

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

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

Members in Attendance: Rick Mullins, Chair; Damon Rasnick, Vice-Chair; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Jason Hicks; Jamie Hackney; Tonya Baker, Clerk; Haydee Robinson, Superintendent; Scott Mullins, Board Attorney

Approval of Agenda:

Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and a second by, Jason Hicks, the Agenda was approved as presented

Vote results

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jason Hicks read the Public Comment Guidelines.

Samantha Mullins: Ridgeview Middle School Teacher spoke to the Board Members requesting to be released from her contract.

April Collins: Spoke to the Board Members with concerns about the class and her child's progress in the Spanish Class through Edgenuity.

Kathy Musick: VPE - The regional representative for Virginia Professional Educators- Fall submission deadline for Grants and Scholarships are November 15, 2021.

Phyllis Mullins: DEA - The Virginia Education Association is getting ready to have their instructional professional development in November and will be focusing on loss of learning. They will be having their pre-legislative meetings and meeting with legislators in December. American Education Week is in November and the DEA will have small gifts of appreciation to give out.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by Jason Hicks; the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

Vote results

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

a. Approval of Minutes

- ❖ September 8, 2021- Special Called Meeting
- ❖ September 22, 2021 - Regular Meeting

b. Approval of Monthly Bills - School Operation Fund

Monthly Bills: Check # 882439-882533- \$399,113.31

Monthly Payroll: Check # 389970-389997 - \$1,830,557.63

c. School Activity Fund

- ❖ Informational Item

d. Approval of Field Trips

- ❖ Ridgeview High School
 - 10/2021-11/2021 - Heritage Hall - 11th-12th
 - 12/28/21-12/30/21 - Gatlinburg Pittman - 9th - 12th
 - 10/18/21 - Rye Cove High School - 7th - 12th

e. Approval of Bank Reconciliation Documents

f. New Elementary Construction Invoices

IV. INFORMATION FOR THE BOARD

Mrs. Robinson informed the Board Members about VSBA Virtual Conferences and Seminars.

Important Dates in November:

- ◆ November 8 – 12, 2021: School Psychology Awareness Week
- ◆ Nov. 15 – 19, 2021: American Education Week
- ◆ November School Board Meeting: Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2021
- ◆ Nov. 22 – 26, 2021: Fall Break: Schools are Closed

VSBA Education Foundation Workshop, November 9, 2021

VSBA Annual Convention, November 17-19, 2021

Personalized Board Training and Development - Virtual

October 27, 2021

V. SUPERINTENDENT ROBINSON

g. Good News from our Schools

Mrs. Martin presented the Student Enrollment and Attendance Report

September 2021: Student Enrollment and Attendance Report

Be Great with 8! Be a Hero: Here, Every Day, Ready, On-Time

As of September 30, 2021 student enrollment was 1888 students. The overall student attendance percentage for September was 88.97%.

Ervinton Elementary had the highest attendance at 90.59%

A. Student Enrollment Per School:

K - 5th Enrollment:

CES: 390

EES: 121

RHS: 602

RMS: 423

SES: 350

B. Enrollment in DCPS Pre- K program, per school:

CES: 34

EES: 21

SES: 24

Total PK Enrollment: 79

h. Update on New Elementary School Construction Project

Tim Burge, the Construction Superintendent for Skanska, presented a new elementary school project report and updated the School Board on the construction project.

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021



DCPS New Elementary School Monthly Progress Report October 2021



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Construction continues to progress well with installation of structural steel continuing and first floor ICF walls being completed in late October. The project remains on schedule with completion anticipated for summer 2022.

Skanska continues to monitor work on site, attend progress meetings, review drawings and other project documentation, and review/approve invoices.

The project remains within the overall budget of \$24,561,867. Planning for the procurement of FF&E and technology continues.

BUDGET

The project remains within the overall budget of \$24,561,867.



PROCUREMENT

- Skanska continues to assist with procurement planning for other technology and FF&E.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

ICF wall installation for the first floor has been completed. Bar joist and metal decking installation is nearly complete in Areas B & C and continues in Area A. Concrete slab-on-deck for Area B is scheduled to be poured in early November. HVAC and plumbing subcontractors are continuing layout for hangers. Electrician is now working on under-slab rough-in in the electrical room. Grading contractor installed stone in the new parking lot and is laying out the new entrance.

