



MINUTES
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
Booker T. Reaves Media Center, Charlottesville High School
Thursday, January 10, 2019 (5:00 PM)

1.1 Call to Order: Division Superintendent Dr. Rosa Atkins called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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 Roll Call:

The following Board Members were present:	Mr. James Bryant	Dr. Sherry Kraft
	Ms. Amy Laufer	Ms. Jennifer McKeever
	Ms. Leah Puryear	Ms. Lisa Torres
	Mr. Juandiego Wade	Ms. Fridaous Sanda, Student Representative

The following Board Members were absent: None

The following Staff Members were present:	Dr. Rosa Atkins	Dr. Gary Blair
	Mr. Jeff Faust	Mr. James Henderson
	Ms. Renee Hoover	Dr. Kendra King
	Ms. Kim Powell	Ms. Jennifer Herring
	Ms. Leslie Thacker	Ms. Julia Green

The following Staff Members were absent: None

Board Organization

4.1 Elect a Chairperson: In accordance with School Board Policy, BCA, School Board Organizational Meeting, Dr. Atkins called for nominations for Chair of the Board. Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bryant, to elect Ms. Jennifer McKeever as Chair of the School Board for calendar year 2019. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Dr. Kraft, Ms. Laufer, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

4.2 Elect a Vice-Chair: In accordance with School Board Policy, BCA, School Board Organizational Meeting, Ms. McKeever called for nominations for Vice-Chair of the Board. Ms. Torres made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bryant, to elect Ms. Leah Puryear as Vice-Chair of the School Board for calendar year 2019. Upon a roll-call vote being

taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Dr. Kraft, Ms. Laufer, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

4.3 Appoint Clerk and Deputy Clerk of the Board: In accordance with School Board Policy, BCA, School Board Organizational Meeting, upon recommendation of Dr. Atkins, Ms. Laufer made a motion, seconded by Ms. Torres, that the Board approve the appointment of Leslie B. Thacker as Clerk to the School Board and Julia Green as Deputy Clerk to the School Board effective January 1, 2019. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Dr. Kraft, Ms. Laufer, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

5.1 Approval of Proposed Agenda: Dr. Kraft made a motion, seconded by Ms. Puryear, to approve the proposed agenda. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Dr. Kraft, Ms. Laufer, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Special Recognition

6.1 National External Diploma Program Graduate Sherman Thompson: Dr. Rosa Atkins introduced Carol Coffey, Director of the Thomas Jefferson Adult Education Center, who along with Dr. Atkins and Ms. McKeever presented Mr. Thompson with a National External Diploma Program, a standardized applied performance assessment program requiring 100 percent mastery of high school level competencies in 12 subject areas including language arts, math, statistics, technology, fine arts, social studies and science. Mr. Thompson was instrumental in bringing this program to CCS.

7.1 Comments from Members of the Community: Ms. Dede Smith congratulated Ms. McKeever on her election as Chair, thanked Mr. Wade for his service, and congratulated Mr. Thompson for completing the NEDP Program. She also addressed the Board noting that some interventions may not be working and encouraged the Board to balance this by using private advisors and tutors that may better serve students. She encouraged the Board to pay attention to whether students are graduating from interventions.

Ms. Lashundra Morsberger addressed the Board with comments related to equity in schools. Some items mentioned included dates for concrete actions/motions to address issues of equity, rezoning, and the convening of a parent/citizen advisory board.

Ms. Beth Ike addressed the Board with comments related to Quest noting that she hopes that the school division will invest in good instructors, that she agrees with the need to move 5th grade students back to elementary schools, that she would like to see progress at Buford on bullying prevention, and urged a focus on emotional intelligence and non-violent conflict resolution.

7.2 Public Comment 2019-2020 Budget: There were no comments.

8.1 Board Member Comments: Ms. Torres thanked those who shared comments, provided an update on her recent activities such as a visit to Burnley-Moran, thanked Dr. Atkins for an email regarding the federal shutdown and how it may impact Charlottesville City Schools' families. She noted that the shutdown is a reminder to pay attention to our neighbors as we don't know how this may be impacting those in our community.

Dr. Kraft provided an update on happenings with the Student Health Advisory Board (SHAB) who are working on a focus of mental health/family life curriculum in a more meaningful and consistent manner. The materials are very good and data-driven, in particular focusing on relationships and how to negotiate for yourself in difficult situations, depression, and suicide awareness. She commended Ms. Brantley for her work.

Ms. Laufer thanked those that provided comments and noted that the Buford principal has been hosting community meetings around bullying and is taking these concerns very seriously.

