

DICKENSON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
Regular School Board Meeting
August 24, 2016
5 p.m. – School Board Office

PRESENT: Rocky Barton, Chairman; Susan Mullins, Vice-Chairman; Shanghai Nickles; Dr. Lurton Lyle; Rick Mullins; Reba McCowan, Clerk; and Haydee Robinson, Superintendent.

ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN, ROCKY BARTON:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Good evening everybody; I would like to welcome all of you to our August School Board Meeting. We will go ahead and get our meeting started. All of our Board Members are present, four physically present.

Mr. Scott Mullins—The minutes will reflect that Rick Mullins is not physically here tonight. With School Board Policy VDD that allows a member to participate by electronic method. We have not done this before, so this will be a new experience for all of us. Mr. Mullins, can you hear me?

Mr. Rick Mullins—Yes, Mr. Mullins, I can hear you.

Mr. Scott Mullins—Members of the Board, the way this works, as I understand it, is that Rick is out of the area, and he has identified a personal matter that called him out of the area. He has given notice of that. He needs to identify that for the record so that we can put it in the minutes here tonight. Rick what is it that takes you out of the area?

Mr. Rick Mullins—I had to come to check on some of the personal property that we have here. I notified Chairman Barton about that.

Mr. Scott Mullins—Ok. That is consistent with our policy. What I need, if we are going to do this, is a motion from one of you to authorize Mr. Mullins to participate electronically in this meeting.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—*I make the motion to authorize Mr. Mullins to participate electronically in this meeting. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.*

Mr. Scott Mullins—Mr. Mullins, can you hear me fairly well?

Mr. Rick Mullins—I can.

Mr. Scott Mullins—Ok. I would suggest that through the night that if you can't hear or are having trouble on something that is significant speak up and hopefully we can talk in a way that you can hear. I know that sometimes the speaker phone will clip parts of a discussion.

We will try to be mindful of that and let one person speak at a time tonight if we can. If you have a problem, please speak up.

Mr. Rick Mullins—Ok. Thank you.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—I guess we will go ahead and get started with our Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Ok. Thank you. We have the Agenda before us. I think we have a change in the bills or something added to the bills.

Superintendent Robinson—We have something added to the bills, Sir.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—We will need a motion to adopt the Agenda.

Dr. Lurton Lyle—I make the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—We will go ahead with our Public Comment. Mr. Nickles, would you read the Guidelines. (So Read) Thank you. First on Public Comment is Ms. Kathy Musick, VPE.

Ms. Kathy Musick—Thank you Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Robinson and Members of the Board and members of the audience. I would first like to say congratulations to all of the teachers, students, principals and parents of the Dickenson County School System for getting school started off and everybody home. If no one has done that before, it is huge. Just making sure that the little kids get on the right bus. Also, what an exciting time to be in public education with the adoption of the new legislation “Every Child Succeeds”. It is in the process of changing, but it is an exciting time. Where in the past all kids were in the college prep curriculum now there are interesting ways that, together with the State Department, you people will decide what that will look like in the next couple of years. Thank you for the opportunity to speak, and thank you for all that you do.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Thank you. Allison Mullins, DEA. Has anyone heard from Ms. Mullins? Ok. Mr. Jarvis Deel, Mayor of Clinchco.

Mr. Jarvis Deel—Hello Mr. Chairman. I am the Mayor of Clinchco, and I just want to speak again about the building before you make any decisions on it. We all met like we said we would, and we came to an agreement. If we get the building, we would let the Lions Club use it and store things in it from time to time such as supplies for their Easter Egg Hunt and Duck Race. With that being said, we would want the building to be left in the same shape they found it in. I guess that is about it. There is another thing I would like to add. I was just wondering about something that I heard. According to the Corps of Engineers’ agreement that if there was anything that the School Board had no more use for, it would fall back to the county. So I was wondering if we were in the right position to be doing this because you said at the last meeting that you had no more use for that building.

Superintendent Robinson—Right now the School Division has no plans to turn the Career Center over to the county. We do plan in the future to move the Central Office, Bus Garage and everything there. The Community Center is part of the Career Center so it will remain with that building.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Thank you. Mr. Joe Tate.

Mr. Joe Tate—Mr. Chair, may I table my remarks until you come to the Old Business section?

Chairman, Rocky Barton—I don't see a problem with that. Is it Ok with everyone? Next we have Kristie Mullins.

Ms. Kristie Mullins—I am here on behalf of my daughter, Kayla Marie Mullins. In my opinion she is one of the greatest female athletes to ever play sports in Dickenson County. Along with graduating Summa Cum Laude in 2016, she maintained a 4.20 GPA, showing she never let sports interfere with her academic studies. I hope I can get through this without crying.

I just want to get straight to the point and ask that this School Board take action on the retirement of the Number 14 jersey from Ridgeview High School this coming season, during the first home game. There has never been anyone more deserving. She gave all she had academically, athletically and always possessed a genuine character that brought everyone to love the young lady that she has become. She has a big heart, a love for God and always has left a wonderful impression on everyone she meets.

I have received different ideas about the retirement of her number; some being to wait three to four years. I am fully aware of the fact that the Dickenson County Schools have retired jerseys of outstanding players during their freshman year of college, and would like for hers to follow suit. There is no reason for anyone to even remotely think about wearing her number. She accomplished too much throughout her high school career not to be presented with this honor.

I would also like to remind you of a terrible injury that she suffered during the summer months before the 2013-2014 basketball season. The ACL tear required surgery and several months of physical therapy. She worked and strived hard every day to get back on the court. Barring this injury, and based on her averages, she would have exceeded over 2,400 points in her high school career. Ultimately leading to the eclipse of other records in the State of Virginia and setting the bar higher for Dickenson County.

