

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

July 27, 2022

I. ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - 5:08 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, Dr. Lurton Lyle; Jamie Hackney; Rick Mullins; Tonya Baker, Clerk; Haydee Robinson, Superintendent

Approval of Agenda:

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by, Dr. Lurton Lyle, the Agenda was approved as presented.

Vote results

Aye:	4	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	Jamie

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jason Hicks read the Public Comment Guidelines.

Kathy Musick, VPE: Wished all of the Administrative Staff goodwill for the last few weeks before school starts.

Phyllis Mullins, DEA: We are getting ready for the school year. We will be working with the new employee orientation. We will also be doing some shopping for back-to-school gifts for teachers. We are looking forward to a new year.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

a. Approval of Minutes
❖ June 22, 2022, Regular Meeting

b. Approval of Monthly Bills - School Operation Fund
Monthly Bills: Check # 88334 - 883410- \$176,728.87
Monthly Payroll: Check # 390286- 390312- \$638,667.41

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- c. School Activity Fund
 - ❖ Informational Item
- d. Approval of Field Trips
 - ❖ Ervinton Elementary
 - 06/30/2022 Clintwood, Va. Grade-All
- e. Approval of Bank Reconciliation Documents
- f. New Elementary Construction Invoices

IV. INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

Trauma-Informed Schools

Ryan Henderson and Danielle Dye, Community Resilience Manager with the United Way of Southwest Virginia, presented to the School Board on Trauma-Informed Schools. Ryan Henderson and Danielle Dye have worked with all our schools and staff during the 21 - 22 school year on assisting our schools to recognize and address the trauma that impacts our students.

VRS Reporting Presentation

Laura Taylor, Director of Business and Finance presented to the School Board the VRS reporting change.

Effective in August, VRS for employees with contracts less than 12 months will be taken out over the contract period, rather than over 12 months.

VRS has been asking us to make this change for a few years. We have been advised that very few school divisions still take it out over the 12-month period, as it becomes difficult to reconcile with VRS records. VRS is changing some of their internal procedures in January 2023, which they've advised will make reconciliation more difficult if we do not make the change now.

What this will do for our employees:

VRS amounts based on the employee's annual salary will be deducted over their contract period. There will be no VRS deductions in the months that they do not work.

VSBA Conferences

eMobility Funding Opportunities, July 28, 2022

Legislative Advocacy Conference, September 22, 2022

VSBA - Annual Convention, November 16-18, 2022

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V. **SUPERINTENDENT ROBINSON**
g. **Good News from our Schools**

Appalachian Service Project

Members of the Appalachian Service Project Caroline Nowak and Emma Christensen presented to the School Board their work and contribution to our community through a PowerPoint presentation. Ervinton Elementary School is hosting this group this summer and we were delighted for them to share their experiences in our community.

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.

Construction update

- Main Building**
- Curtain wall installation continues at Media Center.
 - Elevator installation continues.
 - Continuing to pull wire for panel feeds and rooftop units.
 - Floor tile and partitions installed in gang restrooms.
 - Floor tile installation continues in class restrooms.
 - Installed FRP panels in Kitchen.
 - Installed lockers in classrooms.
 - Ceiling grid installation continues in classrooms.
 - Low voltage cabling installation continues.
 - Painting continues – prime and finish coats have been placed on most classroom walls.
 - Work at the retention pond is nearing completion.

- Classroom Addition**
- Poured ICF walls to joist bearing level at Area A classroom addition.
 - Poured floor slab for Area A addition.
 - Poured footers for Multipurpose room at Area B addition.
 - ICF wall installation began this week for Area B addition.



SKANSKA

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I. Approval of the FY23 Budget and Discussion of End of the Year Summary Report

Laura Taylor, Director of Business and Finance presented an amended FY23 Budget to the School Board which will reflect decreases in State Funding, Title 1 Funding, Perkins, and Local Appropriations. This amended budget is \$ 1,278,336 less than the original budget request approved in March 2022, prior to carryover fund calculations.

