



**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**CHARLOTTESVILLE CITY SCHOOLS**  
**Charlottesville High School Media Center, 1400 Melbourne Road**  
**Thursday, June 2, 2022 (5:00 PM)**

A Closed Meeting of the Charlottesville City School Board was held on June 2, 2022 at 3:30 p.m., in the Division Annex/SPED Conference Room.

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

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. Royal A. Gurley, Jr., Superintendent, and Ms. Leslie Thacker, Deputy Clerk of the School Board.

Dr. Kraft made a motion to allow Mr. Bryant to attend the meeting electronically (from home) due to personal medical concerns. Ms. McKeever seconded the motion, and the motion passed with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Dooley, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres voting aye. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Bryson Morsberger was not present for this vote.

**1.1 Closed Meeting:** At 3:30 p.m, Ms. McKeever made 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. Mr. Morse seconded the motion, and the motion passed with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres voting aye. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**1.2 Closed Meeting Certification:** At 4:32 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. Dr. Kraft seconded the motion, and the motion passed with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres voting aye. 7 ayes, 0 nays. There was no action taken.

The Board recessed from 4:32 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

**1.3 Call to Order:** School Board Chair Lisa Torres called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Kraft made a motion to allow Mr. Bryant to attend the meeting electronically (from home) due to personal medical concerns. Mr. Morse seconded the motion, and the motion passed with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres voting aye. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**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	Ms. Lashundra Bryson Morsberger
Ms. Emily Dooley	Dr. Sherry Kraft
Ms. Jennifer McKeever	Mr. Dom Morse
Ms. Lisa Torres	

The following Board Members were absent: None

The following Staff Members were present:

Dr. Royal Gurley	Dr. Beth Baptist
Mr. Pat Cuomo	Dr. Katina Otey
Ms. Renee Hoover	Ms. Julia Green
Ms. Leslie Thacker	Ms. Beth Cheuk

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 was carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, and Ms. Torres, voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**6.1 Comments from Members of the Community:** Jessica Taylor, President of the Charlottesville Education Association, shared an update on the consideration of collective bargaining.

#### **Educational Highlights**

**7.1 Innovation Research - Lugo-McGinness Students:** Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, and Dr. Jill Dahl, Program Administrator for Lugo-McGinness, introduced Lugo-McGinness students Ka'veigh and Pacco who presented information on the Neighborhood Kitchen project and Lugo-McGinness.

Ms. Torres asked if there are any plans to expand the project to serve the community. Pacco responded with comments on how well students are working together to cook all while bonding with one another.

#### **Action Items**

**8.1-7 Adoption of Consent Agenda:**The following items were included in the consent agenda; [Personnel Recommendations](#), [Minutes - May 5, 2022 School Board Meeting](#), [Business, Financial, Routine Reports, 2022-2023 School Board Meeting Schedule](#), [Authorization of Signature in Absence of Division Superintendent through June 30, 2023](#), and the [Revised 2022-2023 School Year Calendar](#).

Ms. McKeever made a motion, seconded by Dr. Kraft, to approve the adoption of the consent agenda. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion was carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, Ms. Torres, voting yes. 6 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Dooley abstained from this vote as her husband was listed on the personnel agenda.

Dr. Gurley announced that Maria Lewis will serve as Human Resource Director and Carmella Johnson will serve as the Clark Elementary School Principal. Dr. Gurley and the Board offered congratulations to Ms. Lewis and Ms. Johnson.

**9.1 Approval - 2022-2023 Title I Federal Consolidated Application:** Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, presented the 2022-2023 Federal Consolidated Application for Board review on May 5, 2022. The item was presented for action. Ms. McKeever made a motion, seconded by Dr. Kraft, to approve the Title I Federal

Consolidated Application. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion was carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, Ms. Torres, voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**9.2 FY23 Budget Year End Designations & Technical Adjustments:** Kim Powell, Chief Operations Officer, and Renee Hoover, Director of Finance, presented the FY23 Budget Year End Designations & Technical Adjustments for Board information and action. Information presented include:

