

## Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

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August 24, 2022

**ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - 5:05 P.M.** The meeting was called to order by Chair, Jason Hicks followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

**Members in Attendance:** Jason Hicks, Chair; Damon Rasnick, Vice-Chair; Rick Mullins; Tonya Baker, Clerk; Haydee Robinson, Superintendent

**Participated Virtually:** Jamie Hackney

**Absent:** Dr. Lurton Lyle

Mr. Hicks informed the Board that Mr. Jamie Hackney requested to participate in the School Board Meeting electronically. Mr. Hackney stated that he was unable to attend the meeting due to family medical matters.

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and a second by Damon Rasnick, Mr. Hackney was allowed to participate by electronic communication.

*Vote results*

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|           |   |  |
|-----------|---|--|
| Aye:      | 3 | Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins |
| No:       | 0 |  |
| Abstain:  | 0 |  |
| Not Cast: | 0 |  |

### **Approval of Agenda:**

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by, Rick Mullins, the Agenda was approved as presented.

*Vote results*

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|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Aye:      | 4 | Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney |
| No:       | 0 |   |
| Abstain:  | 0 |   |
| Not Cast: | 0 |   |

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Mr. Jason Hiicks** read the Public Comment Guidelines.

**Phyllis Mullins, DEA:** Ms. Mullins spoke about having a very successful beginning of school, DEA membership is up, and looking forward to working with everybody for the rest of the year.

**Avery Rose, Bus Driver, and Aide at DCPS:** Mr. Rose spoke asking for clarification on the DCPS dress code policy.

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### III. CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and a second by Damon Rasnick the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

#### *Vote results*

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|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Aye:      | 4 | Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney |
| No:       | 0 |   |
| Abstain:  | 0 |   |
| Not Cast: | 0 |   |

#### a. Approval of Minutes

- ❖ July 27, 2022, Regular Meeting

#### b. Approval of Monthly Bills - School Operation Fund

Monthly Bills: Check # 883411 - 883504- \$555,502.26

Monthly Payroll: Check # 390313- 390343- \$1,911,879.74

#### c. School Activity Fund

- ❖ Informational Item

#### d. Approval of Field Trips

- ❖ Ridgeview High School
  - 09/02/2022 Grundy, Va. 7th -12th
  - 09/10/2022 Blackburg, Va. 8th -12th
  - 09/17/2022 Emory, Va. 7th - 12th
  - 09/23/2022 Pennington Gap, Va. 7th - 12th
  - 10/01/2022 Elizabethton, Tenn. 7th - 12th
  - 10/15/2022 Big Stone Gap, Va. Johnson City, Tenn. 7th- 12th
  - 10/21/2022 Abingdon, Va. 7th - 12th
  - 11/04/2022 Gate City, Va. 7th - 12th

#### e. Approval of Bank Reconciliation Documents

#### f. New Elementary Construction Invoices

### IV. INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

#### VSBA Conferences

eMobility Funding Opportunities, July 28, 2022

Legislative Advocacy Conference, September 22, 2022

VSBA - Annual Convention, November 16-18, 2022

August 24, 2022

V. SUPERINTENDENT ROBINSON

g. Good News from our Schools

**Beginning of the 2022-2023 School Update:**

Mrs. Robinson updated the Board on the beginning of school. Senator Mark Warner visited the eighth-grade students at Ridgeview Middle School on the first day of school. Mrs. Robinson recognized our teachers Ms. Hay, Mrs. Fletcher, and the Ridgeview Middle School Staff for how well prepared for Senator Warner's visit they were. Our eighth-grade students represented us well and we were so proud of them with their questions. A Roundtable discussion was held at RMS with several of our candidates, local officials, and superintendents in attendance. The convocation on Monday was excellent. We had an excellent speaker who spoke on trauma for our students.

Mrs. Robinson thanked all of the DCPS Faculty and Staff for their contribution to a successful beginning of school. Mrs. Robinson recognized Sherriff Fleming and the Dickenson County Sheriff's Department for the active shooter training. They did an excellent job.

h. Update on New Elementary School Construction Project

Tim Burge, Construction Superintendent with Skanska, presented a report on the construction of the new elementary school and updated the School Board.

