



VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CHARTING THE COURSE

School Board Services

Kathleen J. Brown, Chair
District 10

Carolyn D. Weems, Vice Chair
District 9

Mark Bohienstiel
District 3
Matt W. Cummings
District 7
Dr. Alveta J. Green
District 4

Michael Callan
District 6
Rose M. Dwyer
District 1
Kimberly A. Melnyk
District 2

David Culpepper
District 8
Sharon R. Felton
At-Large
Melinda J. Rogers
District 5

Donald E. Robertson Jr., Ph.D., Superintendent

School Board Retreat/Abridged Meeting Proposed Agenda
Tuesday, July 8, and Wednesday, July 9, 2025
Professional Development Center
641 Carriage Hill Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
(757) 263-1000

The School Board Retreat will be streamed live on schoolboard.vbschools.com/meetings/live, broadcast on VBT Channel 47, as well as through Zoom through the link below, for viewing by the public.

The School Board Abridged Meeting on July 8, 2025 at 4:30 pm will be streamed live on schoolboard.vbschools.com/meetings/live, broadcast on VBT Channel 47, and on Zoom through the link below. The purpose of the Abridged meeting is for the School Board to address limited matters that cannot be put off until the next regular School Board meeting. School Board retreats and abridged meetings are not regular meetings and follow the agenda set forth for the meeting or as otherwise adopted by the School Board at the retreat or abridged meeting. Members of the Public may watch the Retreat/Abridged Meeting in person with limited seating. Notice of the School Board Meeting was posted in the School Administration Building #6, and on the VBSchools.com website.

Attendee link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88931640226> Call-in (301) 715-8592 ID 889 3164 0226

Media representatives should contact the Department of Communications and Community Engagement regarding accessing the Retreat and Abridged Meeting.

TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2025

Time	Activity	Lead(s)
12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.	LUNCH/FOOD TRUCK	Rachel Amato <i>Director, Food Services</i>
12:30 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.	Welcome and Review of Agenda	Donald E. Robertson Jr., Ph.D. <i>Superintendent</i> Kathleen Brown <i>School Board Chair</i>
12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Student Achievement Results	Lisa A. Banicky, Ph.D. <i>Executive Director of Planning, Innovation and Accountability</i>
1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Compass to 2030 – A Closer Look	Lisa A. Banicky, Ph.D. <i>Executive Director, Planning, Innovation and Accountability</i>
2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Instructional Technology Update: Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Chromebook Usage	David Din <i>Chief Information Officer</i> Danielle Colucci, Ed.D. <i>Chief Academic Officer</i>
3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Building Usage and Redistricting	Melisa Ingram <i>Executive Director, Facilities Services</i>
3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Closing Thoughts	Donald E. Robertson Jr., Ph.D. <i>Superintendent</i> Kathleen Brown <i>School Board Chair</i>
4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Break Prepare for Abridged School Board Meeting	



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Abridged School Board Meeting Proposed Agenda **July 8, 2025**

- 1. Call to Order and Attendance.....4:30 p.m.***
**Time may be adjusted due to early/late completion of the Retreat*
- 2. Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Adoption of the Abridged Meeting Agenda**
- 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - A. June 24, 2025, Regular School Board Meeting
- 5. Action**
 - A. Personnel Report/Administrative Appointments
- 6. Closed Session (as needed)**
- 7. Adjournment**



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WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2025

Time	Activity	Lead(s)
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast	
9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Welcome and Review of Agenda	Donald E. Robertson Jr., Ph.D. <i>Superintendent</i> Kathleen Brown <i>School Board Chair</i>
9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Gifted Education Plan Update	Crystal Wilkerson, Ed.D. <i>Director of K-12 and Gifted Programs</i>
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	CIP Update	Donald E. Robertson Jr., Ph.D. <i>Superintendent</i> Jack Freeman <i>Chief Operations Officer</i>
11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Jericho Road Update	Carolyn Weems, Dr. Alveta Green <i>School Board Members</i>
11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Review of FERPA and Discipline Committee Best Practices	Kamala Lannetti <i>School Board Attorney</i> Leeane Turnbull <i>Director, Office of Student Leadership</i>
12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.	LUNCH	
12:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Budget Process 1. Reconciliation 2. Plan for Board Input 3. Pay Scale Considerations 4. Next Steps	Crystal Pate <i>Chief Financial Officer</i> Darnita Trotman, Ed.D. <i>Chief Human Resources Officer</i>
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Retreat Summary and Next Steps	Donald E. Robertson Jr., Ph.D. <i>Superintendent</i> Kathleen Brown <i>School Board Chair</i>



Subject: Approval of Minutes **Item Number:** 4A

Section: Approval of Meeting Minutes **Date:** July 8, 2025

Senior Staff: N/A

Prepared by: Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk

Presenter(s): Regina M. Toneatto, School Board Clerk

Recommendation:

That the School Board adopt the following set of minutes as presented:

- A. June 24, 2025 Regular School Board Meeting

Background Summary:

N/A

Source:

Bylaw 1-40

Bylaw 1-43

Budget Impact:

No budgetary implications.

Next Steps:

No further action needed.



