

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

August 23, 2023

I. ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - 5:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Damon Rasnick, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

Members in Attendance: Chair, Damon Rasnick, Vice-Chair; Rick Mullins; Jamie Hackney; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Jason Hicks, Tonya Baker, Clerk; Haydee Robinson, Superintendent

Approval of Agenda:

Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and a second by Rick Mullins, the Agenda was approved as presented.

Vote results

Aye:	5 Damon Rasnick, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jamie Hackney read the Public Comment Guidelines.

Kathy Musick, Regional Representative, VPE - Mrs. Musick introduced Cathy Addington Qualls who may start working with the Virginia Professional Educators. Ms. Musick spoke about the VPE Grants and Scholarships. The fall submission date is November 15, 2023.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyall, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

Vote results

Aye:	5 Damon Rasnick, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

a. Approval of Minutes

❖ July 26, 2023, Regular Meeting

b. Approval of Monthly Bills - School Operation Fund

Monthly Bills: Check # 884704- 884807= \$ 678,718.61

Monthly Payroll: Check # 390730-390761- \$559,353.22

c. School Activity Fund

❖ Informational Item

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d. Approval of Field Trips

- ❖ Ridgeview High School
 - 08/24/2023 Norton, Va. 10th - 12th
 - 09/08/2023 Wise, Va. 5th - 12th
 - 09/23/2023 Chilhowie, Va 5th -12th
 - 10/06/2023 Big Stone Gap, Va. 5th - 12th
 - 10/07/2023 Bristol, Tenn. 5th - 12th
 - 10/13/2023 Bristol, Va. 5th - 12th
 - 10/21/2023 Bristol, Va. 5th - 12th
 - 11/04/2023 Wise, Va. 5th - 12th

e. Approval of Bank Reconciliation Documents

f. New Elementary Construction Invoices

IV. INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

VSBA Conferences

2023 VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference, September 21, 2023

2023 VSBA Annual Convention November 15-17, 2023

V. SUPERINTENDENT ROBINSON

g. Good News from our Schools

- ❖ Mrs. Karen Martin, Director of Compliance, presented to the Board the ten-day enrollment report which included enrollment comparisons, and student entry and withdrawals. Mrs. Martin also spoke about the attendance intervention teams.

	22-23 Beginning year TOTALS	22-23 End of year TOTALS	23-24 as of Aug. 22
K-12	1858	1831	1852
Pre-K	77	82	62
Post Graduate	18	19	19
3 Year Old Program	12	19	17
Grand Total	1965	1951	1950

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h. Ridgeview Elementary School Construction Project Update

Tim Burge, Construction Superintendent with Skanska, presented a report on the construction of the new elementary school and updated the School Board.

Budget & Procurement

- Planning for furniture is in progress
- Testing & Inspection services procured this month
- Low voltage cabling procurement in progress
- Procurement of phones, interactive boards and other classroom technology in progress
- Project remains within budget

SKANSKA



i. Certification of the 2023-2024 DCPS Crisis Plans

Mrs. Karen Martin, Compliance Director, presented the 2023 – 2024 Crisis Plans for each school, and the process to develop the Crisis Plan. The Crisis Plans were sent to Board Members on August 16, 2023, for review. As per the Virginia Code, School Board Members must certify that Crisis Plans were reviewed.

Certification results

Certify:	5 Rick Mullins; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

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j. Approval of Proposed VSBA Policy: Student Conduct: JFC

Mrs. Karen Martin, Compliance Director, presented the proposed policy: Student Conduct: JFC.

[Policy JFC Student Conduct](#)

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and a second by Rick Mullins, policy Student Conduct JFC was approved as presented.

Vote results

Aye:	5 Damon Rasnick, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

k. Update on Ridgeview Elementary School 2023-2024 School Opening and Transition

Mrs. Robinson presented an overview of the first 10 days of school and updated the School Board on the transition of Ridgeview Elementary School. Clintwood Elementary will be transitioning to Ridgeview Elementary in August of 2024.

l. Stronger Connections Grant Application

Mrs. Robinson presented information about the Stronger Connections Grant Application. Dickenson County Public Schools qualifies as a high-needs LEA and is eligible for the Stronger Connections grant award. Usually, with a State Security Grant, you have to wait for the school to age five years before you are eligible to apply. This year we can apply now. Funding is between \$300,000 and \$350,000. There is no match on this grant. This grant will provide the safety framework for RES just like RMS and RHS. This will enhance our safety features in all schools, specifically at Ridgeview Elementary School.

Following a motion by Jason Hicks for Dickenson County Public Schools to apply for the Stronger Connections Grant and a second by Jamie Hackney, the motion was passed unanimously.

Vote results

Aye:	5 Damon Rasnick, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

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VI. BOARD COMMENT

Jamie Hackney - I am glad to hear the information about the grant. Anything that we can do to improve the safety of our schools is always a good thing. I appreciate all of the patience after the first day. I heard a lot of things about that day being difficult on the transportation end. I appreciate all of the patience of the parents. We knew things were going to improve rapidly which they did with all of the hard work that the staff was putting in. I think this school year is off to a great start.

