

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
SUFFOLK CITY SCHOOL BOARD
Thursday, March 25, 2021 (6:00 PM)**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held at Col. Fred Cherry Middle School while practicing social distancing.

Upon roll being taken, the following persons were present:

Dr. Judith Brooks-Buck, *Chair*
Phyllis Byrum, *Vice Chair*
Karen Jenkins
Linda Johnson
Lorita Mayo
Sherri Story

Absent: Tyron Riddick

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

6:00 P.M. – OPENING OF SPECIAL MEETING

The Special School Board Meeting was called to order by Board Chair Dr. Brooks-Buck.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Budget Work Session / Discussion:

There were no questions or concerns expressed during this time by any board member.

Adoption of the Resolution Approving the Superintendent’s Proposed Budget:

Vice-Chair Byrum moved, and Member Jenkins seconded, the motion to adopt Resolution 20/21-23 to approve the Superintendent’s Proposed Budget for 2021-2022 and requesting the Suffolk City Council fund the budget by a total sum of \$65,332,201 as presented.

Upon a roll call vote, the vote was: Aye: 5 Nay: 1 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1. The motion Passed. 5 to 1

Board Member Story explained her “No” vote by stating that she was happy with the teacher raises, as she thanked the teachers and staff. She indicated that she is a fiscal conservative and that SPS did not spend all of its funds this year and that more may be received which doesn’t warrant requesting extra money from City Council. Member Story stated that her “No” vote is not to take away from any salary and that it is not a reflection of not wanting staff to receive a raise. She stated that SPS is not as efficient as we could be and we could do better.

Board Chair Brooks-Buck thanked Dr. Gordon and Mrs. Forsman and their team for all of their hard work. She indicated that we face all of the falsehoods with truth, and truth always wins.

There were no further comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Board Chair Brooks-Buck adjourned the March 25, 2021 Special School Board Meeting at 6:11 p.m.

Dr. Judith Brooks-Buck, *Board Chair*

Tarshia L. Gardner, *Board Clerk*