In short, she had 2,000 points, over 700 rebounds, hundreds of assists and hundreds of blocked shots. Everything accomplished during the transitioning from a 1A to a 2A school because of consolidation. For your information I would like to list the following academic and athletic accomplishments that she had during her time as a Clintwood Lady Wave and as a Ridgeview Lady Wolfpack member.

Academic Achievements

Outstanding Academic Achievement Award Winner in the following subjects:

- Geometry
- Art
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Algebra 2
- AP Language and Composition
- Spanish
- 4-year First Honor Roll Member
- 2014 Southwest Virginia Math Competition, 2nd Place Algebra
- Governor's School Diploma Seal
- CTE Certification in Microsoft Office
- NOCTI Certified in Personal Finance
- Graduated Summa Cum Laude
- 4.20 GPA
- Graduated with 40 hours of college credit

Athletic Achievements

2013 Basketball:

- 1st Team All Lonesome Pine District
- 1st Team All Region D
- Region D Champion
- 2nd Team All State Final Four Appearance
- Coalfield Winter Sports Leadership Award Winner

2013 Cross Country:

- 1st Team All Lonesome Pine District

2014 Basketball:

- 1st Team All Cumberland Conference
- Cumberland Conference Champion

2015 Basketball:

- 1st Team All Cumberland Conference
- Cumberland Conference Player of the Year
- Cumberland Conference Champion
- 1st Team All 1A West Region

- 1A West Regional Player of the Year
- 1A West Region Champion
- 1st Team All State
- State Champion
- VHSCA 1A State Player of the Year
- VHSL 1A State Player of the Year
- 1st Team All Bristol Herald-Courier
- Coalfields Sports Leadership Overall Award Winner
- 1,000 Point Scorer
- Game high 47 points
- Clintwood High School Athlete of the Year

2015 Cross Country:

- 1st Team All Cumberland Conference

2016 Basketball:

- 1st Team All Clinch Mountain Conference (CMC)
- CMC Player of the Year
- CMC Champion
- 1st Team All 2A West Region
- 2A West Region Player of the Year
- 2A West Region Champion
- 1st Team All State
- 2A State Champion
- VHSCA 2A State Player of the Year
- VHSL 2A State Player of the Year
- Coalfield Sports Leadership Overall Winner
- Bristol Herald Courier Player of the Year
- PVNB All-Tournament Team
- 2,000 Point Scorer
- Leading Female Scorer in Dickenson County History, and to my knowledge this includes both male and female
- Full Basketball Scholarship to the University of Virginia's College at Wise

2016 Cross Country:

- All CMC Conference

I would also like to mention something that I didn't write in this letter. I will give you all a copy of this. I wasn't aware of when you received your packets and when it needed to be up here. It is just for your information and to reference it. David Perry had spoken back in March in regard to this issue. I wasn't aware that he was going to come before all of you to even do that at that point. I feel like everybody in the community would support the retire-

ment of her number not three or four years down the road but now. I think she deserves it now. She has done too much. You can see everything that she has accomplished. It is a great deal for one person. Naturally, I am very proud of her.

I would like to thank you for your time, and I hope that a motion can be made tonight to retire Number 14 from Ridgeview High School. Thank you.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Thank you. Next is Anita Artrip.

Ms. Anita Artrip—I am a little wobbly because of a knee replacement so bear with me. Board Members I really appreciate the privilege of speaking here tonight. I am Anita Kiser Artrip, and I was born and raised in Clinchco, Virginia. That is my home. I am sure that we all have a lot of good memories of our home. This town employed mostly men, as you know, because Clinchco had more mining than any place around. It employed a lot of men around the county. Without the mines to work, the families would have a really hard struggle trying to make it. The Clinchfield Coal Corporation worked the mines until they worked them out and left the town high and dry. Other towns did not suffer as Clinchco did. Now there are gas wells all over the place which is another opportunity to take advantage of people who deserve to know the truth behind all of it. We want you to consider letting us have the building in Clinchco because it means everything to us and our heritage. We need help. Clinchco seems to be a forgotten town. It is not forgotten for those of us who belong there with our heritage and the way we grew up. It means everything to us. We didn't have a real good school. Clinchfield provided everything that we had. We had wonderful teachers who helped us throughout our school years. Most of us graduated with a challenge before us. Most of the kids who lived in this area went out and met that challenge. That makes me proud to stand here before you all to know that when you are on the School Board what this means to our children. It was nice to hear the lady talk about the exciting times for our children. We didn't have a lot of exciting times, but we had our heritage. We had our nurturing when we grew up in Clinchco. We would like to keep meeting there because that is where we grew up. Mrs. Robinson was so nice to let me bring a picture that Ms. Reedy let me make a copy of. Our school was never displayed until we presented it to Mrs. Robinson. That was hurtful to us because our school was just as important to us as anyone else's was. We feel like we have kind of been lost in the shuffle a little bit. So we are just asking that you consider this and let this be on your Agenda. Please consider these people who love their hometown and love their heritage. Some come from far away to attend these meetings and our reunion. I appreciate the time that you have given to me, and I hope that you will really consider this because I feel in my heart that we should do unto others as we would have them do unto us. Thank you.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Thank you. Next is Susan Mullins.

Ms. Susan Mullins—Mr. Chair and Members of the Board I am here on behalf of the Dickenson County Historical Society. Specifically I am here to request that the plaque that has been removed from Clinchco Elementary School be turned over to the Dickenson County Historical Society to archive and be on display for all of Dickenson County. I think it has the

names of School Board Members. I spoke to Mrs. Robinson about it a few days ago. That is the main purpose for us being here.

