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## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE ALLEGHANY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

October 20, 2008

The Alleghany County School Board held its regular meeting on October 20, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at Callaghan Elementary School.

PRESENT: Suzanne T. Adcock; Stacey P. Bryant; Randall S. Tucker, Chairman; and Michael L. Whitehead. Also present: Robert P. Grimesey, Superintendent/Clerk; and Lorie C. Bess, Deputy Clerk.

ABSENT: T. Troy Barbour; Robert A. Fridley; and David W. Halsey, Vice Chairman

Chairman Tucker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The call to order was followed by a moment of silence and the recitation of the *Pledge of Allegiance* led by Anthony Clarke and the school pledge led by Shane Urban.

(09-95) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2008 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: That the Board approve the minutes of the September 15, 2008, regular meeting.

MOTION: Mrs. Bryant

SECOND: Ms. Adcock

VOTE: Unanimous

(09-96) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2008 WORK SESSION

MOTION: That the Board approve the minutes of the September 27, 2008 work session.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Mrs. Bryant

VOTE: Unanimous

### COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

(09-97) OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME BY NANCY MOGA, PRINCIPAL, CALLAGHAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mrs. Moga read the following statement: *"Welcome to the greatest school in the universe! This is the 9th school board meeting to be held here. The school building is 44 years old. We are grateful to the Alleghany County School Board and the citizens of Alleghany County for providing a comfortable, updated, modern building in which students enjoy learning each day. This summer we had security cameras installed and our parking lot was resurfaced. We appreciate Mr. Rice's expertise in accomplishing these projects. Your supper this evening was served by Debbie Rose and Elizabeth Thompson. This is our 9th year of full accreditation according to Virginia standards and 5th year making AYP as set by federal benchmarks for NCLB. Congratulations to our students and parents. Those present, please stand. These parents represent 97% of the parents who attended the August Open House, the 57% that attended the September grade level Open House, and 78% who held a conference with the teachers 12 days ago. And, 43% of our students had perfect attendance for the first six weeks including arriving on time and staying all day! All of our teachers are highly qualified. 71% have earned their Master's degree. One more teacher expects to complete her work on a Master's degree in the next year, and three more have started. All of our assistants are highly qualified. With our support staff of drivers, custodians, cafeteria workers, and*

*therapists, we have 59 adults scheduled to work here all or some part of each week. Staff members, please stand. You are an extended part of our Callaghan family. So welcome home, and let me know what I can do to help your meeting operate smoothly."*

(09-98) REMARKS BY MELANIE DAWSON, PRESIDENT OF THE CALLAGHAN ELEMENTARY PTA

Ms. Dawson welcomed everyone to Callaghan Elementary School. She stated the focus for the PTA is to bring families together and in an effort to accomplish this task, the PTA will continue to host Family Fun Friday's and other activities. She thanked the Board for their dedication and for the renovations that have taken place at the school.

(09-99) SCHOOL BOARD COMMENDATIONS

23 CALLAGHAN STUDENTS WHO EARNED AT LEAST ONE PERFECT 600 SCORE ON THEIR SPRING 2008 SOL ASSESSMENTS

Mrs. Bryant and Mrs. Moga presented certificates to Erica Aleshire, Carry Ailstock, Katie Boggs, Wilson Birchfield, Anthony Clarke, Tyler Cline, Robert Cook, Atlanta Dial, James Graham, Zane Gray, Christopher Hamilton, Sarah Kelley, Thomas Koonce, Jacob McDowell, Kara Myers, Marlee Parker and Shane Urban. Travis Anderson, Hunter Gibson, Donovan Givens, Chase Graham, Rachel Grant, and Leroy Meadows were not present to accept their certificates.

OUTSTANDING STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS OF SIX PILLARS OF CHARACTER COUNTS

Ms. Adcock and Ms. Moga presented a certificate to Tia McDaniel for outstanding demonstration of the Six Pillars of Character Counts.

FFA COMPETITIONS AT THE VIRGINIA STATE FAIR

Mr. Whitehead and Kenny Higgins presented a certificate to John Fury, AHS agriculture student, for honors earned during the FFA competitions at the Virginia State Fair. Logan Sartain was not present to accept his certificate.

(09-100) VSBA ACADEMY AWARDS

Dr. Grimesey presented a Certificate of Recognition to Stacey Bryant for participation in the Virginia School Boards Association. David Halsey was recognized with an Award of Excellence in absentia.

(09-101) SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND REPORTS

Ms. Suzanne Adcock

Ms. Adcock thanked Mrs. Moga for her hospitality and for the meal. She also thanked Ms. Dawson for her remarks. She then congratulated Tia McDaniel, John Fury, and all the SOL students for their accomplishments.

