

POQUOSON CITY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
December 18, 2012 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY OF POQUOSON COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present: Garry Carter, Chairman
Robin Sydnor
Steven Kast
Allan Melton
Gail Whittaker
David Hux
Jessy Spencer, Student Representative
Jennifer Parish, Ed.D., Superintendent
Amy Colley, Assistant Superintendent
Patricia McDowell, Clerk of the Board

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

Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. David Rose, 1st Grader at Poquoson Primary School, led the Pledge and Sam Alford, a 2nd Grader, gave the Inspirational Reading entitled “Books.”

II. STUDENT PRESENTATION. Lelia Redman, Samuel Alford, and Nick Rhea, students at Poquoson Primary School, provided a narrative on Reading, followed by musical entertainment provided by Mrs. Freeman’s First Grade Class. Mrs. Kim Pohto, Music teacher, directed the musical entertainment.

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

IV. RECOGNITIONS

A. Mrs. Lauren Osborn, an English teacher at Poquoson High School, was recognized by the School Board for achieving National Board Certification.

B. Three students from Poquoson Middle School were recognized for achieving a first place win in the state in the “Stock Market Game,” as a part of the financial planning curriculum at the Middle School. Ms. Penny Huskey sponsored the team, which competed against 656 other teams across the state of Virginia.

V. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

A. Financial Update. Mr. Bill Bowen, Executive Director of Finance, presented an update on the status of our annual audit, which showed no deficiencies in our activities for Fiscal 2012. He also provided a brief update on the Governor’s Budget, which was released on Monday of this week. The full impact on PCPS is not understood as of this moment. More will be forthcoming in the weeks to come. The main concern is state funding, which hinges on our enrollment, and the Virginia Retirement System.

B. School Security. In lieu of the operations update, Dr. Jennifer Parish, Superintendent, presented information on school safety in PCPS. A copy of her remarks is posted on the division's web site.

C. Instructional Update. Mrs. Amy Colley, Assistant Superintendent, presented an update on service projects in our schools.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Financial Reports (Enclosed)
- B. Approval of Personnel Action (Enclosed)
- C. Authorization to Dispose of Surplus Property (Enclosed)
- D. Authorization to Accept and Expend Funds (Enclosed)

Vice Chairman Sydnor read the Consent Agenda above. Mr. Melton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Whittaker, that the Consent Agenda be approved as read. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 6:0

Mr. Hux, Aye; Ms. Whittaker, Aye; Mr. Melton, Aye; Mr. Kast, Aye; Ms. Sydnor, Aye; Chairman Carter, Aye.

VII. OTHER MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION.

A. Consideration of Approval of the FY 2013 Capital Improvements Program (Reading File Enclosed).

Mr. Kast made a motion, seconded by Mr. Melton, that the CIP be approved. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 6:0

Mr. Hux, Aye; Ms. Whittaker, Aye; Mr. Melton, Aye; Mr. Kast, Aye; Ms. Sydnor, Aye; Chairman Carter, Aye.

B. Consideration of Approval of Minutes of November Regular Meeting and Work Session (Enclosed).

Ms. Whittaker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hux, that the minutes be approved. Vote was taken.

VOTE: 6:0

Mr. Hux, Aye; Ms. Whittaker, Aye; Mr. Melton, Aye; Mr. Kast, Aye; Ms. Sydnor, Aye; Chairman Carter, Aye.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT. None

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

- Dr. Parish. It has been a very difficult week not only for our nation but for our city as well. Our thoughts are with the family of the young man who lost his life in a car accident, as well as with all of the families in Newtown, CT. She hopes that her presentation this evening helped to reassure our community that our students' safety is of the utmost concern. Good news is that we have two new doctors on our staff now – Dr. Doris Feltman and Dr. Barbara Wood. She wished everyone a happy holiday. Schools and offices will be closed from mid-day Thursday, to January 2.
- Ms. Spencer. Gave an update on past and upcoming activities of the schools.
- Mr. Hux. Thanked all of our students for their community service. He thanked Mr. Bowen and his finance team for their great work in helping us to get such an excellent audit. He also thanked the Poquoson Police Department for their support.
- Ms. Whittaker. Sympathy goes out to the Ritter family. Please remember to drive safely. Our sympathy also goes out to the staff, faculty and families in Newtown, CT. She thanked Dr. Parish for putting information on how to address tragedies with children on our web site. This was invaluable information. She wished everyone a happy and safe holiday and new year.
- Mr. Melton. Thanked Steve Pappas, building administrators and Operations/Maintenance staff for all of the safety drills. He congratulated the two new doctors on the staff. It was good to hear about all the community service activities our students are involved in.
- Mr. Kast. Enjoyed the community service presentation. Marie Heldreth's 4th grade class is providing goody bags to . Thanked PEF for all that they do for the school division and for our community. He appreciated the safety update, and wished everyone Happy Holidays.
- Ms. Sydnor. Echoed all sentiments above, and wished everyone a great winter break.
- Chairman Carter. Were reminded this past week just how fragile life is. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the families involved in the tragedies of last week. Please, if you get in the car, buckle your seat belt. And, keep any firearms in your homes in a safe and secure place and treat them responsibly. He also reminded families to express love. He thanked everyone in the school system for being proactive in keeping our kids safe in our schools. He thanked Mr. Bowen and his team for the successful audit. Congratulations to the two new doctors on the staff. He wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season and most of all, come back in January.

X. MATERIAL FOR BOARD REVIEW. Annual financial report.

XI. ADJOURNMENT. Chairman Carter announced that a work session would follow the Board Meeting to discuss the Program of Studies and the upcoming budget. There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Carter adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Garry W. Carter, Jr., Chairman

Patricia McDowell, Clerk of the Board

Date