Secondly, back in June we did a walk through at the Career Center with Burl and was asked to make a list of items that might be there that could possibly be turned over to the Historical Society. By the way, we are a 501 Corporation. We made a list of that stuff and sent it to Burl and to Mrs. Robinson, and I have a copy of that list if you would like it this afternoon. There were certain items that were left that may or may not be useable by the School Board such as photographs and odds and ends. We look at things a lot different than some people may. We know that we can't get all of them, but we would ask that some of those items be given to us. We are used to being told "no". We have been told "no" several times. I will give this list to her and she can hand it around to you all. We would like to request that if and when you make a decision regarding the plaque or any of these items on this list that we be notified in writing about your decision. Hopefully we can take possession of these items to be archived and put in our building. We would like to issue an open invitation to any and all of you to come by and visit the Historical Society and see what we have built from nothing. We would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for allowing us the use of the building that we are in now. It really helped us get a kick start. We would like to thank you all for that opportunity.

Superintendent Robinson—You said the plaque at Clinchco Elementary School?

Ms. Susan Mullins—Yes, at Clinchco. We understand that there wasn't one at Ervinton, but if there was, we would like that one also. We don't want them to be destroyed because too much of our history is being destroyed or going out of the county.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Ok. We will get on with our Consent Agenda. We will start with the Minutes. Has everyone had a chance to look at those?

Superintendent Robinson—Mr. Chair, if we could first look at Good News From our Schools.

GOOD NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—I'm sorry, Mrs. Robinson, we are ready for Good News from Our Schools.

Superintendent Robinson—That is perfectly ok. I have a group here and Mr. Mullins if you will open that door and ask them to come in, please. You know we have a lot of State winners and Local winners, but these are National winners. Mr. Hammons come on in and bring the team. Ok. Ladies and gentlemen and Board Members I would like to introduce to you their coach, Shane Hammons. I just said we have local winners, district winners, regional winners, state winners but this is a national champion winner. I am going to let him share

with us the girls and their names. Welcome to all of our parents back there. I know you are very proud, also.

Mr. Shane Hammons—Thank you so much Mrs. Robinson. One thing that I do want to point out. We practice at Ervinton, and we play at Ervinton but for several years these kids come from all three schools. We have several kids who play in our program from Haysi and Clintwood so we have been consolidated for quite some time.

The girls are:

- Kai Perry—she is from Clintwood and in the 3rd Grade
- Erica Sutherland—she also goes to Clintwood and in the 3rd Grade
- Brindle McCowan—she is from Ervinton and in the 5th Grade
- Assy Hammons—my daughter—she is from Ervinton and in the 5th Grade
- Adia Amshire—she is from Ervinton and in the 4th Grade
- Abigail Stallard—she is from Ervinton and in the 2nd Grade
- Mia Hammons—she is from Ervinton and in the 2nd Grade
- Natalie Cussack—she is from Clintwood and in the 5th Grade
- Lily Stallard—she is from Ervinton and in the 4th Grade
- Kaylie Rasnick—she is from Ervinton and in the 4th Grade (Applause!)

Superintendent Robinson—Mr. Hammons could you tell us what they achieved, Sir.

Mr. Shane Hammons—We play basketball all year long. We play a couple of nights a week at least. We have played in five states this year— North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee and the farthest we went was Pennsylvania. We qualified in Tennessee for the American Youth Basketball Association for the 4th Grade National Tournament. We finished 2nd in the tournament in Tennessee and qualified. We spent the summer and most of the springtime raising money to go on the trip which was a week long. It was in Hershey, Pennsylvania. We played teams all over the eastern United States. We played a team from Staten Island, New York. We played several teams from the northern part of the United States. With some luck we were fortunate enough to win the 4th Grade National Championship. It was a fun trip, and these guys had a blast.

Superintendent Robinson—We wanted to recognize these students, and would you please give them another round of applause. (Applause!) I am certain that the Wolfpack is ready for them when they come.

Mr. Shane Hammons—Mrs. Robinson, after we won the championship a couple of people said we should put something in the gym. So with your permission we would like to put it in our gym.

Superintendent Robinson—Let us know, and if we can help you put it up, we will do that. Do you have the sign with you? Could you let us see it?

Mr. Shane Hammons—Sure. I would be glad to.

Superintendent Robinson—Oh my goodness. That is great! I love their uniforms! 2016 AYBA Girls Basketball National Champion. (Applause!) Thank you Mr. Hammons and the parents because I know that you traveled with them also. A very special thanks to all of you.

Mr. Shane Hammons—Thank you all.

Superintendent Robinson—Oh how sweet. They were so proud out there. Mr. Hammons said we have to take them outside. I don't think we can keep them in here.

Also for Good News and I know that you have heard me say this, we have had a wonderful beginning of school. This is our 13th day, and it has gone very smoothly. I have asked our principals to come because I know you get tired of hearing it from me. I wanted them to come and share with you the good, bad and ugly. So I would like to ask our principals to come in. They have been waiting out there in the corner.

Mr. Baker, Principal at Ervinton Elementary School. I have visited his school twice and talked to him several times on the phone so if you will tell us about the first few days of school.

Mr. Brian Baker—I would like to complement the teachers and the staff for doing an outstanding job. They are just doing exceptional. They got the students on task with active learning. It has just been remarkable and heartwarming. Teaching for mastery has been going over something until you learn and master it. That is also exceptional. Of course, we have only been in school 13 days. The building is clean. There has been a lot of work done there this summer preparing for the school year. Things look really good. Any time you want to come by you are welcome. We welcome all of the patrons. The students are learning the routines and procedures of the school. You know we are talking about Pre-K. They are pretty small you know. I don't know who has shed the most tears, the parents or the kids. It is a big moment, and we want them to know that we want them in the school system and that we are going to take care of them. One thing that is really heartwarming to me is that the students are so helpful without being told to do something. They help students get on and off the buses. I will tell you that it is all they can do to step up into the bus. It is really heartwarming to see them help these kids and hold them by the hands. You might see that occasionally at the high school but that is the wrong reason. They are really doing a good job on that. There is good cooperation with the parents, teachers and staff. It is welcoming to everybody and a really good family atmosphere. It has been a good experience for me. It is all about the little ones, and the teachers understand that. When they hit the door until they leave, they are constantly on task. So you are welcome to come any time.