9.1-4 Adoption of Consent Agenda: Items from the consent agenda included [Personnel Recommendations](#), [Minutes from the December 6, 2018 School Board Meeting](#), [Minutes from the December 19, 2018 School Board Budget Work Session](#), and [Business, Financial, Routine Reports](#). Mr. Wade made a motion, seconded by Ms. Puryear to approve the consent agenda. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Dr. Kraft, Ms. Laufer, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Action Items

10.1 Approval - 2019-2020 School Calendar: James Henderson, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, presented the 2019-2020 School Calendar to the Board for consideration at the December 6, 2018 meeting. Annually, the Charlottesville City School Board is charged with the development and approval of a calendar which must incorporate 180 days or 990 hours of instruction for students served in the school division. A draft of the 2019 - 2020 school calendar was posted on our website for review and comment. All comments received were taken into consideration when developing the proposed calendar.

Dr. Kraft made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bryant to approve the 2019-2020 School Calendar. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Dr. Kraft, Ms. Laufer, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Mr. Wade noted preference for the Winter Break schedule of two full weeks.

Ms. Puryear noted appreciation for attention to religious and cultural observances and the work to ensure that all students are considered.

Mr. Bryant commended Mr. Henderson and the calendar committee for their work.

Items for Discussion

11.1 2019-2020 Program of Study: James Henderson, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, introduce Dr. Eric Irizarry, CHS Principal; Ms. Stephanie Carter, Buford Principal; Dr. Adam Hastings, Walker Principal; and Dr. Daphne Keiser, Director of CATEC, who presented the 2019-2020 Program of Study for Board information. Principals, counselors, key school-site and central office instructional staff worked with the Superintendent to develop the comprehensive Program of Studies for grades 6-12 for the 2019-2020 school year. Several meetings were held and principals worked with their teachers and administrators to develop the document that will be used to guide students and parents in choosing courses that will result in the highest level coursework and diploma possible for each student.

Ms. McKeever asked how Walker teachers will be supported in offering unlevleed courses. Dr. Hastings responded that professional development offerings will focus on differentiation. Dr. Atkins noted that when entering Walker, students begin their setting their goals for high school and highlighted the importance of allowing all students to access the content that they are ready for.

Ms. Torres asked if students will automatically be included in Science or Social Studies Honors courses or if they will have to select that level. Ms. Carter responded that Buford will closely follow the model at the high school in that honors courses will be presented as options when student make course selections. She noted that teachers are committed to providing this option, that strong professional learning programs will be offered, and instructional coaches are also committed to supporting honors level options.

Mr. Wade noted that it is encouraging to see that teacher training is a focus.

Mr. Wade asked if the proposed Forensic Science course will will be staffed by a current teacher or if a new position be required. Dr. Irizarry responded that this course will fit into the current staffing formula with a current biology teacher.

Dr. Kraft asked what inspired the proposed Intro to Culinary Arts change at CATEC. Dr. Keiser responded that this will allow students to return for a 3rd year and would free a block for those students.

Ms. Laufer asked what drove the proposed change to Spanish offerings at Walker. Dr. Hastings responded that there is a need for students to receive focused Math and Science instruction which results in the need to make Spanish an elective rather than pulling students from core courses. Dr. Atkins added that staff would like to keep a focus on diversity in the Spanish program and as schedules are developed, we will be in tune with students registering to make sure no student is left out.

Ms. McKeever proposed splitting the Spanish course into two sections at Walker as some students are not developmentally ready for a high-school level Spanish offering and could potentially allow more students to be more successful in Spanish. Dr. Atkins stressed the importance of communicating to families the importance and value of completing foreign language.

Dr. Keiser provided an overview of the CATEC and PVCC partnership around apprenticeship programming and how the programs work together. She will present information to the CATEC Board in the Spring.

Dr. Kraft recommended adding additional electives at Walker to provide students with more options to better engage them and provide courses that they are interested in.

Ms. Torres noted appreciation for the work in developing this Program of Study while looking at it through an equity lens. Dr. Atkins also thanked the team and teachers for their work.

11.2 [Student and Family Engagement/Early Connections Update](#): James Henderson, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, introduced Velvet Coleman, Student and Family Engagement Facilitator, who provided an update on student and family engagement.

Ms. McKeever commended Ms. Coleman for her work.

Dr. Kraft asked what additional needs come to mind. Ms. Coleman responded that providing more resources would be helpful and that parents/families understand the information shared with them. She also noted importance for providing offerings in different forums and at different times to increase participation.

Ms. Torres asked what specific resources come to mind. Ms. Coleman responded that manipulatives, books, and other items that allow continued learning at home would be helpful.

Ms. Puryear stated that she is glad to see that Parent University is returning and that small sessions can address concerns in a more individualized manner.

11.3 [Strategic Plan Progress Update](#): Jeff Faust, Director of Technology, provided an update on the Strategic Plan 2017-2023 Progress.

