

POQUOSON CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2011
CITY OF POQUOSON COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present: William Smith, Chairman
Garry Carter, Vice Chairman
Robin Sydnor
Allan Melton
Scott Diggs
Beth Ann Wilson
Thorbon Insley
Kellie Jasinski, Student Representative
Dr. Jennifer Parish, Superintendent
Dr. Linda Reviea, Deputy Superintendent
Patricia McDowell, Clerk of the Board

I. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE TO THE FLAG AND INSPIRATIONAL READING.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mary Marsh, a senior at Poquoson High School (PHS), led the Pledge to the Flag; and Brandon Evanson, also a senior at PHS, gave an inspirational reading entitled "The Art of Courage."

II. STUDENT PRESENTATION. Students from the combined choral groups *In Da Pocket* and *SoundSation* sang "Sing Me to Heaven" by Daniel E. Gawthrop. The combined groups were selected by News Channel 3 to be recorded for a special December 24th broadcast for the past two years. They were also awarded First Runner-Up in the Mixed Choir Division at the Myrtle Beach Festival Invitational last year.

III. ADDITIONS AND/OR MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA. None.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

A. The superintendent presented Mr. Charles French with a plaque recognizing him for his years of dedicated service to Poquoson City Public Schools while serving as Joint Military School Liaison Officer at Fort Monroe.

V. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

A. SEAC. Ms. Shelly Ferlemann, Special Education Advisory Committee Chairperson, presented a review of last year's activities and provided information on the planned activities of the upcoming year. A copy of her report is attached to these minutes.

B. Financial Update. Mr. Bill Bowen, Executive Director of Finance, presented an update on the rebenchmarking process.

C. Operations Update. Mr. Steve Pappas, Executive Director of Operations, presented an update on the affects Hurricane Irene, which were minimal. However, we did put our emergency plan into effect, and it served us well. The custodial and maintenance staff responded wonderfully to the schools' needs during the emergency period.

D. Instructional Update. Dr. Linda Reviea, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Support Services, announced the receipt of a DODEA grant in the amount of \$324,000 to support Reading for All (K-5). She also provided information on Advanced Placement courses and SAT Test data. She reported that last year we had students participating in 23 Advanced Placement courses, with 321 tests taken and 80.7% of the PHS Class of 2011 took the SAT test.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Financial Reports (Enclosed)
- B. Personnel Action (Enclosed)
- C. Authorization to Accept and Expend Funds Received from Department of Medical Assistance Support Services (Enclosed)
- D. Authorization to Accept and Expend Carry-Over AARA Stimulus Funds (Enclosed)

Garry Carter read the consent agenda above and moved that the agenda be approved as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Melton and vote was taken.

VOTE: 7:0

Mr. Insley, Aye; Ms. Wilson, Aye; Mr. Diggs, Aye; Mr. Melton, Aye; Ms. Sydnor, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye; Chairman Smith, Aye.

VII. OTHER MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. Approval of August Board Minutes, Regular and Work (Enclosed). Mr. Carter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Melton that the minutes be approved. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 6:1 Abstain

Mr. Insley, Aye; Ms. Wilson, Aye; Mr. Diggs, Abstain; Mr. Melton, Aye; Ms. Sydnor, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye; Chairman Smith, Aye.

B. Consideration of Approval of Proclamation for Virginia Disability History and Awareness Month (October) (Enclosed). Ms. Wilson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Diggs, that the proclamation be approved. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 7:0

Mr. Insley, Aye; Ms. Wilson, Aye; Mr. Diggs, Aye; Mr. Melton, Aye; Ms. Sydnor, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye; Chairman Smith, Aye.

C. Authorization to Accept and Expend an Appropriation from the City of Poquoson for Compensation for Poquoson City Public School Employees (Reading File Enclosed). Dr. Parish made a recommendation that the appropriation be used as a bonus for employees, to be given on December 1. Mr. Melton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Sydnor, that the appropriation be accepted and expended as recommended. Chairman Smith commented, "The School Board certainly appreciates the willingness of our City Council to provide additional funds that we are able to use for compensation for our employees this year, especially during these very challenging fiscal times. I do want to ensure that our employees understand that the Board did formally and informally request that if City Council decided to provide additional compensation during this school year that we be given enough funding to ensure that our employees received the same level of compensation as City employees. Unfortunately the \$146,000 is only half of what was needed to mirror the City employee bonus. I know I speak for the Board when I say that we do appreciate all

that our employees do and we will continue to work hard to address compensation issues in the future.” The other board members provided comments agreeing with the Chairman’s statement. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 7:0

Mr. Insley, Aye; Ms. Wilson, Aye; Mr. Diggs, Aye; Mr. Melton, Aye; Ms. Sydnor, Aye; Mr. Carter, Aye; Chairman Smith, Aye.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT. None.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS AND/OR OTHER MATTERS BY SCHOOL BOARD AND/OR SUPERINTENDENT

- Dr. Parish. Welcomed Kellie to the Board, and looks forward to working with her. She thanked four members of Military School Liaison Committee who visited with us tonight and for their work in helping us to get the DOD grant. She requested that everyone check out our new web site. She will continue to provide budget updates. We are excited about the 2011-2012 school year.
- Ms. Jasinski. She gave an update on upcoming activities at each of the four schools.
- Mr. Insley. No comments.
- Ms. Wilson. She thanked all of the folks who have been so busy working for the school division and our students. She attended a New Horizons Board meeting last month, which was their organizational meeting, Topics included discussion of their school improvement plan and Board goals.
- Mr. Diggs. He thanked Charles French for his support over the years. Gave kudos to Dr. Parish and staff for all their efforts over the summer, which were reflected in the smooth opening of school.
- Mr. Melton. He welcomed back teachers and staff. He is off to Ogden Utah next month for a Apprentice School-related activity. One of the exciting things Ogden offers is an Apprentice course offered at the high school level, and learning if such a thing would be possible at the local level. He will be attending the C&TE Advisory Meeting before the next meeting of the Poquoson School Board.
- Ms. Sydnor. She thanked Mr. Bumbaugh and the choir students for their wonderful presentation. She also gave kudos to Mr. Wright and all the teachers for their good work in the AP arena.
- Mr. Carter. Welcomed Kellie to the School Board. AP courses offer wonderful opportunities for students. Parents have to support the students to achieve such high levels. He also thanked Mr. French and thanked Ms. Feltman for her hard work in

SEAC. One of the things he learned from a SEAC meeting last year helped him to respond to a student this year. He looks forward to working with SEAC again this year.

- Chairman Smith. He complimented Kellie for her hard work in preparing for her first meeting. He also thanked Charlie French for his tip about the grant. The new Poquoson City Schools' web site is wonderful. The choir should make copies of their music to sell for a fund raiser. He complimented the school division staff for their work which enabled in the smooth opening of the new school year. "It's like a well-oiled machine."

X. MATERIAL FOR BOARD REVIEW. None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT. Chairman Smith announced that a work session would follow the Board meeting to discuss Instructional Data; the Long Range Plan and Board Objectives; and the VSBA Conference to be held in Williamsburg, November 16-18. There being no further business before the board, Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Garry Carter, Vice Chairman

Patricia McDowell, Clerk of the Board

Date