

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE SUFFOLK CITY SCHOOL BOARD

Thursday, July 13, 2023 ~ 5:00 P.M.

Suffolk City Hall, 442 W. Washington Street, Suffolk, VA 23434

Board Members Present:

Tyron Riddick, *Chair*
Heather Howell, *Vice Chair*
Dr. Dawn Marie Brittingham
Dr. Judith Brooks-Buck
Phyllis Byrum
Karen Jenkins
Kimberly Slingluff

Administrative Staff Present:

Dr. John B. Gordon III, *Superintendent*
Wendell M. Waller, *School Board Attorney*
Tarshia L. Gardner, *Clerk*
Keesha Johnson, *Deputy Clerk*

OPENING OF PUBLIC MEETING/WORK SESSION

➤ Call to Order:

Chair Riddick called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

➤ John F. Kennedy Middle School Presentation:

Dr. Gordon introduced Jeff Harris, Partner and Co-Director of K-12 Design Studio with RRMM Architects, who provided an overview of the renderings of John F. Kennedy Middle School. He indicated that renderings are based on Col. Fred Cherry Middle Schools' model but JFKMS will have its own identity. He highlighted that the school will not only be state of the art but will also encompass its rich history.

Board members expressed their concerns with current flooding of the school and asked how this problem will be resolved. Mr. Harris explained that retention ponds, and constructing the school on the highest point on the site will resolve the flooding issues.

Board members were excited with the information and look forward to seeing the completed new John F. Kennedy Middle School. Board Chair Riddick thanked Mr. Harris for the presentation.

MOTION TO GO INTO A CLOSED MEETING

➤ Attorney Waller read the following motion:

A motion is needed to go into a Closed Meeting to discuss the following items and subjects pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia (1950) as amended:

1. The discussion and/or consideration regarding the performance evaluation of the School Superintendent and any revisions to terms of his employment; and
2. The discussion and/or consideration regarding the performance evaluation of the attorney for the School Board and any revisions to terms of his employment; and
3. The discussion and/or consideration regarding the performance evaluation of the clerk of the School Board and any revisions to the terms of her employment.

Which is authorized by Section 2.2-3711 A.1 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

Member Dr. Brittingham moved and Member Slingluff seconded the motion to approve the motion to go into a closed meeting as read by Mr. Waller.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 7 / Nay: 0 / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 7 to 0.

RECONVENE IN PUBLIC MEETING

- Meeting Called to Order:
Board Chair Riddick reconvened the public meeting.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

- Attorney Waller read the following motion:

A Resolution of Certification of the Closed Meeting of July 13, 2023, Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as Amended

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Suffolk 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 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, requires a certification by the School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of the City of Suffolk hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this resolution of certification applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the School Board of the City of Suffolk.

Board Member Dr. Brooks-Buck moved and Vice Chair Howell seconded the motion to approve the Certification of Closed Meeting as read by Mr. Waller.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 6 / Nay: 1 (Dr. Brittingham) / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 6 to 1.

MEETING RECESS

- Board Chair Riddick recessed the meeting.

RE-OPENING OF PUBLIC MEETING

- Meeting Called to Order:

Board Chair Riddick called to order the regular public meeting.

- Pledge of Allegiance:
Board Member Slingluff led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Recital of SPS Mission:
Vice Chair Howell read the Mission Statement of Suffolk Public Schools.

ACTION ON CLOSED MEETING ITEMS

- Superintendent:
 - Attorney Waller read the following motion:

School superintendents are to be evaluated consistent with the performance objectives set forth in Guidelines adopted by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). Those guidelines require that local school boards consider documentation evidence maintained by the superintendent when evaluating the superintendent's performance. Members of the Suffolk City School Board were required to submit their individual evaluations of the School Superintendent to the Chair of the School Board on or before 5:00 p.m. on July 10, 2023. Board Member Slingluff failed to submit her evaluation of the School Superintendent by the time required and sought to reference in her evaluation of the school superintendent documentation evidence not maintained by the superintendent and therefore not consistent with the Guidelines adopted by the VDOE. A motion is needed that the School Board will not consider Board Member Slingluff's evaluation of the School Superintendent because her evaluation of the School Superintendent was not received by 5:00 p.m. on July 10, 2023 and she referenced documentation evidence not consistent with Guidelines adopted by VDOE.

