



**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS
Charlottesville High School Media Center, 1400 Melbourne Road
Thursday, May 4, 2023 (4:00 PM)**

Closed Meeting of the Charlottesville City School Board was held on May 4, 2023 at 4:00 p.m., in the Division Annex/SPED Conference Room.

PRESENT: Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres

ABSENT: Dr. Kraft

STAFF PRESENT: Dr. Royal A. Gurley, Jr., Superintendent; Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer and Disciplinary Hearing Officer; and Maria Lewis, Director of Human Resources

OTHERS PRESENT: None

1.1 Call to Order: Mr. Bryant, Board Chair, called the closed session meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1.2 Closed Meeting: At 4:00 p.m., Mr. Morse offered a motion to go into Closed Session as authorized by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, Sections 2.2-3711 (A) (1) (2) for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and student disciplinary matters. Ms. Torres seconded the motion, the motion passed with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Dooley, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres voting aye. The motion passed 5/0. Ms. Bryson Morsberger was not present for this vote.

1.3 Closed Meeting Certification: At 4:54 p.m., Ms. Dooley offered 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. Mr. Morse seconded the motion, the motion passed with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres voting aye. The motion passed 6/0.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morse, seconded by Ms. Dooley, the Board voted to modify the expulsion recommendation to long-term suspension through the last day of school (June 9, 2023). Additional information related to the suspension will be shared directly with the family. Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres voted yes. The motion passed 6/0.

The board recessed from 4:49 p.m. until 5:04 p.m.

2.1 Moment of Silence: Mr. Bryant 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	Ms. Lashundra Bryson Morsberger
	Ms. Emily Dooley	Ms. Lisa Torres

Mr. Dom Morse
Je'Saun Johnson, Student
Representative

Ms. Jennifer McKeever

The following Board Members were absent: Dr. Sherry Kraft

The following Staff Members were present:	Dr. Royal A. Gurley, Jr.	Ms. Kim Powell
	Dr. Katina Otey	Mr. Pat Cuomo
	Ms. T. Denise Johnson	Ms. Beth Cheuk
	Ms. Maria Lewis	Ms. Carolyn Swift
	Ms. Renee Hoover	Ms. Julia Green
	Ms. Leslie Thacker	

The following Staff Members were absent: None

5.1 Approval of Proposed Agenda: Ms. McKeever made a motion, seconded by Mr. Morse, to approve the proposed agenda. Upon a roll-call vote, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres, voting yes. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

6.1 Comments from Members of the Community:

Mr. Moran shared his concerns with the naming of the schools. He would also like to have any family memorabilia be given to the family.

Student and Staff Recognitions

7.1 VSBA Student Art Contest - 2nd Place Winner: Aaron Eichorst, Coordinator of Fine Arts, asked those in attendance to join him in recognizing Walker Upper Elementary student Vincent Beling for receiving 2nd place in the Elementary School Category of the VSBA Central Region Forum. Vincent's piece was titled "Pine and River Landscape".

7.2 Virginia Nurses Week and National School Nurse Day: Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, along with senior staff and the Board, recognized Charlottesville City School Nurses for their hard work and care for our students every day. The week of May 6 through 12, 2023 has been designated as National Nurses' Week and Governor Glenn Youngkin has established May 10, 2023 as School Nurse Day in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Dr. Otey recognized Sherry Eicher from Burnley-Moran Elementary; Amy Charron from Clark Elementary; Jodi Esselstyn from Greenbrier Elementary; Gemma Furman from Greenbrier Elementary; Marcia (Dee) Bell from Jackson-Via Elementary; Rosser Wayland from Johnson Elementary; Bonnie Vineyard from Venable Elementary; Emily Brady from Walker UpperElementary; Stacey Oliver from Buford Middle School; Heather Altemus from Charlottesville High School; Dana Farrar from Charlottesville High School; and Aleisha Brann, Substitute.

