

Dickenson County School Board Meeting – Summary Minutes

May 22, 2019

I. ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

- a. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Susan Mullins followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.
- b. **Members in Attendance:** Susan Mullins, Chairman; Rick Mullins, Vice-Chairman; Rocky Barton; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Shanghai Nickles; Haydee Robinson, Superintendent; Reba McCowan, Clerk and Scott Mullins, Board Attorney
- c. **Approval of Agenda**
Following a motion by Rocky Barton and second by Dr. Lurton Lyle the agenda was approved.

Vote Results

Aye:	5	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Phyllis Mullins, DEA – I don't have a lot to report however I am elated over the budget. I'm just so proud that it's accomplished and we are seeing results from working hard. It's been a long time in coming but I'm so glad it's here. Thank you.

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and second by Rick Mullins the consent agenda items were approved.

Vote Results

Aye:	5	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

- a. Approval of Minutes
 - ❖ April 24, 2019 – Regular Meeting
 - ❖ April 30, 2019 – Mediation w/Board of Supervisors & IDA
 - ❖ May 8, 2019 – Special Called Meeting
- b. Approval of Monthly Bills – School Operating Fund
 - Monthly Bills: Check # 879796 - Check #879910.....\$431,666.54
 - Monthly Payroll: Check #388839 – Check #388864.....\$1,726,484.58
 - School Construction Bill.....\$750.00
- c. School Activity Fund
 - ❖ Informational Item
- d. Field Trips
 - ❖ Ridgeview High School

May 22, 2019

May 6th - Regional Jail - Haysi, VA - 9th - 12th
May 6th - Southwest VA Center of Excellence - Abingdon, VA - 11th
May 8th - The Attic - Clintwood, VA - 9th - PG
May 14th – 15th - UVA @ Wise - RMS/RHS Band - 10th - 11th
May 17th - Norton Cinema - Norton, VA - 9th - 12th
May 20th - Bristol Caverns - Bristol, VA - 9th
Jun 6th - 7th - King University - Bristol, TN - 8th - 12th
Jun 14th – 16th - UVA @ Wise - Basketball Camp - 9th - 12th
Jun 20th - University of Pikeville - Pikeville, KY - 9th - 12th
Jun 17th – 20th - Virginia Tech - Blacksburg, VA - 9th - 12th

❖ Ridgeview Middle School

May 15th - Food City / Park - Clintwood, VA - 6th - 8th
May 23rd - Barter Theatre/Golden Corral - Abingdon, VA - 8th
May 30th - Council Park - Council, VA - 8th
May 30th - Poplar Gap Park - Vansant, VA - 8th

❖ Clintwood Elementary School

May 10th - Food City Park - Clintwood, VA - K
May 16th - Norton Cinema - Norton, VA - Pre K
May 17th - Ridgeview Middle School - 5th
May 22nd - Flanagan Dam - Haysi, VA - 12th
May 23rd - Bank/Courthouse/Library/Park - 1st
May 24th - LaCasa - Clintwood, VA 10th - 11th
May 24th - Mr. Gatti's - Pikeville, KY - 2nd
May 30th - Letcher County Rec Center - Whitesburg, KY - 5th
May 29th - 30th - Food City Park - Clintwood, VA - 2nd
May 29th - 30th - Grundy Theater / Poplar Gap - K
May 31st - William King Art Center - Abingdon, VA - 4th

❖ Ervinton Elementary School

May 23rd - Norton Cinema - Norton, VA - 4th
May 24th - Ridgeview Middle School - Band Concert - 5th

❖ Sandlick Elementary School

May 3rd - Poplar Gap Park - Vansant, VA - Pre K
May 10th - Barter Theater - Abingdon, VA - K
May 10th - Council Park - Council, VA - Pre K
May 17th - Poplar Gap Park - Vansant, VA - K
May 17th - Breaks Interstate Park - Pre K
May 22nd - Council Park - Council, VA - K

May 22, 2019

May 24th - Grundy Community Center - Poplar Gap Park - 3rd

IV. INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

• **Roofing Contract at Clintwood Elementary School**

The following contractor has been awarded the bid for the roof at CES:

Eskola, LLC
2418 Morelock Rd
Morristown, TN 37814
423-318-2196

60 mil - \$529,000

The Contract will be awarded by the IDA, The work is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, and scheduled for completion on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019. David Liebal, the roofing construction manager with HDH states: "I re-roofed the Higher Education Center in Abingdon and Eskola was the roofing contractor. The project went great and Ken Bezio (the project manager) was a pleasure to work with. Ken was at the Pre-Bid meeting."

