

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

February 22, 2023

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

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

Approval of Agenda:

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

Vote results

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jamie Hackney read the Public Comment Guidelines.

Kathy Musick, VPE - Ms. Musick gave her appreciation for the Board Clerk and Board Members. She thanked the Board Members for always trying to have the best interest of the teachers and students of Dickenson County, and congratulated the retirees.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Vote results

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

a. Approval of Minutes

- ❖ January 11, 2023, Special Called/ Reorganization Meeting
- ❖ January 25, 2023, Regular Meeting

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- b. Approval of Monthly Bills - School Operation Fund
 - Monthly Bills: Check # 884038-884140- \$735,926.37
 - Monthly Payroll: Check # 390512-390545 - \$2,115,973.77
- c. School Activity Fund
 - ❖ Informational Item
- d. Approval of Field Trips
 - ❖ Clintwood Elementary School
 - 02/10/2023, Clintwood, Va.
 - ❖ Sandlick Elementary
 - 04/06/2023 Tazwell, Va. 5th
 - ❖ Ridgeview High School
 - 01/28/2023 Cedar Bluff, Va. 11th - 12th
 - 02/04/2023 Cedar Bluff, Va. 11th - 12th
 - 02/14/2023 Vasant, Va. 12th
 - 02/18/2023 Johnson City, Tenn. 6th - 12th
 - 02/22/2023 Lebanon, Va. 10th - 12th
 - 03/02/2023 Gray Tenn. 9th - 12th
 - 03/09/2023 Bristol, Va. 6th -12th
- e. Approval of Bank Reconciliation Documents
- f. New Elementary Construction Invoices

IV. INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

VSBA Conferences

March Hot Topic Conference, March 15, 2023

COSSBA Inaugural National Conference: March 31 - April 2, 2023

V. SUPERINTENDENT ROBINSON

g. Good News from our Schools

❖ **Recognition of our School Board Clerk**

The third week in February (**February 13-17, 2023**) has been designated as School Board Clerk Appreciation Week, with the goal of building awareness of the role school board clerks play in assisting school board members, superintendents, and our local schools.

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❖ Recognition of our School Board Members

We are saluting the service of school board members in Virginia in February 2023 during School Board Appreciation Month. The theme — Rising to the Challenge — reflects the leadership of local school board members as they serve their local divisions and advocate for public education with local, state, and federal leaders on behalf of all students.

❖ C. Recognition of our Retirees

The School Board recognized the following retirees for their service to Dickenson County Public Schools.

Phyllis Mullins - 31 years of service, 25 years with Dickenson County Public Schools

Donnie Turner - 31 years of service with Dickenson County Public Schools

❖ January 2023 Attendance and Enrollment Report:

Mrs. Karen Martin, Compliance Director, presented student attendance and enrollment for January 2023. Mrs. Martin spoke concerning chronic absenteeism.

Be Great with 8! Be a Hero: Here, Every Day, Ready, On-Time

As of January 31, 2023, student enrollment was 1995 which includes: (1) Enrolled Students; (2) PK and Post Students, and (3) Virtual Students

Ervinton Elementary was January's attendance winner at 91.46%

The student enrollment includes virtual students and the percentage for each school:

Clintwood Elementary School:	397:	88.87%
Ervinton Elementary School:	102:	91.46%
Sandlick Elementary School:	347:	88.09%
Ridgeview Middle School:	451	89.24%
Ridgeview High School:	605:	88.98%

Pre K Enrollment:

Clintwood Elementary School:	31
Ervinton Elementary School:	10
Sandlick Elementary School:	37
Total:	78

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h. Update on New Elementary School Construction Project

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

Budget & Procurement

Main Building

- Project remains within the overall budget of \$24,561,867.
- Furniture installation began this month and continues as classrooms are completed.

Classroom Wing & Multi-Purpose Room Addition

- Project remains on schedule and within budget.
- Some furniture has been delivered and stored until the building is ready for install.

SKANSKA



I. Update on the DCPS FY23 and FY24 Budgets

The General Assembly is still in session until February 25, 2023. There are 2 versions of a State Budget being considered.

