

***Minutes of the School Board Meeting of the City of Richmond***  
***Monday, April 21, 2014***

***School Board Meeting*** A meeting of the School Board of the City of Richmond was held on Monday, April 21, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., at John Marshall High School in auditorium. The Vice Chair called the meeting to order. The Clerk called the roll. The following were present:

Members: Mrs. Kristen Larson, Vice chair  
Glen Sturtevant  
Ms. Kimberly Gray  
Jeffrey Bourne  
Mrs. Mamie Taylor  
Mrs. Shonda Harris-Muhammed  
Dr. Derik Jones  
Mrs. Tichi Pinkney Eppes  
Herman Johnson, Student Representative, Franklin Military Academy

Officers: Dr. Dana Bedden, Superintendent  
Ms. Angela Lewis, Clerk  
Mrs. Victoria Oakley, Chief Academic Officer/Deputy Agent  
Mr. Ralph Westbay, Assistant Superintendent, Financial Services

Others Present: Dr. Irene Williams, Executive Director, Elementary Education  
Dandridge Billups, Director, Human Resources  
Mrs. Debora Johns, Chief Auditor, Internal Audit Services  
Dr. Ernestine Scott, Director, Title I  
Mrs. Cleticia Lovelace, Public Information Officer  
Dr. Michelle Boyd, Director, Exceptional Education  
Ms. Cozette McIntyre, Manager, Grants Programs  
Kavansa Gardner, Director, Information, Communication & Technology Services  
Dr. Dionne Ward, Interim Executive Director, Secondary Education  
Rickie Hopkins, Principal, Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School  
Mrs. Valerie Abbott-Jones, ADA Coordinator  
Mrs. Tonya Friend, Executive Assistant, School Board/Recorder

Attorney: Ms. Jonnell Lilly

Absent: Donald Coleman, Chair

A call of the roll reflected that a quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, it was followed by a moment of silence.

***Adoption of the Agenda***

On a motion by Mr. Bourne, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the School Board voted to adopt the agenda with the following amendments.

- Add VCU artwork recognition
- Under Item 9C – remove, *Appomattox Governor's School Regional Board Report and the Math Science Innovation Center Report.*
- Under the Superintendent's Report, add *Receive the Exceptional Education Annual Plan.*
- Under Other informational items, remove *Budget Transfers.*
- Under Consent Agenda, add *Approve Budget Transfers.*

***Recognitions***

**Recognitions were given to the following:**

Herman Johnson, Student Representative for the month of April

The following students received recognition for their artwork being hung in the

General Assembly and for VCU artwork: Julie Conte, Claire Schweiker Hayes Talley, Mariposa Seitz, Telicia Branch, David Meador, Torey Hylton, Travon Atwood, James Johnson, Zahnae Wynston, Shawnay Jones, Kian Abdullah, Lilia Crow, Lenora Mosby, Nyasia Bing, Jose Phillips, Tracy Fleming, Nar'Dasia Stroman, India Dixon, Kiara Gatling, Marquan Hubbard, Jason OroSCO, Gabriel Santiago, Jennifer Barreintos, Traquan Jones, Lailah Shabazz, Talaya Moss Melendez, Tiawni Twell, Janasia Harris, CristanPaz, Gabby Pahle, Lavendar Williams, Tamia Mallory, Alexandra Davidson, Laquisha Marrow, Charlene Peterson, Timothy Jones, Liza Zechini, Donell Brown, Eric Duncan, CeQuan Pittman, Tyrone Langston, Mark Chandler, Gregory Robinson, Alex Lewis, Naila Lyles-Eleock, Angela Jackson, Paul Murchison, Jordan Williams, Jocelyn Ryan, Rodrecus Robinson, Ashley Drummond, Corail McRae, Alysia Harrison, LaStacia Sampson, Dejah Waller, Shaneka Jones, Sarandon Elliott, Daejon Hunt, Niani Davis, Diaja Fowler, Kemyra Jennings, Juvon Williams, Daniyah Brown, Aukeim Mitchell, Jaleek Pernell, Javon Lymonj, Shauna Dixon, Rosa Lopez, Brianna Bruner, Jancy Lobo Dananaysha Johnson, Donevan Bryan, Jean-Marie Boehling, Amidah Jones, and Anton Outkine.

