A meeting of the School Board of the City of Richmond was held on Monday, June 2, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., in the School Board Room – 17th Floor of City Hall. The Chair called the meeting to order. The Clerk called the roll. The following were present:

Members: 
Mr. Donald Coleman, Chair
Kristen Larson, Vice Chair
Glen Sturtevant
Ms. Kimberly Gray
Mr. Jeffrey Bourne
Mrs. Mamie Taylor
Mrs. Shonda Harris-Muhammed
Dr. Derik Jones
Mrs. Tichi Pinkney Eppes
Shaynna Cooper, Student Representative, Huguenot High School

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

Others Present: 
Mrs. Tonya Friend, Executive Assistant, School Board/Recorder
Mr. Kavansa Gardner, ICTS Manager
Mr. Dandridge Billups, Director, Human Resources
Dr. Michelle Boyd, Executive Director, Exceptional Education
Dr. Ernestine, Director, Title I
Ms. Beverly Brit, Principal, John Marshall
Dr. Abe Jeffers, Executive Director, Secondary Education
Ms. April Hawkins, Principal, Armstrong High School
Mr. J. Austin Brown, Principal Richmond Community High School
Mr. Aaron Dixon, Instructional Specialist
Mr. Anthony Washington, Instructional Specialist
Dr. Anthony Leonard, Executive Director, Elementary Education
Mrs. Cletisha Lovelace, Public Information Officer
Mr. Harry Morgan, Manager, Pupil Placement
Ms. Beverly Mountain, Coordinator, Guidance Services
Mrs. Debora Johns, Chief Auditor, Internal Audit Services
Mr. Andrew Davis, Director, Plant Services
Ms. Candace Veney-Chaplin, Principal, Thomas Jefferson High School
Mr. Zeno Hines, Guidance Counselor, Richmond Technical Center

Attorney: 
Ms. Jonnell Lilly

Mr. Coleman called the meeting to order.

A call of the roll reflected that a quorum was present.

On a motion by Mr. Sturtevant, seconded by Mr. Bourne, the School Board voted unanimously to amend the agenda to defer receiving proposed revisions to Section IV, the Community Section of the Policy Manual.
Public Information

The following persons addressed the Board, Robert Augabright, Chales Willis, Kirsten Grey, Keisha Cummings, and Lisa Smith-Hicks. Their topics included concerns regarding rezoning the Oak Grove school zone to be a “walking” community, an upcoming Stop the Bullying event to be held on June 15, 2014, support of the bell schedule, concerns about students not being able to prepare for SOLs when they have been put out of school, and a non-profit mentoring program focusing on intervention.

Closed Session

On a motion by Ms. Gray, seconded by Ms. Harris-Muhammed, 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 Ms. Gray, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the School Board voted to go into open session.

Motion: Ms. Gray
Resolution: 35
Seconded: Mr. Sturtevant
Date: June 2, 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: (9) (Mesdames Gray, Larson, Taylor, Harris-Muhammed, Pinkney Eppes, Messers Sturtevant, Bourne, Coleman, and Jones)
NAY: (0)
ABSTENTIONS (0)
ABSENT DURING VOTE: (0)
ABSENT DURING MEETING: (0)

Clerk

Receive a Recommendation for Deputy Clerk

Mrs. Larson shared with the Board the need for a Deputy Clerk in the School Board office and recommended Tonya Friend.

On a motion by Mrs. Larson, seconded by Ms. Gray, the Board voted, unanimously, to receive and approve the recommendation for Deputy Clerk.

Receive a Report on the Bell Schedule for High Schools

Mr. Jeffers, Executive Director of Secondary Education, and his team shared the bell schedule for high schools.

Mr. Brown shared the collaborative process for the bell schedule

Mr. Hines shared the advantage and disadvantages of traditional scheduling and block scheduling

Ms. Mountain shared the advantages of the 4x4 schedule.

Ms. Veney-Chaplin and Ms. April Hawkins discussed needs for successful implementation of the 4x4 scheduling

Mr. Washington shared the unresolved concerns regarding the 4x4 schedule.
Mr. Jeffers gave the final recommendation: the continued implementation of an A/B block schedule for high schools, excluding exceptional education programs and specialty schools as appropriate.

Ms. Oakley shared the recommendation for the reading and math textbook adoption. For English, the selection was Benchmark Literacy, which was a bold and innovative paradigm shift. The cost for the K-5 Program for 6 years, was $1.9 million.

For Mathematics, the selection was Envision Math by Pearson written specifically for Virginia. The cost for 6 years was $1.7 million.

There is an opportunity to adopt it, but purchase for a three-year period at $1.1 million. For years 4-6, the school division would have to purchase the activity books at grades K – 2.

On a motion by Mr. Bourne, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve the adoption of textbook for six years, contingent upon availability of funds; otherwise for three years for Math.

Mr. Billups shared the 2014-2015 salary schedule.