RE: FY 2022-2023 Budget

In January 2023, School Divisions were advised that the June and December Calculation Tools contained an error related to the Grocery & Hygiene Tax Hold Harmless Amounts. These were listed under the Incentives Program Category. Based on how the legislation was passed, those Hold Harmless amounts were required to be listed separately in the budget and should have been subtracted from Basic Aid State and Local Shares. The error occurred when the VDOE Calculation tools did not subtract those amounts from the

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Basic Aid Line Item. The result was that the Grocery Tax Hold Harmless amounts were duplicated.

The General Assembly is currently considering legislation within the Budget to alleviate the burden of this mistake on School Divisions for FY 23.

DCPS Grocery Tax Allocation for FY 2023 is \$160,594.

The amount of basic aid to be subtracted is:

\$123,641 State Share

\$ 36,953 Local Share

The Senate Version of the Budget Bill proposes to fund an additional \$123,641 Grocery & Hygiene Tax Hold Harmless to eliminate the discrepancy.

The House Version of the Budget Bill proposes to fund an additional \$41,547 Grocery & Hygiene Tax Hold Harmless to help alleviate the burden of the discrepancy.

There are no proposed additional funding amounts for Grocery Tax Hold Harmless for FY 23-24. DCPS will adjust for that FY 23-24 budget process. The proposed funding for Grocery Tax Hold Harmless for FY 24 is \$396,779.

RE: FY 2023-2024 Budget

There are 2 versions of a State Budget being considered for FY 23-24.

- The Proposed House Budget is \$ 25,496,607. The Proposed Senate Budget is \$ 26,861,357.
- The Senate Version is \$1,105,018 higher in State Funding and \$259,732 higher in Local Funding (\$1,364,750 Total)

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Revenue Projections from State Budget Process
ADM: 1841.25

Total State/Local Revenue Share (RLM) FY 23-24

Senate Version		House Version		Differences	
State Share	Local Share	State Share	Local Share	State Share	Local Share
\$ 21,558,560	\$ 5,302,797	\$ 20,453,542	\$ 5,043,065	\$ 1,105,018	\$ 259,732

Line Item Differences:

		Senate Version		House Version		Differences	
		State Share	Local Share	State Share	Local Share	State Share	Local Share
SOQ	Basic Aid	\$ 8,784,271	\$ 2,625,355	\$ 8,218,658	\$ 2,456,310	\$ 565,613	\$ 169,045
SOQ	VRS Retirement	\$ 1,182,260	\$ 353,342	\$ 1,179,425	\$ 352,495	\$ 2,835	\$ 847
SOQ	Social Security	\$ 507,493	\$ 151,674	\$ 506,075	\$ 151,251	\$ 1,418	\$ 423
SOQ	English As a Second Language	\$ 2,929	\$ 875	\$ 2,343	\$ 700	\$ 586	\$ 175
Incentive Programs	Compensation Supplement	\$ 1,481,513	\$ 442,780	\$ 1,412,646	\$ 422,197	\$ 68,867	\$ 20,583
Incentive Programs	At-Risk	\$ 1,039,498	\$ 310,675	\$ 861,575	\$ 257,499	\$ 177,923	\$ 53,176
Incentive Programs	SOQ Instructional & Support Position Bonus Payment	\$ 235,969	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 235,969	\$ -
Lottery Funded	At-Risk	\$ 552,448	\$ 165,110	\$ 500,642	\$ 149,627	\$ 51,806	\$ 15,483
						\$ 1,105,017	\$ 259,732

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j Ridgeview Elementary School 2023-2024 School Opening and Transition Process

Timeline for Ridgeview Elementary Schools: Planning to Transition to Ridgeview Elementary School:

To update the School Board:

- a. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: Friday, June 9, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.: Confirmed with the U. S. Corps of Engineers
- b. Identifying Administrative Staff: Dec./January 2023: Completed on Jan. 25, 2023
- c. Identifying Staff: PK – 5th : Feb/March 2023
- d. Finalizing Educational/Instructional Programs: April- June 2023: Instructional Staff
- e. Finalizing Transportation/Bus Runs: April/May 2023: Mr. Mooney
- f. Teacher/Moving Plan: May/June 2023: This topic is on the weekly Skanska Construction calls: Discussion centers on hiring moving companies to help with the move.
- g. Demolishing SES ASAP: This topic is under discussion to facilitate the earliest date to demolish SES.
- h. Other?
 1. Technology: The Technology Staff / Maintenance Staff is currently installing the network and interactive TV in the classrooms.
 2. Furniture: Is currently being set up in classrooms.
 3. Determination of Summer School Schedule: Monday, June 12 – July 13, 2023: 6-hour days/ Closed July 3rd and July 4th.
 4. SES/EES/and PK and K Staff from CES: Toured the School
 5. RES Administration met with EES Staff and will meet with PK and K Staff as Introduction
 6. Classrooms per grade identified at RES
 7. School Calendar for 2023 – 2024: Presented to the School Board at the February Meeting for approval
 8. Preparation of Enrollment Form for RES: Friday, Mar. 3, 2023

k. Update on the 2022 - 2023 School Calendar and Proposed 2023-2024 DCPS School Calendar