Huguenot Forensics Team: Monet Pierre-Louis, Praise Baptist, and Joel Walters.

George Wythe Forensics Team: LaKennya Blue, Denisha Perkins, Brandon Wilson, Montel Squire, Kiara Johnson, Celeste Baires, Aylissa Murphy, J'Tanae Durham, Marrell Epps, Lorenzo Clark, and Jerone Clarke

George Wythe Track Team: Jarre' Bishop, Teon Jarvis, Nicholas Williams, Mustapha Stephens, J'Quan Mills, J'Quan Morrow, Lorenzo Clark, Gabriel Harrison-Billie, Edwin Alford, and Bokeem Grant.

Armstrong Girls Track Team: Kaitlin Scott, Jean O'Conner, Trei Young, Moeisha Pettis, Moniesha Williams, Brooklyn Battle, Daijunique Wilson, Premier Coston, Jessica Destry, Shameeka Price-Cleare, Cailynn Terry, Fatiyah Neville, and Doresha Blackwell.

John Marshall Girls Basketball Team: Mallsheena Banks, Ze'Nya Butler, Jasmine Carter, Renee Crump, Marquisha Henderson, Dymone Lewis, Naterra Luster, Antoinette Pickett, Imani Robinson, and Dajouneik Wingfield.

Huguenot Girls Basketball Team: Dionne Grey, Destiny Hill, Destiny Sheed, Jaida Williams, Jamazia Fleming, Kera Jackson, Nia Johnson, Paulette Hall, Taya Robinson, and Shaquenna Holland.

John Marshall Boys Basketball Team: Jerquante Broadus, Ernest Boyd, Quaman Burton, Jeremy Carter-Sheppard, Carlton Coleman, Isah Derival, Nicholas Hodges, Greg Jones, David Meador, Taqqi Muhammed, Kyle Scott, Terence Talley, Xavier Trent, and Nathan Williams, Jr.

George Wythe Boys Basketball Team: Maliek white, Maurice Coleman, Dashawn Hewlett, Brandon Holley, Kareem Horton, Jr., Jamal Anderson, Richard Sanders, T. J. Durham, James Peebles, Jashon Miller, Eric Crews, Barry Walton, and Fernando Holland.

R.E.B. Awards

### ***Public Information***

The following people spoke to the Board Rita Miller, Tyren Frazier, two students and parents, Tom Hartman, Robert Dickerson, Gregory Day, Joyce Kenney, Kimberly Jones, Marvin Greene, Roderyck Bullock, Mariah White, Diego Sponaso. Their comments to the Board regarded the following; placing a marker at Armstrong commemorating the former John F. Kennedy High School, the Higher Achievement's academic program, RPS' existing Strategic Plan, students using the GRTC bus system, the Richmond Coalition for Quality Education partnering with RPS, reopening Clark Springs Elementary School to temporarily house students who attended Fairfield Elementary School, transportation, financial concerns, and building repairs, food allergies, policies and procedures not being followed by principals, rezoning, and providing a suitable schedule for Spanish teachers to be able to make all students culturally aware.

***Closed Session***

On a motion by Mr. Bourne, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the Board voted to go into closed session [Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A) (7) of the Code of Virginia go into closed meeting for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the School Board; and/or consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the School Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

***Open Session***

On a motion by Mr. Bourne, seconded by Mrs. Pinkney Eppes, the School Board voted to go into open session.

Motion: Mr. Bourne Resolution: 32  
Seconded: Mrs. Pinkney Eppes Date: April 21, 2014

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

I move that the Richmond School Board direct its Clerk to call for a roll call vote of the Board’s members 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 applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Richmond School Board.

**VOTE**

A roll call was taken of members present and it was unanimous that the closed meeting was conducted in accordance with prescribed laws.

AYES: (7) (*Mesdames Gray, Larson, Taylor, Harris-Muhammed, Pinkney Eppes, Messers Sturtevant , and Bourne*)

NAY: (0)

ABSTENTIONS (0)

ABSENT DURING VOTE: (2) (*Coleman, Jones*)

ABSENT DURING MEETING: (1) (*Coleman*)

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Clerk

***Approve the corrected minutes of the July 15, 2013 meeting and the August 19, 2013 and August 26, 2013 meetings.***

The minutes were deferred.