3% increase for teachers
2% increase for support staff
1% for VRS mandate

On a motion by Ms. Gray, seconded by Mr. Bourne, the Board voted, (6-1-1) to approve the 2014 - 2015 salary schedule. (Mesdames Gray, Pinkney Eppes, Larson, Messrs. Bourne, Jones, Coleman, voted aye, Mrs. Taylor voted nay, Mrs. Harris-Muhammed abstained, Mr. Sturtevant was not present for the vote)

Mr. Tim Billups presented the HRD Actions for approval to include:

the nomination of 24 employees
the change of contract of 8 employees; and
the transfer of 1 employee

and the HRD Actions for Information:

the resignation of 24 employees
the retirement of 3 employees
the furlough of 6 employees
the returning of leave of 5 employees
the change of name of 1 employee
the non-re-election (notice of appointment) of 2 employees; and
the non-renewal (performance) of 2 employees

Mr. Billups presented the 2014 – 2015 re-election list.

Ms. McIntyre and Dr. Scott completed the Title I application, and based on preliminary allocations, Richmond City Schools would receive approximately 5% less Title I allocation than last year.

Ms. McIntyre gave a summary of Title I, Part D

On a motion by Mrs. Harris-Muhammed, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, Board voted, 7-1 to receive and approve the Title 1 Annual Plan, the Title I, Part A Improving Basic Programs, Operated by Local Educational Agencies; Title I, Part D, Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth Who Are Neglected, Delinquent, or At-Risk; Title II, Part A, Preparing Training, and Recruiting High Quality Teachers and Principals; Title II, Part D, Enhancing Education Through Technology; Title III, Part A, Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students.

On a motion by Mrs. Harris-Muhammed, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the School Board voted 7 – 0 to approve Approve the Title 1 Annual Plan, the Title I, Part A Improving Basic Programs, Operated by Local Educational Agencies;
Mr. Harry Morgan presented the proposed Student Code of Conduct, which was renamed S.C.O.R.E. (Student Code of Responsible Ethics), a guide which defines appropriate and inappropriate behavior with disciplinary infractions.

A public hearing would be held on June 16th and voted on June 30.

Ms. Lilly gave presented the General Assembly summary and corresponding policies, pages 121 and 136. She reviewed all legislation which affected education, community relations, etc.

Ms. Lilly indicated a ‘second read’ will be done on June 16. She informed the Board that any changes or questions should be given to her by June 9.

There was a ‘first read’ of Section 7, which included a modification to add gender identification. She informed the Board that any changes or questions should be given to her by June 9.

This item was deferred.

Attorney Lilly reviewed the proposed revisions to Section VII, the Personnel Section of the Policy Manual.

Attorney Lilly reviewed the proposed revisions to Section VIII, the Student Section of the Policy Manual.

Mr. Bourne made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant to authorize the Superintendent to move funds as necessary to close out the fiscal year. Mr. Bourne withdrew his motion.

On a motion by Mrs. Harris-Muhammed, seconded by Ms. Gray, the School Board voted unanimously to authorize the Superintendent to move funds as necessary to close out the fiscal year and to report the movement in the Friday report.

On a motion by Ms. Gray, seconded by Mr. Bourne, the School Board voted unanimously to approve the non-general funds and fiscal agency funds and to authorize the Superintendent to transmit the same to the CAO for appropriation by Council and to authorize the Superintendent to convert funds in the FY’15 adopted General Fund budget for non-contract staff in sufficient amount to add 15 FTEs of contracted positions to address those instructional needs and to approve upgrading the Senior Analyst position to Budget Director.

On a motion by Ms. Gray, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the Board voted unanimously, to approve the revisions to sections 8-1.2, 8-1.3, 8-2.4, and 8-3.2 of the Student section of the Policy Manual.

On a motion by Mrs. Harris-Muhammed, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the
Board voted, unanimously, to approve the revisions to sections 7-1.6 and 7-2.7 of the Personnel section of the Policy Manual.

On a motion by Mrs. Harris-Muhammed, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant the School Board voted 6 – 3 to approve the addendum to the PHSSA Charter School. (Mesdames Harris-Muhammed, Taylor, Larson, Messrs. Sturtevant, Jones, Coleman, voted aye, Mesdames Gray, Pinkney Eppes, and Mr. Bourne voted nay)

On a motion by Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Sturtevant, the Board voted to go into closed session [Pursuant to the personnel exemption at §2.2-3711(1) 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.

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

Motion: Ms. Gray
Seconded: Mr. Sturtevant
Date: June 2, 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: (9) (Mesdames Gray, Larson, Taylor, Harris-Muhammed, Pinkney Eppes, Messrs Sturtevant, Bourne, Coleman, and Jones)
NAY: (0)
ABSTENTIONS (0)
ABSENT DURING VOTE: (0)
ABSENT DURING MEETING: (0)

On a motion by Ms. Gray, seconded by Mr. Bourne, the School Board voted 8 – 0 to approve the Human Resources Actions with addendums and to hold the salaries harmless for one year in addendums F, G, and H, and to approve the 2014 – 2015 re-election list. (Mrs. Harris-Muhammed was not present for the vote)

On a motion by Mrs. Harris-Muhammed, seconded by Mr. Bourne, the School Board voted 8 – 1 to consider approval of the grievance determination in employee matter #1314-09. (Mrs. Taylor voted nay)

The being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:54 a.m.