

## Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

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December 13, 2023

- I. ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER - 5:00 P.M.** The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Damon Rasnick, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

**Members in Attendance:** Chair, Damon Rasnick, Vice-Chair; Rick Mullins; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Jason Hicks; Jamie Hackney; Laura Taylor, Deputy Clerk; Haydee Robinson, Superintendent

### **Approval of Agenda:**

Following a motion by Jason Hicks and a second by Jamie Hackney, the Agenda was approved as presented.

#### *Vote results*

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Aye:	5 Damon Rasnick, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

## **II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Mr. Jamie Hackney** read the Public Comment Guidelines.

**Kathy Musick, Regional Representative, VPE-** Ms. Musick thanked the Board Members for all that they have done and thanked Dr. Lurton Lyle for his many years of service to the students and the teachers of Dickenson County.

**Shawn Tiller, DEA -** Mr. Tiller spoke about the Lobby Day that is coming up and informed the Board that it has been moved to February this year. Mr. Tiller spoke about Dr. Lurton Lyle's service to the Board and the great things he has done while on the Board.

## **III. CONSENT AGENDA**

Following Rick Mullins's motion and Dr. Lurton Lyle's second, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

#### *Vote results*

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Aye:	5 Damon Rasnick, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

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a. Approval of Minutes

- ❖ November 8, 2023
- ❖ November 29, 2023

b. Approval of Monthly Bills - School Operation Fund

Monthly Bills: Check # 885134- 885206= \$ 571,986.50

Monthly Payroll: Check # 390867-390900- \$536,043.89

c. School Activity Fund

- ❖ Informational Item

d. Approval of Field Trips

- ❖ Ridgeview Elementary School
  - 12/16/2023 Abingdon, Va. Pre-K-5th
- ❖ Ridgeview Middle School
  - 12/19/2023 Clintwood, Va. 6th
- ❖ Ridgeview High School
  - 12/01/2023 Bristol, Va. 9th
  - 12/14/2023 Clintwood, Va. 9th -12th

e. Approval of Bank Reconciliation Documents

f. New Elementary Construction Invoices

## IV. INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

### VSBA Conferences

January 22-23, 2024, VSBA Capital Conference

January 23, 2024, VSBA New School Board Member and Superintendent Orientation

## V. SUPERINTENDENT ROBINSON

### g. Good News from our Schools

- ❖ **Recognition of Students and Staff:**

- ❖ 2023 RHS Volleyball Team;
  - Head Coach: Holly Fleming and Assistant Coach:

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- ❖ 2023 - 2024 Scholastic Team:
  - Adrian White, Thomas Dingus
- ❖ DECA Club: Facilitator:
  - Mr. Chris Robinson
- ❖ Robotics Team:
  - Jessie Tiller, Shawn Tiller, and Chris Owens
- ❖ Carpentry Students:
- ❖ Agriculture and Hoop House Students:
  - Susan Wilder, Chris Owen
- ❖ Band Students
  - Jonathan McCullough
- ❖ Drama Students RHS Play - Queens by Kristen Doherty
- ❖ Devan Edwards, Carpentry Class
  - Gift to Board Members made by students in carpentry

### ❖ November 2023 Attendance and Enrollment Report

Mrs. Karen Martin, Compliance Director, presented the student attendance and enrollment for November 2023.

As of November 30, 2023, student enrollment was 1934 which includes (1) Enrolled Students in K - 12 including virtual students; (2) PK and Post Students, (3) 3- Year Old Program.

**The student enrollment includes K – 5th students, including virtual students, and percentages for each school:**

Clintwood Elementary School:	<u>274</u> : <u>92.94</u> %
Ridgeview Elementary School	<u>512</u> : <u>89.37</u> %
Ridgeview Middle School:	<u>450</u> : <u>90.85</u> %
Ridgeview High School:	<u>600</u> : <u>89.25</u> %
Pre-K Enrollment:	<u>60</u>
3-Year-Old Enrollment:	<u>20</u>
Post Grad Enrollment:	<u>18</u>

### **h. Construction Update on the New Addition to Ridgeview Elementary School**

Tim Burge, Construction Superintendent with Skanska, and Curtis Elswick, Senior Vice-President and Regional Executive with Skanska, presented an update on the construction of the new addition to Ridgeview Elementary School and on the Demolition Process at Sandlick Elementary School.

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### RVES New Addition

#### Budget & Procurement:

- Planning for furniture is in progress
- Low voltage cabling procurement in progress
- Procurement of phones, interactive boards and other classroom technology complete
- Project remains within budget



#### i. **Recognition of Dr. Lurton Lyle, Dickenson County School Board Member:**

Mr. Rasnick read the Dickenson County School Board Resolution Honoring Dr. Lurton B. Lyle.