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck moved and Member Dr. Brittingham seconded the motion to approve the motion as read by Attorney Waller.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 4 / Nay: 3 (Dr. Brittingham, Howell, Slingluff) / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 4 to 3.

- Attorney Waller read the following motion:

School superintendents are to be evaluated consistent with the performance objectives set forth in Guidelines adopted by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). Those guidelines require that local school boards consider documentation evidence maintained by the superintendent when evaluating the superintendent's performance. Board Member Dr. Dawn Marie Brittingham sought to reference in her evaluation of the school superintendent documentation evidence not maintained by the superintendent and therefore not consistent with the Guidelines adopted by the VDOE. A motion is therefore needed that the School Board will not consider Board Member Dr. Dawn Marie Brittingham's evaluation of the school superintendent.

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck moved and Members Byrum/Jenkins seconded the motion to approve the motion as read by Attorney Waller.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 4 / Nay: 3 (Dr. Brittingham, Howell, Slingluff) / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 4 to 3.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS ON AGENDA TOPICS¹

- Citizen Comments on Agenda Items:
There were no public speakers on agenda topics.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Approval of Agenda:
Member Dr. Brooks-Buck moved and Member Byrum seconded the motion to approve the agenda.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 7 / Nay: 0 / Abstain: 0. The motion Passed by vote of 7 to 0.

REPORTS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

- Good News Report:
Anthonette Dickens, Communications and Community Engagement Officer, highlighted the following good news/events that occurred throughout the division:
 - Alumni Highlight: Where Are They Now? – Keith Ricks, former KFHS Graduate, Team USA Olympic Bronze Medalist
 - Project Neptune 100 – Oceanography students at Nansemond River High School hosted Dr. Joseph Dituri (aka-Dr. Deep Sea) May, 30, 2023
 - Early Start/Early Childhood Education Art Show – Saturday, June 3, 2023 at King’s Fork Middle School
 - SPS was represented at Music in the Parks – Music Ensemble Competition at Busch Gardens on Saturday, June 3, 2023
 - King’s Fork Middle/High School Orchestra – King’s Dominion “Music in the Park” Festival, Saturday, May 20, 2023
 - 2023 Woodmen Life Awards – Outstanding Achievement in American History (8th and 11th Grade)
 - 2023 NSPRA Publications and Digital Media Excellence Award Winners – Received by SPS Communications and Community Engagement Department for “Inside Turlington Woods,” produced by Danny Epperson, Digital Media Specialist
 - STEM Extravaganza – Partnered with United Way and 21st Century Education on June 30, 2023
- Calendar of Special Events:
Dr. Gordon highlighted the events listed on SPS website for July/August.

Board Chair Riddick commended the Communications and Community Engagement Department for their outstanding work, and for going above and beyond the law with posting information regarding meetings and events happening within our division.

¹ Items were presented out of order according to the published agenda. Before the Reports by the Superintendent was presented, Board Chair Riddick recognized the error in order and proceeded to approve the agenda before moving forward. He also apologized for the oversight.

CONSENT AGENDA

➤ Approval of the Consent Agenda:

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck moved and Members Byrum/Jenkins seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 5 / Nay: 2 (Dr. Brittingham, Slingluff) / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 5 to 2.

Dr. Gordon introduced Jill Paraska, new Principal at Creekside Elementary School. Mrs. Paraska thanked the Board and Dr. Gordon for the opportunity to serve as the Principal at Creekside Elementary School.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

➤ Approval of Ordinances 22/23-91, and Ordinances 22/23-98 through 22/23-110:

Member Slingluff moved and Member Dr. Brittingham seconded the motion to approve the Ordinances listed with the removal of Ordinance 22/23-100, Ordinance 22/23-107, Ordinance 22/23-109, and Ordinance 22/23-110.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 7 / Nay: 0 / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 7 to 0.

➤ Item 4 - Approval of Ordinance 22/23-100: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 8, Article 24, Section 8-24.3 entitled “Use of supplemental materials; responsibility for selection of supplemental materials” of the Policies of the Suffolk City School Board

Board Member Slingluff felt that the ordinance removed the responsibility for selection of supplemental materials from the Board and delegated to individual schools for which she did not agree. She asked for clarification as to whether the responsibility lies with the Board or the schools to select supplemental materials.

