



**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
Martin Luther King, Jr. Performing Arts Center, 1400 Melbourne Road
Thursday, September 2, 2021 (5:00 PM)**

1.1 Call to Order: School Board Chair Lisa Torres called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m. Video was streamed live on the Charlottesville City Schools Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/CvilleSchools/>).

2.1 Moment of Silence: Ms. Torres asked all those present to observe a moment of silence.

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

4.1 Roll Call of Board Members:

The following Board Members were present:

Mr. James Bryant
Dr. Sherry Kraft
Ms. Lisa Torres
Ms. Leah Puryear

Ms. Lashundra Bryson Morsberger
Ms. Jennifer McKeever
Mr. Juandiego Wade
Laila Sheikh Abdulsalam, Student Representative

The following Board Members were absent:

None

The following Staff Members were present:

Mr. Jim Henderson
Mr. Pat Cuomo
Dr. Beth Baptist
Ms. Leslie Thacker
Mr. Pat Cuomo

Ms. Kim Powell
Dr. Katina Otey
Ms. Renee Hoover
Ms. Julia Green
Dr. Katina Otey

The following Staff Members were absent:

None

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

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

7.1 Adoption of Consent Agenda: The following items were included in the consent agenda, [Personnel Recommendations](#), [June 10, 2021 Minutes](#), [June 17, 2021 Minutes](#), [FY21 Nutrition Funds Transfer](#), [Business, Financial, Routine Reports](#), Religious Exemption from Compulsory Attendance. Ms. Puryear made a motion, seconded by Ms. McKeever, to approve the Consent Agenda. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Action Items

8.1 Approval of Superintendent Contract: Lisa Torres, School Board Chair, presented the Approval of the proposed Superintendent Contract for Dr. Royal A. Gurley, Jr. Mr. Bryant made a motion, seconded by Dr. Kraft, to approve the Superintendent Contract with Dr. Royal A. Gurley, Jr. for the term commencing on October 4, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2025. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Dr. Gurley shared personal remarks as he accepted the Superintendent position and signed his contract as Superintendent of Charlottesville City Schools.

Items for Discussion

9.1 Reconfiguration Update: Kim Powell, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, introduced Wyck Knox, Principal-in-Charge and Project Manager for VMDO, who provided an update on Reconfiguration.

- Ms. Puryear asked about the City's annual allocation of 1 million for school modernization. Mr. Knox responded that 1.25 million is slated for the elementary schools and noted that Greenbrier is the next elementary school scheduled for modernization. The City will still continue with modernization of elementary schools in addition to reconfiguration.
- The board engaged in discussion around the 5 cent increase of taxes that City Council continues to discuss along with making sure that VMDO is getting the information needed to move forward with a design.
- The board also discussed the options that have been provided and stressed the need for selecting the best option for the Division.

9.2 COVID Update: Dr. Beth Baptist, Interim Director of Student Services and Achievement and Human Resources, presented an update on COVID infections within the Division.

- The board engaged in discussion regarding COVID testing for staff and students. Dr. Baptist noted that the vendor the Division is considering will provide two employees to assist with testing and to help keep up with data. The Board discussed how broad they believe testing should be and also discussed the Division's intention of requiring all athletes to be vaccinated in order to play sports.

9.3 Update on Growth Measures: Dr. Beth Baptist, Interim Director of Student Services and Achievement and Human Resources, presented an update on Growth Measures. Information presented included:

- New for 2021-22
 - Grades 3-8
 - Reading and Math
 - Online Computer Adaptive with paper tests available
 - Reading 17-19 items: Math 20-25 items
 - Items will be based more on previous grades and beginning of the current grade
 - There is no pass or fail.
- Use of the Growth Assessments
 - Purpose is to measure content from the previous grade level to assist in the identification of unfinished learning from 2020-21
 - Measure growth from Fall 2021 to Spring 2022 SOL assessments
 - Assessments will be shown on a vertical scale to show growth
 - Again, there is no pass or fail--just a benchmark to begin the growth measure.
 - In 2022-23, Growth Assessments will occur in the fall and winter with the SOL assessments in the spring.

- The board discussed assessments and how they will be used and how best to provide parents with appropriate information on how testing will be used to show where our students are at academically.

9.4 Transportation Update: Kim Powell, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, introduced Garland Williams, Director of Transportation Director for the City of Charlottesville, who provided an update on transportation challenges. Information presented included information that currently 1,041 students are being transported, City staff is actively recruiting and training employees and would like to secure 35 drivers to provide services. Kim Powell noted that the Division has between 800 to 900 students on a waitlist. Mr. Williams noted that Transportation is adding more routes so they are looking to add about 300 students to the new routes.

