

## Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

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August 26, 2020

- I. ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - 5:00 P.M.** The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Dr. Lurton Lyle followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

**Members in Attendance:** Dr. Lurton Lyle, Chairman; Rick Mullins, Vice-Chairman; Jason Hicks; Damon Rasnick; Jamie Hackney; Tonya Baker, Clerk; and Haydee Robinson, Superintendent; Scott Mullins, Board Attorney

**Approval of Agenda:**

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and second by Jason Hicks items: h.) Approval for Dr. Potter to begin Telemed at DCPS Schools; i.) Resolution supporting SRO Grants Program and Fund, and to add j.) a brief discussion concerning Coaching Contracts was added to the Agenda.

Chairman Dr. Lurton Lyle asked for a vote to approve the agenda with the previous additions.

*Vote results*

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

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Kathy Musick:** Good evening, Mrs. Robinson, members of the board, my name is Kathy Musick I'm the regional representative for the Virginia Professional Educators. I just want to say that I'm so proud of your leadership team, Mrs. Robinson, and everybody in Dickenson County for their hard work. COVID 19 has brought fear, fear of sickness, fear of health, it has brought a lot of fear and as teachers and educators we also have to fear of getting behind, and our students at home not getting what they need. There are so many things as educators that we have to think of. I just want to commend all your teachers as they get out there and to do what they can, where they can, for the students. Whether it's virtually or however it is. As the year goes on I've heard it said that not just Dickenson County but in every county, it may be that we have three different models in a certain year depending on the number of cases in a region. That's a hardship for everyone from bus drivers, cafeteria workers to teachers. I just want to say that they are heroes that are out there doing that every day, and I thank them for their hard work. Now as a grandmother, I was a teacher, administrator and now I'm helping a child at home with virtual because of the pandemic and you know it's a lot. So thank you teachers for all that you do.

**Phyllis Mullins:** President of the Dickenson County Education Association; I'm part of the DEA and part of the NEA which is the national organization. I want to thank Ms. Musick for her recognition, for her recognizing the hard work that we are all putting in, including all of you. It has been difficult but we are moving forward. We do have bigger problems faced. We know that the State General Assembly is in session and that they are looking to cut public schools about eighty-some thousand dollars through a tax distribution. I want you to know that the DEA is lobbying every day against it. We are trying our very

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best to protect public school funding. I get emails and messages and I am in contact virtually through cyber mail to lobby our State Representative and Delegates and I encourage everyone to please email your State Representatives and let them know that public school funding cannot suffer more cuts. Thank you

### III. CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and a second by Damon Rasnick; the July minutes were approved.

*Vote results*

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

#### a. Approval of Minutes

- ❖ July 2, 2020 - Special Called Meeting
- ❖ July 13, 2020 - Special Called Meeting
- ❖ July 22, 2020 - Regular Meeting
- ❖ July 29, 2020 - Recessed Regular Meeting

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and second by Jason Hicks, monthly bills were approved.

*Vote results*

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

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

Monthly Bills: Check # 880821- 881169.....\$ 572,419.23  
Monthly Payroll: Check # 389565- 389589.....\$ 1,703,180.84

Following a motion by Jason Hicks and second by Jamie Hackney the school activity fund was approved.

*Vote results*

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

#### c. School Activity Fund

- ❖ Informational Item

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### IV. INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

#### **2020 VSBA Conferences and Seminars: \*Cancelled Due to the COVID-19**

##### **2020 VSBA School Law Conference Online Webinar Recording**

Did you forget to register for the 2020 School Law Conference this year? Well, have no fear, because the recording is now available for purchase. Many of the decisions you make have legal implications that will impact your school division for years to come. This conference featured school law updates from the state and local perspective, a presentation on human resources for school board members, Implicit Bias Training, and other pertinent information regarding the legal authority and your role as a school board. You do not want to miss out on this recording to be informed and be prepared! If you have any questions, please contact Mikaela Coffey at Mikaela@vsba.org. Thank you to our sponsor, Sands Anderson.