The FY23 Budget includes

- Decrease in State Funding: \$507,772
- Decrease in Title I Funding: \$ 92,287
- Decrease in Perkins Funding: \$1,451

Decrease in Local Appropriation from Original Request: \$ 678,277

Total Decrease: \$1,278,336

[FY 2022 - 2023 Proposed Budget Amendment](#)

In addition, to the FY23 amended budget, we will also like to review the End of the Financial Summary which was sent to the School Board members, the County Administrator, and the Treasurer's Office on July 1, 2022, which reflects the FY22 revenues and expenditures including carryover funds.

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and second, by Damon Rasnick, the amended budget was approved as presented.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

j Approval of 2022 – 2023 Health/Dental Premiums and Rates for Employees

Laura Taylor, Director of Business and Finance, discussed the 2022 – 2023 Health and Dental Premiums and the Rates for Full-Time Employees.

While the school division has experienced a slight increase in health and dental insurance and insurance expenditures, this increase is being absorbed by the school division and will not be passed on to our employees. Therefore, for the 2022 – 2023 school year, there are no increases for our employees on their monthly health/dental rates.

[Health and Dental Rates 2022 - 2023](#)

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Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a Second by Jamie Hackney the 2022-2023 Health and Dental rates were approved as presented.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

k. Discussion of Solar Installation at Ridgeview

Mr. Daniel Honeycutt - Powerpoint Presentation

The Solar Initiative at Ridgeview has three components: 1. Minimum utility saving: Approximately \$30,000 annually for 30 years; 2. Educational Opportunities for Students; (3) Workforce Development for Dickenson County.

The one issue that must be addressed thoroughly is: What is the effect of solar panels installed on the roofs at Ridgeview, and the impact of this installation on the 30-year warranty? With Skanska's guidance (Curtis Elswick, Tim Burge, and Brandon Taylor), and input from Terry Smith and Doug Rose, we are working through what is the best recommendation for the School Board in regards to these solar panels.

Scott Mullins, School Board Attorney spoke about solar installation concerns.

l. Approval of the Revised 2023 Teacher Evaluation Handbook

Dennis Deel, Director of Instruction, presented the revised 2023 Teacher Evaluation Handbook and discussed the Staff Development Calendar for Teachers for the week of July 15 – 22, 2022.

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and a second, by Damon Rasnick, the revised 2023 Teacher Evaluation Handbook was approved as presented.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

m. Discussion and Approval of 2022 DCPS Staff Handbook

Karen Martin, Director of Compliance, will present the 2022 DCPS Staff Handbook which includes information for staff members relating to employment issues and policies.

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Each employee will receive a copy of the Staff Handbook, and the Handbook will also be online for easy access.

2022-23 DCPS Staff Handbook

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and a second by Damon Rasnick the 2022 DCPS Staff Handbook was approved as presented.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

n. Approval of Revised DCPS Student Dress Code Policy: JFCAA-R

Mrs. Martin presented the proposed DCPS Student Dress Code Policy for the 2022 - 2023 school year. The only revision is regarding "hoodies" which is a result of a discussion with Mrs. Martin and the principals at the end of the school year on Page 2, #4.

The proposed revision states: "Hats, bandannas, and sunglasses (unless required by a physician may not be worn inside the building. This includes the hat part of the "hoodie" sweatshirt.

Student Dress Code Policy: JFCAA-R.

Policy JFCAA

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and a second by Damon Rasnick Policy JFCAA-Student Dress Code was approved with the addition of the hood of a jacket.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Revision to DCPS Policy: JFC - R Cell phone use in Schools or Work Time for Employees

Mrs. Martin presented a revision to DCPS Policy: JFC- R: Cell Phone Use in Schools or Work Time for Employees. On #4: **Employee Use of Cell Phones or Other Signaling Devices** the revision is:

Staff, both professional and service personnel, may bring personal cell phones or personal electronic devices to work; however, these devices are not to be in view or used

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at any time when the individual is engaged in the supervision of students, during instruction block, or doing the work of a normal employment day, except in the case of an emergency.

The goal of this revision is to provide further clarification for our staff members on the use of cell phones.

Mr. Hackney requested the Board revisit the policy in September.

CELL PHONE USE IN SCHOOLS OR DURING WORK TIME

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by Rick Mullins the revisions to policy, JFC-R Cellphone use in Schools or Work time for Employees

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

o. Approval of the District Special Education Advisory Committee

Denechia Edwards, Director of Special Education, discussed the local Special Education Advisory Committee process.