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School Board Regular Meeting MNUTES **Tuesday, June 24, 2025**

School Administration Building #6, Municipal Center
2512 George Mason Drive
P.O. Box 6038
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
(757) 263-1000

- 1. Administrative, Informal, and Workshop:** Chair Brown convened the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session at 4:30 p.m. on the 24th day of June 2025. In addition to Superintendent Robertson, the following School Board Members were present in the School Administration Building #6, School Board Chamber: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer (arrived at 4:33 p.m.), Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk.

The following School Board Member attended the meeting via Zoom: Ms. Rogers (personal/out of town). Chair Brown noted Mr. Culpepper would be arriving at the meeting later.

- A. School Board Administrative Matters and Reports: There were no items discussed.
- B. Harbor Hope Center Progress (Region 2 Recovery School) Update: Robert Jamison, executive director, Office of Student Support Services, provided the School Board information on the Harbor Hope Center progress and the work of the Region II Steering Committee from April 12, 2025 through June 13, 2025. Some key points included: awarded Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority (VOAA) Cooperative Partnership Grant totaling \$1.5 million, the execution of memorandums of understanding, development of a website, interviewed for program coordinator, and continued the development of operational details and logistics.
- The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding student recruitment; the number of openings for students, allotted seats for school districts; development of an informational flyer; military liaison; program funding; MOU and Bylaws; Ms. Weems was named Chair of the Governing Board; transportation; VBCPS as fiscal authority; information will be available on HHC website; thank you to leadership for their work; and sharing information with the School Board via their SharePoint site.
- C. Forecast of Regular School Board Meeting Agenda Topics First Quarter 2025-26 (July, August, September): Superintendent Robertson provided the School Board with the forecast of agenda topics to be presented at School Board meetings during the first quarter (July, August, September) of the 2025-2026 school year. It was noted, the document is a planning document and subject to change. Some



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School Administration Building #6, Municipal Center
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upcoming topics included were: August 12 – Summer Programming Review, Summer Staffing Update, Program Evaluation Schedule for 2025-2026; September 9 – School Opening Update, CIP Committee Work Review, Budget Calendar; and September 23 – Staffing Up for Success: 2025/2026 Opening of School Update, and Interim Financial Statements. A brief discussion followed regarding an update on the transition of Bayside Middle School; work plan for move and staffing; visit during the first week of school; and will review during agenda planning to put topic on an upcoming meeting agenda.

- 2. Closed Session:** At 5:02 p.m., Vice Chair Weems made the following motion, seconded by Ms. Dwyer, that the School Board recess into Closed Session in accordance with the exceptions to open meetings law set forth in Code of Virginia §2.2-3711, Part A, Paragraphs 1, 3, 7, and 8 as amended, to deliberate on the following matters:
1. Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals. Any teacher shall be permitted to be present during a closed meeting in which there is a discussion or consideration of a disciplinary matter that involves the teacher and some student, and the student involved in the matter is present, provided that the teacher makes a written request to be present to the presiding officer of the appropriate board. Nothing in this subdivision, however, shall be construed to authorize a closed meeting by a local governing body or an elected school board to discuss compensation matters that affect the membership of such body or board collectively.
 3. Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.
 7. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.
 8. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.
Namely to discuss:
 - A. Superintendent's contract.
 - B. Discussion on property at Jericho Road.
 - C. School Board Attorney evaluation.
 - D. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases.
 - E. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters.



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Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion to recess into Closed Session: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion passed, 9-0-0. Note: Ms. Rogers did not participate in the vote, since she was attending the meeting via Zoom.

The School Board recessed into Closed Session at 5:05 p.m.

Individuals present for discussions in the order in which matters were discussed:

- B. Discussion on property at Jericho Road: School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk; Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., superintendent; Jack Freeman, chief operations officer; Melisa Ingram, executive director, Office of Facilities Services; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.
- D. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases; and
- E. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters: School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk; Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., superintendent; Jack Freeman, chief operations officer; Melisa Ingram, executive director, Office of Facilities Services; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

Jack Freeman, chief operations officer, and Melisa Ingram, executive director, Office of Facilities Services left the Closed Session at 5:19 p.m.

The School Board reconvened at 5:25 p.m.

Certification of Closed Session: Vice Chair Weems read the Certification of Closed Session:

WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach 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 School Board of the City of Virginia Beach hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification applies, 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.

Ms. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cummings. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion for Certification of Closed Session: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion passed, 9-0-0.



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3. School Board Recess:

Chair Brown adjourned the Administrative, Informal, and Workshop session at 5:26 p.m.

4. Formal Meeting (School Administration Building #6 – School Board Room)6:00 p.m.

- 5. Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chair Brown convened the meeting of the School Board at the School Administration Building #6, School Board Chamber at 6:00 p.m. on the 24th day of June 2025. In addition to Superintendent Robertson, the following School Board Members were present in the School Administration Building #6, School Board Chamber: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohlenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper (arrived at 6:17 p.m.), Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk.

The following School Board Member attended the meeting via Zoom: Ms. Rogers (personal/out of town).

6. Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

7. Student, Employee and Public Awards and Recognition

The following recognitions given by the School Board on June 24, 2025, celebrated various student achievements across various categories.