Skanska was on site throughout the month and continues to inspect work installed for quality and adherence to the plans and specifications.

MILESTONE SCHEDULE

	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	
Bid Process																						
Early Site Utility Package																						
Main Building Package																						
Closeout																						

Mrs. Robinson gave an update on the PPEA/New Elementary Wing with Members of the Board of Supervisors and School Board

On Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2021, the Chairs, Vice-Chairs, of the School Board, and Board of Supervisors met to discuss the PPEA process for the new wing of the Elementary School. Mrs. Robinson asked Scott Mullins to update the Board on that meeting and what the Board of Supervisors completed or accomplished with the resolution.

Scott Mullins: I'm very pleased to report that last night the Board of Supervisors approved of us moving forward with the new edition and they passed a resolution that I'd worked with their attorney on collaboratively with Skanska that would do the things that are necessary to be done under the PPEA procurement. That passed unanimously and I felt very good about that. It's good to be untied in these projects. We've always been told by the school board that there was a desire to build the biggest most adaptable schools that we could within our budget balanced against of course we want to use quality materials for what we build has to be able to stand the test of time. You could always build bigger if you use lesser materials but to build a school that will stand the test of time would be adaptable to future needs. With that background, when we started out we were used exclusively Corps of Engineers money to build this new school and that's going very well. We saw another pot of money become available that was not Corps of Engineers money

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

and that was what's been referred to as the ESSER money and in July we started a fairly involved process of applying for that money and then we were delighted that in August it was approved and we ended up with an additional \$5.1 million to put into construction. As soon as that was approved on September 1, 2021, we received a PPEA proposal from the people that are building the elementary school now to build a new wing. The new wing would be designed in a way that would seamlessly fit into the new school that's being built. The way it works under the PPEA and under the procurement laws is that they made a proposal and if you notice in your local paper we've been advertising to the world and we put it on websites for contractors to look at and if other people want to bid on this they can. That process ends on October 30, 2021, and when that's over we see what bids we have we will work with Skanska to evaluate those bids and will keep you in the public updated but our goal is to seamlessly transfer over into building that new wing even though won't be completed in the same year it will be the following school year before it's completed. Basically, we want to create something that can adapt for future years and it will be an ongoing process right now it's going very well.

i. Discussion of Guidelines for Unscheduled Remote Virtual Learning Days

Mr. Mark Mullins presented the proposed plan for Unscheduled Remote Learning Days and the proposed Inclement Weather Related Closures.

Definition of an Unscheduled Remote Learning Day:

An instructional day that was originally scheduled to be in-person but, due to inclement weather or other emergency situations, a conversion into a remote learning day becomes necessary. Other emergency situations refer to those circumstances presenting a threat to the health or safety of students including, but not limited to, natural and man-made disasters, energy shortages, or power failures.

Considerations:

When considering declaring an unscheduled remote learning day due to severe weather conditions or other emergency situations, school divisions must have a plan to ensure:

- Power and other required utilities necessary for the provision of instruction and services are still available for students and staff throughout the division;
- Students receiving supports under an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan will be able to access services, as applicable and appropriate;
- The division will provide student support services (e.g. counseling, consultation, assessment, skill instruction) to students, as appropriate;
- The division maintains school meal services for students.

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

- Divisions will need to consider their current service delivery model used for remote learners. When severe weather conditions or other emergency situations are anticipated, divisions should activate local plans to provide meals in advance of or during severe weather conditions or other emergency situations.
- All teachers and staff have been provided expectations for the provision of instruction and services to all students;
- Student services personnel have been provided expectations for the provision of services to all students;
- All students have computing devices, Internet connection, and/or other supplemental supplies necessary for successful engagement in instruction; and
- Any student that may be unable to access remote instruction and/or assignments will be provided sufficient opportunity to complete instruction and/or assignments without penalty.

