The members of the Portsmouth City School Board held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, \textit{April 9, 2009}, in the City Council Chamber, which is located in the City Hall Building, 801 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, Virginia.

\textbf{CALL TO ORDER}

Chairman Bridgeford called the regular meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Ms. Kathy L. Chambliss, the Clerk, and Mrs. Laura C. Chandler, the Deputy Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting. Christopher White, a twelfth-grader at I. C. Norcom High School, led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Board and the audience paused for a moment of silent prayer. Christian Hawthorne, also a twelfth-grader, offered a statement. Mrs. Ridenour presented each student with a pin as a token of the Board's appreciation for their participation in the meeting. Mr. B. Keith Nance, Sr., recited the mission statement.

\textbf{ATTENDANCE}

The following Board members were present: Dr. Elizabeth Daniels, Mr. James M. Hewitt, Mr. Edward P. McCabe, Mr. B. Keith Nance, Sr., Mrs. Linda D. Ridenour, Mrs. Costella B. Williams, and Mr. James E. Bridgeford. \textit{(Mrs. Shackelford and Dr. Whitaker were present during the Board’s early session but had to leave due to prior commitments).}

The following members of the professional staff were also in attendance: Dr. David C. Stuckwisch, \textit{Superintendent}, Dr. Patricia H. Fisher, \textit{Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction}, Mr. Dan Pendarvis, \textit{Assistant Superintendent for Budget and Planning}, Dr. Margaret R. Buxton, \textit{Director of Human Resources}, Mrs. Nita R. Mensia-Joseph, \textit{Director of Operations}, Mr. Joseph L. Wiggins, \textit{Executive Assistant to the Superintendent}, and Mr. George M. Willson, \textit{School Board Attorney}.

\textbf{APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA}

Mr. Nance moved to approve the agenda for Thursday, April 9, 2009. The motion carried by a unanimous electronic vote.


Mr. Nance moved to suspend the students named in Discipline Case Numbers 2008-09/27, 2008-09/28, 2008-09/29, 2008-09/30, and 2008-09/31 through June 17, 2009. It was so noted that the students named in case numbers 2008-09/27, 2008-09/28, 2008-09/29, and 2008-09/30 be mandated to receive anger management counseling prior to readmission. The motion carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

\textbf{RECOGNITION}

\textbf{Schools}

Mr. Joseph L. Wiggins, \textit{Executive Assistant to the Superintendent}, recognized the following schools for receiving the highest percentage of student attendance for March 2009. Each school will display an attendance banner.

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textit{Elementary—Douglass Park Elementary (96.28 percent)}
  \item \textit{Middle—William E. Waters Middle (94.36 percent)}
  \item \textit{High—Churchland High School (92.29 percent)}
  \item \textit{Center—Mt. Hermon Preschool Center (91.24 percent)}
\end{itemize}

\textbf{RECOGNITION}

Mr. Nance moved to approve the resolution recognizing Teacher Appreciation Week, May 4-8, 2009. The motion carried by a unanimous electronic-vote.

\textbf{RECOGNITION}

In observance of National School Nurse Day, Wednesday, May 6, 2009, the Portsmouth Public School Division’s Corps of School Nurses were recognized. National School Nurse Week will be observed May 6-12, 2009. Chairman Bridgeford presented Mrs. Frances L. Gray, Supervisor, with a plaque.
Minutes

Mr. Nance moved to approve the Special Meeting/Public Work Session held on Thursday, March 12, 2009; the Regular Monthly Meeting held on Thursday, March 26, 2009; and the Special Meeting held on Tuesday, March 31, 2009. The motion carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

- Mrs. Yvette Simmons, 705 Gust Lane, Portsmouth, VA 23701
  (Retirement health plan for support staff)

Monthly Report—Curriculum and Instruction

Dr. Fisher offered a report on the following: 1) textbook adoptions, 2) a grant award, and 3) student recognitions. The 2008-2009 Music Student Awards and Honors booklet, and the Governance Committee meeting minutes for Brighton and Cradock Middle schools were also provided.

Annual Special Education Plan

Mr. Nance moved to approve the Annual Special Education Plan and Part B Flow-Through for the 2009-10 School Year. The motion carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

Student Services Initiatives and Highlights

Ms. Sarah C. Sugars, Coordinator of Youth Risk Prevention offered a report on student services initiatives and highlights. Ms. Sugars provided a brief overview of the initiatives and noted that the premise of risk focus prevention is to identify problem behaviors and find ways to reduce the risk. Ms. Sugars reported that the Office of Youth Risk Prevention adheres to the prevention model developed by the institute of medicine which contains three levels: universal prevention (primary); selective, which focuses on high-risk sub groups (intervention); and indicated, for high risk individuals (treatment). Ms. Sugars also reported that there are special programs that address prevention and intervention. There was some discussion.

Monthly Report—Human Resources

Dr. Buxton offered a report on the following: 1) the voluntary retirement incentive program, 2) the Teacher of the Year Selection Committee has determined the citywide and divisionwide winners for 2009-2010, and 3) she and Dr. Stuckwisch recently met with the paraprofessionals from Parkview and the elementary library clerks whose positions may be affected by the upcoming budget changes.

Employee Transaction Report

Mrs. Williams moved to approve the Employee Transaction Report and the addendum for April 2009. The motion carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

Monthly Report—Budget and Planning

Mr. Pendarvis offered a report in the areas of Finance and Operations.

Resolution

Mr. McCabe moved to approve the Resolution to reimburse expenditures made by the school district in support of the SOL web-based technology initiative from funds provided by the Virginia Public School Authority Educational Technology notes. The motion carried by a unanimous electronic vote.

Board Members' Comments and Concerns

Mrs. Ridenour—NSBA Annual Conference, April 4-7, 2009, San Diego, CA
Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Stuckwisch offered a report on the following: 1) reminded Board members of the following events: a) Teacher of the Year Banquet, April 21, 2009, b) the VSBA Tidewater Regional Forum, April 23, 2009, c) the First Citizen Banquet, April 27, 2009, and d) the Joint City Council/School Board meeting, May 21, 2009, 2) commended the following teachers: a) Mrs. Terrica Newby, elementary mathematics specialist and member of the division’s STEM faculty, for being selected to attend the 2009 Mickelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy, b) Mrs. Cheryl Coronado, science teacher at Woodrow Wilson High School, for being selected as one of 10 finalists in the 2009 Genzyme-Life Technologies Biotech Educator Award, c) Mrs. Brenna Daniels, STEM teacher divisionwide, and Mrs. Danielle Cox-Morgan, physics teacher at Churchland High School, for their selection as 2009 Biotech Teacher Leaders, 3) shared a copy of two divisionwide programs that were highlighted in the VSBA 2009 Showcases for Success: Music Speaks and the Culinary Arts Program, 4) shared a copy of an article titled “School Division Leaders Keen on In-School Mathematics Experts,” which is featured in The Journal of Mathematics and Science: Collaborative Explorations, and 5) announced that all schools and administrative offices will be closed April 13-17, 2009, in observance of Spring Break. Dr. Stuckwisch also commented briefly on the district’s budget.

Adjournment

Chairman Bridgeford adjourned the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

James E. Bridgeford, Chairman

Kathy L. Chambliss, Clerk

May 28, 2009

Date of Adoption by the Board