- A. Top 20 Under 20, Hampton Roads Workforce Council: The Hampton Roads Workforce Council honored eight students from four VBCPS high schools (Kempsville, Bayside, Landstown, and Ocean Lakes) for their commitment to serving the community, entrepreneurial endeavors, leadership and academic achievement.
- B. VHSL Class 5 Extemporaneous Speaking, First Place – First Colonial High School: Noor Nagy from First Colonial High School was recognized for winning first place in this competitive speaking category, highlighting her exceptional skills.
- C. VHSL Class 5 State Debate Champions – Princess Anne High School: The Princess Anne High School debate team was acknowledged for their outstanding performance, leading to their state championship title, with individual recognitions for team members.
- D. VHSL Class 5 Track Individual and Relay Champions – Bayside High School: Andrew Salvodon from Bayside High School was celebrated for his individual achievements in track and field. Andrew won the 200-meter with a time of 21.74 seconds and the 400-meter with an outstanding time of 46.18 seconds. The members of the 2025 Class 5 State Champion Boys 4 by 100-meter relay team from Bayside High School - Halim Hardnett, Breon Hardnett, Kyree Ramseur, and Elijah Willoughby were also recognized for their achievements.
- E. VHSL Class 5 Baseball State Champions – Ocean Lakes High School: Ocean Lakes High School's baseball team was recognized for winning their first state title, by a score of 2-1 on June 14.

- 8. Adoption of the Agenda:** Chair Brown called for any modifications to the agenda as presented. Vice Chair Weems mentioned adding the VSBA Membership to the Action agenda – Item #15D. Without further modifications to the agenda, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented and modified. Ms. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Vice Chair Weems. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the agenda as presented and modified. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

9. Superintendent's Report (second monthly meeting) and recognitions (first and second monthly meetings)

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Robertson shared the following information: 1) Graduation Success - statistics from the graduation ceremony, with 61.3% of graduates earning honors and 76% planning to attend college. The total scholarships accepted reached over \$62 million, marking a significant increase.; 2) Oceans of Success Field Trip - approximately 150 of our third, fourth, and fifth graders were rewarded for their academic improvements with a field trip to the Virginia Aquarium, where they engaged with various marine life, enhancing their learning experience.; 3) Sea Summer Solstice Event – the



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community event raised over \$11,000 for the Virginia Beach Education Foundation, supporting innovative projects for teachers and Beach Bags, which provides meals to students in need.; and 4) Retirement Celebration – on June 17, there was a celebration of over 100 retirees, recognizing their contributions to public education and wishing them well in their future endeavors.

Administrative Recognitions: Superintendent Robertson introduced the following appointments, which were approved at the June 3, 2025, School Board Meeting: Catherine I. Gadzinski, administrative assistant, Virginia Beach Middle School, as assistant principal of Old Donation School; Kristyna A. Lange, administrative assistant, Bayside High School, as assistant principal of Bayside Middle School; Whitney N. Szoke, Ph.D., assistant principal, Bayside High School, as principal, Larkspur Middle School; and Domenica T. Worsley, health services nursing specialist, Office of Student Leadership, as coordinator, health services, Office of Student Leadership.

10. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- A. **June 3, 2025 Special School Board Meeting:** Chair Brown called for any modifications to the June 3, 2025, Special School Board Meeting minutes as presented. Hearing none, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the June 3, 2025, minutes as presented. Mr. Callan made the motion, seconded by Ms. Dwyer. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the June 3, 2025, minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.
- B. **June 9, 2025 Regular School Board Meeting:** Chair Brown called for any modifications to the June 9, 2025, Regular School Board Meeting minutes as presented. Hearing none, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the June 9, 2025, minutes as presented. Ms. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Vice Chair Weems. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the June 9, 2025, minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

11. Public Comments (until 8:00 p.m.)

There were three (3) in-person speakers and two (2) online speakers. The topics included DEI; SEL; bullying; cell phones; Regulation 5-52.1; time and place for cell phones; cell phone violations and processing referrals; restraint and seclusion; Gifted Committee recommendations; gifted plan; ODS budget; and retesting for gifted students.

The Public Comments concluded at 6:43 p.m.

12. Information

- A. **Interim Financial Statements – May 2025:** Daniel Hopkins, director, Office of Business Services, presented financial information to the School Board for the period ending May 31, 2025. The overall revenue trends are acceptable, with state revenues projected to exceed the budget due to a \$2.3 million increase in sales tax. State Basic Aid will decrease based on our composite index. Federal revenues are also favorable, with approximately \$14.6 million received in impact aid year-to-date. Additionally, while other revenue sources are down by \$400,000 from the previous year, sales tax receipts are slightly higher compared to last year, and expenditure trends remain acceptable.
- B. **Gifted Community Advisory Committee 2024-2025 Report:** Crystal Wilkerson, Ed.D., director, Office of K-12 and Gifted Programs and Allison Krug, chairperson, Gifted Community Advisory Committee, presented information to the School Board regarding the 2024-2025 report of the Community Advisory Committee for Gifted Education and an update from the Office of Gifted Education. The Gifted Community Advisory Committee (GCAC) is responsible for reviewing the local plan annually and



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determining the extent to which the previous year's plan was implemented. The GCAC collaborated with the Office of Gifted Programs and the Office of Planning, Innovation, and Accountability. They highlighted opportunities for gifted students to families, conducted site visits at schools, and engaged with the new VDOE School Performance and Support Framework. The following recommendations were reviewed: strengthen partnerships between the GCAC and district offices to evaluate the implementation of the Local Plan with integrity and fidelity; communicate essential responsibilities of gifted resource teachers (GRTs) to administrators to ensure strategic assignment of duties; advocate for the implementation of best practices and gifted pedagogy across all elementary and middle gifted resource-cluster classes; and prioritize staffing allocations for GRTs and provide additional support for schools with lower rates of identification for intellectually gifted students.