- FY 2022 Year-End Outlook
  - Projections indicate significant year-end funding due to accumulated vacancy savings.
    - Typical vacancy rate is single digits
    - Current year vacancies ranged from 30 - 40+ for this year
    - The Board took action in November to authorize a one-time transfer of up to \$500,000 from projected year-end funds to maintain 5 social worker positions beyond FY 2022 that were originally funded from an anonymous private foundation in August, 2020
    - Current projections indicate that year-end funds may total up to \$1.7 million
  - The following are additional recommendations for designating year-end funds to address non-recurring operational priorities.
- Year-End Designation: Safety & Security
  - Grant application is made each July, but the awards have become later each year - slipping from September/October out to January for 2022
  - Each award can cover equipment purchases back to the VPSA bond sale (typically in May, prior to the grant application deadline), and funds are to be expended by June 30th of the following year
  - Project execution before the June deadline is difficult when projects can't begin until after awards, and becomes impossible with current supply issues
    - CCS has received a 90 day extension to spend out the 2022 award due to supply chain issues
  - Board action has been required to designate year-end funds and/or use of fund balance to meet the local match requirement for the state school security equipment grant
  - As security systems have been expanded, funding is also needed to maintain these systems
  - **RECOMMENDATION:**
    - **Recurring annual designation from available year-end funds to the security equipment project in the Special Revenue Funds (Designated Programs/Grants) an amount sufficient to maintain a balance up to \$350,000 (the current maximum annual grant award with required local match of \$312,500 plus \$37,500 allowance for maintenance and security work that is not grant eligible).**
    - Enable continuous execution on security projects
    - Address execution issues caused by award delays and exasperated by supply chain issues (essential to continue participation in this grant program)
    - Hold funds for security projects in CCS special revenues rather than small cap (align funds with where the projects are managed)
    - Provide funding specifically for maintenance of the security systems
- Year-End Designation: Type A Buses
  - As of February, individuals with the S endorsement on a regular license can transport students in Type A buses
  - We now have an option to transport up to 14 students via Type A bus without a CDL
  - As of 5/27/2022, 36 CCS employees have expressed interest in driving the Type A buses
- Type A Bus Program Information
  - Dual Employment - Common in Counties
    - IA/Bus Driver
    - Custodian/Bus Driver
    - Nutrition/Bus Driver
  - Current Lead Time for Type A Buses ~9 Months (March 2023)

- **RECOMMENDATION:**
  - Establish within the Special Revenue Funds (Designated Programs/Grants) a project for the purchase of Type A buses
  - ***Designate up to \$800,000 of projected FY 2022 year-end funds for the purchase of up to 10 Type A buses and implementation of a dual employment pilot program to help fill the persistent gap between supply & demand for pupil transportation services***
  - Develop driver compensation plan
  - Develop fleet management plan (fuel, maintenance, etc.)
  - Develop need & efficiency based driver selection criteria and the driver training program in conjunction with Pupil Transportation
- Additional Uses for Type A Buses:
  - Extra & Co-Curricular Trips
  - Alternative Programs
- FY 2023 Budget Update
  - General Assembly scheduled to adopt the State's FY 2023 Budget on June 1, 2022.
  - House and Senate versions of the budget released on March 1, 2022, when compared to the Governor's budget had less revenue for CCS:
    - House was \$126k less
    - Senate was \$ 48k less
  - Bottomline totals of FY 2023 budget will not change, because the adjustment in State revenues, up or down, will be balanced through the amount of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding.
- Summary of Recommendations for FY 2022 Year End Funds
  - The General Fund is projected to have significant favorable year-end variance due to unfilled positions (vacancy savings) during the fiscal year.
  - Transfer up to \$1,150,000 from FY 2022 year-end funds from the General Fund to Special Revenue Funds - Designated Programs/Grants for:
    - Safety & Security (up to \$350,000)
    - Type A Bus Program (up to \$800,000)
  - The source of the transfer would be City Appropriation. The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds would not be used towards these projects.

**Recommended Action:**

**Transfer up to \$1,150,000 from projected FY 2022 year-end funds from the General Fund to Designated Programs/Grants in the Special Revenues Fund to support Safety & Security projects and implementation of a Type A Bus program.**

There was discussion around year-end funds and gainsharing with the City. Ms. Torres asked if staff considered type-A electric buses. Ms. Powell shared that staff is looking further into both options.

Ms. Bryson Morseberger asked if type-A buses are the only option for student transportation needs. Ms. Powell responded that in order to transport students vehicles must be yellow and come with required lighting and added that smaller vans (approximate capacity of 15) are typically used for transporting groups of students for sports or clubs. Ms. McKeever noted that she would like to see Transportation hire more drivers rather than for the Division to have to buy buses to meet those needs.