***Receive an Update on Internal Audit’s FY 2014 Audit Plan***

Ms. Debora Johns shared previous audit plans and tracking reports with the Board.

In response to Mrs. Eppes’ question regarding if audits were ever administered on any associated organizations with the schools, i.e. booster clubs, etc., Ms. Johns stated that these organizations were outside agencies and were responsible for their own audits.

Mr. Bourne indicated that, historically, reports had focused on updates of implementation of previous audit findings. Mr. Bourne requested to have an updated version as of 4/21/14 to see where they were.

Mr. Sturtevant asked Ms. Johns that if there were particular things the Board wanted to have performed on the audit plan, would she be willing to amend her audit plan. Ms. Johns responded that she was willing to adjust the plan accordingly.

***Updates on Maggie Walker’s School Regional Board, Richmond Public Schools Education Foundation, Head***

Mrs. Gray gave an update on Maggie Walker Governor’s School Regional Board meeting. Maggie Walker was working to improve their wireless service within the school to assist with connectivity; the school planned to host a Musical and 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation; the next Board meeting was scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup>, and they discussed a new policy for admissions. Additionally, Maggie Walker waived the fee for Parks and Recreations to use the school

***Start, Richmond Chamber of Commerce Education Committee, Human Resources Committee, Richmond Technical Center Advisory Committee, National School Boards Association Conference***

building.

Mrs. Larson gave an update on Richmond Public Schools Education Foundation, which included information on the Living Legacy Breakfast, which would be held on Friday, April 25, 2014. She shared that \$200,000 had been allocated for technology for Richmond Public Schools.

Mr. Bourne gave update on the Head Start policy and shared that they had an annual luncheon which was held at Maggiano's .

Mrs. Larson did not have anything to report.

Mrs. Pinkney Eppes shared that the Human Resources Committee did not meet over the break. Additionally, she suggested that they begin to review the Superintendent evaluation process.

Mrs. Pinkney Eppes stated that the Richmond Technical Center Advisory Committee met on April 10<sup>th</sup> and hosted Dr. Bedden. Mr. Bourne shared that Dr. Bedden spoke about challenges and opportunities RPS provided in career and technical education.

Mrs. Pinkney Eppes and Mrs. Taylor attended the National School Boards Association Conference, which was very informative and invaluable. Additionally, they thanked their colleagues for making it possible for them to attend the conference.

***Receive an Update on Placement Eligibility for Kindergarten Programs***

Mrs. Oakley informed the Board that the Code of Virginia §22.1-199 dealt with kindergarten programs suitable for certain children. Section C allowed latitude to allow students whose fifth birthday occurred between October 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>, to attend kindergarten (with an assessment). Additionally, Mrs. Oakley reviewed the steps needed to identify and assess students to ensure kindergarten success.

***New Business***

Mrs. Taylor indicated she wanted to see the policy, which allowed parents to enter the classroom with their children to be revisited. Additionally, Mrs. Taylor asked if someone from the Boys and Girls Club could come and talk to the Board about the swimming lessons offered to RPS students.

Mrs. Harris-Muhammed reminded everyone of the teacher appreciation dance. She also shared that she had the honor of presenting at the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) Summer Conference on Education at the downtown Marriott on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The topic was Building Mutually Beneficial Relationships Between Schools and Communities: What does that look like?

***Receive and approve the Human Resources Actions***

Mr. Billups presented the HR agenda for approval to include the:

- Termination of one (1) employee
- Nomination of two (2) employees
- Resignation of two (2) employees
- Retirement of sixty (60) employees
- Returning from leave of nine (9) employees
- Furlough of two (2) employees

Mr. Billups reiterated that because there had not been a Human Resources Committee meeting, an addendum was attached which included (2) additional resignations, (2) changes of contracts, (1) additional return from leave, and (1) rescission of employment, as well as some non-contracted appointments.

Dr. Bedden shared that one of the recommendations of appointment was the Chief of Safety and Security.

***Receive Information Regarding FY 2014 Allocations, Spending to Date and FY 2015 Projections Regarding Title I Funding, CTE***

Dr. Scott provided information regarding the Carl Perkins Career and Technical Education application, which was due April 30, 2014. Additionally, she shared their major goals, which included core academic skill building and job-specific skills. Dr. Scott shared a brief summary of the 18 schedules. Schedules 1-3 identified the advisory board, special compilation data, and a plan of study for career pathways; Schedules 4-17 outlined activities and curriculum goals they

***and Perkins Grants***

had to strengthen the programs for the students; Schedule 18 included the budget, inclusive of personnel services, employee benefits, purchase services, internal services, and material supplies.