Dr. Gordon and Attorney Waller clarified that the policy was recommended by the VSBA and that the policy would allow teachers to have more autonomy on carefully reviewing materials prior to instruction, and would also have the proactive ability to send parent consent forms home if there was anything considered not to be on the approved lists. This policy would also give individuality from professional learning communities. Rewritten to allow the teachers to look at the materials to see if they are consistent with the lessons and choose the materials that are consistent with the lesson from the approved list.

Mr. Waller further indicated that the Board would be bringing its policy in line with what the practice has always been because supplemental materials were never brought before the Board for approval.

Board Chair Riddick reiterated that time to discuss the policy was sufficient and that all questions should have already been worked out and all members should be ready to vote on the policy at the meeting, not revisiting the details or questioning the policy. He asked all members to exercise their right and responsibility to communicate with staff with all questions and concerns beforehand because Board Members have had the policy that is under consideration for 60 days.

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck moved and Member Byrum seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 22/23-100 as presented.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 7 / Nay: 0 / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 7 to 0.

- Item 11 - Approval of Ordinance 22/23-107: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 10, Article 3, Section 10-3.4 entitled “Time for responding to FOIA requests; allowed responses to FOIA requests; limit on withholding public records; cost determination; when records have been transferred; responsible for assembling, etc.” of the Policies of the Suffolk City School Board
Board Member Slingluff felt that there is ambiguity with regards to cost relative to FOIA requests. She stated that a requester cannot anticipate a cost as there is no established cost per page or for electronic documents/reports. She indicated that prior to someone submitting a FOIA request, they should be able to have some idea as to a range of cost or there may be subjectivity based on the type of report requested and could make the report prohibitive therefor preventing it from actually being obtained.

Board Chair Riddick and Attorney Waller clarified that when a person submits a FOIA request, they always have the option to receive an estimate of cost before the request is fulfilled and with the recent change to the FOIA statute, public bodies are required to notify a requester that they have a right to receive an estimate of the cost in advance of the work being done. It was explained that when a FOIA request is received, notification is given to the requester regarding the option of getting an estimate of the cost prior to the work being done and that the requester can then decide whether or not they still want the documents or not.

Member Brooks-Buck clarified that the policy that was being considered was addressing the five (5) day response time, nothing else.

Additional conversation ensued between members which required Board Chair Riddick to further clarify the changes that were currently being considered and to explain the process for lobbying for policy changes.

Member Slingluff moved and Member Dr. Brittingham seconded the motion to send Ordinance 22/23-107 back to the Policy Review Committee.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 2 / Nay: 4 (Brooks-Buck, Byrum, Jenkins, Riddick) / Abstain: 1 (Howell). The motion failed by vote of 4 to 2.

Board Chair Riddick reiterated the process for policies submitted to be voted on at the meeting. He indicated that the meeting was not the time to try and revive items that died at the Policy Review Committee.

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck moved and Member Byrum seconded the motion to approve the changes to Ordinance 22/23-107.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 5 / Nay: 2 (Brittingham, Slingluff) / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 5 to 2.

- Item 13 - Approval of Ordinance 22/23-109: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 10, Article 17, Section 10-17.2 entitled “Complaints about learning resources; writing required; submitted to committee” of the Policies of the Suffolk City School Board

Member Slingluff suggested sending the policy back to the Policy Review Committee to review the policy in its entirety as she did not agree with wording “partisan or doctrinal disapproval.” However, she was ok with the proposed changes to the ordinance.

Member Slingluff moved and Member Dr. Brittingham seconded the motion to table the approval of Ordinance 22/23-109 and revisit the policy in its entirety.

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck requested clarity to the changes that Member Slingluff suggested and clarification was provided by Member Slingluff.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 4 / Nay: 3 (Brooks-Buck, Byrum, Riddick) / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 4 to 3.