Mr. Mike Whitehead

Mr. Whitehead congratulated the SOL students stating, "You can't get any better than perfect". He noted this is his 11<sup>th</sup> and final year serving on the Board and thanked Mrs. Moga for the privilege to work with her. He added he is very proud of all the schools.

Mrs. Stacey Bryant

Mrs. Bryant also thanked Mrs. Moga for hosting the meeting. She complimented Libby Pazdera on her teacher presentation. She congratulated all the students for their SOL accomplishments.

Mr. Randy Tucker

Mr. Tucker thanked the parents, grandparents, teachers, and all those who support the students. He added he is proud that the Board has been giving so many commendations to students who have perfect scores on their SOL's. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE**

(09-102) PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION: That the Board approve the payment of bills, as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Mrs. Bryant

VOTE: Unanimous

(09-103) BUDGET REPORT

Dr. Grimesey stated the material that was provided was for information purposes. There were no questions or comments from the Board.

School Operating Fund	\$812,440.39
School Textbook Fund	\$420,914.17
Alleghany Foundation Nursing Grant	\$66,398.00
Governor's School	\$0
Construction	\$0
Scholarship	\$82,689.08
Alleghany Foundation Mental Health Initiative	\$16,700.43
Alleghany Foundation CMS Recreational Facilities	\$0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$1,399,142.07</b>

(09-104) SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 STUDENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Ingrid Barber, Director of Budget and Finance, presented the Board with information regarding student membership. She provided a breakdown of student membership by grade level and individual school. She reported that student membership as of September 30, 2008 was 2,813. Following Mrs. Barber's presentation, Dr. Grimesey provided an update on the potential budget impact of the declining student membership. He said the decline is driven primarily by smaller kindergarten classes replacing larger graduating classes. He noted that the September 30, 2008 membership total is 39 students below the enrollment that served as the basis for the current year budget. As a result, he said the school division may anticipate state revenue for 2008-2009 to be \$236,301 less than had been projected. He added that the deficit in funds budgeted for heating oil and vehicle fuel now stands at \$259,000 following Congress's approval of a four-year extension of the "Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self Determination Act." Dr. Grimesey said the act provides an additional \$41,000 in federal revenue that may be applied to the heating oil and vehicle fuel deficit, which was \$300,000 previously. Dr. Grimesey then projected next year's student membership to be 2,751, which will be 62 students below this current membership. Such a reduction may result in another decrease in state funding of at least \$375,658. He said the total potential budget reduction for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 could be \$870,959. Dr. Grimesey reaffirmed his confidence that the current year shortfalls can be balanced by postponing and deferring capital projects and high-end maintenance projects. However, he noted that Governor Tim Kaine is still anticipated to propose reductions to public education funding in his 2009-2010 budget. Coupled with Alleghany County's rising fuel costs and its declining student enrollment, Dr. Grimesey said the School Board still should anticipate making many difficult budget decisions in the coming months.

(09-105) APPROVAL OF BUDGET DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR & DESIGNATION OF 6:00 P.M., MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2008 AS DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON 2009-2010 BUDGET

Ingrid Barber presented for approval to Dr. Grimesey and the School Board the proposed 2009-2010 budget calendar. She also informed them of the date of the public hearing.

MOTION: That the Board approve the budget calendar and designation of 6:00 p.m., Monday, December 15, 2008 as the date for the public hearing on the 2009-1010 budget, as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Mrs. Bryant

VOTE: Unanimous

(09-106) DESIGNATION OF SCHOOL BOARD LIASON(S) TO ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Ingrid Barber requested that two School Board members be appointed to serve on the budget committee. Hearing no objection from Board members, Chairman Tucker deferred this item to the November 17, 2008 Board meeting.

(09-107) SCHOOL ACTIVITY FUND AUDIT REPORTS

Ingrid Barber provided the Board a report of the school activity and cafeteria fund audits. She commented that since she has been in her role for the past four years, the schools and cafeteria staffs have once again done a fine job in the overall good management of their finances. She complimented the cafeteria staff, secretaries, bookkeepers, and principals. She reported that other than a few minor recommendations, there were no major audit findings.

(09-108) CAFETERIA REPORT

Keven Rice, Director of Administrative Services, reported that the cafeteria fund net cash balance at the end of September was \$210,882 which represents an improvement over September 2007 of \$71,420 or 51.23%. Mr. Rice also noted that meal participation for September was up 10.3% over the previous year.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

(09-109) CALENDAR INFORMATION

Dr. Grimesey reminded Board members of the following upcoming meetings:

-6:00 p.m. Monday, October 27 – Work session to analyze efficiency review and conduct other planning activities at Central

-6:00 p.m. Monday, November 17 – Regular monthly meeting at Gleason Forum Hall, Mountain View Elementary School.