Superintendent Robinson—Thank you, Mr. Baker. From Clintwood Elementary School, I think Ms. Muncy.

Ms. Lavada Muncy—I'm sorry Mrs. Vanover couldn't be here. She had to go to the doctor this afternoon. I'm here by proxy. First of all it is far from November, but we are thankful that things have gone smoothly. Over these last 13 days we have had a just wonderful begin-

ning of the year. Our enrollment is down just a little bit from last year. We are holding our own without Pre-K. We are still really proud of those SOL scores. We are fully accredited and out of the school improvement. The teachers have been really thankful for that. We are taking a breath and finding new ways to continue with the progress that we have made. I don't know if you guys were aware, but last year we started a new program in conjunction with the hospital. It is called Morning Walk. Our students go into the gym after they eat breakfast in the morning. This is for students in Grade 2 and up. They walk, and they can walk as much as they like for 30 minutes. This is before the morning bell rings. As soon as the morning commotion dies down, we are going to start this program back. It will be wonderful for them. They are very excited and ready to start walking again. Also, we will be starting our Jr. Beta Club for our students in the 4th and 5th Grade. Currently we have 46 students who are eligible for Jr. Beta. We are really excited about that, too. As far as being thankful, we did get 20 new cameras from our security grant. We are thankful to Mr. Setser and whoever helped him write that grant because they have been very helpful. As far as our building, I think Mr. Baker said it correctly when he talked about the custodial staff working so hard over the summer. Our building looks fantastic. You can see your face in the floor when you walk through it. The kids have noticed and the parents have noticed. It just makes you feel good when you walk in there. You get that sense of it being clean like being home. We also have a new program that we are starting for our Gifted. It is going to be an after school program on Thursdays. We hope to be running that all year long for our Gifted Students. This year the focus will be on the environment. This is going to be something new. We are going to give it a whirl and see how it plays out. I'm optimistic, and if any of you have any questions or anything feel free to give Mrs. Vanover a holler. Thank you.

Superintendent Robinson—Thank you very much. Sandlick Elementary, I think I saw Mr. Deel.

Mr. Dennis Deel—Of course, Jesse came with me. He is my partner in crime. I think I will start out with the good news from our school. First of all we have to mention all of the people who helped us get started this year. There are several people. Our teachers came together and worked hard because this year we are down one teacher. We lost several aides. But all of that stuff is coming together. Those folks are really working hard to help us. The maintenance men came in and repaired our ceiling in the kitchen area. If you haven't seen it, you need to come by and look at it. It looks really good. Jones and Counts Pharmacy made a donation of water bottles for the kids on those hot days. I think Mr. Barton did as well. I would like to thank the janitors for keeping my building clean and getting us ready for a smooth start and keeping it clean as we go along because the kids do make messes. I would also like to thank the Sandlick community who came together and helped us. They were even looking into purchasing a water fountain. We are just going to wait and see what happens there. A couple of parents also bought water bottles for us. Lastly I want to thank the central office for purchasing the fans for the hallways. They get really hot. Mr. Ethan Owens and Coleen Sutherland actually sent up a letter thanking you guys for that. We are excited about getting a new program at our school. We do realize that there is a need in our area to get the kids into the early intervention. I think it will be a lot smoother having them exposed to that. We added new security cameras at our school as well. So far I have been able to meet with most grade levels to share with them their scores in order to see where we are

and what we need to do to get full accreditation, and I know we will get there. We do realize that the enrollment across the county has dropped, but unforeseen to us and probably you guys as well, our Kindergarten class has 23, 23 and 22. The classroom teachers are there, but for one person to watch all of those kids is really, really hard. I guess this isn't necessarily good news, but I will plea for a little help if you could. Those ladies really do need some additional help there. We are spread pretty thin with our aides. Thank you.

Superintendent Robinson—Thank you, Mr. Deel. From Ridgeview Middle School, Mr. Whitner.

Mr. John Whitner—Hello. I would like to say that we are off to a great start. In fact, it is night and day from last year to this year. There are a lot of great things happening from Day 1. I want to share one of the responsibilities at the middle school is to get our students ready for the high school. We have three years to get them ready academically and socially. A more successful work in the middle school will be the more success you will see at the high school. Last year was a major undertaking, but the TEMS system which is used at the high school for scheduling, and we went through that process to get them to that point. It took a lot of time, but we got it. This year we focused on getting lockers on their schedule. So this year when they got their schedules, it was like the high school. They got their full schedule, locker combinations and everything there. That is just a small step, but it will make it that much easier when they get to the high school. Transitionally, I have been in the classroom, and the teachers are doing an excellent job, and they are enjoying getting off to a good start on Day 1 as far as instruction. I want to thank the elementary principals because they have sent us a great bunch of 6th Graders. They are academically strong, and the teachers are in hog heaven enjoying how good they are. Behavior wise I had a teacher say “they have manners”, they say thank you and hold the door open. Elementary principals please keep working on that. We have some great kids coming in, not that we don't have great kids already, but we have been able to get a good start with them. We are really enjoying that group. The 7th Grade teachers are doing an awesome job teaching our 7th Graders. I call it “shock” and “awe”. They are learning how to be wonderful citizens at Ridgeview Middle School, and that was one of our challenges. They have come a long way. They have matured over the summer, and we are excited. One of the things I wanted to share with you is that at Ridgeview we really have co-teaching going on. I actually shared with someone today that it is sort of like an arranged marriage. You have two teachers brought together; a special education teacher and a general education teacher, and they have to learn how to work together. I can tell the ones from last year who had to kind of work their way through it, and this year they are doing a great job. There are two teachers who are team teaching, and they are getting a lot of results. I am excited about that. We are working with the new teachers who have come on board, and I think we are going to see some great results. I had three teachers give a workshop or demonstration at our Open House to show some of the things they are doing so we can share ideas of what is being successful in the classroom. I want to mention a couple of other things to leave you with. Instructionally, the data is wonderful to have with our 7th and 8th Graders. We know who they are. We have the data, and we have been able to work really well with them. Isaac Johnson has been a great addition, and we have been able to restructure our math intervention program. We started with an idea last year and had some success with it, but this year since we know our students we will try to meet their educational