The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding gifted students from each school; coaching and supporting schools; staffing; Gifted Resource Teachers; data collection and data points, where students are starting and progress; parent and community engagement; schools and special programs; delivery of services; twice exceptional students; gifted services; IEPs; Old Donation School (ODS); curriculum and pacing; best practices, students reaching their potential; diverse population; meeting students where they are; identifying giftedness; helping students, finding strategies, supporting teachers; budget and ODS; cluster programs; and supporting gifted students.

- C. Special Education Community Advisory Committee Annual Report: Roni Myers-Daub, Ed.D., executive director, Office of Programs for Exceptional Children and Meghan Ashburn, chairperson, Special Education Advisory Committee, provided the School Board information regarding the 2024-2025 report of the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC). The SEAC advises on the needs related to the education of students with disabilities, reviews policies and procedures, and participates in the review of the division's Local Special Education Annual Plan/Part B Flow-Through Application and Report. Key activities include soliciting public comments, participating in presentations by division staff, and engaging with the Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC) Family Support Specialist for Region 2. Recommendations for the 2025-26 school year include reviewing and prohibiting the use of seclusion in schools, supporting the increase of students with disabilities accessing the Pre-K program, addressing findings from the VDOE Cyclical Review, and mandating training for school administrators and staff.

The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding the increase in numbers of special education students; number of Pre-K programs; disruptive behavior, positive behavior supports; support for teachers, access to a Special Education Teacher; services for the needs of students; support teacher training, VDOE training; IEP and 504 Plans; definitions; seclusion; and behaviors in the classroom.

- D. Video Services Transition: David Din, chief information officer, provided the School Board with information regarding the division transition of video services provided by VBCPS instead of VBTB. A brief historic overview was provided. The following phases were reviewed – Phase 1 (July 2024 - June 30, 2025): VBCPS hires two new staff members to assume video services. The City trains VBCPS staff and updates all VBCPS broadcast equipment. Phase 2 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026): VBCPS assumes video services, broadcast equipment, and programming responsibilities. The City provides support if needed. Phase 3 (July 1, 2026 and beyond): VBCPS receives 50% of revenues from public broadcast fees. VBCPS will manage broadcast content and schedule, incorporating AI-generated meeting summaries and streaming capabilities. The recordings will be smarter and connected to agendas. VBCPS positions have been hired, and training is in progress. VBCPS will assume video services by July 1. The next steps include determining streaming needs, such as committee meetings.



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The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding location of meetings for streaming (either Einstein Lab or School Board Chambers); meeting summaries; tabs on videos for easier searching; cable TV; streaming platforms; fee revenue; additional costs, manpower; equipment; and the request for direction from the School Board regarding which meetings to stream.

- E. Regulation 5-52.1 Update: Matthew Delaney, chief schools officer, provided the School Board information regarding School Board Regulation 5-52.1 Cellular Phones and Personal Communication Devices-Limitation on Use. It was mentioned that no information has been received from the VDOE (Virginia Department of Education) on recent legislation and implementation support. Data was reviewed regarding primary cell phone violations. During the 2024-2025 school year, there were over 6,600 referrals where cell phone violations were the primary reason for the referral. Data was also reviewed for the location of cell phone violations. In 2024-2025, 83% of cell phone violations occurred in the classroom.

The presentation continued with questions and comments regarding student cell phone use; phones during One Lunch; teacher responsibilities and student cell phone usage; cell phone free bell-to-bell; teaching students time and place to use cell phones; parents contacting students, family emergencies; calling the school; VDOE guidance; how students receive information, school announcements; student screen time; technology use and impacts on youth; use of phones during free time; focus on learning, cell phone free education; Student Code of Conduct; following the law; teacher support/help from building principal, parental support; model behavior; guidance from state; clarification on terms; plans to communicate to family regarding cell phone policy; expectations; consistency from school to school; and overview of the law.

- F. Textbook Adoption: AP Latin: Crystal Wilkerson, Ed.D., director, Office of K-12 and Gifted Programs provided the School Board information regarding the adoption of the AP Latin textbook. Dr. Wilkerson mentioned Open Educational Resources (OER), free and perpetual permission for retaining, remixing, revising, reusing, and redistributing the resources. The textbook recommendation is "*College Pliny and Vergil (1st Ed.)*" by Geoffrey Steadman, which aligns with the AP Latin curriculum framework and includes all required readings, vocabulary lists, grammar explanations, and historical/cultural context. The initial implementation cost is \$0, with no additional costs over the next five years. There was a brief discussion regarding cost; the number of students needing textbooks; and any additional costs if offered to more students.

