

# Dickenson County School Board Meeting - Summary Minutes

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December 18,2019

**I. ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Susan Mullins followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

**a. 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

**b. Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Susan Mullins asked for a motion to approve the agenda with no changes. Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and second by Rick Mullins

*Vote results*

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

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Kathy Musick, VPE - Thanked the three outgoing members for their leadership, their vision, and for all they have done for Dickenson County Schools, teachers and students. Wished good luck to the new members. It's not an easy job but very fulfilling. When you look at the Ridgeview School and teacher raises and things that you have done, we thank you for that. You did a great job but still more to do when it comes to teacher pay.
2. Phyllis Mullins, DEA - Enjoyed working with everyone. I am excited about the Governor's budget. There are a lot of good things for small and rural schools. We are waiting to go to Lobby Day, January 27th to lobby for the good of everything that we want back here. We are the envy of a lot of Northern Va. places. I am looking forward to working with everyone.
3. Kathy Musick, VPE - Thanked Reba McCowan for all her service and keeping everyone informed and for a marvelous job.

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### III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

*Vote results*

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

a. Approval of Minutes

November 20,2019 - Regular Meeting

b. Approval of Monthly Bills - School Operating Fund

Monthly bills: Check # 880559 - Check # 880642.....\$ 218,577.18

Monthly payroll- Check # 389058 - Check # 389091...\$ 1,770,170.98

c. School Activity Fund

Informational Item

d. Field Trips

**Clintwood Elementary School**

Nov.22nd - Santa Train Party - Clintwood, Va. K-5th

Dec. 5th - Clintwood Walking Park - Clintwood, Va. 3rd

Dec. 18th - Letcher Co. Recreation Center - Whitesburg, Ky. 5th

**Ervinton Elementary School**

Nov. 22nd - Clintwood Baptist Church - Clintwood, Va. Pre-K - 5th

Dec. 5th - Jettie Baker Center - Clintwood , Va. Pre- k - 5th

Dec. 16th - Jettie Baker Center - Clintwod, Va. Pre- k - 5th

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### **Sandlick Elementary School**

Nov. 14th - JW Adams - Pound, Va. Pre-k - 3rd  
Nov. 22nd - Clintwood Baptist Church, Clintwood ,Va. SC  
Dec. 5th - Jettie Baker Center - Clintwood, Va. K- 5th  
Dec. 6th - Grundy Theatre - Grundy, Va. 2nd

### **Ridgeview Middle School**

Dec. 5th - Jettie Baker Center - Clintwood, Va. 6th - 8th  
Dec. 19th - Park Ave. Theatre - Norton, Va. 6th

### **Ridgeview High School**

Nov. 20th - UVA- Wise, Va 9- 12th  
Dec. 5th - Jettie Baker Center - Clintwood , Va. 9-12th  
Dec. 5th - D.C. Courthouse and Sheriff's Office -Clintwood, Va. 9-12th  
Dec. 7th - FTC Christiansburg Robotics Qualifier - Riner, Va. 10-12th  
Dec. 18th- Velma Crabtree - Clintwood, Va. 9-12th  
Dec. 18th - The Attic - Clintwood, Va. 9-PG  
Jan. 19-21 - Sr. Beta Convention - Louisville,Ky 12th  
Feb. 5-7 - N.C.Senior Beta Convention - Greensboro, NC 12th  
Feb. 13-16- VA Senior Beta Convention - Hampton, Va. 9-12th  
Mar. 25-27 - Alabama Sr. Beta Convention - Birmingham, AL 12th

## **IV. INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD**

Conferences and Seminars on January 23 and 24 if members would like to attend.

### **2020 VSBA Conferences and Seminars**

- **January 23 & 24 - [Capital Conference](#)**, Richmond Marriott - Board members and superintendents annually meet at the Capitol when the General Assembly is in session to be briefed on education issues before the General Assembly and to learn effective lobbying techniques. This seminar provides participants with the opportunity to be personally involved in the legislative process. Governor Northam will be in attendance to welcome attendees.
- **January 24 - [New Chair/Board Member/Superintendent Orientation](#)**, Richmond Marriott - Presented twice a year, this comprehensive day-long conference is designed specifically to give new board members and superintendents an overview of the basics of boardmanship.
- **March 13 - [Hot Topic Conference](#)**, Wytheville Convention Center - These conferences provide an opportunity for school board members to increase their knowledge on current hot-button issues.
- **April 22 - [Hot Topic Conference](#)**, Charlottesville - These conferences provide an opportunity for school board members to increase their knowledge on current hot-button issues.

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- **May 3 - [Clerks Workshop](#)**  
VSBA Office, Charlottesville - A school board clerks stand-alone conference that features topics of interest to new, as well as seasoned, school board clerks.
- **May - [Webinar](#)**  
Online sessions are offered at various times throughout the year on educational topics of interest. Information on recorded "on demand" webinars is available at [http://www.vsba.org/meetings\\_conferences/webinars\\_](http://www.vsba.org/meetings_conferences/webinars_)

### V. **Superintendent Robinson**

There will be an adjustment to the 2019-2020 School Calendar since we have missed five days of school due to incimate weather. The end of first semester and the second nine week will be on Friday, December 20,2019 with eighty five days. The second semester and third nine weeks, with ninety five days will begin on Monday, January 6,2020. Report cards will be sent home the week of January 6,2020.