needs. So we have a lot of good things such as “double math” to “spiraling” which is a new word that we are using at Ridgeview Middle School which is coming back and studying to the end of the year, go over and review things and finding out what the problems were and coming back to try to learn those things. So we are almost providing tutoring in addition to our intervention. We have seen a lot of great results there. I guess I want to leave you with the fact that we are getting a lot of parent and booster support. Mrs. Stanley last night met with the parents that came by, and we are enthusiastic about some of the support, not only the support but the enthusiasm and the willingness they have to jump in and help. Mrs. Stanley, do you want to share anything about last night or what you have been hearing from our really strong parent support.

Mrs. Laura Stanley—Last night was one of the best opportunities I have ever had to work with a group of parents from all over the county. We meet with them, but we don’t often get to bounce ideas off them. It was great. We have so many parents who want to help the school and support and participate. They are all eager to become Ridgeview, not Clintwood, Sandlick, or Ervinton. It was a great opportunity. We have a lot of activities planned that the boosters want to do to help individual teachers. I think it is an opportunity to develop a community in our school, a true community not just for particular functions. So it was a great night.

Mr. John Whitner—Mrs. Stanley is working with them and getting everything started. We are just excited. Again, starting with Day 1 with the schedules, with the people where they are going it was just awesome. In fact, I forget how many years I have been working; it has to be one of my best first weeks of school. We are already past the honeymoon phase, and everything is still going great. Thank you all very much.

Superintendent Robinson—Thank you so much. Ridgeview High School, Mr. Compton.

Mr. Rodney Compton—Good evening everyone. Welcome from Ridgeview High School. We have had a great start. It has been very smooth. A year makes a big difference. This time last year it seemed like we were just treading water. We had a good year last year, but it seemed like there were so many different things we had to establish and new routines and all of those things. But this year from Day 1 the Guidance Department did a fabulous job getting the kids ready to go. Probably within 30 minutes we were in classes teaching, and it hasn’t stopped since. Before I get into a little bit about that, I am going to regress just a little bit and mention that last year we were, of course, under a lot of pressure with the SOLs, and we knew that it was a one-year deal. We didn’t have the three year average to fall back on so we felt a little bit of pressure you could say. After everything was said and done the school was accredited; the SOLs were great; the science department rated very high; we still have a little work to do in the math department with Algebra I; and our English department was also in good shape. But that is not why I am here. We have done well in different athletics and things, but the thing that I am most proud of was our graduation rate. Because we worried all year about our graduation rate which is one of the things that can sink you also. When we started the year, we had about 45 students who were on track to graduate last year. When all was said and done, we had a 94% graduation rate. ; which was tremendous. (Applause!). We had a team on that, and like any team we had some stars. I won’t mention names, but

there were some people who really did a lot to make sure that those students were able to pass their tests and get those credits.

Now for this year we have had a couple of scrimmages for our football team which is very small this year. But they are very quick, and we are going to start that campaign Friday night. We had a jamboree last Friday night, and it went well. We had a jamboree for volleyball on Saturday. We have an ideal facility for the jamboree in volleyball. We can have three games going at the same time. We have several kids involved in cross country. We have several students out for the extracurricular activities. We have our classes all organized. We have had two lockdowns and two fire drills. We have just been busy, and we have gotten a lot done. The yearbook came in on Monday or Tuesday. It is a new company doing the yearbook, and I haven't looked at it in detail yet, but it turned out really well. Haysi was used to having a spring delivery for their yearbook. Ervinton and Clintwood had a fall delivery. The only trouble with the spring delivery is you lose your spring stuff such as prom and other activities. At a new school I wanted to have the yearbook cover the whole year. Receiving it in the fall you get the whole academic year. So I think that turned out really well. Tomorrow morning Norton Community has a man who wants to come and look at the school, and he has agreed to talk to some of our physical education classes to encourage them in mental toughness. I think he was a marathoner in 1972. I think that is going to be a positive thing for us. Another thing I have to mention is you know we have some signs up where we sold some advertisement for our scoreboard. We had to change some signs. We called to try to get those signs changed, and it is going to be a pretty substantial amount of money. Mr. Setser said it would be \$800 to bring the truck from Roanoke to get the original sign into our area. We hired a finance man, Mr. Barton, and Mr. Setser helped him climb up and cut out these things and did all of it. He put it up, and it was around \$500 which saved us probably \$2,500. So I really appreciate Mr. Barton for doing that. (Applause!) I am trying to be quicker than Mr. Baker, but some future things that we are going to do that we are pretty excited about are— I guess you all know that we had the Secretary of Education here today and visited the school; the Robotics team is getting help with their competition this year. Mr. Owens came in and asked if I thought she would take a picture with our robot. He said the picture would help them get points up the road. So I asked her, and, of course, she was very gracious and cooperative. She took plenty of time to see the robot and watch it work. She met all of the kids, and she asked each student what they planned and where they were going to college. That was very special, and it isn't every day that you have the Secretary of Education visit your school. It was good for our students, and it was good for everyone. We are going to put in a greenhouse. We had a greenhouse at the old Career Center, and we are trying to move that up to Ridgeview. We have a spot picked out, and our carpentry class has been setting footers and those kinds of things in order to get it installed. With the greenhouse we are going to try to collaborate with the science department and the agriculture department to grow vegetables and plants. They want to do some aquaponics which is animals and plants in the water and hydroponics where you grow the plants in the water. Yesterday Mrs. Wilder, Mr. Owens and myself walked way out where the sewer plant is. There is a hillside out there, and last year we had Brad Mullins come in, and our kids graphed in some apple trees. What we would like to do is go back in that area and start an apple orchard. Our kids will take care of that. We would also like to put the bees out there. Anyway, that is future stuff. I think it would be a great learning experience. The only thing we have to worry about

