

## COVINGTON CITY SCHOOL BOARD

### Minutes

May 14, 2020

The Covington City School Board held a special called meeting in the Board conference room on Monday, May 14, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. with the following members in attendance:

Tamala Preston, Chair  
Jonathan Arritt  
Erika Hunter  
Tonya Jones (Per Conference Call)

Superintendent Melinda Snead-Johnson was present, as was Rebecca Irvine, Board Clerk. Dr. Shannon Fuhrman, Director of Education and Instruction, joined the meeting remotely.

Mrs. Preston called the meeting to order and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Snead-Johnson noted that the public notice of the meeting stated that attendance in the Board room would be limited to ten individuals. The public was invited to submit questions or participate remotely, but no requests were received.

#### **FY 19-20 BUDGET**

Mrs. Snead-Johnson noted that she and Ms. Irvine continue to monitor Sales Tax collections and Lottery funds for the current year. Both of these revenue sources will most likely be impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

#### **FY 20-21 BUDGET**

Mrs. Snead-Johnson noted that the City Manager's recommendation to City Council reduced the local appropriation to the School division by \$332,764. This recommended local reduction is in addition to the \$287,766 state fund reduction due to General Assembly action in response to COVID-19.

Ms. Irvine presented an expense breakdown highlighting several budget items that could be considered for reduction. Mrs. Snead-Johnson is meeting with staff to evaluate all vacant positions as a result of retirements. The Board has a second budget work session scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

Some discussion ensued regarding a joint meeting with City Council to review School budget needs. Mrs. Snead-Johnson noted that attendance at meetings is limited to ten individuals and persons attending Council meeting are screened at the police entrance for COVID-19 risks.

Mrs. Snead-Johnson noted that Dr. Fuhrman is evaluating remote learning platforms that may be necessary as staff continue to plan for the upcoming school year. CARES funds totaling \$209,881.54 are available to the Division to maintain operations and continuity of services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Applications for CARES funds are due August 1, 2020, and a budget revision will be necessary to include these funds for FY 20-21.

## **MINUTES – MAY 14, 2020**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon a motion by Mr. Arritt, seconded by Mrs. Hunter, the Board unanimously approved an executive session at 5:46 p.m. to discuss matters in relation to the Code of Virginia, Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) Personnel.

Upon a return to open session at 5:59 p.m., the Board agreed to certify the closed session under the Code of Virginia, Section 2.1-3711 (A) (1) Personnel with a roll call vote.

### **PERSONNEL**

Upon a motion by Ms. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Hunter, the Board unanimously approved Tyler Barciszewski as History/Social Studies Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year, contingent upon Virginia licensure.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Board adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

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Tamala Preston, Chair

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Rebecca Irvine, Clerk

