

ESSEX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The Essex County School Board met in the Essex County School Board Room on January 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Present: Larry Bullis
Keren Ellis
Ray Whitaker
Carl Slaughter
Kim Hodges, Clerk
Joseph Melvin, Superintendent
Stephanie Bassett, Assistant Superintendent
Darnell Carter, Principal EHS
Robert Lukacevic, Assistant Principal EIS
Patrick Dispirito, Principal TES
Fontella Calhoun, Assistant Principal TES
Annette Thompson
Sharon Saunders
Erin Kelley
Rusty Carlton
Debra Emery
Antoinette Jones
Estelle Smith
Vanessa Burns
Mary Gillis
Florence Pollard
Denise Hammond
Cheri Cruz
Deanne Compton
Wilhelmenia Herren
Sandra Gladding
David Rector
Kim Rector
Roy Bray
Shirley Green
Marvin Wright
Valerie Taylor
Edith Moore
Robert Crowther

The superintendent called the organizational meeting to order.

Dr. Melvin opened the floor for nominations.

On a motion by Mrs. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved Larry Bullis as Board Chairman.

On a motion by Mr. Bullis, seconded by Mrs. Ellis, the Board approved Ray Whitaker as Vice Chairman.

On a motion by Mrs. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Whitaker the Board approved Kim Hodges as Clerk.

On a motion by Mrs. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Slaughter the Board approved Sharon Saunders as Deputy Clerk.

On a motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Whitaker, the Board approved Keren Ellis as Governor's School Representative.

On a motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Whitaker, the Board approved Keren Ellis as Legislative Representative.

On a motion by Mr. Whitaker, seconded by Mrs. Ellis, the Board approved Carl Slaughter as Northern Neck Technical Center Representative.

On a motion by Mr. Slaughter, seconded by Mr. Bullis, the Board approved the 2012 meeting schedule for the School Board remain the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Mrs. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved the consent agenda.

RESOLUTION FOR MARY GASKINS

Dr. Melvin read a resolution for Mary Gaskins (see attached).

On a motion by Mrs. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board adopted the resolution for Mary Gaskins.

GOOD NEWS FROM EHS

Mr. Carter informed the Board of the new inductees to the National Honor Society and the new clubs to be offered (i.e. cooking, safety, dance fitness, photography).

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Melvin informed the Board that the budget sub-committee is in the process of drafting the 2012-2013 budget. He stated that the committee is considering a 3% pay increase. This would mean an \$800,000.00 deficit to the budget or a \$500,000.00 deficit without the pay increase. Another factor to consider is the VRS rate increase. He explained that all hinges on the General Assembly's decision.

SCHOOL BOARD'S REPORT

The Board had no report.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Valerie Taylor spoke on behalf of the Essex Education Association. She thanked the Board for the 1% increase this past summer. She mentioned that no raise has been given in the past 3 years and asked that the Board please consider a pay increase in next year's budget.

Mr. Whitaker applauded the members for their efforts and stated that they do deserve an increase. Mrs. Ellis asked that all citizens write to the General Assembly and voice their concerns. Mr. Slaughter asked that they also take the message to the local Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Roy Bray expressed his concern about the Board's decision on a discipline case.

Mrs. Kim Rector spoke on accountability and stated that policies should be reviewed long before an incident occurs.

Mr. Rusty Carlton asked what qualified those persons chosen for the Policy & Procedure Committee. Dr. Melvin stated that the committee members were made up from a variety of areas (i.e. community leaders, parents, educators, law enforcement, and various local organizations).

Mr. Bullis explained the steps taken to replace the seat vacated by the death of Mary Gaskins.

Mr. Robert Crowther asked if the Board had an attorney. Dr. Melvin stated that the Board does have an attorney.

Mrs. Deanne Compton questioned the makeup of the Policy & Procedures Committee.
Mrs. Ellis stated that the Board would provide the policy on committee's at the next regular meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion by Mrs. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Whitaker, the Board went into closed session for the following purposes:

2.1-344.17	Personnel
2.1-344.18	Pupil Personnel
2.1-344.7.1	Legal

REGULAR SESSION

On a motion by Mrs. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Whitaker, the Board returned to regular session.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, the Essex County School Board had convened a closed meeting of this pursuant to an affirmative record vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of information Act and

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-344(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this School Board that such closed meeting was conducted with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Essex County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from 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.

VOTE

AYES	4
NAY	0

Clerk/Deputy Clerk (or Supt.) of Essex County

On a motion by Mr. Whitaker, seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved the home school request for student #01022012-IID-1.

On a motion by Mr. Whitaker, seconded by Mrs. Ellis, the Board adjourned.

Chairman