9.5 2021-2022 Student Representatives to the School Board: Dr. Bath Baptist, Interim Director of Student Services and Achievement and Human Resources, and Dr. Eric Irizarry, CHS Principal, introduced the 2021-2022 Student Representatives to the School Board. After widely advertising the search for Student Representatives to the School Board at Charlottesville High School, the Student Council Association (SCA) reviewed applications with School Board Member, Juandiego Wade. The committee selected Laila Sheikh Abdulsalam, Rachel Rugumayo, and Aniyah Moore who will be presented to the Board for approval. Dr. Kraft made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bryant, to approve the selected student reps to the 2021-22 school year. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Torres, Mr. Wade voting yes. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

9.6 2021-2022 Program of Study Revision: Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, and Dr. Eric Irizarry, CHS Principal, presented information on the proposed 2021-2022 Program of Study Revision. Information presented included:

- Charlottesville High School
 - Junior/Senior Work Based Learning (WBL) Program (Addition) - This program is designed to support a student's long-range education and career goals and provides the opportunity to experience "first-hand" a particular career or career field by conducting a WBL experience with professionals in the community. This class is a local elective and will be graded as a Pass/Fail & not calculated in a student's GPA
 - CTE Honors Option Junior/Senior Internship & WBL Program (Edit) - Edit to include WBL and Juniors
- Buford Middle School
 - Intro to Urban Farming (Grades 7 and 8) - change from 18 weeks to 36 weeks

Ms. McKeever made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wade, to approve the program of study revision. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

9.7 2021-2022 Advisory Committees to the School Board: Dr. Beth Baptist, Interim Director of Student Services and Achievement and Human Resources, presented this item for Board consideration. According to School Board policy, the School Board is to review proposed membership lists of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), School Health Advisory Board (SHAB), Gifted Education Advisory Committee, and Parent Advisory for Title 1 at the September meeting and then approve membership at the October meeting. The four lists were presented for the Board to review. Ms. McKeever made a motion, seconded by Dr. Kraft, to approve the advisory committees. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Ms. Puryear, Ms. Torres, Mr. Wade voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

9.8 2021-2022 Enrollment Update: Kim Powell, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, provided the most recent information related to preliminary student enrollment. Information presented included:

- OVERVIEW SNAPSHOT
 - Total Enrollment (pre-K through post-grad) 4,284
 - Total Enrollment K-12 4,076
 - Total Serving K-12 (Average Daily Membership - ADM) 3,990

- Total Average Daily Membership for Budget (~33+) 3,957
- K-12 ENROLLMENT BY SCHOOL
- K-4 AVERAGE CLASS SIZES

9.9 2022-2023 Proposed Budget Calendar: Ms. Renee Hoover, Director of Finance, presented the 2022-2023 Budget Calendar for Board information. Annually the School Board adopts the budget calendar to define the time frame under which the proposed budget will be prepared, discussed, and approved. The budget calendar sets the work and meeting schedules for the budget development process. The fiscal year 2022 budget calendar follows the same general timeline as the prior year budget calendar.

- The board discussed having all the city budget meetings put on the school board calendar.

Board Response to Written Reports

10.1 Freedom School Update: Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, presented the 2021 Charlottesville City Schools Freedom School summer program written report. There were no questions from the Board.

11.1 Comments from Members of the Community:

- Beth Ike welcomed Dr. Gurley, thanked all those who helped bring him to Charlottesville City Schools, shared her thoughts on COVID testing, asked if water testing is an option and noted that she would like to see students outside more during the school day.

12.1 Board Member Comments:

- Dr. Kraft welcomed Dr. Gurley to the Division and thanked the “amazing staff” that the Division has for gathering the information for the evening’s meeting agenda.
- Mr. Wade welcomed Dr. Gurley, shared an update on a visit to Johnson Elementary and Burnley-Moran, he welcomed the newly selected Student School Board Representatives, and also noted that modernization project at Burnley-Moran looks amazing.
- Ms. Puryear joined the City of Promise at the bus stop at Hardy Drive this morning. She wished everyone a safe school year.
- Mr. Bryant welcomed Dr. Gurley. He thanked Dr. Baptist for wearing many hats. He visited Buford and helped with setting up students for the vaccination clinic. He joined Ms. Puryear at Hardy Dr. with the City of Promise. He served on a panel Teachers on the Movement for black history.
- Ms. Bryson Morsberger welcomed Dr. Gurley and his husband. She would like to get an update on COVID hospital ICU beds that are available if that would be something that Dr. Baptist could share. Would like to see our Kindergarten to second grade be able to have the opportunity for a virtual option.
- Ms. Torres thanked staff for all that you do and to the students for helping us be safe with wearing masks.

13.1 Superintendent's Comments: Mr. Henderson shared his appreciation to the Charlottesville City Schools community.

14.1 Work Session Wrap-Up: There were three requests from the Board:

- Check availability of MOBI for testing
- Updated enrollment information
- Consider changing January 15 Board Budget Work Session

15.1 Upcoming Meetings: Ms. Torres read the list of upcoming meetings.

16.1 Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

A video of the September 2, 2021 meeting can be located at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lQm-aZ6prnikqfszUTJU2L-TXidm7qSO/view?usp=sharing>

Lisa Torres, School Board Chair

Julia Green, School Board Clerk