7.3 Teacher Appreciation Week Proclamation: Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer recognized Charlottesville City Schools' teaching staff for Teacher Appreciation Week. The first full week in May of each year has been designated as National Teacher Appreciation Week to honor the dedicated men and women who lend their passion and skills to educating our children. Charlottesville City Schools is keenly aware of the importance of teachers in helping our students reach their full potential and it is appropriate that teachers be recognized for their dedication and commitment to educating our children. May 8-12, 2023 is proclaimed teacher appreciation week and all citizens are urged to pay tribute to our public school teachers.

7.4 2023 Golden Apple Award Winners: Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, recognized the 2023 Golden Apple Award Winners. For the last two decades, Mr. Richard Nunley and Better Living Building Supply and Cabinetry has sponsored the Golden Apple Awards. These awards are presented to faculty members from the public and private schools in Albemarle County and Charlottesville City, including the Charlottesville Albemarle Technical Education Center (CATEC) and several area private schools.

The Golden Apple Award is a means of selecting and honoring some of our outstanding teachers. Teachers are most important in nurturing our children's inquisitive minds and preparing them for the challenges of the future.

One winner will be selected from each school. In addition to receiving a Golden Apple, every Golden Apple recipient also will earn a grant of \$500, which can be used for classroom materials.

This year's Golden Apple Teaching Awards were awarded to Charlotte Nelson from Buford Middle School; Carol Busching from Burnley-Moran Elementary School; Mason Goldman from Charlottesville High School; Gabriela Moore from Clark Elementary School; Teresa Seto from Greenbrier Elementary School; Meagan Thim from Jackson-Via Elementary School; Jillian Smith from Johnson Elementary School; Melvin Grady from Lugo-McGinness Academy; Suzanne Harris from Venable Elementary School; and Erika Trent from Walker Upper Elementary School.

8.1-6 Adoption of Consent Agenda: The following items were included in the consent agenda; [Personnel Recommendations](#), [Business, Financial, Routine Reports](#), [2023-2024 Albemarle Regional Migrant Education Program Certification](#), [2023-2024 Student Annual Fee Schedule](#), and a [Revised Collective Bargaining Agreement](#).

Ms. Torres made a motion, seconded by Mr. Morse, to approve the proposed consent agenda. Upon a roll-call vote, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres, voting yes. 5 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. McKeever was not present for this vote.

Action Items

9.1 [Approval - 2023-2024 Special Education Annual Plan](#): Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, presented information and the proposed budget for the Federal Flow Through Funding for Special Education for 2023-2024 for both school-aged and preschool for Board information on April 13, 2023.

Ms. Torres made a motion, seconded by Mr. Morse, to approve the 2023-24 Special Education Annual Plan. Upon a roll-call vote, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres, voting yes. 5 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. McKeever was not present for this vote.

9.2 [Approval - 2024-2025 Calendar](#): Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, presented the draft 2024-2025 Calendar for Board consideration upon first review on April 13, 2023.

Ms. Bryson Morsberger made a motion, seconded by Mr. Morse, to approve the proposed 2024-25 calendar. Upon a roll-call vote, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres, voting yes. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

9.3 [Approval - 2023-2024 Calendar Revision](#): Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, presented the draft 2023-2024 Calendar Revision for approval on January 5, 2023. Since that approval, staff learned that March 5, 2024 will be a presidential primary, so the calendar has been revised to have March 5, 2024 be a teacher work day.

Ms. Bryson Morsberger made a motion, seconded by Mr. Morse, to approve the 2023-24 calendar revision. Upon a roll-call vote, the motion carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres, voting yes. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Items for Discussion

10.1 [Buford Lab School](#): Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, presented an update on the Buford Lab School Partnership for Board information. Information presented included VDOE College Laboratory School Initiative, Planning Grant Key Personnel, Improve Student Outcomes, Goals, Partnerships, and Next Steps.

Ms. McKeever questioned how this program will fold into the curriculum that is in place. Dr. Gurley responded that this partnership will not be something extra but will work organically with the curriculum.

Dr. Otey added that we will be in a planning year next year.

10.2 Middle School Modernization Update: Kim Powell, Chief Operations Officer, presented an update on Middle School Modernization. Information presented will include Health & PE Plan, Athletics Plan for Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Track and others, Additional Project Information, and Communications.