Planning For an “Unscheduled Remote Learning Learning Day: Virtual Learning Day”

- Synchronous Instruction: Teacher and Student Engagement through “live” Google Meets
- Virtual Instructional Schedule should follow the closely instructional in-school schedule
- Instructional Schedule from 10:00 – 3:00 p.m. will be posted on Google Classrooms and shared with students and parents by Nov. 12, 2021
- Virtual Day Lunch for students and staff will be scheduled from 12:00 – 12:45
- For students unable to access remote instruction and/or assignments will be provided packets to complete for the Virtual Learning Day OR provided sufficient opportunity to complete instruction and assignments.

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

Dickenson County School Inclement Weather Related Closures

Code Red

Schools Closed. No Employees Report.

On Call or Report as Needed:

Superintendent, Directors, Building Administrators, Maintenance and Custodial Staff.

School Closure

Schools Closed: Virtual Learning Day Cancelled: Schools are closed for students and teachers

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Work Schedule for Twelve-Month Employees.

2 Hr. Delay

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.: Work Schedule for Twelve Month Employees.

9:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.: Work Schedule for Faculty and Staff

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.: Instructional School Day

Virtual Learning Day:

Home/School Location for Virtual Learning Day Determined by 8:30 a.m. Email will be sent to Staff/Faculty.

10:00 – 3:00 p.m. Instructional Schedule

8:30 – 4:00 p.m.: Work Schedule for Twelve Month Employees

9:30 – 3:15: Work Day for Faculty and Staff

Weather Related-

Early Release:

All staff and faculty may leave after all students have departed, unless the building administrator request staff stays longer due to the need for added support to assist with students.

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and second, by Damon Rasnick, the Guidelines for Unscheduled Remote Virtual Learning and Inclement Weather Related Closures were approved as presented.

Vote results

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

Jamie Hackney moved to amend the Agenda to discuss the closure of Dickenson County Schools on Monday, November 1, 2021.

After a brief discussion, the board voted on the closure.

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and second by Jason Hicks the closure of Dickenson County Public School on Monday, November 1, 2021, was approved.

Vote results

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

j. Update on ViSSTA

Mrs. Denechia Edwards, CTE/Special Education Director, updated the School Board regarding DCPS's participation in the ViSSTA program which began in early October.

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) are partnering to develop the Virginia School Screening Testing for Assurance (ViSSTA) program, which will offer COVID-19 testing to K-12 schools across the Commonwealth for the 2021 - 2022 school year.

The ViSSTA program supports screening testing. Screening testing is the regular testing of asymptomatic individuals to identify asymptomatic and presymptomatic cases of COVID-19 with the aim of catching cases early and stopping further transmission. Through the program, VDH/VDOE will match school divisions/schools with testing vendors that will conduct on-site testing. VDH/VDOE will also provide schools with staff and resources to support program implementation and assist in COVID-19 mitigation as schools return to full in-person instruction.

COVID-19 testing is intended for school students, staff, and teachers and will be voluntary; only individuals who consent will be tested at no cost. DCPS is also participating in diagnostic tests for our students and staff to identify early positive COVID tests.

k. Approval of Early Employee Payroll for November and December

Laura Taylor requested approval of early payroll for our employees for November and December.

Following a motion by Jamie Hackney and second by Damon Rasnick the request for early payroll for November and December was approved.

Vote results

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

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

I. Early School Board Meeting Dates in November and December

The Dickenson County School Board will meet on earlier dates in November and December due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays.

The November School Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2021. The December School Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021.

VI. BOARD COMMENT

Jamie Hackney: I am glad to be back this month and glad to see everyone healthy.

Damon Rasnick: I'd just like to thank everybody for working so hard. It's been a tough couple of years and I know everybody's working hard to catch them up I suspect this year the SOLs will probably count. Will they not? Mrs. Robinson: Yes sir. We need to be as productive as we can to help those children reach the same level that they need to be recognized and move on in the school division as well. It is a difficult task we face but I believe sincerely that if everyone pulls together as a team we can be successful. I value each employee that we had every family we represent. In this county were all much alike were ever or whatever district we live in I think we all share the love for children and we want to see what's best for our children. Sometimes it's kind of hard to decide, some people think school boards can decide what they choose but that's not true. We work under a layer of laws from the federal government to the state government and the state organizations. When you work in public schools you have the public health department in matters of dealing with public health they have much more to say about it than school boards do. Sometimes that creates a conflict among the community and among families and among school boards and the people they represent. It is difficult to explain because it seems so simple to do. I think what Mrs. Edwards explained there should be a welcome sigh of relief to everyone and every family. This thing is not gone and it's not going away for some time apparently. We have to deal with it and keep our folks as safe and as we possibly can. I think we've done a good job and will continue to go to a good job but it takes everybody pulling the same way to make this as successful as it can be. I do appreciate everyone's efforts in trying to make our children be the best they can be.