Jason Hicks - I am very appreciative as well of the efforts of the bus drivers, teachers and administrators, and everybody that got the buses lined out. We are getting out of there quickly. I know it's a very busy time. Getting into the schedules and routines will be a very good thing for our students and staff. I know growth assessments are starting up. Testing starts right in the beginning. There is no rest for the weary that's for sure. It will be exciting to see what will happen with the grant. I am very excited that you don't have to wait five years to be able to take advantage of this and make some improvements to the buildings.

Damon Rasnick - I appreciate the Superintendent keeping us informed about all the things that transpired. Things work better when you have four years olds up to eighteen and nineteen years olds in buildings and when you get ready to dismiss the intercoms not working. That makes it kind of hairy, to say the least. It takes of few days to get used to things. It is a stressful time for the parents, students, and employees. Everybody has to have their best game on. It's so important for children to have a day as stress-free as possible. Having been a principal, when sometimes buses miss some folks, you can imagine the parents on the other end when their kids don't get off the bus. It is something that we take very seriously. It sounds like everybody involved did an excellent job. I am very pleased with that and I hope it continues. Thank you.

Dr. Lurton Lyle - I am thankful that we had a reasonably good first ten days of school with the addition of Ervinton Elementary and Sandlick Elementary apparently going well. I am looking forward to Clintwood Elementary joining it. The construction appears to be going well also. Thank you.

Rick Mullins - I think it is really good to hear that we had several students moving in from out of state. I think that is a positive trend. Maybe those things that they said, that our population was going to continue to drop in the Coalfield may not be true. I was pleased to see the positive progress of the construction of the new school. It was really great to see the positive coming together of the opening of the school which I call the opening of Ridgeview and the consolidation the greatest undertaking ever accomplished in Dickenson County.

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VII. Closed Session, Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A of the Code of Virginia, there will be a closed meeting for the purpose of:

- 1.) Employment issues relating to discussion or consideration of specific individuals for employment as a School Counselor, Teachers, Cooks, Part-time Cooks, Part-Time Aides, Substitutes, Coaches, Resignations, and FMLA pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1)
- 2.) Discussion of Solar, To consult with legal counsel regarding the investment of public funds associated with school construction and consultation regarding actual or probable litigation, along with consultation regarding specific matters requiring legal advice pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (6) (7) and (8) of the Code of Virginia.

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and a second by Rick Mullins; the Board convened in Closed Session.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and a second by Rick Mullins; the board returned to open session.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Board Certification

Mrs. Robinson read the following certification for Closed Session:

WHEREAS, the Dickenson County School Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and WHEREAS, section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this School Board that such a closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dickenson County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only the public business matters

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lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered.

Certification results

Certify:	5 Rick Mullins; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

Board Action:

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and a second by Jason Hicks, the employment recommendations were approved as presented in the closed session.

Vote results

Aye:	5 Rick Mullins; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

Coaches

Substitutes

Bobby Baker
Brenda Baker
Isaiah Blansett
Sabryna Carpenter
Whitney Hale
Cannon Hill
Wilhelmina Fleming
Sierra Meade
Ronnie Moore
Danielle Mullins
Mona Mullins
Isabelle Ricci
Bink Rush
Lindsey Stanley
Jessica Sutherland

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FMLA

Cassidy O'Quinn
Jane Church

Ridgeview Middle School
Ridgeview Elementary School

Resignation

Sarah Simerly	Part-time Aide	Ridgeview Elementary
Tabitha Vitatoe	Part-time Aide	Ridgeview Elementary
Allison Anderson	Part-time Aide	Ridgeview High School
Jade Deel	Part-time Aide	Ridgeview Elementary
Michele Sykes	ISAEP	Ridgeview High School
Ronnie Abshire	Bus Driver	
Aaron Yates	Custodian	Ridgeview High School
Randi Beverly	Teacher	Clintwood Elementary
April Layne	Teacher	Clintwood Elementary
Elizabeth Wallace	Teacher	Ridgeview Elementary
Alexis Fleming	Teacher	Ridgeview High School

Recommendation for Transfer for the 2023-2024 School Year

Steffanie Willis transferred from RMS Middle School Teacher to CES PK-6 Elem. Education Teacher
Jeannie O'Quinn Transfer from CES/RMS Math Specialist to RES PK-6 Elementary Education Teacher
April Osborne Transfer from CES Special Education Teacher to RES Special Education Teacher
Cody Deloach Transfer from RES Special Education Teacher to CES Special Education Teacher

Recommendations for Employment

Phyllis Mullins	Ridgeview Middle School	Middle School Teacher
Brittney Presley	Clintwood Elementary School	School Counselor
Heaven O'Quinn	Ridgeview Middle School	Middle School Teacher (Long Term Sub)
Samantha Barton	Ridgeview Elementary School	Cook
Savannah Edwards	Ridgeview Elementary School	Part-Time Cook
Valerie Boggs	Ridgeview Middle/High School	Part-Time Cook
Tori Green	Ridgeview Elementary School	Part-Time Cook
Teresa Leftwich	Ridgeview Elementary School	Part-Time Aide

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Jamie Hackney made a motion followed by a second from Jason Hicks to award the contract for the demolition of Sandlick Elementary School to the Alloy Group with the understanding that the company was the low bidder in the procurement process we recently completed. Motion passed.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Rick Mullins; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

VIII. Adjournment:7:30 p.m.

Following a motion by Jason Hicks and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved _____
09/27/2023

Damon Rasnick

Damon Rasnick, Chair

Tonya Baker

Tonya Baker, Clerk