is the deer eating the apples! (Ha, Ha!) Again, it has just been a seamless start. The teachers have been working hard. I appreciate all of you and know that you have had a rough time. I hope we will have a good academic year, athletic year and all of those things go together to get the community together. I heard someone say that we put so much emphasis on athletics, but like a college program the athletics is the front porch. It gets people interested and in the front door and see what is going on inside there. We want to have a complete program. We want to have the kids involved. When you have the kids involved, it helps. Thank you. I won't take any more time.

Superintendent Robinson—Thank you, Mr. Compton. So I hope you can see that we have had a great beginning of school. We are very proud of that, and want to thank everyone involved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—We will get on with our Consent Agenda. Has everyone had a chance to look over the minutes? If so, I will need a motion.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—I make the motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Next we have Approval of Monthly Bills. Are there any questions about the bills?

Superintendent Robinson—Mr. Chair and Board Members there is an addition to the list of monthly bills for our vendors. They are highlighted at the bottom. Is there anything you would like to add, Sir?

Mr. Larry Barton—We had instructional funds that went out to all of the schools this year and used the 10-Day Report where we used the enrollment. There are some other bills that we are working on. We are trying to get some bills that are coming in late so we can get everything into the Board Packet and not have some confusion. If there are any questions you have on those bills, I will be glad to answer them at this time.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—Mr. Barton, what is the ELSEVIER?

Mr. Larry Barton—Those are nursing books for the nursing class at Ridgeview.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—How many kids do we have in nursing?

Mrs. Denechia Edwards—We have 15 in the LPN program.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—Is that about what we had last year?

Mrs. Denechia Edwards—That is the maximum.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—Max last year and max this year? That is great.

Mrs. Denechia Edwards—Some students from last year just took their State Boards which is a first time for Ridgeview.

Superintendent Robinson—Are there any other questions or comments? We will need a motion, Mr. Barton, to approve the bills if the Board is ready.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Are there any more questions? Is there a motion?

Dr. Lurton Lyle—*I move we approve the Bills as presented. Mr. Rick Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.*

Approved:

School Operating Fund – August 24, 2016 – Bills

Check Nos. 876384 through 876470 ----- \$241,799.10

School Operating Fund – August 31, 2016 – Payroll

Check Nos. 387400 through 387450 ----- \$377,590.79

Superintendent Robinson—Before we look at the School Activity Fund, could you look at the Revenue Summary Report. I think you know that we presented that last month for the first time. Mr. Barton is there anything that you would like to say about it?

Mr. Larry Barton—Mr. The report is in your packet, and I am going to give you an updated version of that as well. The Treasurer's report on accountability from the Treasurer's Office has been a little late coming in this month because they were trying to get their Close-Out Report done. I highlighted in yellow we got \$32,571.07. On the second page there are some reimbursements \$24,468.10 after the original report. (Couldn't hear him) We changed the format on this to follow the budget that you all approved. Of course, any questions you may have I will try to answer those.

Superintendent Robinson—Are there any questions for Mr. Barton?

SCHOOL ACTIVITY FUND:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—The School Activity Fund is an informational item in your packet. Has everybody had a chance to look over this fund? Are there any comments or questions?

APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIPS:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—We are now ready for the Field Trips to approve.

Superintendent Robinson—We have three Field Trips, Mr. Barton.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—I make a motion that we approve the Field Trips. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- ❖ Ridgeview High School
August 26th – Barter Theatre – Abingdon, VA – 10th Grade
September 9th – Cabela’s – Bristol, VA – 10th Grade
- ❖ Ridgeview Middle School
November 11th – Barter Theatre – Abingdon, VA – 6th Grade
- ❖ Sandlick Elementary School
September 1st – 4-H Center – Red Onion Mtn., VA – 4th Grade

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS FOR THE BOARD:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—The next Item is Information for the Board, Mrs. Robinson?

Superintendent Robinson—The first item is the VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference on September 15, 2016, at the Double Tree by Hilton in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Our next one is about Computer Adaptive Testing. You may have heard something about that from your communications with VSBA. It is just part of the VDOE’s effort to improve the testing experience for all students. We are very excited about that.

Item No. 3 is that Virginia Again Earns top Special Education Rating. This is the fourth consecutive year that Virginia has entered the highest possible rating. Along with that each year the VDOE is required to make determinations for each school division, and we have met all of the requirements in our Special Education Department. A very special thanks to Mrs. Edwards and our Special Education Staff for an excellent job.

The last part of that is something that Ms. Musick mentioned, and that is the Profile of Virginia Graduate. This is something that the Virginia Assembly has passed. We are going to hear more about this. Beginning with students who enter the 2018-2019 school year high school experience for Virginia Graduate at the high school level will change dramatically. We are very excited about this. They are going to look more at providing multiple paths for approaching career readiness. I think we are going to see a different high school setting and a different high school experience for our high school students. So we are very excited about that. We are all working toward that because students beginning 2018-2019 will be following this new format. Again, there are just a lot of great changes coming for education. I would like to thank Dr. Staples, State Superintendent, and our State School Board for their initiative on this. That ends our Information for the Board.