**Budget & Procurement**

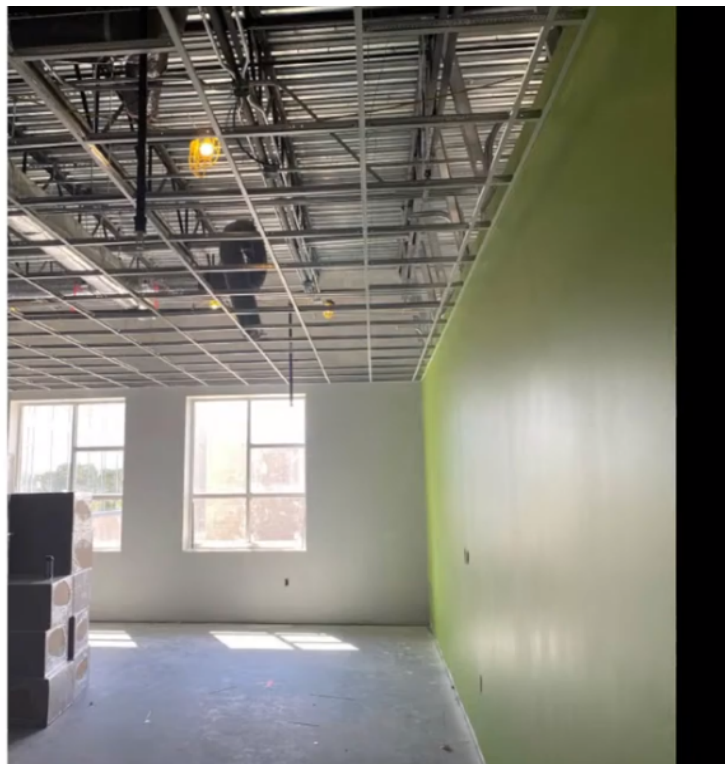
**Main Building**

- Project remains within the overall budget of \$24,561,867.
- Some furniture has been delivered and is being stored until building is ready for install.
- Interactive boards, computers and other technology items have been ordered. Some items have been delivered.
- Scoreboards have been delivered and installed in the gym.

**Classroom Wing & Multi-Purpose Room Addition**

- Project remains on schedule and within budget.

**SKANSKA**



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### I. Certification of the 2022 -2023 DCPS Crisis Plan

#### **Mrs. Martin presented the 2022-2023 Crises Plan**

Virginia Code § 22.1-279.8 requires Virginia's public school boards to annually review the written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plans of each school it supervises. Superintendents shall certify this review no later than August 31 of each year.

Beginning in July 2019, an amendment to the Code as a result of HB1737 requires that in addition to providing copies of such plans, each school board must include the chief law-enforcement officer, the fire chief, the chief of the emergency medical services agency, the executive director of the relevant regional emergency medical services council, and the emergency management official of the locality, or their designees, in the development and annual review of its crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plans.

Certification of review of the 2022-2023 DCPS Crisis Plan

#### Certification results

*Jason Hicks*      *certify*

*Rick Mullins*     *certify*

*Damon Rasnick*   *certify*

*Jamie Hackney*   *certify*

### **j Discussion of Staff Substitute Shortage**

#### **Mrs. Robinson:**

While facing a significant teacher shortage, school divisions across the state are also facing a shortage of substitutes for all positions. Simply stated, when a staff member is absent, there may not be substitutes available.

This year we are trying to address the substitute shortage in different ways. With the bus drivers, we have tried to hire what we've called two floating bus drivers that would simply be there available whenever we would need a bus driver. We have not been able to achieve that goal because they are driving for other drivers that have to be out.

For our teacher shortages, one way that we are trying to address this is that we have hired full-time substitutes for our schools. One full-time substitute in each school and two at RHS because of the large number of staff members.

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### **k. Update of Request from the Dickenson County Fair committee**

#### **Mrs. Robinson:**

Regarding Friday, Sept 16, 2022, and our 1st and 2nd graders attending the Dickenson County Fair: VACORP, our insurance carrier, has requested certain documents from the fair committee. We are waiting on those and hope to receive those soon.

