

STAUNTON CITY SCHOOL BOARD  
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA  
Work Session Minutes  
July 13, 2020

The Staunton City School Board convened in the School Board Conference Room, 116 W. Beverley Street, Staunton on Monday, July 13, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., for a work session with members in attendance as follows:

Robert Boyle  
Ron Ramsey

Natasha McCurdy  
Amy Wratchford

Christine Poulson  
Kenneth Venable

Dr. Garrett Smith, Superintendent/Deputy Clerk  
Brenda Lovekamp, Clerk

**Calendar Considerations and Conference Opportunities**

The upcoming calendar considerations were reviewed.

**Superintendent's Update**

The Superintendent reported on the following items and discussed these with School Board members:

- Dr. Smith reviewed the work from last month's called work session with VCIC. Dr. Smith will invite VCIC to join the Board at the August 10 Board Development Session to continue this work.
- Dr. Smith indicated that, during the regular meeting, he and members of the leadership team would share more about the plan for returning to school and the work that has gone into developing the plan, and adjusting it to accommodate the daily changes and mandates. He shared that he feels the school division's plan is the best one possible, given the circumstances, as it provides parents with the option to choose the method that best suits each individual child in their family – choosing an all-virtual model or a blended model. He noted that the division had planned for the most restrictive phase in order to be prepared for any possible changes that might take place. He added that the feedback he had received from staff thus far has been positive overall.
- Dr. Smith discussed the work to ensure childcare options for staff, using the instructional assistants to assist with this in SCS school buildings. He added that he is also working with the City Parks & Recreation Department's Heart Program to explore childcare options for families.
- Dr. Smith provided an update on the SHS construction project. He added that the project is nearing the end and the loose ends will begin to come together. The building should be secure next week and the technology install will begin. The track is near complete. The auditorium is complete and looks great.

**School Board Committee/Advisory Board Updates and Conference Reports**

Natasha McCurdy reported that she had done several virtual trainings and had been working with the PTAs to get ready for return to school.

Christine Poulson reported that she had participated in a community session on racism in schools.

Robert Boyle reported that the SHS graduation activities were nicely done and provided so much individual attention for the graduates.

The work session was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

  
CLERK / DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD

  
CHAIR OF THE BOARD