

## ESSEX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

The Essex County School Board met in the Essex County School Board Room on June 11, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Present: Larry Bullis  
Ray Whitaker  
Keren Ellis  
Liz Martin  
Carl Slaughter  
Kim Hodges, Clerk  
Joseph Melvin, Superintendent  
Darnell Carter, Principal EHS  
Angela Gross, Assistant Principal EHS  
Andrea Roane, Principal EIS  
Patrick Dispirito, Principal TES  
Fontella Calhoun  
Annette Thompson  
Sharon Saunders  
John Clickener  
Jon Barnes  
Gina Powell  
Jane Kurczak  
Jill Gilbert  
Jennifer Gilbert  
Jennifer Lyons  
Edith Moore  
Maureen Dunn  
Ruth Tobey  
Peggy Rennolds  
Veronica Donahue  
Erin Kelley  
Joellen Andrews  
Peggy Wilson  
Jacob Plummer  
Dorothea Thomas  
Johnnie Thomas  
Princess Dockery  
Pauline Banks

**CLOSED SESSION**

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

2.1-344.1	Personnel
2.1-344.2	Pupil Personnel
2.1-344.7.1	Legal

**REGULAR SESSION**

On a motion by Mr. Whitaker and seconded by Mrs. Ellis, 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** 5

**NAY** 0

---

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

On a motion by Mrs. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Whitaker, the Board approved the resignations of Maryemma Zayas, Robert Lukacevic and Erin Lopes effective June 30, 2012.

On a motion by Mrs. Martin, seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved the retirement of Kim Hodges effective September 30, 2012.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

The following was added to the agenda:

Teacher of the Year  
Summer Literacy

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. John Clickener spoke on the Memorial Day celebration and praised the EHS band for its participation.

Mr. Plummer thanked Mr. Carter and Mrs. Gross for letting students participate in the voting process. He also thanked all teachers for the excellent job they performed the past school year.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**FUEL BID**

Dr. Melvin recommended James River Petroleum be awarded the fuel bid at fixed cost (see attached). He also recommended Noblett Oil be awarded the propane bid (see attached).

On a motion by Mr. Whitaker, seconded by Mrs. Martin, the Board approved the above recommendations.

**APPROVE POLICY EBAA-R**

On a motion by Mrs. Martin, seconded by Mr. Slaughter, the Board approved policy EBAA-R.

**ADOPT VRS MEMBER CONTRIBUTION RESOLUTION**

Dr. Melvin presented the resolution for Virginia Retirement System member contribution (see attached).

On a motion by Mrs. Martin, seconded by Mrs. Ellis, the Board approved the above resolution.

**RECOGNITION OF RETIREES**

Dr. Melvin presented the following plaques to retirees for their years of service in Essex County:

- Pauline Banks - 25 years
- Princess Dockery – 38 years
- Alicia Green – 13 years
- Clark Hewitt – 25 years
- Kim Hodges – 33 years
- Dorothea Thomas – 22 years
- James Warren – 8 years
- Peggy Wilson – 21 years

**TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

Mrs. Saunders presented Teacher of the Year certificates to the following:

Maureen Dunn (TES)  
Jill Gilbert (EIS)  
Joellen Andrews (EHS)

Mr. Whitaker thanked all for their dedicated service to Essex County Public Schools students.

**SUMMER LITERACY INITIATIVE**

Mrs. Dunn and Mrs. Tobey informed the Board that they presented a letter to local businesses asking for support for the summer literacy initiative. They received over 700 tote bags to give to students. The totes include such items as a reading log, books, nutrition activity book, etc.

**SUMMER SCHOOL 2012**

Dr. Melvin reported on summer school 2012 (see attached sheet).

**VSBA POLICY UPDATES**

Dr. Melvin presented VSBA policy updates for the Board to review (see attached).

**STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT DRAFT**

Dr. Melvin thanked the committee for their hardwork on the draft (see attached).

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Melvin thanked Mr. Carter and Mrs. Gross conducting a smooth graduation. He noted that 103 students graduated with 44 scholarships given. He also thanked the staff and maintenance department for contributing to a successful graduation.

**BOARD'S REPORT**

Mr. Slaughter mentioned that the renovation at EHS would start very soon.

Mr. Bullis thanked Mr. Clickener for his involvement in the veteran's ceremony. He also thanked Mr. Plummer for his acknowledgement of the dedication of the division's teachers. He agreed that the division has a good team and that the Board will plan a retreat to help improve the division. He thanked the teachers for another great year.

There will be a special called meeting held on June 26, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. in the school board meeting room.

Page Five  
Minutes

June 11, 2012  
Regular Session

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

---

Chairman

---

Clerk/Deputy Clerk