Ms. McKeever made a motion to transfer up to \$1,150,000 from FY 2022 year-end funds from the General Fund to Special Revenue Funds - Designated Programs/Grants for Safety & Security (up to \$350,000) and transportation fund (up to \$800,000), seconded by Mr. Bryant. Upon a roll-call vote being taken, the motion was carried with Mr. Bryant, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, Ms. Dooley, Dr. Kraft, Ms. McKeever, Mr. Morse, Ms. Torres, voting yes. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

## Items for Discussion

**10.1 [Preschool Update \(Program and Enrollment\)](#):** Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, introduced Sheila Sparks, Coordinator for Preschool and Family Support, who presented the Preschool (Program and Enrollment) item for Board information. Information presented included an Enrollment Update, Highlights, Coordinated Enrollment, Information on Three Year Olds, Virginia Quality (Birth – 5), Instructional Tools, Quality of Teacher-Child Interactions, Partnerships and Initiatives, and Next Steps.

The Board thanked Ms. Sparks and her team that serve the Preschool Program for their hard work serving students.

Ms. Torres asked about the Waterford Upstart Summer Learning Path (Waterford Upstart Summer Learning Path is a home-based software program—a proven, turnkey summer alternative for students entering kindergarten through third grade. Keep students learning over the summer without asking more of your exhausted staff). Dr. Otey responded that the Division received information on the program from the VDOE and that they will share the information with families.

**10.2 [Local Plan for the Gifted & Annual Review 2021-2024](#):** Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, and Dr. Jeannie Pfautz, Coordinator of Gifted Programs, ESL Program, & AVID, reviewed the Local Plan for the Gifted and prepared the Annual Review written report for Board information. The Virginia Department of Education asks each gifted local advisory committee to “review annually the local plan for the education of gifted students, including revisions, and determine the extent to which the plan for the previous year was implemented. The recommendations of the advisory committee shall be submitted in writing through the division superintendent to the school Board.”

- Information presented included:
  - Gifted Program Evaluation Highlights
  - Gifted Program Evaluation

The Board engaged in discussion related to how the gifted program works at Buford Middle School and Charlottesville High School. Dr. Kraft recommended that her fellow board members visit and observe a gifted class in progress as that helped her better understand the gifted program.

**10.3 [Virtual Education Update](#):** Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, presented an update on Virtual Education. Information presented included:

- Current CCS Virtual Enrollment
  - At the peak, 72 students in CCS Virtual grades 3-8
  - Monitored student attendance, grades, engagement, completion of assignments
  - Some students thrived in virtual learning, and some did not
  - Currently 63 students in CCS Virtual grades 3-8
- Moving forward
  - Moving forward, VVA will be managed by Jessica Brantley starting July 1
  - School counselors have been assigned accounts with VVA as needed
  - VVA has a close date of July 15 for fall enrollment
  - VVA students continue to be CCS students
  - VVA partners with family and CCS
  - Students are monitored for attendance, participation, and engagement
  - Art, World Language, HPE, Dance options

The Board discussed whether the Division should consider continuing with Virtual Virginia after the CARES funding has been exhausted. Dr. Gurley noted that this item will remain a topic of discussion as the Division moves forward.

**10.4 [2017-2023 Strategic Plan Update](#):** Dr. Katina Otey, Chief Academic Officer, presented an update on the 2017-2023 Strategic Plan. Information presented included:

- Every Learner
  - We are all learners: every student, teacher, staff member, administrator, parent, and member of our school community.
  - We foster a culture of learning promoted by agency and personalized opportunities.
  - All learners are high achievers with great potential and will excel through equitable opportunities and the removal of barriers.
  - Developing a passion for learning requires trust between students, teachers, and families.
- Every Day
  - Learning is continuous and not bound by rigid structures.
  - Learning meets learners where they are: Anytime and anywhere.
- Everyone
  - We all share responsibility for ALL learners.
  - CCS is a team. We are interdependent. We have shared goals.
  - We are mutually accountable for everything that happens in our division.
- Our Focus Areas
  - Academic Excellence
    - Learning will promote life-ready graduates through student-centered and equitable practices
  - Safe and Supportive Schools
    - Our learning communities will promote social, emotional, and physical wellness in facilities that are safe and conducive to learning
  - Organizational Supports
    - Our systems and processes will enable students, staff, and schools to thrive
- Glows and Grows for:
  - Goal AE 1 — CCS will develop life-ready graduates
  - Goal AE 2 — Learning will be student-centered
  - Goal AE 2 — Learning will be student-centered
  - Goal AE 3 — Learning will be equitable
  - Goal SS 4 — Promote social and emotional well-being
  - Goal SS 5 — Promote physical health and wellness
  - Goal SS 6 — Ensure facilities are safe and conducive to learning
  - Goal OS 7 — Recruit and retain excellent employees
  - Goal OS 8 — Support and develop excellent staff members
  - Goal OS 9 — Develop, expand and modernize infrastructure
  - Goal OS 10 — Implement knowledge management procedures
- Next Steps
  - The current Strategic Plan was developed for 2017-2023.
  - Now, we begin the process of developing the new Strategic Plan for 2023-2028!

