



**EMERGENCY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING (COVID-19)  
CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS  
Electronic/Zoom Virtual Meeting  
Saturday, May 22, 2021 (9:00 AM)**

**1.1 Call to Order:** School Board Chair Lisa Torres called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**2.1 Roll Call of Board Members:**

The following Board Members were present:

Mr. James Bryant  
Dr. Sherry Kraft  
Ms. Lisa Torres  
Mr. Juandiego Wade

Ms. Lashundra Bryson Mosberger  
Ms. Jennifer McKeever  
Ms. Leah Puryear

The following Board Members were absent:

None

The following Staff Members were present:

Dr. Rosa Atkins  
Ms. Julia Green

Mr. Jim Henderson  
Ms. Leslie Thacker

**Items for Discussion**

**3.1 Virtual Options for 2021-2022:** Dr. Rosa Atkins, Division Superintendent, engaged in discussion with the Board regarding virtual options for 2021-2022. Beth Cheuk, Coordinator of Community Relations and Development, presented [data](#) from a May 2021 survey to families regarding a non-binding family intent form for returning to school in the Fall.

The Board discussed results of the data and what types of mitigation guidelines the division will need to follow. There was also discussion regarding concerns around the mental health of students while being in the virtual learning environment and the importance of personalized instruction for each and every student.

Dr. Atkins shared that collaborating with other divisions to offer a virtual option might be a possibility noting that Charlottesville High School has been offering virtual classes for about 10 years. She shared that staff is taking the data seriously and that parents know whether their students are thriving or not and that many black families feel valued more in the virtual environment.

**CCS Fall 2021 Reopening** Dr. Atkins shared the CCS fall 2021 reopening update. Virtual Virginia costs \$4500 per student K - 8th grade and the high school \$450 per credit hour. This would be a budgetary implementation that would need to happen. Putting a CCS virtual school together would not be an additional budgetary expense. We have the teachers for all of our students so we would have some flexibility with our staff to give the option to teach virtually. We would match up the staff needed for the students that chose being virtual. An application process for virtual learning and limiting the number of students per grade level (25).

The board would like to get input from Dr. Irizarry and other teachers, counselors and other staff from the division. The approach of setting up this virtual pilot is a great way for the division to move forward on continuing this learning environment for students in the division. The board wants to set up meetings with members to be able to discuss this option further. Then after the board looks over the program they would like to present it to the community at the June 10 meeting.

**3.2 School Board / Superintendent Priorities for 2021-2022:** Dr. Rosa Atkins, Division Superintendent; James Henderson, Acting Superintendent effective June 1, 2021; and board members discussed School Board/Superintendent Priorities for 2021-2022. Priorities discussed included:

Priorities Discussed	Board Member
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Education Foundation</li> </ul>	Lisa Torres
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1 year to get up to speed on collective bargaining</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reconfiguration</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Virtual Options/Flexible Learning/Educational Priorities</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Focus on an asset based culture</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● When implementing new testing frame it well for families - articulate what the test is</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continue to stay on top of listed Budgetary Issues (use of CARES)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reconfiguration (relationship with city council and staff)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Learning loss (see it but focus on student needs, environment, mental wellness) are the things we can eliminate anything to help lessen the load - find opportunities to do things differently/better (equity)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Funding for Reconfiguration</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Address COVID Learning Loss</li> </ul>	James Bryant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Return to Learn/In-person and looking at virtual option</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Vigilance around opportunity/achievement gap</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Graduation Rate</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reconfiguration</li> </ul>	Leah Puryear
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Inclusion of all stakeholders in decisions</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reconfiguration</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Keep to a "moving forward" trajectory</li> </ul>	Lashundra Bryson Morsberger
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Recalibrate and focus on achievement gap (reading levels, gifted follow up) for black and minority students</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Echoed other board member comments</li> </ul>	Sherry Kraft
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Equity Lens Clear and strong - most vulnerable students needs are addressed (covid)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reconfiguration (use what heard yesterday and move along to get commitment and progress)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Social Emotional Learning/Mental Wellness (students and staff) - continue to strengthen throughout the division with consistency among schools - take to next level and assure resources in place and models to address issues at all levels</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reconfiguration</li> </ul>	Jennifer McKeever
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assessing where we are and agreeing on measurements used to identify that (learning loss)</li> </ul>	

Dr. Atkins encouraged the Board to not use results from Spring testing in a negative manner and encouraged them to use Fall results as a baseline to set realistic benchmarks.

## Action - Closed Session

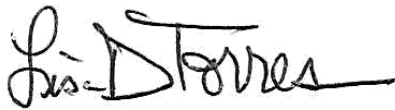
Present for the closed session were Dr. Rosa Atkins, Division Superintendent; James Henderson, Acting Superintendent effective June 1, 2021; and all board members.

**4.1 10:30 a.m. - Motion to Convene into Closed Session:** At 11:52 a.m., Ms. McKeever offered a motion to convene into Closed Session as authorized by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, sections 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia to discuss personnel matters. Ms. Puryear seconded the motion, and the motion passed with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting aye. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**4.2 Open Session - Certify Closed Meeting:** At 12:45 p.m., Ms. McKeever made a motion that the Board certify by recorded vote that to the best of each Board member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion authorizing the Closed Meeting were heard, discussed or considered. Ms. Puryear seconded the motion, and the motion passed with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting aye. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

At 12:45 p.m., Dr. Kraft made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, to approve the Superintendent's recommendation on Safety & Security staffing. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Dr. Kraft, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Wade voting yes. 5 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Bryson Morsberger and Ms. McKeever were not present for this vote.

**5.1 Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.



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Lisa Torres, School Board Chair



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Julia Green, School Board Clerk