Local Special Education Advisory Committee

A local advisory committee for special education, appointed by each local school board, shall advise the school board through the division superintendent.

Membership:

- a. majority of the committee shall be parents of children with disabilities or individuals with disabilities.
- b. The committee shall include one teacher.
- c. Additional local school division personnel shall serve only as consultants to the committee.

The functions of the local advisory committee shall be as follows:

- a. Advise the local school division of needs in the education of children with disabilities;
- b. Participate in the development of priorities and strategies for meeting the identified needs of children with disabilities;
- c. Submit periodic reports and recommendations regarding the education of children with disabilities to the division superintendent for transmission to the local school board;
- d. Assist the local school division in interpreting plans to the community for meeting the special needs of children with disabilities for educational services;

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- e. Review the policies and procedures for the provision of special education and related services prior to submission to the local school board; and
- f. Participate in the review of the local school division's annual plan

Special Education Advisory Committee Nominations: Ashley Farmer - CES, Brittany Bise - EES, Melena Edwards - SES Tiffany Kennedy_ RHS, Tammy Edwards RMS, Teacher Representative Rebecca Fuller.

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and second by Jamie Hackney the District Special Education member nominations were approved as presented.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

p. Certification Regarding Remote Learning Days

Mark Mullins

During the 2021 – 2022 school year, Dickenson County Public Schools utilized eight of the 10 allowed remote learning days. We did make a request for five additional days in anticipation of the need but fortunately, the additional days were not needed. During these eight days, Dickenson did provide instruction and services as required to our students.

In order to be compliant with statutory requirements, Dickenson County Public Schools must submit a certification from its local board that it provided instruction and services consistent with the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Final Guidance for Unscheduled Remote Learning Days Pursuant to HB1790 and SB 1132. Again, Dickenson County Schools met the Final Guidance for Unscheduled Learning Days from the Virginia Department of Education.

Certification of Remote Learning Days

Certification results

Certify:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney; Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

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VI. BOARD COMMENT

Rick Mullins: The closer we get to opening the new elementary school I get more and more excited. I am really looking forward to that. I would like to reiterate the quality of the people that are working in our school system, administration, and teachers. They are just wonderful people and I am proud to be a part of it.

Dr. Lurton Lyle: I appreciate the Appalachian Service Project for their work in our county. I appreciate the United Way for the work in our schools.

Damon Rasnick: I can't help but sit here and reflect on all the work that's been done here. Let's start back 60 years and think about people in the office and what they had to work with. I had to reflect back to all the work that's gone into this by Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Edwards and Mr. Deel and all of the others. Mr. Mullins along with all of the other hats he wears he found another one. It strikes me with the kids and how we change and how we listen to people in authority and do the right thing. I know when I played football back in the sixties, your coaches wouldn't give you water. You would be out there in that sun and burning up. That was just a rule. In the Marine Corps if you got caught with two canteens full of water you would go to jail. The brig they called that. They would search for that from time to time. How far we have come and what we can do. The children how they were then. In Martin Town, all the boys just got off the bus and they'd all head up in the hollow, and people driving by thought this was crazy. There was a stock law back then. The milk cow was a pretty important item in the family. They would be with those cows. They would go hunting and bring them back to the yard and get milk. Then tie them down for the morning so you can milk them again. How far we have come and kids were about the same. I guess we were about the same in ways. Things changed around us and everything that I've ever done or anything I've been around even the twelve years I attended school here. You always have people that you could depend on every day to do the right thing as your parents and your teachers and maybe some others in the community. That were the ones you looked at and I think that is important today. The way we communicated back then was a lot of those kids walked to school up there on Long Ridge. They didn't have a bus. How far we have come. We have the means to communicate in such a way and if we make a slip up in public relations somehow, we are going to hear about it. We need to be right and I think our folks have done an excellent job. Going back and reviewing all these things and making them right. They will explain it to our parents in a good way for everybody to understand all this and everything that we do. It is still refreshing to know that most people are still good people. Most students are still good children. We tend to forget that. People are so negative and in trouble and seem to get a lot of attention. You are talking about a small fraction of the total number. Most kids are good. For those kids that are not if you look back far enough, you'll probably find a lot of good reasons why maybe some. If you and I were in that situation we might act out too. We need to be aware of that when we deal with them and treat them right. Be good to people. I am very proud of our staff for what they have done and for this Board for supporting those good things.