Cost: \$150

Length: 5 Hours and 31 minutes

Academy Credits: 10 credits

**Thursday, September 10, 2020, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.**

##### **Access, Options & Quality: School Nutrition & Wellness Programs as a Tool to Achieve Equity**

Join Sodexo and VSBA as they host a panel conversation addressing current challenges and solutions to achieving equity through school nutrition. Partners in school foodservice bring innovation nutrition programs that seize opportunities to support food-insecure communities. Panelists will discuss the impacts of food insecurity and solutions to feeding students during and in the transition to a new normal in the wake of COVID-19. Register to attend and hear best practices to consider as your division plans for phased school reopening.

Reserve your webinar seat now by [clicking here!](#)

**Cost:** Free: Multiple registrations needed if viewing from multiple devices/locations

**Date and Time:** September 10, 2020, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**Presenters:** Gerri Mason Hall, Chief Diversity and Sustainability Offer, Sodexo (Moderator), Chef Michael Morris, Executive Chef, Sodexo Schools, Sarah Steely, Associate Director, No Kid Hungry Virginia, and Camille Range, Senior Nutrition Systems Manager, Schools Mid-Atlantic

**Wednesday, September 15, 2020, 12:00 -1:00 p.m.**

##### **Creating Equitable Family Engagement Strategies in a New Era of Learning**

This is an unprecedented and challenging time for our schools. As administrators design meaningful learning opportunities for students, they must also create more equitable engagement strategies for families. This webinar will provide school districts with techniques, ideas, and resources to strengthen family and school partnerships and build sustainable relationships with families throughout this pandemic.

Reserve your webinar seat now by [clicking here!](#)

**Cost:** Free: Multiple registrations needed if viewing from multiple devices/locations

**Date and Time:** September 15, 2020, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

**Presenters:** Roslyn Moffitt, Chief Engagement Consultant, Successful Innovations, Inc

**Tuesday, October 6, 2020 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.**

##### **The Top 10 Things Every Board Member Should Know About Parliamentary Procedure**

Join us and Ms. Mary Loose Deviney for a live webinar on October 6, 2020, at 12:00 noon to learn the top ten parliamentary procedures that every board member should know. Parliamentary procedure can be tricky to learn, but Ms. Deviney, a Professional Registered and Licensed Parliamentarian, will lend guidance on each of these procedures and why it's so important for board members to know. We hope that you will join us for a very informative session!

Reserve your webinar seat now by [clicking here!](#)

**Cost:** \$150 per registration (multiple registrations needed if viewing from multiple devices/locations)

**Date and Time:** October 6, 2020, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

**Presenter:** Mary Loose Deviney, Professional Registered and Licensed Parliamentarian

Disclaimer: Please be advised that the Virginia School Boards Association webinars are open to individuals in Virginia who are associated with a public school division unless prior permission has been granted. These webinars will be recorded and the recording is available on request. If you need other accommodations, please contact VSBA.

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### V. SUPERINTENDENT ROBINSON

#### d. Good News from our Schools

##### **An update on the 2020-2021 Reopening of DCPS Schools:**

I'd like to take this opportunity to briefly update you on the beginning of school on August 24th for Cohort A. We spoke with our leadership staff This afternoon at 2 o'clock to debrief and I want to share with you that our staff, our principals, assistant principals teachers, maintenance, cooks, and everyone have done an exceptional job to get us to this point. I cannot say enough about their hard work and the hard work of all of our directors. The anxiety I think on Sunday was probably unmeasurable, but I think when we got into the school on Monday and saw the students it was just wonderful. It was fantastic. We have another first day of school tomorrow for Cohort B. We are still working through issues, still working through obstacles, working on the problems as they come, and will continue to do that. We will continue to revise and tweak. The first two days went well. I would just like to recognize everyone, our parents, our students, all of our staff who contributed to that success.

#### e. New Elementary School Project and Litigation Update Presentation by Skanska, Quesenberry Construction, and OWPR

The School Board received a presentation on the design of the new elementary school, a site report, and related construction information as follows:

Curtis Elswick: Skanska

Abran and Spencer Quesenberry: Quesenberry Construction

Randy Jones and Hunter Wilson: OWPR

Chris Mullins: The Lane Group

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and second by Rick Mullins; the board convened in a short recess to go outside and view the proposed elementary site.

*Vote results*

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

Following a short recess, the board came back in session.

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### **f. Approval of the 2020-2021 DCPS Crisis Plan**

All Board Members certified that they have reviewed the crisis plan for each DCPS School.