Mrs. Robinson, Superintendent, Scott Mullins, School Board Attorney, and all School Board Members spoke about serving with Dr. Lyle.

#### j. **Proposed Process: Reorganizational Meeting for Dickenson County Board**

As per DCPS Policy BCA, at the first January meeting, we are required to reorganize the Board of Education each January. We want to use this opportunity for the School Board to discuss the process to determine if there are any changes desired by the School Board.

**Proposed Date for reorganization and regular January Meeting: January 22, 2024**

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and a second by Jason Hicks, the Reorganizational Meeting date was approved as presented.

#### *Vote results*

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Aye:	5 Damon Rasnick, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

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### k. Approval to Pay Invoices after December 13, 2023

Laura Taylor, Director of Business and Finance discussed the Accounts Payable and Payroll processing for December 2023 and requested approval to pay invoices after December 13, 2023.

Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and a second by Jamie Hackney, permission to pay invoices after December 13, 2023, was approved.

#### *Vote results*

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Aye:	5 Damon Rasnick, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Rick Mullins, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

## VI. BOARD COMMENT

**Dr. Lurton Lyle** - I had an appointment in Abingdon today. The only thing I thought about going there and coming back was what could I say after this? Earlier on someone asked me what was my Happiest time and my saddest time being on the Board. After some thought, the saddest time was the closing of Clintwood High School. The happiest time was opening Ridgeview High School. So you can see it's the same thing, my happy time and sad time was one. I have no regrets. Ridgeview led me to be voted off of the School Board. Ridgeview opening was one of the happiest times of my term on the school board. My support of consolidation led me to be voted off the board for four years. After it was opened I think everyone in the county became a Wolfpack fan. While talking about my part in this, Superintendent Haydee Robinson and School Board Attorney, Scott Mullins had a whole lot more to do with this happening than I did. I was supportive of it, but they did the groundwork or all of the work, from my point of view. It is hard to mention all the good times that happened during 30 years. Twenty-six years and six months on the board and four years voted off. It was well worth it, I have no regrets. I think we have a good replacement for my position. Thank you.

**Jamie Hackney** - I am very appreciative of what Ms. Taylor said and thank Mrs. Robinson for having all of the students here tonight. The academic participants, winners, and our volleyball team. It is very impressive with the band as well. Some very impressive competitions that they have been in. The record from the Academic Teams, the Robotic Team being here. It was just wonderful to see all those students. I enjoyed what the drama students said about the impact that was having on them. It's a good time to do that this time of year, at the end of the calendar year. It's a good time to recognize them and a good night to recognize once again all that Dr. Lyle has done, not just for this board but for the County. I look forward to working with Mr. Vanover. It is good to see you here tonight.

**Jason Hicks** - It was great to see all of the achievements of all of our students and all that they do and the many talents that they have. None of this would be possible without their efforts and support from their parents and guardians. And all of the work that our coaches and sponsors and

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teachers and everybody that puts into these kids. We are seeing the results of that. You can see that in Dickenson County we are a school system and our students are second to none in the state. It is very humbling to see that. I told somebody that the music was really really nice. I couldn't keep rhythm with beating this pen on the table so it's very impressive to see what those kids can do. The only I missed though was if you all could bring that robot sometime. I would love to see that. I just don't want to go up against the academic team at all. We live in a great community with some great people and we see that we are raising some great kids and some things that they are doing. Dr. Lyle thank you. You know you are an inspiration. I appreciate serving with the rest of you guys as well. We have a good board. I weigh you down a bit and I get long-winded but you are all a good board and I am really looking forward to Dave coming on the board and appreciate you being here. I know that you are going to be a great addition.

**Rick Mullins** - It was great to see all the successes of all of the students, all the coaches, and everybody that was here tonight. You have the DECA class, you have the Ridgeview Band, the robotics, carpentry, Chris Owens and the hoop house, and the drama class. I think what I am going to do is call over to some of the School Board Members in Wise County and tell them we get these really nice things that the carpentry people make and see if they can outdo that in Wise. We have so much to be thankful for. I can't help but think a decade ago, none of us was sitting here and none of this was possible but all of this came as a dream and that's what life's all about. We had the people to acquire that dream for the people in the community. We are so blessed.

**Dr. Lurton Lyle:** I would like to add one more comment. I wore my Ridgeview hat and my Clintwood Jacket as emblems of the same thing, my happy time and my sad time.