• **2019 VSBA School Law Conference**

June 7, 2019

Short Pump Hilton

Your school division needs you, your superintendent, and your attorney to be at the 2019 VSBA School Law Conference. Why? Because many of the decisions you make have legal implications that will impact your school division for years to come. Hear school law updates from the national and local perspective as well as learn about the legal authority and your role as a school board. Be informed and be prepared!

More information on the meeting and the room block can be found in the attached meeting brochure and on the VSBA website. If you have any questions, please contact Tina Loccisano at Tina@vsba.org. Thank you to our sponsor, Sands Anderson.

Date: June 7th, 2019

Time: 8:15am - 2:00pm

Location: Short Pump Hilton, Richmond

Registration: Please contact Mrs. McCowan if you are interested in attending.

Conference on Education

July 23, 2019

Richmond Marriott
Richmond, VA

VSBA Annual Convention

Nov. 20 - 22, 2019

Williamsburg Lodge
Williamsburg, VA

May 22, 2019

Legislative Advocacy Conference

Sept. 24, 2019

Chesterfield Career and Tech Center
Chesterfield, VA

The Changing Roles of School Counselors

The 2019 General Assembly passed 22.129-1:1 regulation addressing school counselors:

“Each school counselor employed by a school board in a public elementary or secondary school shall spend at least 80 percent of his time during normal hours in the direct counseling of individual students or groups of students.”

Since school counselors serve in so many roles at the school level, the new 80 percent of normal hours in direct counseling and individual students or groups of students is a paradigm shift for school counselors and administrative staff. We recognize that importance of our school counselors working directly with our children, and understand that our school counselors will need to have additional support and focus to meet this mandate.

We have met with our administrators and discussed ways to implement this new criteria at each of the elementary schools, middle school and high school.

We have also met with school counselors and discussed the following:

- From Testing Coordinators and other roles to the roles of School Counselors for 2019 – 2020: 80 percent of direct counseling with students, enrolling, scheduling, student record facilitator.
- Identifying/Prioritizing Duties/Roles:
- Transitioning EES School Counselor to RMS for 2 – 3 days a week to meet the counselor and student ratio requirement
- Purchase of software for Documenting time/activities:
- Curriculum: Identifying “theme” for each 9 weeks division wide: i.e. Character Counts:
- Implementation: Providing student group classes with the school counselors during Encore blocks:
- Emphasis on 80% with direct contact with students
- Additional Support for Test Coordinator: RHS

V. SUPERINTENDENT ROBINSON

May 22, 2019

e. Good News from Our Schools

April 2019 Enrollment and Attendance Report

Be Great with 8! Be a Hero: Here, Everyday, Ready, On-Time

The student enrollment on April 30 was 1965. Congratulations to Clintwood Elementary School, who has won the Attendance Banner with a 94.83% student attendance percentage for April 2019. SES was second with 94.31% student attendance percentage and RMS with a 93.45%. Overall the attendance percentage for March was 91.83% and the yearly total is 93.32%

2018 – 2019 Attendance Percentages per School:

Clintwood Elementary: 94.83% K – 5 Enrollments: 417
Ervinton Elementary School: 90.86%: K – 5 Enrollments: 120
Sandlick Elementary School: 94.31%: K – 5 Enrollments: 399
Ridgeview High School: 92.09%: 9 – 12 Enrollments: 551
Ridgeview Middle School: 93.80%: 6 – 8 Enrollments: 471

Eighty-eight (88) students are enrolled in our Pre- K program:

Clintwood Elementary School: 28
Ervinton Elementary School: 18
Sandlick Elementary School: 42

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library Program is coming to DCPS in August. 2019!

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library is a book gifting program that mails one free, age-appropriate, high-quality book each month to children from birth until the age of five no matter their family’s income. A child in Dickenson County could receive 60 free books before they begin school. Dolly Parton’s hope is to inspire a love of reading and learning from a young age.

