

**MINUTES**  
**SPECIAL CALLED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD**  
**June 5, 2020 (12:00 p.m.)**

**Meeting Held via Zoom**

On March 12, 2020, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam declared a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, in accordance with Va. Code § 2.2-3708.2(A)(3) and Acts of Assembly Chap. 1283 § 4-0.01(g), virtual School Board meetings held during the State of Emergency are limited to:

- addressing the public health emergency declared on March 12, 2020 (Va. Code § 44-146.17); and
- business that is necessary to continue school division operations and to discharge the School Board's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities.

Notice of any virtual School Board Meetings will be posted on the ACPS Calendar and on the School Board Meeting web page, where the public may link to join or watch live meetings. Virtual Special Called School Board Meetings may also be watched live in Alexandria on Comcast Channel 71. Video recordings and minutes for these meetings are posted online as soon as available after the meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

<b>BOARD</b>	Cindy Anderson
<b>MEMBERS:</b>	Veronica R. Nolan
	Meagan L. Alderton
	Ramee A. Gentry
	Jacinta Greene
	Margaret Lorber
	Michelle Rief
	Christopher A. Suarez
	Heather Thornton

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Dr. Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Susan Neilson, Shanel Hill, Clinton Page, Dr. Scott Joftus, Rudy Ruiz

**Call to Order**

**1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Anderson**

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. All members of the School Board were present at the start of the meeting.

**Moment of Silence**

**2. Observe a Moment of Silence**

Chair Anderson dedicated the moment of silence to ACPS families and those beyond who have suffered illness, loss or racial injustice. She asked that everyone rededicate themselves to work toward eliminating injustice and ensuring equity for all.

### **Adoption of Meeting Agenda**

#### **3. Adopt the Meeting Agenda for the June 5, 2020 Virtual Special Called School Board Meeting**

Ms. Greene moved to adopt the meeting agenda for the June 5, 2020 Virtual Special Called School Board Meeting. Ms. Alderton seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the meeting agenda for June 5, 2020 was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried. The vote was taken by roll call.

### **Communications & Addresses to the Board**

#### **4. Public Comments**

Ms. Missy Estabrook, Ms. Jodi Zand, Ms. Catherine Estes and Ms. Bridget Baker-White, ACPS parents and Cofounders of Parents for Safe Alexandria Schools, submitted written comments in honor of National Gun Violence Awareness Day. They did so to renew their commitment to the community partnership between ACPS and Parents for Safe Alexandria Schools. Their letter highlighted Wear Orange Weekend, which will be celebrated virtually this year, and the Be SMART program that encourages conversations and responsible actions at home to reduce gun violence.

Ms. Carrie Phillips, ACPS parent, submitted written comments about the 2025 Strategic Plan and applauded its acknowledgement of racism. She appreciated its focus on equity and asked for clarification in the theory of action area, as she did not see data-driven decision-making noted. She also asked about other areas of measurement.

Mr. Nathan Sleeter, ACPS parent, urged ACPS to follow the lead of the Minneapolis Public Schools and end the practice of police officers being assigned to schools. He stated that given the harm that police across the county have inflicted on black citizens, the presence of police officers will have a potentially negative effect on learning when schools reopen.

Mr. William Holley, ACPS parent, wrote to express his concerns about the 3.0 Continuity of Learning Summer Plan. He stated that the plan was rolled out before being presented or approved by the School Board, that it imposed authoritative requirements on students and only offered classes for students with fees.

### **Consent Calendar**

#### **5. FY 2020 Preliminary Financial Report ending April 30, 2020**

#### **6. Procurement Action: John Adams Roof Replacement**

#### **7. Locally-Awarded Verified Credit Policy: Proposed Revisions for SY 2019-2020 (Policy IKFA and Regulation IKFA-R)**

#### **8. Minutes for the December 19, 2019 and January 23, 2020 School Board Meetings, and the May 29, 2020 Virtual Special Called School Board Meeting**

Ms. Lorber moved to adopt the Consent Calendar. Ms. Greene seconded the motion.

The vote to adopt the Consent Calendar was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried. The vote was taken by roll call.

### **Items Pulled from the Consent Calendar**

No items were pulled from the Consent Calendar.

### **Old Business and Action Items**

#### **9. Adoption of the Final FY 2021-2030 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget**

Vice Chair Nolan moved to approve the FY 2021-2030 Capital Improvement Program Budget in the total amount of \$532,484,885, with \$95,089,100 in FY 2021 and that “the Superintendent is granted the authority to make the necessary minor changes to comply with the [intent of the] School Board.”

Ms. Alderton seconded the motion.

