

MINUTES
BUSINESS MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD
CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
Thursday, August 20, 2009 (6:00 PM)

1.1 Call to Order: Chairman Michie called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m., noting this was the first paperless meeting using Electronic School Board.

2.1 Pledge of Allegiance: The Board began its meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

3.1 Information Item: Update H1N1: Dr. Lilian Peake, Health Director for the Thomas Jefferson Health District, was presented and provided updated information regarding H1N1 influenza and local plans for a possible outbreak. She said this year it was expected there would be more flu activity due to the new H1N1 strain, for which there is not yet a vaccine. The vaccine may become available in mid October and she is encouraging all school systems to make it available to children as they are most affected and spread it more readily in the community. Contrary to last spring, they are not recommending closing schools this fall. The recommendations are to keep children who are sick out of school and when there is a higher than expected outbreak in schools, do more outreach to children who may be at risk of complications so parents can take protective action, and make sure we do a lot of education so people know what to do. Dr. Peake said the virus is primarily spread person-to-person through respiratory droplets. Dr. Atkins added that a meeting was held with Dr. Peake along with six other school divisions and they are working on a plan to get the information out to parents and our community. Hopefully, the information will be ready to go home with students when they return to school on August 25th. Along with other divisions, our sites have been offered as places to receive the vaccine.

4.1 Roll Call:

The following Board Members were present:	Mr. Edmund Michie Ms. Colette Blount Ms. Llezelle Dugger	Ms. Kathleen Galvin Ms. Leah Puryear Mr. Juandiego Wade
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The following Board Members were absent:	Dr. Alvin Edwards
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The following Staff Members were present:	Dr. Rosa Atkins Mrs. Gertrude Ivory Mr. James Henderson Mr. Ed Gillaspie Dr. Faye Giglio	Dr. Laurie McCullough Ms. Linda Bowen Ms. Carolyn Toms Ms. Cass Cannon
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The following Staff Members were absent:	None
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5.1 Approval of Proposed Agenda: Ms. Dugger made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, that the Board approve the proposed agenda. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the motion carried with Ms. Blount, Ms. Dugger, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Michie, Ms. Puryear and Mr. Wade voting yes. 0 nays.

6.0 Gifts, Grants, Donations:

6.1 Kid Pan Alley Grant – Ed Gillaspie said this was a new agenda item to inform the Board of grants received that are new to the division or grants that have been revised in some way. While the Kid Pan Alley grant is not new, rather than funding going directly to the schools, the money is coming to us centrally which raises it to a dollar amount that will show up in the centralized budgets. The grant is in the amount of \$12,000 and is funded through the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

6.2 Title 1 Reading First Grant – Mrs. Gertrude Ivory provided an update on this grant to the Board. The Virginia Department of Education awarded the grant to Clark Elementary School to develop a reading program for children in grades K–3. The grant requires all teachers of kindergarten through grade 3, administrators, and special education teachers of Reading First Schools to attend one of the four-day Virginia Reading Academies. Each school must have a minimum 90-minute block of reading instruction, hire a reading specialist, select core supplemental and intervention materials based on reading research, and use assessments as prescribed by the SEA. The grant has been revised to reflect an increase from \$159,343 to \$192,398 for the period July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. Ms. Blount asked about the competencies and effectiveness of the grant. Dr. Atkins said she would provide that information to the Board.

7.1 Comments from Members of the Community: There were none.

8.1 Board Member Comments – Mr. Michie reported that he, Ms. Puryer and Mr. Wade attended the Virginia School Boards Hot Topic Conference today which focused on stimulus funds and re-benchmarking of the Standards of Quality. There is still not a lot known about the stimulus monies. He added that we are not likely to get any of the “Race to the Top” grants. That money will go directly to the state and as it is worded now, only Title 1 schools that have not made adequate yearly progress and are in school improvement would be eligible. Ms. Galvin asked if we have any information yet on how the Governor’s latest budget cuts will affect us. Mr. Michie said as of now we did not have that information but staff has positioned us in a fairly safe place in that we haven’t spent money and have a contingency fund to help offset cuts.

Ms. Galvin reported that students participating in the Urban Design Institute did a presentation at the Charlottesville Community Design Center. The students were impressive and the growth in one week was phenomenal. The Chair of the CHRA Board has requested that the students present their designs to the Board at a future meeting.

9.1 Approval of Consent Agenda:

- C1 – Minutes from the June 4, 2009 Work Session, June 18, 2009 Business Session
- C2 - Personnel Recommendations
- C3 - Business, Routine and Financial Reports

Ms. Galvin asked that the June 18, 2009 Business Session minutes be removed from the consent agenda to be considered under action items as she was absent. Ms. Dugger made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, that the Board approve the proposed agenda. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the motion carried with Ms. Blount, Ms. Dugger, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Michie, Ms. Puryer and Mr. Wade voting yes. 0 nays.

