

STAUNTON CITY SCHOOL BOARD
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
Work Session Minutes
October 12, 2020

The Staunton City School Board convened in the School Board Conference Room, 116 W. Beverley Street, Staunton on Monday, October 12, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., for a work session with members in attendance as follows:

Kenneth Venable, Chair	Amy Wratchford, Vice-chair
Robert Boyle	Christine Poulson
Natasha McCurdy	Ronald Ramsey
Dr. Garrett Smith, Superintendent/Deputy Clerk	
Brenda Lovekamp, Clerk	

Closed Meeting

On a motion by Ronald Ramsey, seconded by Amy Wratchford, the School Board entered into a closed meeting to review the division's school safety audits, crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plans, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(19); and for consultation and discussion with the board's legal counsel requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel regarding a federal administrative proceeding, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8).

Votes: Christine Poulson-aye	Robert Boyle-aye	Kenneth Venable-aye
Amy Wratchford-aye	Natasha McCurdy-aye	Ron Ramsey-aye

On a motion by Amy Wratchford, seconded by Natasha McCurdy, the School Board voted, according to the votes recorded below, to return to open session.

Votes: Christine Poulson-aye	Robert Boyle-aye	Kenneth Venable-aye
Amy Wratchford-aye	Natasha McCurdy-aye	Ron Ramsey-aye

On a motion by Ronald Ramsey, seconded by Amy Wratchford, the School Board voted to approve the following certificate:

CERTIFICATION

According to the votes recorded below, the Staunton City School Board does hereby CERTIFY to the best of each member's knowledge:

1. Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were discussed in the Closed Meeting to which this certification applies; and
2. Only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered by the School Board.

Votes: Christine Poulson-aye	Robert Boyle-aye	Kenneth Venable-aye
Amy Wratchford-aye	Natasha McCurdy-aye	Ron Ramsey-aye

Review of Calendar Considerations

The Clerk reviewed upcoming conference opportunities.

Review of Strategic Plan Update Process

Ruth Jones Turner, Director of Strategic Planning and Partnerships, reviewed the plan and process to update the division's comprehensive/long-range strategic plan. She indicated that she would begin working with the Board during the November Board Development Session to set the foundation for this work. She also provided an update on the work currently underway to form an equity committee that will serve as an advisory committee to the superintendent. This committee will work to develop an equity plan for the school division, which is also part of the strategic plan.

Superintendent's Update

Dr. Smith reminded of an item added to tonight's action agenda whereby the board will consider declaring its intent to enter into an agreement for the provision of legal services with the current City/School Board attorney, Douglas Guynn, through his private practice upon completion of his employment with the City.

Dr. Smith shared that VDH would be adding a new tool to their website this week to show where COVID "outbreaks" (defined as 2 or more cases) are occurring. Dr. Jelisa Wolfe explained how the division handles reporting of any suspected cases to VDH, and that VDH then takes over to handles any necessary contact tracing.

School Board Committee/Advisory Board Updates and Conference Reports

Robert Boyle reported on the recent meeting of the Shenandoah Valley Regional Program board.

Christine Poulson reported that the Special Education Advisory Committee met at the end of September to review the data from 2018-19.

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In response to questions about the language regarding Title IX included in the proposed policy revisions slated for consideration on the action agenda, Dr. Jelisa Wolfe, Executive Director of Student Services, explained the lengthy process undertaken at the federal level to review and update the Title IX regulations, resulting in the recommended language in the proposed policy revisions. She reiterated that there was limited flexibility for local interpretation or changes.

Ronald Ramsey reported on the recent regional career and technical education advisory committee meeting. He noted that there are many issues created by the current pandemic that are affecting the work of the program and the committee.

In response to questions regarding SOLs for the 2020-21 school year, Stephanie Haskins, Executive Director of Instruction, confirmed that SOLs will be required this school year and that there have been no waivers offered thus far.

The Chair adjourned the work session at 5:58 p.m.


CLERK / DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD


CHAIR OF THE BOARD