Mr. Morse stated that he would like to see student voices be included in the development of future Strategic Plans.

**10.5 [School Safety & Security](#):** Kim Powell, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, presented an update on School Safety & Security for Board information. Information presented included:

- Facilities & Equipment
  - Classroom Security Door Locks
  - Visitor Management (buzz-in systems, sign-in systems, vestibules)
  - Building Wide Access Control
  - Video Cameras
  - Glass Enhancements

- Key Control & Management
- Practices & Procedures
  - Annual Safety Drills with Students:
    - Fire/Evacuation (11)
    - Reverse Evacuation (1)
    - School Bus Evacuation (2)
    - Intruder/Lock Down (4)
    - Tornado/Duck and Cover (1)
    - Shelter-in-Place (1)
    - Earthquake (1)
- Climate
  - Care & Safety Assistants (CSA's) - certified School Safety Officers (SSO's)
  - Climate Surveys
  - Social & Emotional Supports for Students & Staff
  - Intentional Community-Building
  - Promoting "If you see something, say something."
  - Threat Assessments
- Continuous Process
  - Safety Surveys, Inspection Checklists & Crisis Management Plans (DCJS)
  - Climate & Working Condition Surveys (DCJS & VDOE)
  - CCS School Safety Audits

Board members thanked Ms. Powell and her team for their work on enhancing safety measures. They also discussed vestibules in school entrances that provide an extra layer of security for visitors to get into the building.

**10.6 2022-2023 Policy Update:** Dr. Beth Baptist, Interim Director of Student Services and Achievement, presented the 2022-2023 Policy Update for Board consideration upon first reading and requested that the Board review the policies to determine if the proposed changes are acceptable. This item will be presented for approval on either June 11, 2022 or August 4, 2022.

Information presented included:

- [Revisions Based on VSBA Updates](#)
- [Table to Explain Proposed Revisions](#)
- [Policies Requiring a 5-Year Review](#)
- [Policies Recommended for Revision by CCS Staff](#)
- [Table to Explain these Proposed Revisions by Staff](#)

Dr. Baptist answered questions for clarification around Policy BDD - Electronic Participation in Meetings From Remote Location noting that school board clerks will begin tracking remote participation to make sure board members are in compliance.

## **Board Response to Written Reports**

**11.1 [School Board Member Committee Reports:](#)** Board members shared a written report on recent activities.

**12.1 [Comments from Members of the Community:](#)** Nomi Dove, from the Charlottesville Coalition for Gun Violence Prohibition, thanked staff for the email distributed following the Uvalde, Texas school mass shooting and shared some thoughts around safety and security and gun violence in regards to mass shootings.

**13.1 [Board Member Comments:](#)** Mr. Bryant noted that his updates are included in the School Board Member Committee Report.

Ms. McKeever, Ms. Bryson Morsberger, and Mr. Morse shared appreciation for all those across the Division.

Dr. Kraft congratulated the Class of 2022 and noted that she looks forward to the Graduation Ceremony.

Ms. Dooley noted the importance of celebrating and shared an update on the CATEC Completers Ceremony. She also expressed appreciation for Dr. Gurley's leadership.

Ms. Torres also shared appreciation for staff, students, and fellow board members for their work and also recognized those retiring in 2022.

**14.1 Superintendent's Comments:** Dr. Gurley provided an update on the following activities (excerpts):

- Shannon Grants for Innovative Projects Award Ceremony - August 19, 2022
- 2022 Retirees
- 2022 CATEC Completer Ceremony
- Reconfiguration Update
- Pride Month

**15.1 Work Session Wrap-Up:** There were no requests from the Board:

**16.1 Upcoming Meetings:** Ms. Torres shared the list of upcoming meetings.

**17.1 Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

A video of the June 2, 2022 meeting can be located at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-XAtBXtZ9yXvLFs9btYnbkF32bahzwvE/view?usp=sharing>

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Lisa Torres, School Board Chair

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Julia Green, School Board Clerk