The vote to approve the Final FY 2021-2030 Capital Improvement Plan Budget was unanimous, 9-0. The vote was taken by roll call.

#### **10. Adoption of the Final FY 2021 Combined Funds Budget**

Vice Chair Nolan moved to approve the FY 2021 Combined Funds Budget as follows:

“Madam Chair, I move that the Alexandria City School Board approve the FY 2021 Combined Funds Budget as follows:

- The FY 2021 Operating budget in the amount of \$288,319,565 for both revenues and expenditures. This includes other financing sources and uses, as well as a planned use of general fund balance in the amount of \$4,839,337 and a transfer of \$1,716,473 to the Grants and Special Projects Fund. The Operating budget includes 2,425.09 FTEs and a total City appropriation of \$234,037,296.
- The FY 2021 Grants and Special Projects budget in the amount of \$20,495,202 for revenues and expenditures, including approximately \$3.70 million of federally-funded Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding. This also includes a transfer of \$1,716,473 from the Operating Fund to provide supplemental funding support to the Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) program. This budget includes a total of 98.75 FTEs.
- The FY 2021 School Nutrition Services budget totals \$10,961,612 for revenues and \$10,961,096 for expenditures. This budget includes a total of 125.00 FTEs.

The Superintendent is granted the authority to make the necessary minor changes to comply with the intent of the School Board. Additionally, the School Board authorizes the encumbrances remaining as of June 30, 2020 to carry forward from FY 2020 to FY2021 as an adjustment to the final budget.”

Ms. Alderton seconded the motion.

The vote to approve the Final FY 2021 Combined Funds Budget was unanimous, 9-0. The motion carried. The vote was taken by roll call.

Mr. Dominic Turner, Chief Financial Officer, thanked the Financial Services team for their hard work and dedication. They worked tirelessly to develop a workable budget and later revisited the process to reallocate funds due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **New Business and Reports to the Board**

### **11. 3.0 Continuity of Learning Summer Plan**

Dr. Terri Mozingo, Chief Academic Officer, and Dr. Gerald R. Mann, Jr., Executive Director of Elementary and Secondary Instruction, reviewed the 3.0 Continuity of Learning Summer Plan. The plan aims to provide summer learning options for all students to extend and refine their learning and address academic gaps resulting from school closings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Summer learning will include virtual asynchronous and synchronous learning opportunities, credit recovery, learning kits and enrichment in the Fine Arts. The comprehensive and integrated approach to educational programming will also support students with disabilities and English learners. This year's summer learning goal is to engage, enrich, and prepare students in anticipation of the school division's projected reopening in September of 2020.

Summer Learning will begin on July 6, 2020, and end on July 31, 2020.

The Board asked questions about virtual co-teaching, the thought behind the opt-out vs. registration process, and whether there are plans to distribute further information. They also asked about Thought Partner meetings, how the distribution of summer materials will occur within CDC guidelines, and how student mastery will be measured during the summer session.

## **Chair's Report**

### **12. Report from Cindy Anderson**

Chair Anderson reminded the community about the Resolution Against Gun Violence adopted by the Board on June 6, 2019, to support measures to eliminate gun violence. She reminded the community that the first Friday in June is National Gun Violence Awareness Day and that Wear Orange Weekend will be held virtually from June 5th through June 7th. Chair Anderson noted that orange has been the defining color of the gun violence prevention movement. Whether it is worn by students, activists, or loved ones, the color orange honors the more than 100 lives lost and hundreds more wounded every day by gun violence.

Chair Anderson also noted that firearms remain the leading cause of death for American children and teens. The Be SMART program for safe gun storage encourages ACPS families to take five simple steps (**S**ecure, **M**odel, **A**sk, **R**ecognize and **T**ell), to normalize conversations about gun safety, and to take responsible actions at home that will prevent gun deaths and injuries.

## **Superintendent's Report**

### **13. School Board Q&A with Dr. Hutchings**

Dr. Hutchings reported that T.C. Williams will soon hold its first virtual graduation and congratulated the Class of 2020 for their achievements. He expressed that while this will not be a traditional graduation, the students are making history during this unusual time.

Dr. Rief reminded the community to sign up for the Strategic Plan Public Hearings on June 9, 2020 at 12:30 and 7:00 p.m.

## Adjournment

### 14. Adjourn

On a motion by Mr. Suarez and seconded by Ms. Lorber, the Board voted unanimously, 9-0, to adjourn. The vote was taken by roll call.

The meeting ended at 1:26 p.m.



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Cindy Anderson, Chair



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Clerk/Deputy Clerk

These minutes were adopted at the June 12, 2020 Virtual Special Call School Board Meeting.