10.1 Comments from the Community - There were none.

11.0 Action Items:

11.1 C2 Minutes June 18, 2009 – Ms. Puryer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, that the Board approve the June 18, 2009 minutes. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the motion carried with Ms. Blount, Ms. Dugger, Mr. Michie, Ms. Puryer and Mr. Wade voting yes. 0 nays. Ms. Galvin abstained.

11.2 School Board/Superintendent Biennial Plan - At its annual retreat, the School Board received the end-of-year status report on its 2008-2010 biennial priorities and discussed priorities for 2009-2011. Ms. Dugger made a motion, seconded by Ms. Puryer, that the Board approve the 2009-2011 Board/Superintendent Biennial Plan. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the motion carried with Ms. Blount, Ms. Dugger, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Michie, Ms. Puryer and Mr. Wade voting yes. 0 nays.

11.3 Future Work Session Topics and Reports - At its annual retreat, the School Board discussed priorities for 2009-2011. Staff has incorporated Board feedback and developed a schedule of work session discussion topics and reports for Board consideration. Ms. Puryer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, that the Board approve the schedule of work

session topics and reports as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the motion carried with Ms. Blount, Ms. Dugger, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Michie, Ms. Puryear and Mr. Wade voting yes. 0 nays.

11.4 Teaching American History Grant – Mrs. Gertrude Ivory reported that the *America on the World Stage* Teaching American History grant proposal has received full funding by the U.S. Department of Education. This five year, \$1.67 million award will provide professional development training for American and world history educators in a five division consortium (Albemarle County, Charlottesville City, Greene County, Madison County, and Orange County Public Schools) in partnership with the Virginia Center for Digital History starting in August 2009. Charlottesville City Schools will serve as the fiscal agent of this grant. The first three years of the project are guaranteed at approximately \$1Million; the final two years will be approved contingent upon continued Congressional support for the TAH program in 2012. Our goal is to recognize the urgent practical and conceptual need for teachers to understand the emergence of the United States' power and prestige in relation to world events. The content design of this grant will be framed by *America on the World Stage: A Global Perspective to U.S. History* (Organization of American Historians, 2008). Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Blount that the Board approve the schedule of work session topics and reports as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the motion carried with Ms. Blount, Ms. Dugger, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Michie, Ms. Puryear and Mr. Wade voting yes. 0 nays.

11.5 Medicaid Funds - This topic was presented to the Board on August 6, 2009 for approval on first reading. Dr. Beth Baptist explained that the school system bills Medicaid for certain eligible services provided for children. \$140,000 is already budgeted in this fiscal year and two additional items in the amount of \$91,000: \$25,000 for CCS to receive additional Medicaid funds to use for evaluation materials and furniture for a student with disabilities who is transitioning to a different school within the system, and \$66,000 for an additional Special Education Teacher at Burnley-Moran Elementary School due to higher enrollment than expected. Ms. Blount made a motion, seconded by Ms. Dugger, that the Board approve the schedule of work session topics and reports as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the motion carried with Ms. Blount, Ms. Dugger, Ms. Galvin, Mr. Michie, Ms. Puryear and Mr. Wade voting yes. 0 nays.

12.1 Comments from Board Members – Mr. Wade said Board members usually visit schools on opening day and he would like to do that. He also said he had gotten the handbook in the mail and would encourage staff to pay close attention to page 16 which refers to internet use and that all electronic devices be not visible and turned off and, if they are not, are subject to being confiscated for a period of time. Mr. Michie said he understood there would be some flexibility this year at CHS. Dr. Atkins said students would be able to use the devices during non-instructional time and signs have been posted around the school to communicate that. Ms. Galvin said she hoped we are monitoring that to see if there are increased disciplinary issues because of getting the student to then “turn off” once they are allowed to “turn on”. Mr. Michie asked if the Board should have a policy. Dr. Atkins responded that a policy was in place and asked Dr. Baptist to read the policy to the Board. Mr. Michie reiterated that the policy should be strictly enforced.

13.1 Superintendent's Comments – Dr. Atkins reported on the “pre-activity, pre-student” week. The convocation was held on Monday and was a success. There were multiple workshops for teachers and, for the first time this year, teachers had a catalogue with an array of workshops that were available to them on August 18th. They were able to register for the workshops through PD Express and will receive a certificate for the licensure points they earned for taking those classes. Dr. Atkins said we are looking forward to having our students return to school on August 25th.

Mrs. Ivory introduced to the Board, the newly hired Literacy Coordinator, Jessica Taylor, a former Reading Specialist at Walker Upper Elementary School. Dr. Atkins also welcomed Mr. Brad Taylor, recently appointed Assistant Principal at Walker Upper Elementary School.

Mr. Wade commented that he thought the paperless meetings would work out well. Mr. Michie agreed and thanked the vendor, Electronic School Board, for the training and asked Board Members to remain after the meeting for any additional training they felt was needed.

A complete podcast of this meeting can be accessed at:

<http://www.ccs.k12.va.us/podcast/media/CCSBoard09Aug20.mp3>

14.1 Adjournment - Ms. Galvin made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wade seconded the motion and meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Edmund Michie, Chair

Linda Bowen, Clerk