- 13. Return to public comments if needed:** As noted under Agenda Item #11, the Public Comments concluded at 6:43 p.m.

- 14. Consent Agenda:** Chair Brown read the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- A. Policy Review Committee (PRC) Recommendations: Recommended that the School Board approve Policy Review Committee (PRC) recommendations regarding the amendment of certain policies as recommended by the PRC at its May 21, 2025 meeting.
1. Policy 3-67/Environmentally Sustainable Practices: The PRC recommends removing language that requires the School Division to design new construction to LEED standards and other minor formatting changes.
 2. Policy 4-3/Grievances and Grievance Procedures: Teachers: The PRC recommends minor scrivener's changes.



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3. Policy 4-4/Equal Opportunity, Non-discrimination and anti-harassment and Compliance Officers: The PRC recommends including updating the language to align with the language in the Virginia Human Rights Act, updating address information throughout the policy.
4. Policy 4-15/Personnel Records: The PRC recommends updating the list of documents that are to be maintained in the official personnel file, rewording language for clarity, and minor scrivener's changes.
- B. School Board Organizational Matters:
 1. Superintendent's Designee in the Absence of the Superintendent: Recommended that the School Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation to appoint Cheryl R. Woodhouse, Chief of Staff, and Crystal M. Pate, Chief Financial Officer, as designees of the division superintendent to attend meetings of the School Board in the absence or inability to attend of the superintendent for the 2025-26 fiscal year pursuant to Code of Virginia § 22.1-76, ... approval of division superintendent's designee.
 2. Superintendent's Signature Authority: Recommended that the School Board authorize the Superintendent's recommendation to extend the term of signature authority for Cheryl R. Woodhouse, Chief of Staff, and Crystal M. Pate, Chief Financial Officer, through June 30, 2026 to sign all Virginia Department of Education correspondence (VDOE), reports, documents, requisitions and other official correspondence in the absence of the division superintendent.
 3. Payroll Deductions: Recommended that the School Board authorize the following list of payroll deductions for the 2025-26 fiscal year pursuant to Board Policy 4-36 – Payroll Deductions; and its corresponding Regulation 4-36.1 – Payroll Deductions:

1. Health Plans	11. State Tax Liens	20. Employee Authorized Payment(s) owed to the School Division
2. Dental Plans	12. Local Tax Liens	21. VRS Service Buy Back
3. Tax Sheltered Annuities	13. State Education (Student Loans)	22. Workers' Compensation Salary/Leave Adjustments
4. Flexible Benefit Plans	14. Child Support	23. Travel Advance and Other Purchase Repayments
5. Long Tenn Disability Plan	15. Court Orders/Bankruptcies	24. Voluntary Benefits
6. Association Dues	16. Legal Resources	25. Administrative Processing Fees, where applicable
7. United Way	17. Direct Deposit	26. VRS Retirement - Member Contribution Rate
8. Deferred Compensation	18. VRS Optional Life Insurance	27. Virginia Beach Education Foundation
9. Garnishments	19. Salary/Leave Adjustments	
10. Federal Tax Liens		

- C. Lynnhaven Elementary School HVAC Replacement: Recommended that the School Board approve a motion authorizing the Superintendent to execute a contract with JRC Services, LLC for the Lynnhaven Elementary School HVAC Replacement in the amount of \$4,297,728.
- D. Pembroke Elementary School HVAC Replacement: Recommended that the School Board approve a motion authorizing the Superintendent to execute a contract with Comfort Systems of Virginia for the Pembroke Elementary School HVAC Replacement in the amount of \$1,139,000.
- E. Updated General Fees Schedule 2025-2026: Recommended that the School Board approve the information presented on June 2 for the Revised FY 2025/26 General Fees Schedule, which includes revisions to the Adult Learning Center Adult Nursing Program rates.



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- F. Old Seatack Elementary School/Law Enforcement Training Academy (LETA) Lease: Recommended that the School Board approve a motion authorizing the Chair to execute the attached second Lease Extension to the original lease dated April 25, 2000 between the School Board and the City of Virginia Beach to continue to house the Law Enforcement Training Academy (LETA) at the Old Seatack Elementary School.

After reading the items on the Consent Agenda, Chair Brown asked if there were any objections to voting on the Consent Agenda as presented. Hearing none, Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ms. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Mr. Cummings. Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

15. **Action**

- A. Personnel Report / Administrative Appointments:

Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the June 24, 2024 personnel report and administrative appointments. Ms. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Ms. Melnyk, that the School Board approve the appointments, and the acceptance of the resignations, retirements and other employment actions as listed on the June 24, 2025 personnel report along with the administrative appointment as recommended by the Superintendent. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the June 24, 2025, personnel report and administrative appointments. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