Dr. Gurley stated that there will be a groundbreaking ceremony before the project begins.

Ms. Torres questioned the status of the Type A bus that was delivered and asked when the Division will start using it. Ms. Powell responded that there are currently no qualified drivers.

Dr. Gurley stated that the Transportation Department has staff who have started the process have not completed the CDL-S endorsement.

Ms. Dooley questioned if Johnson Elementary School staff are prepared for the impact of having Buford students using some of their spaces. Ms. Powell responded that the Division is in a good position with Johnson being one of the larger campuses and that it should not impact them.

Ms. McKeever advocated for comprehensive communication around the project and the impacts to students and families as the project advances.

10.3 2023-2024 Federal Programs Applications (Title I / IV Application, Title II Application, and Title III Application): The Title I and IV Federal Programs applications was presented by Patrick Farrell, Intervention and Support Supervisor; the Title II application was presented by Maria Lewis, Director of Human Resources/ and the Title III application was presented by Dr. Jeannie Pfautz, Coordinator of Gifted Programs, ESL Program, & AVID. The Board will be asked to take action on June 1, 2023.

10.4 Professional Learning Update: On behalf of Jessica Ford, Professional Learning Coordinator, Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, provided the Board with a review of 2022-2023 professional learning opportunities, as well as next steps for summer and fall 2023.

Ms. Torres stated that she would like to see more DIBELS ((Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) training. Dr. Gurley responded that there was training in DIBELS this past year and that the Division will continue to provide training for this upcoming year. He also stated that leadership has been in contact with principals to make sure that sufficient time is allocated to ensure that teachers receive training.

10.5 2023-2028 Strategic Plan Update: Beth Cheuk, Supervisor of Community Relations, presented an update on the 2023-2028 Strategic Planning process. Information presented included CCS Strategic Planning Timeline, Strategic Planning Process: Steering Committee and Leadership Meetings, Foundational Language Review, Portrait of a Graduate, Core Values, Vision, Draft Vision Statement, Mission, Draft Priorities and Goals, Goal Setting Structure, Working Document, and Next Steps.

Je'saun Johnson, Student Representative, asked how the Division is communicating this information with the community. Ms. Cheuk responded that there will be emails and social media updates and that the consultant will help with communicating details on the Division website.

Ms. Bryson Morsberger asked how surveys are being distributed and if students receive them. Ms. Cheuk responded that students are able to get to the survey through canvas and noted that there will also be an email sent to families to get the survey.

10.6 2023-2024 Budget Update: Renee Hoover, Director of Finance, presented the 2023-2024 Budget Update for Board information.

Board Response to Written Reports

11.1 School Board Member Committee Reports: Board members shared updates on recent activities in this written report.

11.2 2023-2024 School Board Meeting Schedule: Leslie Thacker, Deputy Clerk, prepared the proposed 2023-2024 School Board Meeting Calendar for Board consideration upon first reading. This item will be presented for approval on the Consent Agenda on June 1, 2023.

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

13.1 Board Member Comments:

- Je'saun Johnson shared appreciation for the work of staff and teachers as the school year is winding down. He also stated that communication and community involvement is critical.
- Ms. Torres thanked teachers for their hard work throughout the school year.
- Ms. Bryson Morsberger shared information on the Division Fine Arts installations on the Downtown Mall.
- Ms. Dooley spoke in favor of a cell phone policy and provided updates on recent events and activities.
- Mr. Bryant shared the contents of a letter from Girls on the Run from Burnley-Moran.

14.1 Superintendent's Comments: Dr. Gurley thanked the teachers for preparing students, thanked CATEC staff for their work and shared that he and Ms. Powell holds meetings with CATEC staff every other Tuesday to answer any questions that they may have.

15.1 Work Session Wrap-Up: There was one request from the Board:

- Bus transportation update

16.1 Upcoming Meetings: Mr Bryant read the upcoming meetings.

17.1 Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

A video of the May 4, 2023 meeting can be located at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/143DXN4jim_ABkvtjj95tflF8P9cfxBta/view?usp=sharing

James Bryant, School Board Chair

Julia Green, School Board Clerk