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Jamie Hackney: I will just echo Dr. Lyle's comment. I am very appreciative tonight to have the United Way here and the Appalachian Services Project. All of the work that they do and the volunteers that they have in our county. The thing that they are doing for Dickenson County I am just appreciative of that. I also enjoyed the presentation tonight on solar panels. I am looking forward to seeing where that goes. I know we have questions that still need to be asked and answered on that but I am looking forward to seeing how that plays out.

Jason Hicks: I thought it was exactly what you guys said about seeing those projects and seeing those things happen at those homes. Those things are pretty exciting. It is great what others will do for others in this community. The trauma initiative, I think that is pretty exciting stuff. Especially if it's going to be a model for the rest of the state. That's very important. I think it has been lacking within schools in the last little bit. It's great that we're on that. I guess the biggest thing, I feel like we are just now being able to get really focused without distractions back on education and what we can do for our students. I am excited to see the leaps and bounds that come this following year as far as the education recovery that they are going to have. All of the academics and athletics and all the accomplishments they are going to have. I know they are probably still excited about a couple more weeks of being out. Maybe dreading that first day but once it gets going I think the focus and what we will be able to accomplish is going to be spectacular.

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 Division Superintendent, Teachers, Custodians, Substitutes, Part-time Aides, Part Time Attendance Clerk, Bus Drivers, FMLA, and Resignations pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) 2.) 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 Jamie Hackney, the Board convened in Closed Session.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

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Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle; the board returned to open session.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

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

Certify:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney; Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

Board Action:

Following a motion by Rick Mullins to offer the Division Superintendent the contract that was reviewed in closed session and a second from Dr. Lurton Lyle a roll call vote was taken and approved. Vote 4-1

Roll call vote results

Mr. Rick Mullins	Aye
Dr. Lurton Lyle	Aye
Mr. Jason Hicks	Aye
Mr. Damon Rasnick	Aye
Mr. Jamie Hackney	No

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Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle the employment recommendations were approved as presented in the closed session.

Vote results

Aye:	5	Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick, Jamie Hackney, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

PERSONNEL/LEGAL

Substitutes

Misty Davis - Substitute Teacher
John Moore - Substitute Teacher
Sandra Mullins - Substitute Teacher
Sydney Stanley - Substitute Teacher

FMLA

Jasmine Maggard - Teacher, Ervinton Elementary
Jessica Tiller - Teacher, Ridgeview High School
R. Shawn Tiller - Teacher, Ridgeview High School
Donnie Turner - Mechanic/Bus Driver, Haysi Bus Garage

Resignation

Courtney Looney - Teacher, Sandlick Elementary
Terry Shaver - Custodian, Clintwood Elementary
D. Lynn Shupe - Teacher, Ervinton Elementary
Ginny Stanley - Teacher, Clintwood Elementary

Recommendations for Transfer

Cheri Taylor from Bus #9 Clintwood Area to Bus #3 Clintwood Area.

Recommendations for Employment

Emili Fleming	Clintwood Elementary School	Elementary Education PK-6 Teacher
Carlie Tomlinson Teacher	Ridgeview Middle School	Middle School History
James Billings Teacher	Ervinton Elementary School	Long Term Sub – Elem. Education PK-6
Cassidy O’Quinn Math/Algebra I	Ridgeview Middle School	Long Term Sub – Middle School
Maribeth Hylton	Ridgeview High School	Custodian
Ashley Hill	Clintwood Area	Bus Driver
Destiny Justice	Haysi Area	Bus Driver
Jason Mullins	Clintwood Area	Bus Driver – Split Contract
Kent Grant	Clintwood Area	Bus Driver – Split Contract
Kirt Dale	Haysi Area	Bus Driver
Jackie Talor Green	Clintwood Elementary School	Part-Time Attendance Clerk
Britta Large	Clintwood Elementary School	Part-Time Teacher Aide

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VIII. Adjournment: 9:15 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Jason Hicks.

Approved August 24, 2022

Jason Hicks

Jason Hicks, Chair

Tonya Baker

Tonya Baker, Clerk