➤ Item 14 - Approval of Ordinance 22/23-110: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 2-2.6:1 entitled “School Board norms; protocols; violations” of the Policies of the Suffolk City School Board

Member Slingluff suggested sending the policy back to the Policy Review Committee to be reviewed in its entirety. She felt that the policy denies the Board the responsibility to enforce the Norms and Protocols. She stated that the policy is subjective and cannot serve as a due process for navigating violations. She also felt that the consequence of removing a member from a standing committee is unjust and used as a way of silencing a boroughs representation.

Member Slingluff moved and Member Dr. Brittingham seconded the motion to send Ordinance 22/23-110 back to the Policy Review Committee to revisit the policy in its entirety.

Board Chair Riddick corrected the statement of a “4 to 3 vote” previously mentioned by Member Slingluff for the Board not to go into a closed session to hear a grievance matter. He indicated that the vote was 3 yes votes, 3 no votes, and Riddick abstained. Chair Riddick explained that going into a closed session would have been a waste of time to talk about the matters brought before the Board as they were personal in nature and had nothing to do with the business of Suffolk Public Schools nor student achievement.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 3 / Nay: 4 (Brooks-Buck, Byrum, Jenkins, Riddick) / Abstain: 0. The motion failed by vote of 4 to 3.

Member Dr. Brittingham moved and Member Slingluff seconded the motion to not approve the suggested changes to Ordinance 22/23-110 and to leave the policy in its original form.

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck provided additional clarity of the policy indicating that the change was necessary as anyone could be accused of anything and this would take up the time of dealing with the business of the Board, student achievement, or employee concerns. Therefore, the change would be that the School Board Attorney and the Board Chair would meet and determine if the accusation has any validity. They would not make any decisions on the matter, they would only determine whether or not the accusation had any validity.

Member Slingluff felt that this policy would grant subjective power to the Chair and the Attorney to make a decision that should belong to the entire Board. She also felt that if information was released confidentially to the Board for review, prior to voting to go into a closed session, the power would belong to the Board to determine whether they should or should not go into a closed session.

Board Chair Riddick explained that the information that was sent to Board Members did not remain confidential and will not remain confidential as people who were not privy to the documentation provided their thoughts/comments on. He suggested that when making policy, members should not look at the persons occupying the seat as people change after an election but the position remains the same. He further stated that the Board was not going to discuss a closed session that did not take place as it had nothing to do with student achievement, but everything to do with adults and their hurt feelings.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 3 / Nay: 4 (Brooks-Buck, Byrum, Jenkins, Riddick) / Abstain: 0. The motion failed by vote of 4 to 3.

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck moved and Member Byrum seconded the motion to approve the suggested changes to Ordinance 22/23-110.

Member Dr. Brittingham objected to the policy coming before the Board as it was written. She agreed with having the discussion regarding the policy with the full Board. Chair Riddick agreed that this was currently happening in the meeting. However, he clarified that because her version of the policy died during the Policy Review Committee, that version was not for discussion. He reiterated that they were voting to accept, deny, or send the policy back to the Policy Review Committee.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 3 / Nay: 4 (Brittingham, Slingluff, Howell, Riddick) / Abstain: 0. The motion failed by vote of 4 to 3.

Attorney Waller provided clarification as all the motions that were presented, which included: to send the ordinance back to the Policy Review Committee, to approve the ordinance as is with the suggested changes, and to deny the changes to the ordinance, all failed. He indicated that Ordinance 22/23-110 will remain in its original form without the suggested changes.

Board Chair Riddick provided clarity for all in attendance so that there would be no confusion as to the votes that just transpired. He stated that without the policy change, when a complaint comes before the board chair, he/she does not have the authority to dismiss the complaint. The complaint would be heard in closed session if it is against another board member for violation of the norms and protocols. However, it will be up to the Board to decide whether they want to hear the complaint or not. He also has an issue with information being sent to Board Members that is being used to tarnish the great things occurring within the division as had been done in the past and within the past month. Board Chair Riddick stated that there are different people, but some of the tactics are still remaining the same.

NEW BUSINESS

- Adjustment to the School Board Meeting Date: September 14, 2023 move to September 21, 2023

Board Chair Riddick explained that this was to allow staff the opportunity and time to focus on the first couple weeks of school.

Vice-Chair Howell moved and Member Dr. Brittingham seconded the motion to move the board meeting from September 14, 2023 to September 21, 2023, as presented.