(09-110) RESOLUTION DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 16-22, 2008 AS AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

MOTION: That the Board approve the resolution as presented.

MOTION: Mrs. Bryant

SECOND: Mr. Whitehead

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ms. Adcock – YES

Mr. Halsey - ABSENT

Mr. Barbour – ABSENT

Mr. Tucker - YES

Mrs. Bryant – YES

Mr. Whitehead - YES

Mr. R. Fridley – ABSENT

4 -YES

3 -ABSENT

0-NO

(09-111) ADOPTION OF SCHOOL BOARD GOALS FOR 2008-2009

Dr. Grimesey provided a report on the School Board's September 27 work session. He noted that the School Board met its policy obligations for conducting an annual evaluation and engaging in annual in-service training. He restated the two goals that the School Board established for 2009-2010 and he recommended their approval. The goals included: (1.) Make a decision about a plan to renovate the current Alleghany High School; and (2.) Conduct a study to determine per-pupil cost measures that can be used by the School Board for management of decisions associated with declining enrollment and decreased state revenues.

MOTION: That the Board approve the 2009-2010 School Board goals as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Ms. Adcock

VOTE: Unanimous

(09-112) FINAL REPORT ON VIRGINIA ON-TIME GRADUATION RATE

Fred Vaughan, Director of Student Services, reported to the Board that the Alleghany High School's On-Time Graduation Rate for the class of 2008 was 83%. The Board was also presented with comparative data with the division's proximity and index cohort group. In both cases, Alleghany High School falls in the mid-range of these groups.

(09-113) FINAL REPORT ON STATE ACCREDITATION STATUS OF ALLEGHANY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Sarah Campbell, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, reported on the accreditation status of the schools. She noted that all schools had met the performance benchmarks for 2008-2009 and had been certified as Fully Accredited. Dr. Campbell. In addition, Dr. Campbell explained that 34 of the 38 performance benchmarks, or 89%, required for full accreditation status had been met by pass rates that exceeded 85%.

(09-114) REPORT ON VIRGINIA PRESCHOOL INITIATIVE PARTNERSHIP WITH YMCA

Vickie Kerns, Associate Executive Director of the Alleghany Highlands YMCA, presented the annual report about the 4-Star Program to the Board. The 4-Star Program is funded by the Virginia Preschool Initiative and the Alleghany Foundation with support from Alleghany County Public Schools to provide quality preschool experience to four year olds. After an additional pilot grant last year, the VPI portion of the program has 42 students. The entire preschool program for three and four year olds has 105 students.

(09-115) ADOPTION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM MATERIALS

Dr. Elizabeth Heath, Supervisor of Special Education, presented the recommendation made by the Early Childhood Special Education Curriculum Selection Committee for the Board's review and approval. The curriculum is one of the requirements for participating in the Inclusive Placement Opportunities for Preschoolers grant that was awarded to Alleghany County and Covington City Schools. Dr. Heath explained that the committee reviewed curriculums

approved by the state as meeting state standards. The committee selected the Houghton Mifflin Early Childhood Education Curriculum for adoption. The curriculum will be supplemented with selected items from the Little Treasures Curriculum and the Creative Curriculum, both also approved by the state.

MOTION: That the Board approve the Houghton Mifflin Curriculum for Early Childhood Education, as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Mrs. Bryant

VOTE: Unanimous

(09-116) ANNUAL JACKSON RIVER GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL REPORT

Mary Jane Mutispaugh, Supervisor of Instruction, presented the annual report for Jackson River Governor's School. She reported that there are 15 Alleghany High School students participating this year. The new director, Mike Hall, began working in August and JRGS students are off to an enthusiastic beginning. She added the August 29 open house was well attended.

(09-117) BI-ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF SIX YEAR IMPROVEMENT PLAN: GOALS II & III

Fred Vaughan, Director of Student Services, provided a bi-annual assessment of the Six Year Improvement Plan's Goal 2; Character Development. Mr. Vaughan highlighted the division's efforts associated with obtaining a 100% graduation rate. The Board heard that the Student Graduation Team had staffed 24 cases from January 2008 through the end of the 2007-2008 school year. Of those cases, 18 students have graduated, obtained a GED, or remain enrolled in the division pursuing graduation requirements. Rob Carpenter, Director of Human Resources, reported on the progress of eight Human Resource Goals. Of note, Mr. Carpenter referenced Goal #2; the maintenance of competitive salary and benefit packages. Mr. Carpenter reported that Alleghany County Public Schools is consistently at the top or near the top among school divisions of similar size and wealth despite the fact that ACPS ranks 109 of the states 132 school divisions in our ability to pay for education and 10 among 132 school divisions in its effort to pay for education. Mr. Carpenter also referenced Goal #3, maintenance of an effective 2-way communication system with all employees. He reported that ACPS was recently recognized by the Virginia Educational Research Association as recipients of the Charles Edgar Glass Award for its commitment to the involvement of stakeholders input in program evaluation.