The Governor's budget highlights, the Governor proposes a 1.2 billion dollar investment in K-12 education. Mr. Barton and I were involved in a webinar with the State Superintendent. There are flexible supports for educationally at risk students that Mrs.Mullins mentioned. Teacher raises 3% for the second year of the biennium. Flexible per pupil allocation. Additional School Counsellors have been a major push of the Governor. We have had to move and change things around in our Schools to begin accommodating that eighty percent. School meals and benchmarking updates. We are delighted with the Governor's budget and its one of the largest budgets the state has ever had, 1.2 billion dollars. We are very thankful and are waiting for the Senate and House budget. Sometime hopefully in late February, early March we will have the final budget.

Instructional support for English Language Learners:

In many areas of our State there are a significant number of English language learner students. Some of the School Divisions we speak with there may be fifty to sixty other languages spoken besides English. They are providing additional support for those students and families.

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e. **Good News from our Schools**

**“November 2019: Enrollment and Attendance Report”**

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

The student enrollment on November 29, 2019 was 1950 and the overall monthly attendance percentage for November is 93.10%. Congratulations to all our schools!

Clintwood Elementary School has won the Attendance Banner with 95.00% student attendance percentage, Ridgeview Middle School came in second with 93.93% student attendance percentage. EES was third with 93.15% student attendance percentage. Division wide student attendance percentage is 93.43%.

**November Attendance Percentages and Student Enrollment: Per School:**

Clintwood Elementary: 95.00%	K – 5 Enrollment: 405
Ervinton Elementary School: 93.15%	K – 5 Enrollment - 127
Sandlick Elementary School: 93.10%:	K – 5 Enrollment - 382
Ridgeview High School: 92.31%	9 – 12 Enrollment - 572
Ridgeview Middle School: 93.93%	6 – 8 Enrollment: 455

**Ninety-nine students are enrolled in our Pre- K program.**

Clintwood Elementary School:	40
Ervinton Elementary School:	14
Sandlick Elementary School:	<u>47</u>
<b>Total:</b>	101

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f. **Recognition of School Board Members and their Service to Dickenson County Schools**

We would like to recognize our School Board Members who have served and are attending their last meeting as School Board Members:

Rocky Barton: Twelve Years of Service as Vice-Chair and Chair: Jan. 1, 2009 – Dec. 31, 2019

Susan Mullins: Twelve Years of Service as Vice-Chair and Chair: Jan. 1, 2009 – Dec. 31, 2019

Shanghai Nickels: Eight Years of Service: Jan. 1, 2012 – Dec. 31, 2019

Mrs. Robinson- We would like to recognize Dr. Lyle: He is is the new Vice Chair of the Regional VSBA in Southwest Virginia. He is the first School Board member from Dickenson County to serve in this position.

Recognition of Mr. Ferrel Deel. We would like to present on behalf of Dickenson County Public Schools and Dickenson County School Board this Bell for 41 years service.

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g. **Update on the New Elementary School**

Mr. Scott Mullins stated that nothing has happened. We are looking for a legislative political resolution instead of a Judicial one. That is probably the best thing for the County, for us to work out our own issues. Shanghai Nickles asked for an update on the bathrooms at Ridgeview. That is on the top of the list of things to discuss. Closing out Ridgeview and working out those numbers is at the top of the list of things to do. Money in that account needs to be invested. Close to a million dollars is left in that account and there are a lot of things that need to be done. The handicap bathroom on the visitors side is at the top of the list.

h. **Proposed Schedule and Agenda for the DCPS Reorganizational Meeting**

The reorganization meeting will be Wednesday, January 8,2020 at 5:00p.m. After the meeting Mr. Scott Mullins the School Board Attorney will present Legal Issues for School Board Members workshop.

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and second by Dr. Lurton Lyle:The Meeting date for January 8,2020 was approved.

*Vote results*

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

i. **Discussion of Sign Request from the Clinchco Pentecostal Church**

A letter from Pastor Darrel Milgrim requesting the use of the Vocational School Sign for the church. The church is using some of the parking and are keeping that area up. They also repaired some drainage issues that we have had there. The recommendation is to allow the Clincho Penetocal Church to continue to use the sign and in return they will do upkeep on the area around the sign.

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Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and a second by Shanghai Nickles; permission to use the sign was granted.

### *Vote results*

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

## **VI. Board Comment**

### Dr. Lurton Lyle

I would like to congratulate Clintwood Elementary School for their lock on the Attendance Banner or almost lock. I would like to add my thank you to the three retiring members Rocky, Susan, and Shanghai again for their services. I missed four of their years due to election concerns but I have been here for the remainder of the time. I really appreciate you all. I will go back to the Vice Chair I was in line in fact I had it done then that election that I just mentioned came along. They didn't want an ex board member being a Vice Chair of the region. I can understand that. It worked out and I appreciate all of you all.