Upon roll-call vote, the vote was: Aye: 7 / Nay: 0 / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 7 to 0.

- Approval of School Board Retreat Date, August 10, 2023, 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., at John F. Kennedy Middle School

Member Dr. Brittingham moved and Member Slingluff seconded the motion to approve the School Board Retreat to be held on August 10, 2023, 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at John F. Kennedy Middle School.

The Clerk clarified that the regular board meeting would be held during that time as well as indicated in the recommendation. Board Chair Riddick indicated that it was not feasible for the majority of the constituents to attend the meeting and should therefore not be included with the retreat. The motion was amended.

Member Dr. Brittingham moved and Member Slingluff seconded the amended motion to hold the School Board Retreat during the day on August 10, 2023 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. and to hold the regular school board meeting at its regular time and place on August 10, 2023.

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck asked if the meeting in question was the Board Training.

Board Chair Riddick explained that the two meetings were different and that the training would take place on July 27th and the Retreat on August 10th. Attorney Waller explained the difference between a meeting (members of the public body gathering to transact public business) and July 27th training (team building among themselves, talk about relationship issues, how better to get along as board members.) The Board will not be transacting any public business therefore the training to be held on the 27th is not a public meeting and the public does not have a right to be in attendance nor is there any right to give notice to the public of the gathering of the School Board.

Upon electronic, the vote was: Aye: 5 / Nay: 2 (Brooks-Buck, Byrum) / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 5 to 2.

- Resolution 23/24-1: A Resolution of the School Board for the City of Suffolk, Virginia Placing in Nomination the Names of James Robinson, News Reporter for the Suffolk News Herald and Katie Collett, News Anchor for Wavy 10 News for the Statewide VSBA Media Honor Roll

Members Dr. Brooks-Buck and Jenkins moved and Member Byrum seconded the motion to approve Resolution 23/24-1, as presented.

Member Slingluff expressed her concern with this nomination stating that it was a conflict of interest.

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck clarified that this is done by VSBA each year and not something new by SPS.

Board Chair Riddick clarified that previous nominees had published articles about Suffolk Public Schools that were untrue therefore there is no bias in that. He indicated that Mr. Robinson has been impartial in his coverage in the Suffolk News Herald but when statements as previously stated are made, you must be mindful as you are questioning the integrity of the Board because optics and perception is reality and you must be careful with making such statements.

Upon electronic, the vote was: Aye: 5 / Nay: 1 (Dr. Brittingham) / Abstain: 1 (Slingluff). The motion passed by vote of 5 to 1 to 1.

- Resolution 23/24-2: A Resolution Approving the Terms and Conditions of an Agreement Between the Suffolk City School Board and Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC
Vice Chair Howell and Member Dr. Brittingham moved and Member Dr. Brooks-Buck seconded the motion to approve Resolution 23/24-2, as presented.

Upon electronic, the vote was: Aye: 7 / Nay: 0 / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 7 to 0.

- Resolution 23/24-3: A Resolution of the School Board for the City of Suffolk, Virginia Appointing the Human Resource Director for Portsmouth Public Schools to Serve as an Impartial Hearing Officer Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 22.1-311 (1950) as Amended Relative to any and All Requests for Hearing Filed by any Teacher Employed by the School Board for the City of Suffolk, Virginia Who Has Been Recommended for Dismissal by the School Superintendent Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 22.1-309 (1950) as Amended
Member Byrum moved and Member Dr. Brooks-Buck seconded the motion to approve Resolution 23/24-3, as presented.

Member Slingluff was concerned that the resolution was a conflict of interest as teachers go from district to district.

Member Dr. Brittingham agreed that there is a conflict of interest and felt that the hearing officer should be appointed by a third party.

Upon electronic, the vote was: Aye: 5 / Nay: 2 (Brittingham, Slingluff) / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 5 to 2.

- Ordinances 22/24-1 through Ordinance 22/24-13 (information items only, no vote required)

PUBLIC SPEAKERS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS

- Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items:
The Clerk read the statement regarding decorum for those scheduled to speak. The following speakers shared their comments:
 1. Janet McKinney (Forensic Audit of School Board Budget) – Mrs. McKinney felt that the organization haphazardly lists employees and she does not like the listing of the line items in the budget. She felt that the listings were vague.