(09-118) DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS ITEMS

Mr. Rice recommended for approval the declaration as surplus certain school buses, passenger vehicles and lawn mowers. These items will be sold via sealed bid.

MOTION: That the Board approve the disposal of said surplus items, as presented.

MOTION: Ms. Adcock

SECOND: Mrs. Bryant

VOTE: Unanimous

(09-119) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND OPERATIONAL MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Mr. Rice presented the work request completion analysis report for September. He noted that completion rates were down due to catching up on the backlog from summer and the start of school. Mr. Rice also reported the contractor who installed the access control system at Clifton Middle School, First Witness, will be proceeding with installation of the same system at Falling Spring, Mountain View, and Sharon Elementary Schools as soon as their schedule permits.

FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

(09-120) 95 CMS LIFE SCIENCE STUDENTS TO NATIONAL AQUARIUM, BALTIMORE, MD, NOV. 19-21, 2008.

MOTION: That the Board approve 95 CMS Life Science students to the National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD, November 19-21, 2008

MOTION: Ms. Adcock

SECOND: Mrs. Bryant

VOTE: Unanimous

## POLICY REVISIONS

### (09-121) POLICY REVISIONS OR REGULATIONS RESULTING FROM SEPTEMBER 27, 2008 WORK SESSION

Dr. Grimesey stated the revisions seek to refine and clarify the School Board's procedures in response to their annual evaluation process held on September 27, 2008. Dr. Grimesey noted all proposed policies were included in the Board packet for review. There were no questions from the Board.

MOTION: That the Board approve the policy revisions, as recommended by the Superintendent.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Mrs. Bryant

VOTE: Unanimous

### (09-122) COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Grimesey stated the following material was provided in the packet for information purposes.

- Letter from Patricia I. Wright, Chief Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Parent Advisory Committee to the Superintendent
- Teacher Advisory Committee to the Superintendent
- Safe School Committee
- Classified Employee Advisory Committee to the Superintendent
- Alleghany County Board of Supervisors' resolution commending Alleghany County Public Schools' accomplishment of Adequate Yearly Progress

## **CLOSED SESSION**

### (09-123) CODE OF VIRGINIA: PERSONNEL 2.2-3711.A.1, STUDENT MATTERS 2.2-3711.A.2, REAL PROPERTY 2.2-3711.A.3 AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL AWARDS 2.2-3711.A.10.

MOTION: That the School Board enter closed session to discuss Personnel, Student Matters, Real Property, and Special Awards, as authorized by the Code of Virginia Sections 2.2-3711A.1, 2.2-3711.A.2, 2.2-3711.A.3, and 2.2-3711.A.10.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Mrs. Bryant

VOTE: Unanimous

TIME: 7:28 p.m.

MOTION: That the School Board return to open session from closed session.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Ms. Adcock

VOTE: Unanimous

TIME: 9:08 p.m.

## CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Chairman requests a motion to certify that to the best of each member's knowledge:

1. Only public business matters lawfully exempted from opening meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification applies; and
2. Only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the School Board.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Ms. Adcock

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ms. Adcock – YES

Mr. Barbour – ABSENT

Mrs. Bryant – YES

Mr. R. Fridley – ABSENT

4 -YES

Mr. Halsey - ABSENT

Mr. Tucker - YES

Mr. Whitehead - YES

3 -ABSENT

0-NO

TIME: 9:09 p.m.

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Chairman, Alleghany County School Board

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Clerk

**PERSONNEL****(09-124) PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

MOTION: That the Board approve the personnel actions as recommended by the Superintendent.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Mrs. Bryant

VOTE: Unanimous

**PUPIL PERSONNEL****(09-125) DISPOSITION OF SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION IN PUPIL PERSONNEL CASES #09-07, 09-08, AND 09-09.**

MOTION: That the Board approve the pupil personnel actions as recommended by the Superintendent.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Mrs. Bryant

VOTE: Unanimous

**OTHER BUSINESS****(09-126) ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: That the October 20, 2008 regular meeting of the Alleghany County School Board be adjourned.

MOTION: Mr. Whitehead

SECOND: Ms. Adcock

VOTE: Unanimous

TIME: 9:10 p.m.

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Chairman, Alleghany County School Board

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Clerk