DISCUSSION OF COMMUNITY CENTER AT THE FORMER DICKENSON COUNTY CAREER CENTER:

Superintendent Robinson—Our next item in Old Business is the Discussion of the Community Center at the Former Dickenson County Career Center. This Agenda item was tabled at the last School Board Meeting in July, and the Board asked the interested parties to meet and have the opportunity to reach an agreement that was agreeable to all. So Mr. Chair, I will turn the meeting back over to you, Sir.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—I think we ended up asking the mayor and Brenda Ramey so if you all want to tell us what you decided to come up with.

Ms. Brenda Ramey—Thank you all for having us back again. We actually did meet together and then met back with our Lions Club, and the mayor met with the town as well. We have come to an agreement. We agreed to give them the building with the stipulation that we could use it for our meetings and any other event that we would want to have free of charge. We did not mention this to him, but we do need a place for storage because through the year we accumulate a lot of stuff that we buy and donate for our Easter Egg Hunt. We need a place for storage. If they would share, we would be willing to half the back storage room with them if they don't want us to have it all. We will partition it and take care of it.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—Is there no way that we have a place at the Career Center in the back where they could have a storage area? There is a room back where the body shop was where they painted. There is a room on that back corner that has a door that goes to it.

Superintendent Robinson—We can certainly look into that. In that part of the building I don't know if there are keys, but we will have to check on that.

Ms. Brenda Ramey—That would be great.

Mr. Jarvis Deel—On that I will have to go back to my Council again because I gave them different information from what I was told today. I don't see much of a problem with it, but I still need them to make the decision. I also need information about the lease.

Chairman, Rocky Barton I guess Mr. Mullins will have to tell us. Will it be a year lease?

Mr. Scott Mullins—I think I need to meet with these folks. Are we going to have one lessee or two?

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Just one I think.

Mr. Scott Mullins—Is that lessee going to pay anything or do any renovations to the building?

Chairman, Rocky Barton—They are going to pay the utilities.

Mr. Scott Mullins—Is the lessee going to insure the building in case of burning the place down during events or have a shooting where we will be held harmless in that? I just need to make sure that your insurance will cover these things. There are certain things that I can sit down with the two of you and go over. There are certain minimal things that I have to have in the lease for it to be legal. I will do a draft up and share it with you guys and try to make this happen. I think what your board and the School Board needs to know is that until someone authorized by a motion that we hereby enter into this lease and actually have the terms in front of them. You are just talking right now not negotiating. There is nothing final until we have a signed document. I am happy to meet with you in the conference room right now to get that done.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—I guess my question is with both of them using it you are going to need a stove, refrigerator and that type of stuff.

Mr. Jarvis Deel—It did have two stoves, refrigerators and warmers.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—So that is something that we don't need. Is that correct?

Superintendent Robinson—We had to remove those items, but right now there are tables in there which belong to the school system and will probably be picked up and taken wherever they are needed.

Mr. Jarvis Deel—We have another issue. If I go through refurbishing this building, and you all pull my lease in a year, I will be left with stoves, refrigerators and things like that. I will need to have ample notice in order to get rid of these things someday.

Superintendent Robinson—I am sure that Mr. Mullins, the School Board Attorney, will talk to you about all of that. A lot of the items that may be in the Community Center can be used in another school we took it there because it belongs to the school division and it saves us the cost. It is a savings for us. It is not that we are trying to remove everything from that building. It is just needed.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—So what we just need to do is set the lease for 5 years. If they want to do 20 that is fine, but I wouldn't go less than 5.

Mr. Scott Mullins—Let me read you some law, and you can decide what you what to do. "The Attorney General in the State of Virginia has determined that a lease based on a nominal consideration is tantamount to a gift and is illegal. Any lease must be for the benefit of the school district and consistent with good business judgment and sound business principle." The difference between us and the Board of Supervisors is they can make a gift, make a charitable donation and do things because it is the right thing to do. We want to always do the right thing, but we are a little more limited because we can only do things that are in the best interest of the school division. For example, and this is an extreme example, if we were leasing this to McDonalds for no consideration, it would not be the right thing to do. We are not doing that, I know. We are leasing it to good people who are trying to keep their community up. But in the eyes of the law they don't really judge whether it is a good person or a bad

person. It judges it in terms of is it in the best interest of the school division. If they are doing improvements that increase the value of the property, that is something that we get. I think the Board to a person wants to do this deal. I want to do the deal, too, but I just want to make sure that it doesn't reflect in a negative way on the school system. I will approach this with common sense consideration and try to work out something that these folks can agree to and bring it back to you for approval.

Mr. Jarvis Deel—That is something that I will have to have my lawyer look over to because I am responsible to the town. (People talking, can't hear)

Mr. Scott Mullins—Sure. That is no problem, and it may be better to have your lawyer contact me and we will work it out and get it done.

Mr. Joe Tate—I have a question. On your lease agreement the occupancy would only be for one day. Is that correct.

Mr. Jarvis Deel—We plan to use it for other things too, not just for Clinchco Days.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—So we will wait until you get the lease worked out before we vote.

Mr. Scott Mullins— Yes. You need to know exactly what you are doing, and I think the two attorneys need to put it on a piece of paper, hand it to you, let you read it and make sure that what they are happy with is what you are happy with. That way there will be no misunderstanding.

Mr. Joe Tate—May I ask another question? Since we are kind of the last of the Mohicans over here anyway. I will be 84 next month, and we try to meet once a year. If he needs the building sitting over there, why can't you let him have it in consideration that you have the legal document for one dollar?

