

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MONTROSS, VIRGINIA**  
**BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**June 6, 2023**

The Westmoreland County School Board met for a work session on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 5:00 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  
Mrs. Sandra Ramsey, Member

Others Present:

Dr. Michael Perry, Superintendent  
Ms. Cathy Rice, Deputy Superintendent

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Fallin, Chair.

Mr. Fallin, Board Chairman, shared that Dr. Wallace, Board Member, would not be attending this meeting.

### **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

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

### **New Business**

#### **Community Engagement Discussion**

The Board engaged in a robust discussion on community engagement. Mr. Fallin, Board Chairman, opened the discussion with his thoughts on Town Hall meetings. He stated that there should be guidelines that would address the use of bad language and questions regarding personnel. Mr. Fallin asked Board Members what they thought about a Town Hall meeting.

Mrs. Lewis, Board Member, asked about the limitations to Board answers to questions. She stated if there are limits what is the point of having the meeting. She stated that she does not want the discussion to be limited.

Mrs. Ramsey, Board Member, stated she was against having a Town Hall meeting at this time. Mrs. Ramsey said she would rather do something focusing on the positive things happening in the schools.

Ms. Lane, Board Vice Chairman, said she would like to do some research on what other school divisions do as part of their Community Engagement; Town Meeting, Communication Forum, etc.

Mrs. Ramsey, Board Member, suggested holding a Meet and Greet with School Board Members.

Ms. Lane, Board Vice Chairman, suggested waiting until after the State of the Schools being held on September 25, 2023.

All Board members agreed to wait until later to discuss this further.

### **Strategic Plan Update – Goal 1**

Mr. Fallin, Board Chairman, asked Board members if they had any suggestions for changes or updates to Goal 1 of the Strategic Plan.

Mrs. Lewis asked if the “signing bonuses” were for all employees or just teachers. Ms. Rice clarified that the “signing bonuses” were for teachers only. Mrs. Lewis suggested changing the first strategy to say “includes signing bonuses for hard-to-staff positions” to “includes signing bonuses for hard-to-staff teachers”.

Ms. Lane stated that each strategy needs an indicator to show what was done to accomplish the strategy. Ms. Lane asked what is done to accomplish strategy two? She identified the Pennsylvania Recruiting Trip as an “intentional indicator”. Ms. Lane shared that the Board had discussed adopting a small college and sending care packages to the students. This would be an “innovative indicator”.

All Board members stated they do not want to make any changes to the strategies. They would like to add the actions taken to support the strategies.

### **Executive Closed Session**

A motion was made by Board Vice Chairman, Ms. Lane and seconded by Board member, Mrs. Ramsey, to go into Executive Closed Session. The motion was carried unanimously.

Board Member Mrs. Ramsey made a motion that the Board reconvene 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 Vice Chairman Ms. Lane seconded the motion.

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

### **Closed Session Verification**

The motion for the approval of the following certification was made by Board Member Mrs. Ramsey 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; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye.

### **Action Items**

Board Chairman, Mr. Fallin asked for a motion for personnel reappointment 06-06-01. Board member, Mrs. Ramsey made the motion not to reappoint 06-06-01. The motion was seconded by Board member, Mrs. Lewis.

Voice Vote: Mr. Fallin, Aye; Ms. Lane, Abstained; Mrs. Lewis, Aye; Mrs. Ramsey, Aye

### **Personnel Appointments and Resignations**

Board member, Mrs. Lewis, made the motion to approve all appointments and resignations. Board Vice Chairman, Ms. Lane, seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **School Board Comments**

There were no comments.

### **Adjournment**

Board member, Mrs. Ramsey, made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Board member, Mrs. Lewis. The motion carried unanimously.