Mark Mullins, Director of Personnel and Federal Programs, presented the 2022 – 2023 school calendar update and discussed the proposed 2023 – 2024 DCPS School Calendar recommendations for the School Board's consideration.

Update on the current 2022 – 2023 School Calendar;

- Spring Break: Friday, Mar. 10th and Monday, Mar. 13th
- Easter Break: Friday, April 7th and Monday, April 10th
- Proposed Last Day of School: Wednesday, May 31, 2023

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As of Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023: We have missed one (1) school day and have participated in four (5) Virtual Learning Days.

Recommendation: Ridgeview High School Graduation on Friday, May 26, 2023

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and a second by Jason Hicks, Ridgeview High School Graduation was set for May 26, 2023.

Vote results

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

Discussion on the 2023 – 2024 School Calendar:

The DCPS faculty and staff recently had the opportunity to take a survey on their preference for the 2023 – 2024 School Calendar. Three options were presented to the Staff for their consideration. The survey opened on Thursday, Feb. 16, and closed on Monday, Feb. 20th at 4:00 p.m.

The results of the staff survey were option 1 had 25 votes or 10.5%, option 2 had 25 votes or 10.5%, and option 3 had 189 votes or 79.1%.

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and a second by Jason Hicks calendar option 3 was approved for the 2023-2024 school year.

Vote results

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

I. Approval of the Dickenson County Public Schools Technology Plan

Ryan Wallace, Director of Technology, presented the Dickenson County Public Schools Technology Plan.

Technology Vision

To ensure that all learners are provided access, opportunity, and resources to develop into responsible users, consumers, and producers of technology. The DCPS K-12 technology program will prepare technology-literate students to be lifelong learners who make informed decisions about the role of technology in their lives. Students should have the opportunity to develop technology skills that support learning, personal productivity, decision-making, and daily life.

Areas of importance:

- Promote the effective use of technology to improve student performance
- Provide the greatest possible access to information resources

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- Create an environment/climate of continuous use of technology
- Apply technology solutions to school and program mission, goals, and strategies
- Encourage/support new initiatives and innovation as a dynamic, continuous process
- Integrate technology in all areas of the district operations

DCPS Technology Overview

As of January 2023, Dickenson County Public Schools has deployed a multitude of technology devices to aid in the learning, instruction, and safety of students. From a network standpoint, the district is utilizing the latest in firewall, switching, and wireless technologies. The systems that have been deployed to our end-users are configured with industry-proven hardware, and all of our classroom display systems are in the process of being updated to interactive touch boards. Our staff has access to a variety of software tools that assists with communication, lesson planning, and overall instruction. A defense-in-depth strategy has been carried out to aid the safety of students and staff members. This strategy consists of several tools that filter, monitor, and block malicious content from reaching our end users.

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle the Dickenson County Public Schools Technology Plan was approved as presented.

Vote results

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

m. Budget Workshops and Meeting Dates in March 2023

March is the month when the School Board discusses and finalizes the division's FY24 budget. Several meetings are scheduled in March to finalize the budget:

- Wednesday, Mar. 8, 2023: 5:00 p.m.: Budget Workshop
- Wednesday, Mar. 15, 2023: 5:00 p.m. Budget Hearing
- Wednesday, Mar. 22, 2023: 5:00 p.m.: March School Board Meeting.

All meetings will be held in the RMS Auditorium.

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VI. BOARD COMMENT

Rick Mullins: It is hard to believe that we're this far through the year again. I was really glad to hear legislatively about the possibility of a seven percent raise. I think that is a really good thing for our school system. I'm happy to be here and I am happy to be serving with you all. I think we have a great board.