On a motion by Mr. Sturtevant, seconded by Harris-Muhammed, the School Board, unanimously, to approve the Carl Perkins CTE Application. (*Mr. Coleman was not present*)

Dr. Scott gave an update on the status of FY 2014 Title I funds – application was approved last year, and the allocation for RPS was \$16,696,179.27.

***Receive Information Regarding all Grants Applied for, Received and Status to Date for FY 2014 and FY 2015 Application Opportunities***

Mrs. McIntyre shared information on grants they had applied for, she also shared that they were working toward the goal of generating additional resources to increase student achievement.

***Receive an Update on the Martin Luther King Jr. Middle (MLK) School Year-Round School***

Mrs. McIntyre shared the Impact Statement regarding the year-round planning grant for MLK and gave an update of the overall planning process. Mr. Hopkins, principal of MLK, shared his thoughts and enthusiasm of the likelihood for implementing year round school.

***Receive a List of All Contracts including MOUs to Include Origination and Renewal Dates***

Mr. Westbay provided and discussed a list of FY14 accounts payable by vendor, contract listing which included a description of each service, and non-payroll expenditures by fund vendor.

***Receive Year-End Financial Projections***

Mr. Westbay discussed budget versus actuals as of March 31, 2014 as well as the projections for April through June 2014.

***Receive the Exceptional Education Annual Plan***

Dr. Boyd presented the 2014-15 Exceptional Education Annual Plan, which consisted of eight key components: a) Superintendent's Certification for School Divisions, b) Policy Statements and Assurances, c) Special Education in Local and Regional Jails, d) Implementation Narrative, e) Maintenance of Effort Eligibility, (f) Coordinated Early Intervening Services and Proportionate Set Aside, g) Application for IDEA Part B Section 611 Funds (Flow-through funds), and h) Application for IDEA Part B Section 619 Funds (Preschool funds).

***Receive an Update on the Armstrong Greenhouse***

Ms. Abbott-Jones gave a presentation regarding accessibility concerns at the Armstrong Greenhouse. She requested that the Board approve a bid in the amount of \$57,300 for completing an accessible path to and into the greenhouse at Armstrong.

On a motion by Mrs. Gray, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the bid for the accessibility path to be installed at the Armstrong greenhouse. (*Mr. Coleman was absent*)

***Consent Agenda***

On a motion by Mrs. Pinkney Eppes, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the following items under the consent agenda.

- 2014 – 2015 school calendar.
- 2014 summer school program.
- Budget transfers.

***Approve a Letter to City Council Requesting Emergency Funding for Facilities***

The Board agreed to defer this item until the May 5, 2014 School Board meeting.

***Closed Session***

On a motion by Mr. Bourne, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the Board voted to go into closed session [Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of

Virginia go into closed meeting to consider the assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of the School Board, or for discussion, consideration, or interview of prospective candidates for employment.

*Open Session*

On a motion by Mr. Bourne, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the School Board voted to go into open session.

Motion: Mr. Bourne Resolution: 32  
Seconded: Mr. Sturtevant Date: April 21, 2014

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

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**VOTE**

A roll call was taken of members present and it was unanimous that the closed meeting was conducted in accordance with prescribed laws.

AYES: (8) (*Mesdames Gray, Larson, Taylor, Harris-Muhammed, Pinkney Eppes, Messers Sturtevant, Bourne, and Jones*)  
NAY: (0)  
ABSTENTIONS (0)  
ABSENT DURING VOTE: (1) (*Coleman*)  
ABSENT DURING MEETING: (1) (*Coleman*)

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Clerk

On a motion by Mr. Sturtevant, seconded by Mr. Bourne, the School Board voted 7-1 to approve the Human Resources Actions with the addendum. (*Mesdames Larson, Taylor, Harris-Muhammed, Pinkney Eppes, Messers Sturtevant, Bourne, and Jones voted aye, Ms. Gray abstained, Mr. Coleman was not present*)

The being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 a.m.

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Clerk

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Chair