Superintendent Robertson mentioned the following appointments: Alicia A. N. Broadwater, instructional specialist, Department of Teaching and Learning, as assistant principal of Kempsville Meadows Elementary School; Jonathan M. Duggan, administrative assistant, Providence Elementary School, as assistant principal of Alanton Elementary School; Brittany M. Ferguson, instructional technology specialist, Red Mill Elementary School, as assistant principal of Birdneck Elementary School; Parker W. Thoroughgood, administrative assistant, W.T. Cooke and Luxford Elementary Schools, as assistant principal of Princess Anne Elementary School; Janay C. Washington, Ph.D., administrative assistant, Larkspur Middle School, as assistant principal of Landstown Middle School; Jeremy L. Cox, assistant principal, Salem Middle School, as assistant principal of Renaissance Academy; Sergio A. Guillen, administrative assistant, Landstown High School, as assistant principal of Kellam High School; Dennis O. Kelly, Jr., dean of students, Bayside Middle School, as assistant principal of Renaissance Academy; Meredith L. Brookman, instructional specialist, Office of K-12 and Gifted Programs, as coordinator, Fine Arts, Office of K-12 and Gifted Programs; Andrea N. Caretta, financial management specialist, as coordinator, budget development, Department of Budget and Finance; Bruce H. Clarke, assistant principal, Windsor Woods Elementary School, as coordinator, Regional Recovery School at Harbor Hope Center; Katherine R. Goldberg, Ph. D., principal, Point O'View Elementary School, as director, Instructional Technology, Department of Teaching and Learning; Thomas C. Shattuck, coordinator, Security and Safe Schools, as director, Safe Schools, Office of Security and Emergency Management; Caitlin B. Strom, assistant principal, Bettie F. Williams Elementary School, as employee relations specialist, Department of Human Resources; and Christie M. Verebely, principal, Southeastern Cooperative Educational Programs, as coordinator, Special Education, Office of Programs for Exceptional Children.

- B. School Board Committee Assignment Modifications for term ending June 30, 2026: Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the School Board Committee assignment modifications for term ending June 30, 2026. Mr. Cummings made the motion, seconded by Mr. Culpepper. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eleven (11) ayes in favor of the



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motion to approve the School Board Committee assignment modifications for term ending June 30, 2026. The motion passed unanimously, 11-0-0.

- C. Regulation 5-52.1/ Cellular Phones and Personal Electronic Communication Devices – Limitation on Use: Chair Brown called for a motion to approve Regulation 5-52.1/Cellular Phones and Personal Electronic Communication Devices – Limitation on Uses. Ms. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Vice Chair Weems. A discussion followed regarding the motion on the floor and what was being voted upon. Vice Chair Weems made the following substitute motion to approve the regulation with the noted changes as follows:

Under A. Definitions, Section 2 – third line remove the words, *...for elementary and middle school students*. Under C. Students use of personal electronic communication devices – non instructional time, high school lunch time or special events, removal of Section 2 - *High School students may use personal electronic communication devices during their designated lunch period*; then renumber remaining sections accordingly. Ms. Dwyer seconded the substitute motion by Vice Chair Weems.

Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote to approve Vice Chair Weems' substitute motion. Vice Chair Weems restated her substitute motion, to approve Regulation 5-52.1 as changed, striking out A.2. *"for elementary and middle school students."* and C2, then renumbering three and four to two and three. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the substitute motion by Vice Chair Weems: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings; Ms. Dwyer, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. There were two (2) nays opposed to the substitute motion by Vice Chair Weems: Ms. Felton, and Ms. Rogers. The substitute motion passed, 9-2-0.

- D. VSBA Membership: Note, item was added during the Adoption of the Agenda. See Agenda Item #8. Chair Brown called for a motion to approve the VSBA Membership for the fiscal year 2025-26. Ms. Dwyer made the motion, seconded by Ms. Melnyk. A discussion followed regarding professional development provided by VSBA; membership benefits.

Mr. Cummings called a point of order regarding the previous vote on the substitute motion for Regulation 5-52.1. A brief discussion followed on the difference between a substitute motion and an amended motion; and guidance to have a motion to reconsider.

The discussion on the floor then returned to the VSBA membership; another group for School Board Members to join; VSBA does not have individual memberships but a division as a whole; support for voting for VSBA membership even if disagrees with policies; VSBA and student recognitions, VBCPS staff presenting at VSBA functions; and networking with other School Board Members. Without further discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were nine (9) ayes in favor of the motion to approve the VSBA Membership for the fiscal year 2025-26: Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohensiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, Ms. Melnyk, and Ms. Rogers. There were two (2) nays opposed to the motion to approve the VSBA Membership for the fiscal year 2025-26: Chair Brown, and Mr. Culpepper.

16. **Committee, Organization or Board Reports:** Ms. Lannetti mentioned the Gifted Community Advisory Committee Report and the Special Education Community Advisory Report; did not vote on the reports in the past, required to be presented to the School Board.

Mr. Cummings made a motion to reconsider his vote on Vice Chair Weems' substitute motion on



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Regulation 5-52.1. Vice Chair Weems seconded the motion. There was clarification on what the motion entailed; vote on the substitute motion presented by Vice Chair Weems regarding the changes to Regulation 5-52.1. Without further discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were eight (8) ayes in favor of the motion to reconsider: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Ms. Dwyer, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. There were three (3) nays opposed to the motion to reconsider: Mr. Cummings, Ms. Felton, and Ms. Rogers. The motion passed, 8-3-0.