Dr. Lurton Lyle: I will second your thanking about being associated with this board. I've been on several in my career or well time and I think we work more smoothly than some in the past. Well, of course, I would say that since I am on this board now. I'm glad to see the work going well on the new edition and look forward to being in it teaching and such. I'm amazed at the amount of work associated with the technology and keeping it up and running but I am hopeful that we can.

Jason Hicks: I am kind of excited about the pictures that we got to see and how close that is to getting to become a reality and opening the school up. I am sure that other folks are really excited about that as well. The budget, that seven percent sounds really good and hopefully we can work those things out and do that across the board. I really appreciate the work that the technology committee came up with the plan. That's very detailed and very good. It's scary in the way you talk about so many devices you got and you're looking at you know we are a couple of years now from where we purchased those things and that's about a third of their life so we are talking about a lot of devices that may need to be replaced very shortly with those licenses. That thought came to me and that's really tough because there are a whole lot of devices we bought at one time. We have the best people to repair them in the world I guess. I just want to echo them, it's crazy we are this close to the end and didn't start until late August. It's moving along very quickly. I would just say congratulations to our basketball teams and keep it going. Maybe they have already tipped off over there by now. You are getting really close. We are sending the best of luck here tonight.

Jamie Hackney: I am glad we recognized our retirees tonight. I appreciate their service. I would also echo some of the things that we heard about the technology plan. It looks really good. I know a lot of work went into that. I will echo Jason, congratulations to the girls basketball team last night, a big win at Marion. I am hoping the boys get a win tonight at home against Marion also I believe it is.

Damon Rasnick: I would just like to say that we sometimes as a board and the Superintendent, she knows more detail about exactly what has to go on every day to have a successful program for our students. This technology is daunting and it always will be. I think there will always be something around the corner and it all costs a great deal of money. Every time something changes it seems like the price moves forward as well. It is imperative that our leaders in this County and State and the United States recognize the challenge and that they provide appropriate needs to see that those things are funded.

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To hear Mr. Wallace and everything that he and his team have to do, that's just one segment. Everything else has to be in order too. I remind people that Dickenson County for many years was in the lower quartile in regard to testing. We have moved into the top quartile. I think the top twenty-five percent. We didn't drop much during Covid. That shows that we have competent people and we have competent students. We have got the best students in Dickenson County. These parents don't have anybody else to send us, they send us their best. We need to keep all of that in mind when we do our discussions and decisions as well as the other folks involved in this process. We have been blessed in many ways. I would certainly echo the comments about serving with a group of people that I think share ideas about the right way to do things or try to find the best way even though there will be disagreements at times. That's probably a good thing, that we worked well together on all the major things and I expect that we will continue to do that as long as we are together. I certainly hope that is the case. This is a big undertaking and I certainly admire and appreciate all those people that have chosen this field as their career and to serve our students as well as they possibly can be served. I do think we have many shining examples to support that.

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 Pre-K – 6th Grade Elementary Education Teacher Reading Specialist, Math Specialist, Part-Time Teacher Aide, Discussion of RES Staff, FMLA, Substitutes, Retirement and Resignation pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) 2.) 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 Jason Hicks and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle, 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 Jaimie Hackney and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle; 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	

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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 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	

PERSONNEL/LEGAL

Substitutes

Brittany Nowlin
Kimberly Stanley
A.Logan White

FMLA

Cathy Baker - Teacher, Clintwood Elementary

Resignation

Raven Gulley - Part-Time Aide, Ervinton Elementary

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Retirement

Jennifer Rose - Teacher, Sandlick Elementary

Recommendations for Employment

Emily Mullins - Sandlick Elementary School, PK-6 Elementary Education Teacher

Valerie Perrigan - Ridgeview Middle School, Part-Time Teacher Aide

Kiarra Mullins Employed by SWVA Works and placed at Ervinton Elementary School.

Recommendations for the 2023-2024 School Year

Pam Fields- Division, Reading Specialist

Sherry Smith - Division, Reading Specialist

Vanessa Souleyrette - Division, Mathematics Specialist

Jeannie O'Quinn - Division, Mathematics Specialist

VIII. Adjournment: 7:20 p.m.

Following a motion by Jason Hicks and a second by Rick Mullins, the meeting was adjourned.

All-Aye

Approved 03/22/2023

Damon Rasnick

Damon Rasnick, Chair

Tonya Baker

Tonya Baker, Clerk