Jason Hicks: I'll just say every other school division is going through this but it seems like it's kind of extra us. Staffing whether that be from classroom teachers to bus drivers and everything else. There's not a whole lot of people going back into education as a whole. I've heard that there are school districts out there that are offering \$7000 sign-on bonuses to students coming out and coming in and signing up. These are divisions that are close to us and it's getting harder and harder for us to compete. That puts extra our staff altogether and students suffer from that. We're going to go through some growing pains with this I think in the next little bit and I hope that there's some solution to that we can find somewhere along the line. As I said earlier the Monday off deal I think we deserve it. Whoever has some unfortunate circumstances from that I'll apologize for that now because it will turn out that way from the unintended. I think

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

everybody's doing a good job. It's impressive with the testing part. It's really great to start seeing these numbers come down and I hope we can continue to see that continuing trend.

Dr. Lurton Lyle: My comment is more of a personal nature. I've registered for in-person for the convention but I need to speak to our clerk about changing that. I understand there will be a potential problem but I have a personal reason that I will discuss with her.

Rick Mullins: I keep going back to the attendance percentages even with COVID how great our attendant percentages have been. I've looked at some of the schools up in Northern Virginia and were much better than a lot of schools in Northern Virginia so that tells me got to get somebody there to get them educated first. The teachers and principals and administration staff have done a phenomenal job in getting to do that and I want to thank each of you from the bottom of my heart for that.

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 Custodian, Part-Time Aides, Substitutes, FMLA requests, resignation, retirement, and the Division Superintendent's evaluation pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1)

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 Dr. Lurton Lyle and second, by, Damon Rasnick the Board convened into a Closed session.

Vote results

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

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

Vote results

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

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

Board Certification

Mrs. Robinson read the following certification to 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 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

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

Board Action:

Following a motion by Damon Rasnick and a second by Dr. Lurton Lyle the personnel matters and employment recommendations were approved as presented in the executive session.

Vote results

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

PERSONNEL/LEGAL

Substitutes

- David Barton
- Rozina Branham

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

- Andrew Edwards
- Tiffany Edwards
- Kimberlee Lester
- Melena Lester
- Elizabeth Mullins
- J. Nicholas Mullins
- Brenda O'Quinn
- Paula O'Quinn
- Hanna Owens
- Hannah Robinson
- Courtney Scalf
- Robert Shrieves III
- Juliana Turner
- Christian Yates
- Christie Davisons
- Nancy Fleming
- Jeromy Fletcher

FMLA

- Brandon Mullins
- Rufus Charles Hay
- Lilly Thacker

Resignation

- Jimmy Hammons - Custodian- Clintwood Elementary
- Steffanie Willis - ITRT - All Schools
- Dustin Lothery - Part-Time Custodian - Ervinton Elementary
- A. Michelle Sluss - Part-Time Aide - Clintwood Elementary

Retirement

Darrell Yates - Bus Driver - Haysi Area
Pam Fletcher - Bus Driver - Clintwood Area

Recommendations for Employment

- Regina McCowan - Ridgeview High School - Custodian
- Paula O'Quinn - Clintwood Elementary School - Part-Time Teacher Aide

Post/Advertise

VIII. Adjournment: 8:15

Following a motion by Dr. Lurton Lyle and second, by Damon Rasnick; the meeting was adjourned. All votes aye.

Dickenson County School Board Regular Meeting - Summary Minutes

October 27, 2021

Approved : November 17, 2021

Rick Mullins

Rick Mullins, Chair

Tonya Baker

Tonya Baker, Clerk