BUSINESS BY BOARD MEMBERS

- Comments and Reports by School Board Members:
 - Thanked all for coming to the meeting to hear the discussion of the items of business.
 - Enjoyed graduation highlighting the \$34.5 million, in scholarships, almost 1,000 graduates, and the 466 honor graduates.
 - Thanked Dr. Gordon and his staff for a safe graduation and early contracts for potential teachers and thanked the Council Members for their participation at graduation.
 - Proud and impressed by the dual diploma graduates, graduates going into the military, and graduates who received licensure/certifications.

- Encouraged constituents to talk with their council member regarding money to keep schools safe.
- Suggested a review of all evaluation tools for updating.
- Thanked staff for enduring through the long days.
- Encouraged all to communicate, trust and have open dialog between members. Also asked members to be fully prepared with specific questions regarding items/topics, especially during a first reading of a policy.
- Encouraged the Board to stop sowing seeds of discord and to model the way moving forward.
- Highlighted information from a resignation comparison.
- Stated that every word being said has an impact and that each person is 100% responsible for his/her impact.

MOTION TO GO INTO A SECOND CLOSED MEETING

- Attorney Waller read the following motion:

A motion is needed to go into a Second Closed Meeting to discuss the following items and subjects pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia (1950) as amended:

1. The discussion and/or consideration regarding the performance evaluation of the School Superintendent and any revisions to terms of his employment; and
2. The discussion and/or consideration regarding the performance evaluation of the attorney for the School Board and any revisions to terms of his employment; and
3. The discussion and/or consideration regarding the performance evaluation of the clerk of the School Board and any revisions to the terms of her employment.

Which is authorized by Section 2.2-3711 A.1 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

Member Dr. Brooks-Buck moved and Member Byrum seconded the motion to approve the motion to go into a Second Closed Meeting as read by Mr. Waller.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 7 / Nay: 0 / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 7 to 0.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

- Attorney Waller read the following motion:

A Certification of the Second Closed Meeting of July 13, 2023, Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as Amended.

Vice Chair Howell moved and Member Dr. Brooks-Buck seconded the motion to approve the Certification of Closed Meeting as read by Mr. Waller.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 6 / Nay: 0 / Abstain: 1 (Slingluff). The motion passed by vote of 6 to 0 to 1.

ACTION ON CLOSED MEETING ITEMS

- Resolution 23/24-5: A Resolution Approving the Terms and Conditions of an Addendum to a Contract of Employment Between the Suffolk City School Board and Dr. John B. Gordon III
Member Dr. Brooks-Buck moved and Member Byrum seconded the motion to approve Resolution 23/24-5, an addendum to the Superintendent’s contract.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 4 / Nay: 2 (Dr. Brittingham, Howell) / Abstain: 1 (Slingluff). The motion passed by vote of 4 to 2 to 1.

- Resolution 23/24-4: A Resolution Approving the Terms and Conditions of an Addendum to a Contract of Employment Between the Suffolk City School Board and Wendell M. Waller
Member Jenkins moved and Member Dr. Brooks-Buck seconded the motion to approve Resolution 23/24-4, an addendum to the School Board Attorney’s contract.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 5 / Nay: 1 (Dr. Brittingham) / Abstain: 1 (Slingluff). The motion passed by vote of 5 to 1 to 1.

- Resolution 23/24-6: A Resolution Approving a Step Increase in Salary for the School Board Clerk
Member Dr. Brittingham moved and Member Dr. Brooks-Buck seconded the motion to approve Resolution 23/24-6, a step increase in salary for the school board clerk.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 7 / Nay: 0 / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 7 to 0.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- Accident Review Report – June 2023
- Anthem Rates for Calendar 2024
- Capital Projects Financial Statement

ADJOURNMENT

- Adjournment of Meeting:
Vice Chair Howell moved and Member Dr. Brittingham seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Upon electronic vote, the vote was: Aye: 7 / Nay: 0 / Abstain: 0. The motion passed by vote of 7 to 0.

- Board Chair Riddick adjourned the July 13, 2023 School Board Meeting at 11:08 p.m.

Tyron Riddick, *Board Chair*

Tarshia L. Gardner, *Board Clerk*