After launching in 1995, the program grew quickly. First books were only distributed to children living in Sevier County, Tennessee where Dolly grew up. It became such a success that in 2000 a national replication effort was underway. By 2003, Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library had mailed one million books. It would prove to be the first of many millions of books sent to children around the world.

Together, Dolly Parton and her book gifting organization have received honors and awards for their dedication to enriching the lives of children everywhere.

In her letter Dolly Parton writes:

“Before he passed away, my Daddy told me the Imagination Library was probably the most important thing I had ever done. I can’t tell you how much that meant to me because I created the Imagination Library as a tribute to my Daddy. He was the smartest man I have ever known but I know in my heart his inability to read probably kept him from “Inspiring kids to love to read became my mission. In the beginning, my hope was simply to inspire the children in my home county but here we are today with a worldwide program that gives a book a month to well over 1 million children.

May 22, 2019

“Of course, I have not done this alone. The real heroes of our story are the thousands of local organizations who have embraced my dream and made it their own. They raise millions of dollars each year and wake up every day with a passion to make sure their kids have every opportunity to succeed.

“It’s been quite a journey but we have so much more left to do. I would love for your community to join our family so please take the time to explore our website. Let’s share this dream that all children should grow up in a home full of books. “The first step is always the hardest, but you’ll never know unless you try...”

Imagination Library for our Dickenson County children is made possible by a generous donation of \$10,000 from Contura Energy Inc. Political Action Committee and \$10,000 funding award from Columbus Phipps. This generous contribution will support the Imagination Library for approximately five (5) years.

Next Steps:

After today’s School Board Meeting, we will post the Imagination Library opportunity with the parental sign-up link on the DCPS Facebook and school division's website.

We plan to include a news article in the Dickenson Star on Wednesday, May 29, 2019 about this project.

This is exciting: In looking at the IL website, there are 122 parents in Dickenson County who have previously signed their child in the program in the event that it was ever offered in Dickenson County!

f. Update of the 2019-2020 State Budget

At its May 14, 2019 Budget Meeting, the Dickenson County Board of Supervisors finalized its proposed advertised version of the FY 20 Budget. The Board of Supervisors has recommended appropriations of \$7 million to the DCPS operational budget with the understanding that this amount includes required funding for salary scales for teachers and staff as proposed by the salary committees and adopted by the DCPS School Board. The Dickenson County School Board first requested \$7 million and later amended the budget request to \$7.1 million.

This budget proposal will be advertised publicly in late May and early June with a public hearing set for June 17 at 5:00 p.m. and final budget approval on June 25 at the regular 6:00 p.m. board meeting. In March, 2019, the School Board has approved the 2019 – 2020 Teacher Scale. All other employee scales will be presented to the School Board for its approval at the June School Board Meeting on June 26, 2019.

We are very thankful and appreciative to each member of the Board of the Supervisors

for this support! The proposed \$7 million local appropriations will provide the first significant salary increase for our employees in approximately ten (10) years with sustainable annual steps. This proposed salary increase will recognize the accomplishments of our staff as our students continue to achieve regionally and in the State, and will place DCPS employees on a more equal basis with salaries in Region VII and with neighboring school divisions. We recommend the funding for the revision of the salary scales and to provide our employees an increase in salary for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

Summary of the 2019 – 2020 State Budget and Priorities:

This year's budget includes a \$572,203 increase in state funds. We are also projecting an increase in Federal funding of \$229,000, and increase in County funding of \$500,000. The State Budget includes a 5% salary increase for employees with an appropriation of \$451,871. Estimated cost for salary scale revision is \$721,270.00.

Key points of the proposed DCPS FY 20 Budget are:

1. Revision of salary scales for all employees
2. Replacing all anticipated retirement positions
3. Proposed increase in salary scale for part-time employees
4. Purchase of two new buses
5. Hiring staff for Art/Music instructional programs at elementary schools
6. Proposed 5% increase in health insurance premiums.
7. Replacing all anticipated retirement positions

g. Update on the New Elementary School

The Dickenson County School Board along with the Industrial Authority Board and the Board of Supervisors met on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 for the mediation process as stated in the Facility Development Agreement.