Vice Chair Weems mentioned the Policy Review Committee meeting on June 25 at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Bohenstiel mentioned GRC graduated every student from the class of 2025.

17. Return to Administrative, Informal, Workshop or Closed Session matters: At 10:09 p.m., Vice Chair Weems made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Cummings that that the School Board recess into Closed Session in accordance with the exceptions to open meetings law set forth in Code of Virginia §2.2-3711, Part A, Paragraphs 1, 3, 7, and 8 as amended, to deliberate on the following matters:

1. Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments or schools of public institutions of higher education where such evaluation will necessarily involve discussion of the performance of specific individuals. Any teacher shall be permitted to be present during a closed meeting in which there is a discussion or consideration of a disciplinary matter that involves the teacher and some student, and the student involved in the matter is present, provided that the teacher makes a written request to be present to the presiding officer of the appropriate board. Nothing in this subdivision, however, shall be construed to authorize a closed meeting by a local governing body or an elected school board to discuss compensation matters that affect the membership of such body or board collectively.
3. Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.
7. Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. For the purposes of this subdivision, "probable litigation" means litigation that has been specifically threatened or on which the public body or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.
8. Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to permit the closure of a meeting merely because an attorney representing the public body is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

Namely to discuss:



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- A. Superintendent's contract.
- C. School Board Attorney evaluation.
- D. Status of pending litigation or administrative cases.
- E. Consultation with legal counsel regarding probable litigation and pending litigation matters.

Without discussion, Chair Brown called for a vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion to recess into Closed Session: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion passed, 9-0-0.

Note: Ms. Rogers did not participate in the vote, since she was attending the meeting via Zoom.

The School Board recessed into Closed Session at 10:15 p.m.

Individuals present for discussion in the order in which matters were discussed:

- A. Superintendent's contract: School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer (joined the Closed Session at 10:18 p.m.), Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk; Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney; Donald E. Robertson, Ph.D., superintendent; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

Superintendent Robertson left the Closed Session at 10:23 p.m.

The following School Board Members left and returned to the Closed Session:

Mr. Culpepper left at 10:49 p.m. and returned at 10:51 p.m.

Mr. Cummings left at 10:46 p.m. and returned at 10:47 p.m.

Ms. Dwyer left at 10:48 p.m. and returned at 10:49 p.m.

Ms. Melnyk left at 10:22 p.m. and returned at 10:24 p.m.

Vice Chair Weems left at 10:46 p.m. and returned at 10:48 p.m.

- C. School Board Attorney evaluation: School Board Members: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper, Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk; Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney; and Regina M. Toneatto, school board clerk.

Kamala H. Lannetti, school board attorney left the Closed Session at 10:55 p.m.

The following School Board Members left and returned to the Closed Session:

Mr. Callan left at 11:16 p.m. and returned at 11:18 p.m.; left at 11:43 p.m. and returned at 11:46 p.m.

Mr. Culpepper left at 11:46 p.m. and returned at 11:48 p.m.

Ms. Felton left at 11:11 p.m. and returned at 11:18 p.m.

Dr. Green left at 11:39 p.m. and returned at 11:42 p.m.

The School Board reconvened at 11:58 p.m.

Certification of Closed Session: Vice Chair Weems read the Certification of Closed Session:



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WHEREAS, the School Board of the City of Virginia Beach 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 School Board of the City of Virginia Beach hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification applies, 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.

Ms. Melnyk made the motion, seconded by Ms. Dwyer. Without discussion, Chair Brown called for the vote. The School Board Clerk announced there were ten (10) ayes in favor of the motion for Certification of Closed Session: Chair Brown, Vice Chair Weems, Mr. Bohenstiel, Mr. Callan, Mr. Culpepper; Mr. Cummings, Ms. Dwyer, Ms. Felton, Dr. Green, and Ms. Melnyk. The motion passed, 10-0-0.

- 18. Adjournment:** Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Regina M. Toneatto, Clerk of the School Board

Approved:

Kathleen J. Brown, School Board Chair



Subject: Personnel Report **Item Number:** 5A

Section: Action **Date:** July 8, 2025

Senior Staff: Darnita L. Trotman, Ed.D., Chief Human Resources Officer

Prepared by: Darnita L. Trotman, Ed.D., Chief Human Resources Officer

Presenter(s): Donald R. Robertson Jr., Ph.D., Superintendent

Recommendation:

That the School Board approve the appointments and the acceptance of the resignations, retirements, and other employment actions as listed on the July 8, 2025, Personnel Report.

Background Summary:

List of appointments, resignations, and retirements for all personnel.

Source:

School Board Policy #4-11, Appointment
School Board Policy #4-16, Resignation and Job Abandonment

Budget Impact:

Appropriate funding and allocations

Decorum and Order-School Board Meetings 1-48

School Board of the City of Virginia Beach
Bylaw 1-48

SCHOOL BOARD BYLAWS

Decorum and Order-School Board Meetings

A. Purpose of decorum and order during meetings

The School Board determines that decorum and order are necessary during School Board Meetings. The purposes for maintaining decorum and order are:

1. to ensure that the affairs of the School Board and School Board Committees may be conducted in an open, safe and orderly manner during meetings;
2. that all persons signed up to address the School Board during public comment sections of meetings have the opportunity to do so in an orderly and respectful manner and without being interrupted;
3. that persons in attendance may observe and hear the proceedings of the School Board without distraction and interruption;
4. that students and other young audience members who attend or watch such meetings are not subject to inappropriate language or conduct;
5. that School Board Members and School Division employees or other agents can transact the business of the School Board and the School Division with minimal disruption.