### Rick Mullins

I would like to reiterate about Clintwood Elementary back there and what your successes have been. You have done a great job down there. I feel really close to you guys. After four years you have taught me alot . This has been a good board to work for. Everyone has been really genuine. Like Haydee said a few minutes ago everybody has done what they thought was best. We had some tough decisions to make and we all made them and are all still friends. I feel very close to you. I want to thank you for what you have given to me.



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### Rocky Barton

Dr. Lyle we could not have had a better mentor. You and Dr. Askins and Mr. Patton who was with us for a couple of years until he got a little sick and couldn't come. You all really led us our first year. I don't think I had ever been to a school board meeting. I appreciate that. I appreciate everybody the Central Office staff, especially those of you that were here when we came. You are still here. That's probably a good thing. I appreciate you all so much,you really helped me. When I got on the board I felt really scared, of course I knew Dr. Askins since I was a child and she really helped me a lot. I felt like I could add more common sense to the board than anything else. Actually I have been lost a lot on some things budgets especially. Susan really helped me a lot with that. I found my way. It's been good.

### Shanghai Nickels

First of all thanks to Reba, no doubt about it we are going to miss her. Special thanks to Larry Barton. I don't know what we would have done without Larry. Denechia with what she does with the special needs kids and I Can Day. Those are things I will never forget. Mike Setser I appreciate Mike, anytime I have ever had a thought or concern I have called him and he has been great to me. Mark Mullins,bless you Mark I wouldn't have your job for any amount of money in the world, telling kids they don't have to go to school. Tony thank you for the curriculum of what we are doing in our schools system and the numbers and everything and helping our teachers to become better teachers and our kids to be better students. I appreciate you. I would like to also thank Mrs. Compton back there for what she has done with the free lunches for our children. I would like to tell you why. I would like to thank Dickenson County Schools what they have done for me and my family. Everything from my free lunches at Ervinton Elementary School,to working in the cafeteria at Ervinton High School, allowing me coach at Ervinton High School,Haysi High School and Clintwood High School. I would like to say thank you so much to the Dickenson County School system. As for Peggy over here. Peggy is our new Supervisor. I wish her the best of luck in the world. I know Peggy believes in education. She has two daughters that have done quite well. I know what she will mean to our district.

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### Shanghai Nickels

Damon and I played J.V. basketball together and high school football. I really believe in my heart the County has spoken and they have kind of said where we should be going with our school system. The best thing I can say is this. This is something that I have actually told Peggy. When you cut education its a wound that never heals. We have got to strive for every penny for every child in Dickenson County. The first time you can't strive for every child for every penny in Dickenson County as my Mom used to say to be a good neighbor you have to make a little effort. If you can't be a good neighbor somebody needs to move and usually it's you. I would like to say to continue to strive for the kids because that's where it is at. I have learned so much from these two over here, especially in closed session. This is a working bunch here from the front door to the back. I appreciate what little I may have contributed to it and for the headaches I apologize.

### Susan Mullins

I don't think I ever really appreciated what goes on up here. I don't have any nice speeches prepared. I have learned a lot from all the people I served with. I have a funny story. Rocky mention Jewell that he knew her from school. I met Jewell on my way to Richmond to spend two or three day in at the VSBA conference. I didn't know what she looked like. I asked her to meet me out in front of her office. I got in the car with her and rode for how every many hours. I am still great friends with her. I feel like she has taught us a lot. It's been good. I have really enjoyed it. These guys have talked about tough times and hard times. It's all learning experiences that have made us all better people. Susan asked Reba to speak: Reba: It's been a pleasure. I appreciate all the Board Members and the support they have given me and all my co-workers. I love them and will miss them.

- 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, request for additional sick leave, retirement, employment recommendations, Superintendent evaluation and to consult with legal counsel pursuant to **Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) and (7)**.

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

### *Vote results*

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

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

### *Vote results*

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Aye:	5	Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Rocky Barton, 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 Rocky Barton; 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*

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

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### VIII. Board Action

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Dr. Lurton Lyle; FMLA requests were approved: Connie Merie Edwards, Teacher – CES; Lorie Fletcher, Teacher – RHS; Stephanie Stanley, Teacher - RHS

*Vote Results*

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

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Rocky Barton; request for additional sick leave days was approved.

*Vote Results*

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

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Dr. Lurton Lyle; retirement request was approved: Jerry Clayton O'Quinn, Bus Driver – Haysi Area

*Vote Results*

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

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Rick Mullins; employment recommendation was approved: Joy Brown, Secretary – Clintwood Elementary School

*Vote Results*

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

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Rick Mullins; permission to post/advertise for Bus Driver and Part-time Cook positions were approved.

*Vote Results*

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

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**IX. ADJOURNMENT: 7:35 p.m.**

Following a motion by Susan Mullins and second by Shanghai Nickles the meeting was adjourned. All votes aye.

*Dr. Lurton Lyle*

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Chairman

*Tonya Baker*

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Tonya Baker, Clerk