Dr. Atkins stated that she recently met with Gretchen Ellis, Daniel Fairley, Denise Johnson, and others to discuss strategies to bring collaboration between agencies to address barriers that may prevent students from accessing the full range of curriculum opportunities.

Ms. Laufer noted that the proposed preschool center would allow for the provision of additional supports for students and families.

11.4 [Community Equity Committee Update](#): Beth Cheuk, Coordinator of Community Relations and Development, presented an update on the development of a Community Equity Committee that will help take initial steps to process the information received at community forums and from community members to help develop some

frameworks that will enable the division to make progress on issues of equity. Ms. Cheuk highlighted the importance of including stakeholder input including board members, teachers, administrators, staff, parents, students, city employees, community organizations, and many others. Nominations and names of volunteers have been submitted and a list of potential committee members is being compiled for the Superintendent to review. Ms. Cheuk added that the plan is not to set up a new program called equity but to set up processes, guided by the developing Equity Policy, that will help us continue to use equity as the lens through which decisions are made and how programs are evaluated.

Ms. McKeever stated that her understanding is that the Community Equity Committee will have work groups. One to help develop an equity policy and the other to support implementation of the policy by looking at divisions around the state and country who have developed such policies.

Dr. Atkins responded that the Board will be responsible for reviewing and approving the policy using guidance from the committee on what components should be included.

Mr. Wade said that he feels happy with the direction the division is going in and that he feels the Board is more intentional now.

Ms. Puryear made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bryant to appoint Ms. Torres and Mr. Bryant to serve on the Community Equity Committee. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Dr. Kraft, Ms. Laufer, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Dr. Atkins noted that further information should be included at the February meeting and invited community members who are interesting in serving to email Beth Cheuk.

Board Response to Written Reports

12.1 [Course/Program Enrollment Update](#): Dr. Kendra King, Director of Student Services and Achievement, prepared the Course/Program Enrollment report for Board information. There were no questions from the Board regarding this report.

13.1 [Comments from Members of the Community](#): There were none.

14.1 [Board Member Comments](#): Mr. Bryant congratulated Mr. Thompson for receiving his NEDP Diploma, Ms. McKeever for being elected Chair, and Ms. Puryear for being elected Vice-Chair. He also thanked Mr. Wade for his outstanding leadership as past Chair, thanked principals for their work on the Program of Study, and noted excitement on CATEC offerings and Ms. Coleman's work on student and family engagement. Mr. Bryant provided an update on his recent activities such as a Bridge Portrait Project, singing the national anthem at the UVA Women's Basketball game and announced his intent to run for election to the Board in November.

Dr. Kraft expressed her excitement for the coming year.

Ms. Puryear expressed appreciation for her election as Vice-Chair and said that she is honored to be a part of the CCS organization.

Ms. Sanda noted that she recently read the No Student Left Behind Policy and her observation was that the policy seems to push students through classes. She noted that she enjoys the discussions engaged upon by the Board and that students would really like to see change but so far have not been able to. She added that she would like to see the Board reach out to students directly.

Ms. Laufer informed the Board that she and her family have purchased a home outside of the city limits which necessitated her resignation from the Board. She expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to serve the community and affirmed her confidence in her Board and staff colleagues.

Board members and Dr. Atkins thanked Ms. Laufer for her service.

15.1 Superintendent's Comments: Dr. Atkins thanked Ms. Laufer for her service to Charlottesville City Schools and commended her for her advocacy. Dr. Atkins provided an update on the following activities (excerpts):

- Update on the December 6, 2019 meeting of the Charlottesville Department of Neighborhood Development Services to review a preliminary site plan to construct 130 residential units and 18,000 square feet of office/commercial/retail space at 1005 Carlton Avenue and adjacent lots.
- Update on the December 17, 2018 Governor's Children's Cabinet meeting
- Charlottesville City Schools Recruitment Efforts
- Update on the 2019 Virginia Association of School Superintendents Conference
- Highlights of CHS Basketball
- Schewels Athlete of the Week: CHS Girls Basketball Player Carmella Jackson

Dr. Atkins informed the Board that staff is monitoring the weather forecast and will be assessing road conditions in the morning. She urged families to make alternative plans in case of school cancellation.

16.1 Work Session Wrap-Up - Dr. Kendra King: There were no requests from the Board.

17.1 Upcoming Meetings: Mr. Wade read the list of upcoming meeting and activities.

18.1 Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

A video of the January 10, 2019 meeting can be located at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Yg4u7Bsezl3MFhLejV5Nnkk1orSi1Jyl/view?usp=sharing_eil&ts=5c38bdd6



Jennifer McKeever, School Board Chair



Leslie Thacker, School Board Clerk

pa