At the end of the mediation process on April 30, 2019, the three Boards did not reach a consensus for mediation, and voted for arbitration.

Scott Mullins stated we are limited on what we can say because on the day of Meditation all three boards signed a confidentiality agreement that is still in force. After many hours with Judge Gamble, we all agreed that meditation was not going to be successful and we thought that we would go from mediation to arbitration. Arbitration would allow the mediator to become the judge, jury and the final decision not subject to appeal. All three attorneys and Judge Gamble saw after a closer look of the law that governmental entities cannot contract away their authority to make decisions. Judge Gamble recommended continuing with meditation; the concept of arbitration is over, in a different way bringing

May 22, 2019

the Board of Supervisors and School Board together without Attorneys, Superintendent and County Administrator to have an honest and frank discussion on what can be done to bring us out of this.

We will discuss further in Closed Session but this Board has voted to go to mediation and if that was not successful to move forward with litigation. Judges are not going to tell Dickenson County where to build the school but who has the authority to make that decision. I have a resolution for you to review which will resolve three things: 1. Move forward with meeting with the attorneys and move forward with litigation as you previously told me to do, 2. Continue to work with the Board of Supervisors and their representatives to see if we can find some way to avoid litigation and 3. Is to bring back to you next time a different procurement approach.; PPEA which I feel is the better approach. We will review further in closed session.

h. Adoption of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Reading Series

We are recommending HMH (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) *Into Reading* as our divisional reading series for grades K-3. Our teachers and administrators at each elementary school had the opportunity to participate in a textbook caravan and presentations about the materials. Sample materials were placed in all schools for teachers to review. A consensus of our teachers was reached via a Google survey. Of the 22 K-3 teachers participating in the survey, 19 teachers voted that the *Into Reading* series would meet the needs of their students. Our teachers expressed a need for more rigor in the curriculum as well as access to digital materials. Although there was not a concentrated effort for this to happen, throughout Region VII, teachers have chosen *Into Reading* as their new reading series. In conversations with the HMH representative and other divisional leaders, all divisions within Region VII that were up for adoption has chosen this product.

The cost of this adoption as presented is \$146,584.48. This includes access to all digital and print materials for seven years.

Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and second by Rick Mullins; adoption of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Reading Series was approved.

Vote Results

Aye:	5	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

i. Approval of the CES/IDA Lease for the New Roof

We are recommending approval of the proposed lease agreement between the IDA and the School Board regarding the roof replacement at CES. Since the IDA procured the roof at CES, this lease is required. The lease will terminate immediately upon completion of their work. The IDA is in the process of signing the contract for the roofers to begin.

May 22, 2019

The work to replace the roof at CES is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, and scheduled for completion on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019.

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and second by Rocky Barton; CES/IDS Lease Agreement was approved.

Vote Results

Aye:	5	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

j. Approval of the Request for Proposal for Mitigation at Spring Fork

Scott Mullins updated the Board on the Spring Fork property that is to be used for mitigation for the Ridgeview project. At this time we will need to begin doing stream work and planting appropriate plant species and requested approval of a Request for Proposal for the Mitigation project at Spring Fork.

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and second Shanghai Nickles; RFP for Mitigation at Spring Fork was approved.

Vote Results

Aye:	5	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

k. Approval of Appalachian Official Association Contract for Athletic Contests

For the 2019 – 2020 athletic contests, the Appalachian Official Association (AOA) has issued contracts for school division. This year, the AOA is requesting the initials of the School Board Chair and the initials of Superintendent. After discussions with Rodney Compton and Region VII school superintendents, we are recommending that approval of the athletic contests for the following sports:

- Football
- Volleyball
- Girls and Boys Basketball
- Baseball
- Softball

Mr. Compton has recommended that RHS/RMS continue to contract with Southwest Officials Association for Soccer.

Following a motion by Shanghai Nickles and second Dr. Lurton Lyle; Contract with Appalachian Official Association was approved.

Vote Results

May 22, 2019

Aye: 5 Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No: 0
Abstain: 0
Not Cast: 0

I. 4th of July Holiday for Twelve Month Employees

As in prior years, we are recommending an extended July 4th Holidays. This year, we recommend Thursday, July 4, 2019 and Friday, July 5, 2019 as 4th of July Holidays for twelve month employees.