Mrs. Robinson asked for the Board to consider revising the calendar and dismiss Schools on Friday, September 16th at 12:00 p.m. and 12:15 p.m. Teacher Workday until 3:00 p.m. so our children and our families will get to enjoy the Dickenson County Fair.

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and second by Rick Mullins, the 2022-2023 DCPS Calendar was revised to add an early dismissal on September 16, 2022.

#### *Vote results*

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|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Aye:      | 4 | Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney |
| No:       | 0 |   |
| Abstain:  | 0 |   |
| Not Cast: | 0 |   |

### **I. Public Surplus**

#### **Mrs. Robinson:**

Mrs. Compton has requested we conduct a small wares sale of kitchen equipment that is not being used.

Items to include in the sale are:

- Stock pots
- Kettles
- Trays
- Bowls
- Utensils
- Other miscellaneous kitchen items

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by Rick Mullins, the approval of the sale of the kitchen surplus items was approved.

#### *Vote results*

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|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Aye:      | 4 | Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney |
| No:       | 0 |   |
| Abstain:  | 0 |   |
| Not Cast: | 0 |   |

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### VI. BOARD COMMENT

**Rick Mullins:** It is really good to see the new school continuing with Mr. Burge, with all the work they have done there. It's really great to know that we have such a great staff. This last week has been great with school starting in a very positive way. To those teachers and students with the biscuit situation with Mark Warner, that's just fantastic and I think you all ought to consider another part-time, maybe you could be a lobbyist or something. Thank you all for all that you did to do that. I'd like to mention that on WCYB last night that Ridgeview was rated number two. That was really good, a lot of positive things going on.

**Damon Rasnick:** It seems from my point of view that it's been a good start. It's a challenge every day to keep everybody safe. Everybody on the roads and in the classrooms and wherever. It's just a big task every single day and we all know that. I was so proud of those eighth graders they sat there and were so well behaved and listened and their questions were on target to the Senator. He certainly responded in an excellent fashion to those students. He has been a friend to Dickenson County in so many ways as those before him. I know it's easy to mix up John Warner and Mark Warner. I had the privilege of meeting both in my time. He came to Clintwood Elementary several years ago when Mr. John Warner came to Dickenson County on many occasions. For those of you who live on these ridges out here on Backbone and Long Ridge where I live, and Brushy Ridge, etc., and even into Frying Pan where the first settlers settled in. There is public water up there now and those people took such an interest in us and helped us with the Public Service Authority in Dickenson County to just work miracles. I said that I would like to see public water go to every child's house, for every child to have access to public water. That is right much impossible but we probably did as well as we could given the circumstances. They can't fund things that simply can't be funded. Most people out there now have access and that's a huge blessing for our kids. It makes life so much easier for everybody, all of our families. I say keep on going. I hope our football team has the best success and all the sports, the band I see everything they are involved in. That seems exciting. I do not know Mr. McCullough but I read about what he does. He stays busy, it's obvious, many things come across our mail. The teacher shortage is not just here, it's all around the Country. Dickenson County has a pretty competitive package as far as the employee benefits package. The salary is less than some, Mrs. Robinson gives that information to us from every County. The insurance policy in Dickenson County is about twenty-four thousand dollars per family. That is the cost of that. Some people go to a neighboring county and make thousands more on their salary but their insurance is a little different. It's competitive out there. Dickenson County has to be in a position to compete in order to keep things going in a productive way for students and for our employees. I just hope that all the leaders in Dickenson County now and in the future understand that this is serious business. These kids are here and they deserve the best. We need to provide for them as best we can. I just hope everybody comes together in a good way and gets along and tries to solve this in a reasonably effective manner.

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**Jamie Hackney:** I just wanted to thank Senator Mark Warner for visiting our schools this week. I just wanted to say I appreciate the rest of the Board for allowing me to participate remotely.