*Certification for reviewing the crisis plan*

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

### **g. Approval of the VSBA Policy JFHA/GBA**

**Mr. Setser:** Presentation on Title IX Prohibition Against Sexual Harassment File JFHA/GBA

Following a motion by Jason Hicks and second by Rick Mullins the VSBA Policy

FILE: JFHA/GBA with the language of 1. Standard of evidence: clear and convincing evidence 2.

Decision-Maker: Mrs. Haydee Robinson and Mr. Mark Mullins 3. Appeal Decision-Maker Full

School Board

*Vote results*

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

### **g. Approval of Proposed VSBA Policies**

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and second by Jason Hicks the VSBA Policies, revisions, and updates, File: JM and KNAJ, were approved.

*Vote results*

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

### **h. Approval for Dr. Potter to begin Telemed at DCPS**

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and second by Jamie Hackney the motion for the Division Superintendent to negotiate an agreement and memorandum of understanding with Dr. Potter, to be reviewed and approved by the School Board Attorney passed.

*Vote results*

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

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### **i. Resolution supporting SRO Grants Program and Fund**

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and second, by Jason Hicks the Resolution supporting SRO Grants Program and Fund was passed.

*Vote results*

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

### **j. Discussion concerning Coaching Contracts:**

**Mr. Hackney:** I know the intention of that new language was to provide the board with more flexibility which I understand the intent. I just more or less have a statement. That we understand that coaches don't always coach in season, a lot of times they are coaching year-round in their sport depending on the workouts that they do. So I would just like that before we consider any prorated moves as far as coaching stipends, that we would consider that if a season did get canceled that it doesn't necessarily mean that that coach is not going to be coaching their student-athletes. That's just the statement that I wanted to make to the Board.

## **VI. BOARD COMMENT**

**Dr. Lyle:** I also appreciate the comments on the opening of school and the success of the working or beginning to work on the new elementary school. I'll be interested to watch these develop over time and hope for nothing but good for the school system.

**Rick Mullins:** I'm just very thankful that we got school started and I'd like to commend the administration, our school bus drivers and all of our teachers and parents and everybody for working together. It really makes me feel good to be able to go outside the school here and see the future spot for the new elementary school. I think that's been a long time coming and being able to go out there and look at something has been very very positive.

**Jason Hicks:** It's very good to be back in school. To hear the little stories about telling the little boy not to eat his food as he got on the bus and all those kinds of things and just being glad to be back in the building. I don't know what I'd have done if I would have been holed up for about three months when I was that age. You know a couple of days of snow was pretty bad so I know how excited they were to be back in there. I'd also like to think about our teachers, what they're going through, and the bus drivers. Probably not any teachers are going to hear this because they are on screencastify, loom or are putting something in google classroom and they really don't have time right now to be watching this but I know how hard they're working and I've seen the anxiety and stress and the learning curve that they've had to try to get ready for these virtual things. I really commend them on all the safety protocols that are in place that they've got to go through. You know, it's going to get better, it's going to get easier, we will just keep at it. thank you guys

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**Damon Rasnick:** I would certainly echo all that has been said and to say for all the bus drivers and cooks and custodians and the teachers and everybody else the coaches everybody that's been going on with the work for our students. I certainly got to see this in operation with my two grandchildren. I saw the look on their faces I haven't seen for a few months. I must say that every teacher that spoke there in the virtual classroom handled it so perfectly. That couldn't have been designed any better by any expert in this country. Their voices were polite and inviting and refreshing and exciting and everything else good about what I saw. It certainly is not easy on either end of that. I thought about all the parents that maybe like me to a certain degree challenge technology, your eyes don't work the same as they were when you were younger neither your ears, but the kids catch on quicker. The smaller children in particular I do hope there's somebody out there that can help them a little. It's not so important I guess exactly how it is set up; it is just the quality of the people that set it up and actually run the thing. It's a big deal for these kids and the teachers too, and I just wish them all the best.