B. Limitations on addressing the School Board

Persons addressing the School Board during public comment sections of the meeting shall:

1. Limit their comments to matters relevant to PreK-12 public education in Virginia Beach and the business of the School Board and the School Division.
2. Refrain from obscenity, vulgarity, profanity, and comments or actions with the intent to incite violence or other breach of peace.
3. Comply with the time limits and other rules for public comment set forth in the agenda or Bylaws.
4. During special meetings or public hearings, the School Board may set different rules or time limits for public comments.

C. Other expressive activities during meetings

1. Public comments during meetings limited to matters relevant to public education and the business of the School Board

At regular School Board Meetings, the School Board accepts public comment during designated sections of the Meeting Agenda. The public comment sections of School Board Meetings are limited public forums for the sole purpose of accepting comments from members of the public relevant to PreK-12 public education in Virginia Beach and the business of the School Board and the School Division. The

School Board does not accept other forms of public comment during Meetings or at those times immediately preceding or following a Meeting.

2. Expressive activities during meetings

To maintain decorum and order and conduct the business of the School Board and the School Division during meetings, expressive activities by members of the public in meetings will be limited or prohibited. On any day that a meeting is scheduled to take place, the School Board prohibits certain expressive activity, including but not limited to the following, expressive activities:

- Petitioning, demonstrating, picketing, pamphlet distribution, conducting polls, or solicitation in the Building where the Meeting is taking place
- Displaying or using signs, posters or other items brought into the meeting room that block the view of persons in or observing the meeting or create a safety concern. Possession of such items while in the meeting location will not be prohibited.
- Use of noise making devices
- Use of excessive cheering, booing, clapping, or similar activity that disrupts the meeting, as determined by the Chair or designee.
- Calling out or making comments when not called to address the School Board
- Intimidation, harassment or threats to persons in the meeting or who are entering or departing the meeting or the location of the meeting
- Instigating or attempting to instigate confrontations or other conduct for the purpose of disrupting the meeting
- Other conduct that violates decorum and order as determined by the Chair or designee

3. School Administration Building or other locations for meetings are not open public forums for public expression

The School Administration Building (or another building or location where a meeting is scheduled to take place) its grounds and reserved parking spaces are not open for expressive activities unless a facility use request or application has been approved by the Superintendent or designees. The Superintendent or designees are authorized to designate areas of the School Administration Building (or other building or location for a meeting), the grounds and parking lots that may be considered for facility use request or application. The Superintendent or designee are authorized to develop and implement regulations and/or procedures related to such facility use requests or applications.

D. Other methods of communicating with the School Board

The School Board encourages citizens and other interested parties to communicate with the School Board regarding matters related to public education. Due to the limited time scheduled to conduct business and the need to follow approved agenda items, School Board meetings may not be conducive for all forms of communication to the School Board. Persons seeking to communicate with the School Board may contact School Board Members through other methods of communication, including SchoolBoard@VBCPSBoard.com or email individual School Board Members in addition to those provided at School Board meetings.

This Bylaw does not preclude persons addressing the School Board from delivering the School Board or its Clerk written materials including reports, statements, exhibits, letters, or signed petitions prior to or after a Meeting. While public speakers are addressing the School Board, they may not approach the School Board to hand out

items but will instead be directed to leave items with the Clerk or designee for the School Board to consider after the Meeting.

This Bylaw does not preclude persons called to address the School Board during public comment sections from using a chart, graph or other item during their public comments so long as that item does not interfere with the School Board and other persons observing the Meeting from hearing or seeing the speaker and the item does not create a safety issue or otherwise violate the decorum and order rules. Furthermore, nothing herein shall be interpreted to prohibit members of the public from communicating with the School Board or the School Administration on matters relevant to PreK-12 public education in Virginia Beach and the business of the School Board and the School Division at times other than meetings.

- E.** The Chair with the assistance of the Superintendent or their designees shall preserve decorum and order in the room where the Meeting is taking place and shall decide all questions of decorum and order during the Meeting. School Board Members may vote to overrule the Chair's or designee's decision at the time that the Chair or designee makes the decision. The Chair or designee is authorized to work with the Superintendent, designees, law enforcement and authorized agents to maintain order and decorum prior to the start of, during and immediately after any Meeting.
- F.** The School Administration, law enforcement and authorized agents will have responsibility for maintaining decorum and order outside of the Meeting room and outside of a building where a meeting will be or is taking place.
- G.** No person attending a meeting of the School Board, in any capacity, shall use, or allow to sound, any device in a manner that disrupts the conduct of business within the room in which the School Board or a Committee thereof is meeting. Notice of this restriction shall be posted outside of School Board Meeting Room and on the agenda for any School Board meeting.
- H.** At the request of the Chair or Superintendent or their designees, a city police officer or other law enforcement officer shall act as sergeant-at-arms at all School Board meetings.