

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 25, 2023

- I. ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - 5:04 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; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Jason Hicks, Tonya Baker, Clerk; Haydee Robinson, Superintendent

Participated Remotely: Jamie Hackney

Mr. Hackney requested to participate in the October 25, 2023 meeting remotely due to being out of town for work.

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and a second by Jason Hicks; Mr. Hackney's request to participate remotely was approved.

Vote results

Aye:	4 Damon Rasnick, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

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. Jason Hicks read the Public Comment Guidelines.

Kathy Musick, Regional Representative, VPE- Ms. Musick reminded everyone that the fall submission date for the VPE scholarships and grants is November 15, 2023.

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

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a. Approval of Minutes

- ❖ September 27, 2023

b. Approval of Monthly Bills - School Operation Fund

Monthly Bills: Check # 884917- 885029= \$ 657,839.70

Monthly Payroll: Check # 390796-390832- \$538,957.03

c. School Activity Fund

- ❖ Informational Item

d. Approval of Field Trips

- ❖ Clintwood Elementary School
 - 10/09/2023 Clintwood, Va. 1st-5th
 - 10/18/2023 Norton, Va. 1st
 - 10/19/2023 Clintwood, Va. 2nd

- ❖ Ridgeview Elementary School
 - 10/23/2023 Norton, Va. 4th
 - 10/23/2023 Castlewood, Va. 1st
 - 10/26/2023 Castlewood, Va. 2nd
 - 11/10/2023 Kingsport, Tenn. 5th

- ❖ Ridgeview Middle School
 - Grundy, Va. 6th -8th

- ❖ Ridgeview High School
 - 10/27/2023 Duffield, Va. 11th-12th
 - 10/29-10/31/2023 Williamsburg, Va. 10th-12th
 - 10/30/2023 Big Stone Gap, Va. 9th-12th
 - 11/03/2023 Cedar Bluff, Va. 12th
 - 11/09/2023 Abingdon, Va. 9th -12th
 - 11/10/2023 Norton, Va. 9th - 12th
 - 11/16/2023 Mountain City, Tenn. 9th-12th
 - 11/16/2023 Wise, Va. 9th -12th
 - 11/20/2023 Honaker, Va. 5th -12th
 - 11/28/2023 Abingdon, Va. 9th -12th
 - 12/03/2023 Norton, Va. 5th -12th
 - 04/16-04/20/2023 Orlando, Tampa, Cocoa, Florida 12th

e. Approval of Bank Reconciliation Documents

f. New Elementary Construction Invoices

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IV. INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

VSBA Conferences

2023 VSBA Annual Convention November 15-17, 2023 Two Board Members will be attending.

V. SUPERINTENDENT ROBINSON

g. Good News from our Schools

❖ September 2023 Attendance and Enrollment Report

Mrs. Karen Martin, Compliance Director, presented the student attendance and enrollment for September 2023.

As of September 29, 2023, student enrollment was 1855 which includes (1) Enrolled Students in K - 12 including virtual students; (2) PK and Post Students, (3) 3- Year Old Program.

The student enrollment includes K – 5th students, including virtual students, and percentages for each school:

Clintwood Elementary School:	277	92.08%
Ridgeview Elementary School	588	89.4%
Ridgeview Middle School:	452	92.13%
Ridgeview High School:	588	88.53%

Pre-K Enrollment:

Ridgeview Elementary School	63
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Ridgeview Middle School won the attendance award for September.

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h. Update on Services Provided by Behavioral Health at DCPS

Kevin Mullins, Executive Director, and Brandon Bise, Clinical Services Director with Dickenson County Behavioral Health presented to the School Board a PowerPoint presentation proposing to expand their services to our students in the Dickenson County Public Schools. Behavioral Health will be working in a collaborative and cooperative partnership with Propel Counseling and Communities in School to provide more wrap-around services to our children who may need these services. Approximately 9 Behavioral Health staff members will be working monthly and weekly in all our schools, and Charles Hill working up to 4 days per week Monday-Thursday.

i. Construction Update on the New Addition to Ridgeview Elementary School

Tim Burge, Construction Superintendent with Skanska, presented an update on the construction of the new addition to Ridgeview Elementary School and on the Demolition Process at Sandlick Elementary School.

RVES New Addition

Budget & Procurement:

- Planning for furniture is in progress
- Low voltage cabling procurement in progress
- Procurement of phones, interactive boards and other classroom technology in progress
- Project remains within budget

SKANSKA



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j. Transition of Clintwood Elementary School to the Ridgeview Campus for the 2024-2025 School Year

Mrs. Robinson gave a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed overview of the transition for Clintwood Elementary School and the integration of all elementary schools to the Ridgeview Campus for the 2024 – 2025 school year.

The presentation included:

- Proposed Grade Level Configuration for RES, RMS, and RHS
- Proposed Number of Classrooms Required for 2024- 2025 at RES, RMS and RHS
- Projected Number of Students per Grade Level at Each School
- Available Instructional Programs and Learning Spaces
- Implementation Timeline
- Questions/Comments

Mr. Jason Hicks requested that Mrs. Robinson check into the possibility of allowing the eighth grade to still be a part of the Middle School.

k. Approval of Ervinton Elementary School as Surplus Property

Scott Mullins, School Board Attorney, presented the process for the School Board to determine and declare Ervinton Elementary School as “surplus property”. This “surplus property” determination by the Dickenson County School Board will begin the process of giving the Ervinton Elementary School property to Dickenson County at its November Board of Supervisors.