**Jamie Hackney:**

There is a lot going on with this meeting, with our school system in general. I am very appreciative of Quesenberry's making the trip up here tonight. It was nice to step outside and get a visual of things that they are working on. I guess some of the numbers are concerning for me, the same concerns I've had all along relating to what we're going to be able to do up here on this campus. So we're looking at 62,000 ft.<sup>2</sup> of building you know the current building that we have Sandlick is over 75,000 ft.<sup>2</sup> so were actually building a building 13,000 ft.<sup>2</sup> smaller school up here with the hope someday of bringing all the schools up here may be a very long time before we're able to realize that. I don't know how the projections will be on that. There's a lot of things to look at, a lot of numbers. As far as getting back to starting school I echo what everybody else is saying. It's exciting to be back in school. There's a lot of challenges that we are facing. I commend Mrs. Robinson and the Central Office Staff and all of our staff. I've always been appreciative of educators as far back as I can remember, but I think this week I may be more appreciative than I ever have been, with all the new things we're expecting them to learn. I think Mr. Hicks said it best, it makes a lot of sense that they may learn, our teachers may learn as much or more than our students this year. The way that they're handling it has been very professional. I am very proud of a lot of her parents I've heard from and our kids. They went into this, and a lot of people didn't know up to the first day of school. They were like how is it going to be? We didn't have orientation, where am I supposed to go? With the kids and parents and all the feedback I've gotten it's been great. They've been very appreciative of their staff and I just want to say thanks to everybody.

- VII. Closed Session, Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A of the Code of Virginia,** there will be a closed session meeting for the purpose of discussing: Employment issues relating to discussion or consideration of specific individuals for employment as a teacher at Ridgeview Middle School, transfer of a part-time Special Education Teacher from RMS to EES, Substitutes, Coaches, FMLA request, resignations, post/advertise for Speech Therapist, Bus Drivers, and regarding the retirement request of a teacher pursuant to section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia; and

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1. Discussion and consideration of JEG Exclusions and exemptions from school attendance, Homeschool approvals, pursuant to section 2-23711(A) (2)
2. Discussion and consideration of the terms of a potential interim agreement with the Quesenberry/OWPR/Lane Group for the construction of new elementary school involving the investment of public funds pursuant to a PPEA procurement where competition and bargaining are involved, where the financial interest of the school system would be adversely affected if these discussions were made public initially pursuant to 2. 2-3711 (A) (6) of the Code of Virginia; and
3. To consult with legal counsel and receive briefings by staff members pertaining to actual litigation with the Board of Supervisors and IDA regarding the location of the proposed new elementary school pursuant to section 2. 2-3711 (A) (7) of the Code of Virginia.

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and second by Rick Mullins; the Board convened in closed session.

*Vote results*

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

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

*Vote results*

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



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### VII. BOARD ACTION

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and second by Damon Rasnick; the adoption of the resolution relating to new school construction in the form presented passed with a 4-1 vote.

*Vote results*

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Aye:	4	Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Jason Hicks, Damon Rasnick,
No:	1	Jamie Hackney
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast	0	

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and second by Jason Hicks; the exclusions and exemptions from school attendance and Homeschool approvals were approved as presented.

*Vote results*

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

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and second by Jamie Hackney; the personnel recommendations were approved as presented.

*Vote results*

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

Coaches

Substitutes

- Glender Gale Edwards, Cook

Transfers

- Barbara Wood, Part Time Special Education Teacher- from RMS to EES

Resignations

- Courtney Sutherland, Language Pathologist - Ervinton and Sandlick Elementary
- Whitney Turner, Part-Time Special Edu. Teacher - Ervinton Elementary
- Miranda White, English Teacher - RMS
- Megan Beverly, Part-Time Aide - Clintwood Elementary
- Megan Smith, Part-Time Aide - RMS
- Lisa Stanley, Part-Time Aide - RMS
- Esther Jean Hamilton, Bus Driver and Part-Time Janitor - RMS
- Kaytlin Osborne, Part-Time Aide - Sandlick Elementary

FMLA - Teresa Edwards, Tonya Baker

Retirement - David Vanover

Employment Recommendations- Chris Fleming, Math Teacher, RMS

Post/Advertise, Speech Therapist, Bus Driver, Bus Driver - Clintwood Area Bus #1

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**VIII. Adjournment: 8:13 p.m.**

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and second, by Jamie Hackney; the meeting was adjourned. All votes aye.

Approved: September 23, 2020

***Dr. Lurton Lyle, Chairman***

Dr. Lurton Lyle, Chairman

***Tonya Baker, Clerk***

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Tonya Baker, Clerk