

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MONTROSS, VIRGINIA**  
**BOARD MINUTES**  
**June 12, 2023**

The Westmoreland County School Board met in regular session on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gerald B. Roane Center for Excellence Building, Montross, Virginia.

Present:

Mr. Ralph Fallin, Chair

Ms. Iris Lane, Vice Chair

Mrs. Katherine Lewis, Member

Dr. Daniel Wallace, Member

Others Present:

Dr. Michael Perry, Superintendent

Ms. Cathy Rice, Deputy Superintendent

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Fallin, Chair. Mr. Fallin shared that Member, Mrs. Ramsey, would not be attending the meeting due to a prior commitment.

Board Member Dr. Wallace made a motion that the Board convene into closed session as provided in Section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia, for the purpose of discussing personnel matters dealing with specific personnel of the Westmoreland County School division pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(1) of the Code of Virginia. Board Member Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was reconvened into public meeting on the motion by Board Member Dr. Wallace and seconded by Board Vice Chair, Ms. Lane.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

The motion for the approval of the following certification was made by Board Member Dr. Wallace and seconded by Board Member Mrs. Lewis.

WHEREAS, the Westmoreland County School Board convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered. Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

### **Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**

Dr. Perry led the Board in prayer. Immediately following prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Chair, Mr. Fallin stepped out of the meeting momentarily. Board Vice Chair, Ms. Lane continued the meeting in his absence.

### **Statement of Mission and Statement**

Dr. Wallace read the Westmoreland County Public Schools' mission and vision statements to the public.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Dr. Wallace, made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Kathy Lewis. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

### **Delegations/Presentations**

#### **Attendance Recognition**

Dr. Perry shared the attendance recognition for May. The school with the highest student attendance was Washington District Elementary School with an average percentage present of 95.51%.

Board Chair, Mr. Fallin, returned and resumed presiding over the meeting.

#### **Character Trait Honorees**

Ms. Rice presented the Character Trait honorees for the month of May and the trait of Dependability. Students recognized this month included Amirah Tate in grade five at Cople Elementary School; Students in Ms. Taylor Wood's fifth grade class at Washington District Elementary School; Mackensie Boswell in grade eleven at Westmoreland High School; and Amar'e Thomas in grade six at Montross Middle School.

#### **Montross Middle School Community Partnerships**

Ms. Segar shared highlights of the Community Partnerships at Montross Middle School. The highlights showcased student participation in activities that provided hands on learning.

## **Washington District Elementary Scenario Writer**

Mr. Bathgate shared that all fourth and fifth graders participated in scenario writing for Future Problem Solvers. He announced that Eliza Scherm completed her project and won first place in Virginia.

## **Open Public Comments**

Mr. Bowen shared that the boys Soccer team made it to the State finals. They lost four to one. Mr. Bowen stated that the team had worked hard this year and that he is very proud of the team and their accomplishments.

## **Consent Agenda**

Dr. Wallace made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Lewis seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; and Dr. Wallace, Aye.

## **Action Items**

### **Donations/School Gifts**

Dr. Perry presented information regarding school donations. Dr. Wallace made the motion to accept the donations. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lane.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

## **Approval of 2023 Federal Applications**

Ms. Rice shared that the applications for federal funds must be submitted to the Virginia Department of Education for approval annually. She presented the applications for Title IA, Title IC, Title IIA, Title III, Title IVA, and Title VB for approval. Ms. Rice share the amount of anticipated funding, as well as the planned uses for these funds. Ms. Lane made the motion to approve the 2023 applications for federal funds. Dr. Wallace seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye.

## **Information Items**

### **COSSBA Presentation**

Ms. Lane shared several professional development opportunities that she has attended. She attended the National Equity Forum which is focused on rural education. She attended the Advocacy Institute which is focused on legislative and congressional advocacy. Ms. Lane attended the initial COSSBA National Conference in Tampa, Florida. She shared that there were a lot of breakout sessions on numerous topics.

## **Division Website Overview**

Chris Evans, Director of Technology, shared that the division's new website is a "work in progress". The new URL is wmlcps.org. Mr. Evans demonstrated website navigation and provided information about changes and updates that have been made to date.

## **Update on Strategic Plan Goal 2**

Dr. Perry shared that Strategic Plan Goal 2 is predominantly instructional. The ultimate measure for this goal will be the accreditation status which will be evidenced through student assessments. He shared plans to meet strategy one – engage all students in ... student centered learning. Activities and facsimiles were shared for meeting strategy two – expanding the integration of reading and writing across the curriculum. It was demonstrated how counselors, programs, and CTE courses address strategy five – ensure all students have an actionable plan ... for post-secondary goals ... It was shown how technology equipment is used to address strategy six – increase students effective use of technology. Courses and programs were shared that address strategy seven – expanded course offerings and work experiences.

## **School Resource Officer Memorandum of Understanding**

Dr. Perry shared the Memorandum of Understanding for the county and school system. Ms. Kim Simon, a former SRO, has continued to help in keeping the MOU updated.

## **VSBA Policy Updates**

Ms. Rice shared the May 2023 VSBA policy updates for first review. She highlighted three of the policies, in particular. The first policy, AF, contains a new section on the new Virginia Literacy Act. The other two policies are optional. Policy BDDL relates to electronic participation in Board Committee meetings. Policy BCEA relates to a Discipline Committee. The Board will need to determine whether or not to adopt the optional policies.

## **Facility Report**

Dr. Perry shared an update of the "To Do List" and Punch List for Westmoreland High School. The work on the canopy and outside concrete is underway. Key staff will be trained on the controls for the theater and gym. Vape detectors have been installed at Westmoreland High School and Montross Middle School. A meeting has been held to discuss the logistics of having Westmoreland High School serve as a polling precinct.

## **Upcoming Events**

Dr. Perry shared upcoming events for Board members.

- July 13, 2023: VSBA Conference on Education – Richmond
- August 4, 2023: Opening Convocation 2023 – WHS

- September 21, 2023: VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference – Chesterfield
- September 25, 2023: State of the Schools 2023 – WHS – 5:00 p.m.

### **School Board Member Comments**

Ms. Lane shared that Westmoreland County Public Schools will be hosting next year's VSBA Regional Forum. It will be held at Westmoreland High School on March 5, 2024. Mrs. Kathleen Bean is the new Regional Chair.

Ms. Lane announced that she was resigning from the School Board effective July 1, 2023.

### **Date & Time of Next Board Meeting**

Regular School Board Meeting will be held on Monday, July 17, 2023 at 5 p.m. (Executive Closed Session) and 6:00 p.m. (Open Session).

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Dr. Wallace and seconded by Ms. Lane to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: 4 Ayes/0Nays; Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Aye; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Dr. Wallace, Aye