Following a motion by Jason Hicks and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle, the resolution regarding the Ervinton Elementary School Property 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

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VI. BOARD COMMENT

Rick Mullins - It is really good to see the increase in students, and better absenteeism than what we've had. That's been really positive will all the work. I would like to thank Kevin Mullins and Brandon Bise for all they do in the community and our school system as well. I am really excited about the final phase of the integration of Clintwood Elementary coming into the school system and the final transition. I am so proud of our school system, where it is at, and how it's happened. I have to tell you a funny story quickly. There was a lady last year who came from Miami Florida. She drove from Maimi Florida to Clintwood. She gets out and slams her door and says my God you live at the end of the world. I said no I want to show you something. We came up here, I drove her to Ridgeview. I took her all around the school and was telling her about how it happened, the \$110 million and everything and she said but it's at the end of the world. I said no Robin honey, look over there at the Ridgetop at the Virginia Kentucky border. That's Kentucky, that's the end of the world. We are just on the edge. We are blessed.

Dr. Lurton Lyle - I appreciate all the work and effort to get the new elementary school completed. The physical work and planning are ongoing. It is a tremendous effort. I appreciate the behavioral health presence here. It is good to know what is going on in our schools. I look forward to the State Convention which will be soon. A couple of weeks or so.

Jamie Hackney - I'll just congratulate the Ridgeview Volleyball Team on their continued success.

Jason Hicks - There are a lot of good things going on. It's definitely welcome to see Behavior Health back in. We've got so many services for our students now. I am sure that's going to make a big impact on those students. You know, they got to be here to get those services so hopefully we'll get them in here. Those numbers look pretty good, we are getting a little better all of the time. It's exciting about the transition with Clintwood Elementary. It's good to know that we still have that commitment to keep all those folks. YOu hear those numbers of what those schools are going to be and we can't afford to lose anybody. We are glad to keep them. Change can be difficult sometimes. Most of the time it is just taking that first step or two to get out there and face the unknown and then before you know it, it may be better than it ever was.

Damon Rasnick - I would like to express my appreciation for Mr. Mullins and Mr. Bise and their organization working along with Propel and others, providing services that are so much needed for our students and families. I just hope you can expand that to the limit of what it can be and have excellent cooperation with all the school staff and the parents, grandparents, and other caregivers that you are involved with. It certainly is a blessing to have you folks on board. There are a lot of good things, I know the Ridgeview Volleyball Team is having some great success, as well as the

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football team. I was thinking of all the parents and grandparents and family that show up at these games and travel with them. I don't know how familiar you are with the Little League programs we have around the county. They certainly have a great number of them. In the basketball games for the girls, they travel all over and I have never seen a gym that wasn't packed with parents and grandparents and supporters. It is the same way with Little League Softball and the Middle School Softball. The fact is at Abingdon, they have one of the finest facilities down there in the State of Virginia. There were tons of people there and at the one in Wise, there are tons of people out supporting the kids. My heart goes out to these parents and grandparents who have to spend all of that time on the road because it is a task. It is a challenge to support these children in the way that they need to be to see all that support. It is certainly heartwarming and gives you faith that the future looks bright for us and all of those others involved. It takes so many people to make this operation run properly. It brings perspective when you are driving around the school. I don't care where you are from you would be impressed by this facility. I think if they got to know the people they would be more impressed by the people here. I think Dickenson County has a population full of good folks. They support the kids in the best way possible as much as they can. I think most of them do it in a good way and I am certainly proud to be a part of 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 Mechanic, Custodian, Part Time Aides, Substitutes, Coaches, Resignations, and FMLA pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1)
- 2.) Student early graduation request pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A)(2)
- 3.) 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 Dr. Lurton Lyle 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	

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

Vote results

Aye:	4	Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Dr. Lurton Lyle, 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 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:	4	Rick Mullins; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Damon Rasnick, Jason Hicks
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Board Action:

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

Vote results

Aye:	4	Rick Mullins; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Damon Rasnick, Jason Hicks
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

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PERSONNEL/LEGAL

Substitutes

Brooke Boggs
Alyssa Bolling
Camron Collins
Sarah Deel
Tonya Gilbert
Brandi Justice
Christopher Kendrick
Rosemary McFall
Hayley Mullins
Tyler Mullins
Hayley Owens
Whitley Poston
Sara Turner

Resignations

Kala Wallace	CNA Nursing Instructor	Ridgeview High School
Cecil Deel	Teacher	Ridgeview Middle School
Debra Green	Custodian	Clintwood Elementary School

Employment Recommendations

Valerie Boggs	Clintwood Elementary School	Custodian – Full-Time
Anthony Robinette	Divisionwide	Mechanic
Selena Moore	Ridgeview Middle School	Part-Time Teacher Aide
Cannon Hill	Ridgeview Elementary School	Part-Time Teacher Aide
Jessica Mullins	Ridgeview Elementary School	Part-Time Teacher Aide

POST/ADVERTISE

- Part-time Cooks
- Tutors

Following a motion by Jason Hicks and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle, the requests for early graduation was approved as presented for students number 443, 707, 806, and 823.

Vote results

Aye:	4 Rick Mullins; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Damon Rasnick, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

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VIII. Adjournment:6:49 p.m.

Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and a second by Rick Mullins, the meeting was adjourned.
All-Aye.

Approved 11/29/2023

Damon Rasnick

Damon Rasnick, Chair

Laura Taylor

Laura Taylor, Deputy Clerk