**Damon Rasnick** - I would hope that all this good news finds a way to get out into the public. I could not help but think about, especially with those younger kids, we have three grandchildren and when they have ball season, you have one playing in one place in the county another playing in Wise County, and another playing in another place in the county. It takes a whole crew to go out. You know with all the traveling and all the food and all the getting back home late and getting lessons and all this. Growing up we didn't have that kind of opportunity. Most of us the coach had to take us wherever we went. Most parents including mine didn't have an automobile that was suitable to drive. It is amazing what it takes to run this school and all these activities and to see the rewards and the accomplishments of all these people. The students and the teachers and the families. Every person in this entire county has to be affected in some way. In a good way with all of this. It is just amazing to me that sometimes the word doesn't get out in the way that I think it ought to. These teachers put in all this time extra and I know that there's maybe some extra money but that's not it. These kids do this for honor excellence and pride. That's the kind of thing we need to certainly make it contagious and forever. I think what was here showed us so much. Even among the things that we have sometimes, we seem short-handed. It's never been with confidence or with compassion or with respect to each other basically. I think that most people that I've worked with in

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my time have empathy. They knew what empathy meant. They knew what sympathy meant and they knew what respect meant and I have seen with my own eyes. With this group, a generation or two after my time. There is no one here who remembers a paddle. I don't think and they were used religiously in my time. That was how we kept order and that was just the way it was. I am certainly glad that it is gone. We have come a long way, our kids have come a long way, our community has come a long way and our County has come a long way. I am proud of Dickenson County and I am proud of its people. I certainly want the best for our kids in every way possible. I also remember the sad times that we sometimes face and how many families we've gotten in distress out there. Mr. Mullins told me he had nine bodies at the funeral home. I looked at the Clintwood site and they have several. I look at Haysi and they have several. I think of all those families and I think of the time of year and it breaks my heart. I certainly want everything good that can come to these kids to come to them in a good humble respectful manner and a confident manner. I hope the teacher and all the employees probably study the words empathy, sympathy, and respect and realize that good health is not just having the absence of illness or infirmity but it means that you have a complete state of mental, physical, social, and economic and I would say philosophical or maybe spiritual base to help carry you through this difficult world we are in. I am sure in some way our teachers and everybody that sees these kids touch on that somewhere through their lives. I certainly think about those people out there. We've got to realize a lot of people are struggling now in different ways. Just to have those kids come and show the good, it sure boosted my spirits and I am so proud of them.

### **VII. Closed Session, Pursuant to Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A of the Code of Virginia,** there will be a closed meeting for the purpose of:

- 1). Employment issues relating to discussion or consideration of specific individuals for employment as a Secretary/Bookkeeper, Part Time Aides, Substitutes, and FMLA, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A)
- 2.) To consult with legal counsel regarding the investment of public funds associated with school construction and consultation regarding actual or probable litigation, along with consultation regarding specific matters requiring legal advice pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (6) (7) and (8) of the Code of Virginia.

Following a motion by Rick Mullins and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle; the Board convened in Closed Session.

*Vote results*

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Aye:	5	Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Jamie Hackney, Jason Hicks
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	0	

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Following a motion by Jason Hicks and a second by Jamie Hackney; the board returned to open session.

### *Vote results*

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Aye:	5 Damon Rasnick, Rick Mullins, Dr. Lurton Lyle, Jason Hicks, Jamie Hackney
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

## Board Certification

### **Mrs. Robinson read the following certification for Closed Session:**

WHEREAS, the Dickenson County School Board has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and WHEREAS, section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this School Board that such a closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dickenson County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only the public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered.

### *Certification results*

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Certify:	5 Rick Mullins; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Damon Rasnick, Jason Hicks, Jamie Hackney
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

## Board Action:

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and a second by Jason Hicks, the employment recommendations were approved as presented in the closed session.

### *Vote results*

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Aye:	5 Rick Mullins; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Damon Rasnick, Jason Hicks, Jamie Hackney
No:	0
Abstain:	0
Not Cast:	0

## PERSONNEL/LEGAL

### **Substitutes**

Steven Villani

Lloyd Deel



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### **FMLA**

#### **Resignations**

Shawna Beavers    Part-Time Attendance Clerk    Ridgeview Middle School

#### **Employment Recommendations**

Michelle Turner	Ridgeview Elementary School	School Secretary/Bookkeeper
Savannah Owens	Ridgeview Elementary School	Long-Term Substitute Teacher
Kaitlyn Neeley	Ridgeview Elementary School	Part-Time Teacher Aide
Diana Stump	Ridgeview Elementary School	Part-Time Teacher Aide
Jenny Mullins	Clintwood Elementary School	Part-Time Teacher Aide
Krista Stapleton	Ridgeview Middle School	Part-Time Teacher Aide

### **VIII. Adjournment:8:09 p.m.**

Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and a second by Jamie Hackney, the meeting was adjourned.  
All-Aye.

Approved January 22,2024

***Jason Hicks***

Jason Hicks, Chair

***Tonya Baker***

Tonya Baker, Clerk