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second Rocky Barton the 4th of July holiday was approved.

Vote Results

Aye: 5 Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No: 0
Abstain: 0
Not Cast: 0

VI. BOARD COMMENT

Dr. Lurton Lyle

- I am glad that Dolly Parton is coming to Dickenson County; Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library.
- I’m happy that we are looking forward to Art, Music and Chorus. I’m happy tonight.

Rick Mullins

- We’ve had a very successful year. It’s been a great year academically and sports wise. I’m like Dr. Lyle, I’m very happy.

Rocky Barton

- It’s all good; the budget is great and I’m tickled about that.
- I want to send a shout out to the Girls Tennis Team; they just finished playing doubles for the Regional championship. They lost but they played for the Championship! They still go to State; they beat Marion and lost to Gate City. That’s wonderful.

Susan Mullins

- I have to say that this is probably the best budget year we’ve had since I was on the School Board. We actually can give a raise. We’re not having to cut programs. This is great.

Shanghai Nickles

- There’s a tremendous amount of great things going on at Ridgeview and our elementary schools.

May 22, 2019

- There will be a fundraiser June 1st. We have Boston Butt Roasts that is being fixed by Mr. Honeycutt from Norton. He's going to be roasting a pig. This is for our football team and they have sold 285 plus tickets and that's a fundraiser for our kids. It's good to see our kids take as much interest in their program as the people that are coaching them.
- Tomorrow is Awards Day 2019 at Ridgeview and boy do we have some outstanding kids. We really do.

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 discussing: (1. Employment issues relating to FMLA requests, resignations, retirements, employment recommendations and to consult with legal counsel pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) and (7).

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Dr. Lurton Lyle the Board convened in closed session.

Vote Results

Aye:	4	Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Following a motion by Shanghai Nickles and second Rick Mullins; the Board returned to open session.

Vote Results

Aye:	4	Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712(a) of the Code of Virginia, I move to certify and second by Shanghai Nickles; that during the closed meeting just concluded the Dickenson County School Board discussed only matters lawfully exempt from the open meeting requirements under Section 2.2-3711 of the Code and identified in the motion convening the closed meeting.

Certification of Closed Session

Aye:	4	Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	

VIII. BOARD ACTION

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second Dr. Lurton Lyle; FMLA requests were approved: Jeannie O'Quinn, Teacher – RMS; Chris Owens, Teacher - RHS.

Vote Results

Aye:	5	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

May 22, 2019

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Rocky Barton; resignation request was approved: Angela Long, Cafeteria Manager - EES.

Vote Results

Aye:	5	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Rick Mullins; retirements were approved: David Atkins, Head Custodian – RHS; Lacretha Mullins, Teacher – SES; Jean Phipps, Cook - CES.

Vote Results

Aye:	5	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Dr. Lurton Lyle; employment recommendations were approved: Kevin Minion transfer to Data Information Systems Coordinator/Technology Assistant, Quince Holts, Head Custodian – RHS; Jennifer Shepherd, Custodian – EES; Steven McCall, Part-time Custodian – EES; Jean Hamilton, Part-time Custodian - RMS.

Vote Results

Aye:	4	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	1	Susan Mullins
Not Cast:	0	

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Rick Mullins; permission to advertise was approved: Secondary Mathematics Teacher; Nursing Instructor; Music Education Teacher and Art Education Teacher (PK-12 Endorsement).

Vote Results

Aye:	5	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Dr. Lurton Lyle; authorized the Superintendent to explore the possibility of starting a Wrestling program.

Vote Results

Aye:	5	Rocky Barton, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Rick Mullins; adopted the Resolution as presented dealing with the location of the new elementary school.

May 22, 2019

Vote Results

Aye:	4	Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Susan Mullins, Shanghai Nickles
No:	1	Rocky Barton
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 7:30 p.m.

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Dr. Lurton Lyle the meeting was adjourned. All votes aye.

Susan Mullins

Chairman, Susan Mullins

Approved: June 26, 2019

Reba McCowan

Reba McCowan, Clerk