**Jason Hicks:** I am excited to see a good start to the school year. It's always pretty exciting when that rolls around. I think with the extra long break that kids are probably ready to get out. I used to love summer break but I was always, well I got kind of bored and then it was time to go back. Hopefully, that's where they're at and I'm sure that is where a lot of our staff was at too. I know that is Board and our community and parents and kids appreciate the folks that work with Dickenson County Schools from the administrators and teachers and paraprofessionals and coaches and bus drivers, and nurses and our cooks and everybody involved. We really do appreciate it. It's all about these kids and the best that we can give them. We have some absolutely fantastic people that work with our kids and we have some absolutely fantastic kids to work with.

### VII. **Closed Session, Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A of the Code of Virginia**, there will be a closed meeting for the purpose of:

1.) Employment issues relating to discussion or consideration of specific individuals for employment as an Alternative Education Facilitator, Substitutes, Part-time Aides, Bus Driver, Coaches, FMLA, and Resignations pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1)

2.) Student scholastic issues associated with parental homeschooling requests pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (2)

3.) To consult with legal counsel regarding the investment of public funds associated with school construction and consultation regarding actual or probable litigation, along with consultation regarding specific matters requiring legal advice pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (6) (7) and (8) of the Code of Virginia.

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by Rick Mullins, the Board convened in Closed Session.

#### *Vote results*

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|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Aye:      | 4 | Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney |
| No:       | 0 |   |
| Abstain:  | 0 |   |
| Not Cast: | 0 |   |

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by Rick Mullins; the board returned to open session.

#### *Vote results*

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|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Aye:      | 4 | Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney |
| No:       | 0 |   |
| Abstain:  | 0 |   |
| Not Cast: | 0 |   |

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### Board Certification

**Mrs. Robinson read the following certification for Closed Session:**

WHEREAS, the Dickenson County School Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and WHEREAS, section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia

requires a certification by this School Board that such a closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dickenson County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only the public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered.

*Certification results*

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|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Certify:  | 4 | Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney; Rick Mullins |
| No:       | 0 |   |
| Abstain:  | 0 |   |
| Not Cast: | 0 |   |

### Board Action:

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by Rick Mullins the employment recommendations were approved as presented in the closed session.

*Vote results*

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|           |   |   |
|-----------|---|---|
| Aye:      | 4 | Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Rick Mullins |
| No:       | 0 |   |
| Abstain:  | 0 |   |
| Not Cast: | 0 |   |

## PERSONNEL/LEGAL

### Students

Parental Request for Homeschooling

### Coaches

### Substitutes

Amy Bowen - Substitute Teacher, Custodian  
Kylee Dingus - Substitute Teacher  
Sheridan Fuller - Substitute Teacher  
Samantha Grizzle - Substitute Teacher  
Kayla Harris - Substitute Teacher



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Christopher Legath - Substitute  
Joy Leonard - Substitute Teacher  
Kirsten Moore- Substitute Teacher  
Kiara Mullins - Substitute Teacher  
Noah Mullins - Substitute Teacher  
Amber Perrigan - Substitute Teacher, Cook, Custodian  
Hailey Polly - Substitute Teacher  
Kellie Sexton - Substitute Cook, Custodian  
Isaiah Stanley - Substitute Custodian  
Kaylee Willis - Substitute Teacher  
Kendra Yates - Substitute Teacher

**FMLA**

Rebecca Boyd - Cook, Ridgeview High School  
Ronald Branscome Jr. - Bus Driver, Haysi Area  
Denechia Edwards - Director, Central Office

**Resignation**

Daniel Ibrahim - Teacher, Ridgeview Middle School  
Amanda Long - Teacher, Ervinton Elementary  
Patrick Bacety - Custodian, Ridgeview Middle School

**Recommendations for Employment**

|                  |                              |                                   |
|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Brittney Presley | Ridgeview High/Middle School | Alternative Education Facilitator |
| Sherry Turner    | Division-wide                | Bus Driver                        |
| Matthew Mullins  | Ridgeview Middle School      | Part-Time Teacher Aide            |

**VIII. Adjournment: 7:11 p.m.**

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and a second by Damon Rasnick; the meeting was adjourned.

All Aye

Approved September 28, 2022

***Jason Hicks***

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Jason Hick, Chair

***Tonya Baker***

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Tonya Baker, Clerk