for Mentor Teachers**

**** ½ Stipend**

School	Mentor	Mentee
Gate City High	Morgan Quillen	Ricky Addington
Gate City High	Melissa Seaver	Maggie Mason
Gate City High	Sarah Whisenhunt**	Kayli Compton
SCCTC	Tony Anderson	Leon Kern
Nickelsville Elem.	Laura Hammonds	Emily Gibson
Nickelsville Elem.	Suzanne Hill	Shawna Mitchell
Weber City/Rye Cove High	Kandace Haigler/Greg Gilliam**	Zeke Newton
Weber City Elem.	Stephanie Hood	Austen Arnold
Rye Cove Intermediate	Charlotte Livesay	Kristin Sanders
Duffield Primary	Tiffany Scott	Chynna Roberts
Shoemaker Elem.	Kelli Powers	Jonathon Salyer
Shoemaker Elem.	Jeff Casteel/Tammy Hensley**	Jamie Davis
Shoemaker Elem.	Lisa McClain	Jed Spicer
Hilton Elem.	Leslie Crawford	Carlie McCready
Hilton Elem.	Allison Falin**	Lacey Hufnagle
Fort Blackmore	Kim Burke	Karen Culbertson
Gate City Middle	Jeremy Houseright	Frank Taylor

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Mr. Steve Sallee thanked all staff for everything they are doing and reassured everyone that we will get through this.

Mr. Robin Hood wanted to echo what Mr. Sallee said and to wish everyone well.

Ms. Linda Gillenwater wished to thank all teachers and extend her appreciation to all staff during this time for everything that everyone is doing to reach out to students.

Mr. Bill Houseright wanted to express his sentiments of agreement with the other Board members of appreciation for the staff and teachers. He remarked how much he wanted to thank everyone for what they are doing and wanted to thank the teachers especially during this time of Teacher Appreciation week.

Mr. Gail McConnell expressed his thanks to everyone for the great job they are doing.

Mr. David Templeton also wished to thank everyone for a job well done and restated what he did in the opening of the meeting about the Teacher appreciation and how much the staff is appreciated.

Superintendent Ferguson spoke directly to the teachers and staff for a moment to end the meeting and wanted to recognize the teachers for the job they are doing in staying in touch with the students and how he was so appreciative of everything they are doing during this time.

Mr. Jason Smith echoed these sentiments and wished everyone well and wanted everyone to know what a fantastic job they are doing and how well the feeding program is going and how proud he is of the staff that are involved to make that such a success.

Mr. Gail McConnell asked if the Nutrition program would be able to continue through the Summer months and Mr. Ferguson answered that he was unsure if it would be able to continue to this magnitude but they would work to see that the students would be fed in some capacity.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to discuss, the Scott County School Board's regular meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. until May 14th at 2:30 for a Special Called Meeting.

David Templeton, Chairman

Beverly Stidham, Clerk