Mr. Scott Mullins—I can give it to him for one day, but he wants it for a year.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—The town of Clinchco is going to have several different things in the building. The Lions Club is going to use it, too. We don't have anything to do with the reunion.

Mr. Charlie Turner—The Lions Club does more than just buy glasses for children who can't see how to read. We do a lot of things for the community. We have people from Clinchco in our club. We are the Haysi/Clinchco Lions Club. We are as much Clinchco as Haysi. We are a family.

Mr. Jarvis Deel—That is something we are going to have to work out. When will you need the building and what night; I can't seeing us footing the bill and them using whenever you want to.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Maybe the Lions Club can get the calendar worked out for their main events, and you would know a year ahead of time what night you could rent it out.

Mr. Joe Tate— I know what it means to move the celebration. We had to move to the Senior Citizens building one year because we couldn't get the building. It is better to have it there and be able to prepare a meal for the people than to give them a cold sandwich at the other place. This is just for me, but it wouldn't take the Wisdom of Solomon, so for me to settle this all I have to do is determine if this is an agreement or a disagreement between civic organizations. They pay no taxes, and this town of 250 people pay taxes. For me this is a done deal. I wouldn't have any problem with it.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—I don't think we will. I think once we get the lease drawn up, we will be fine and the Board will be ready to vote on it. We have been for a long time.

Superintendent Robinson—Thank you all. So Mr. Mullins, hopefully by the next meeting we will have a lease to share with the Board for their motion and approval.

Mr. Scott Mullins—Yes, Ma'am.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—I think we need to request a ten minute recess. Mr. Nickles had a hip replacement last week, and he needs to walk around. Do we have a motion?

Dr. Lurton Lyle—made the motion to take a ten minute recess. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

STATE SOL TEST RESULTS UPDATE:

Superintendent Robinson—The Virginia Department of Education released SOL Test Results and averages for 2015-2016 tests on Tuesday, August 16, 2016. Mr. Robinson has a PowerPoint Presentation to present to the School Board with a comparison of our students' achievement compared to state averages. So Mr. Robinson if you would get that ready for us. We have also included for you the Superintendent's, Dr. Staples, email about students continuing to improve in reading and math and science on the 2015-2016 SOLs. That is across the state.

Mr. Tony Robinson—Presented a reviewed the 2015-2016 division SOL results.

(See Attachment A: "Dickenson 2015--2016 VDOE SOL Report")

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—Teachers should be applauded. That is great! (Applause!)

Superintendent Robinson—I will get a copy of this out to all of our staff tomorrow so they are aware of our gains also. Are there any questions from the Board on that presentation?

UPDATE ON DEMOLITION PROJECTS:

Superintendent Robinson—Item D. is the Update on our Demolition Projects. This is a gentleman who has been here before, so I would like to ask Mr. Tim Burge from STANSKA to come to the front and update the Board on the progress of the demolition projects at Ervinton High School, Clinchco Elementary School and the pedestrian bridge and buildings by the river at Haysi High School.

Mr. Tim Burge—Thank you for this opportunity. Well we are up and running again. We decided to do Haysi first. The demo at Haysi: They completed the abatement week before last. The buildings were on the ground on Monday. They have been hauling the debris out yesterday and today. They hauled six loads yesterday, and they were at five at lunchtime today. They are hauling this to the landfill at Bristol. They will continue hauling the debris out next week. If you have been to Haysi, you could see the road signs out indicating the closed sign on Rt. 80 in front where the bridge goes over the road. They will be taking the bridge down on Saturday and then they will be opening the road back up.

Superintendent Robinson—Mr. Burge, will the traffic be able to go around by Haysi High School?

Mr. Tim Burge—Yes, they will go around the high school through the parking lot there.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—The mayor asked me a question, and I didn't know the answer. There are steps under the crosswalk. Those of us who are old enough remember before the crosswalk, you had to take these steps down the hill to the road. Will those be demoed too?

Mr. Tim Burge—I'm not aware of it. I am only aware of the bridge being taken down. It is so grown up that I wouldn't have known there were steps there.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—He was worried if they were still there, some kid might try to use them and step out in the road. It was always a big deal when I was in school because they do get slick and snowy. I haven't been there so they could have already taken them out.

Mr. Tim Burge—They haven't done anything on that hill. The demo at Clinchco: Last week they started the abatement. They told me today that they were almost done with the inside. They will be starting on the outside, but the panels have asbestos all the way around. They were supposed to be starting those today. That will take them a week or a week and a half to get that completed. They will begin the demo on Clinchco Elementary on September 6.

Next week after they remove the panels at Clinchco they will be moving to Ervinton to start the abatement over there. That one has more for them to abate than the other two projects. I don't have a date yet for when they will actually start the demo. I am sure it will take them a little while to get Clinchco down.

The projects are going well, on schedule and staying in budget. We have a great contractor on board to do this work for us. Are there any questions?

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—My question is if they are going to use that behind the high school, they might should put speed bumps up there in order to slow the traffic down. I'm not saying pour speed bumps but use those portable things because that turns out to be a pretty quick place through there.

Mr. Tim Burge—It will only be for a few hours for one day. Any more questions?

UPDATE ON 1ST 10 DAYS OF STUDENT ENROLLMENT—

Superintendent Robinson—I'm sorry. I missed H. the Update of Student Enrollment. Mr. Setser will update the School Board on the 1st 10 days of school. As I have talked with some of you, we have anticipated a decrease in student enrollment for the beginning of the school year as families move. Mr. Mark Mullins also has a pupil-teacher ratio for Grades K-8 and identify potential issues for us. Mr. Setser—

Mr. Mike Setser—Thank you, Mrs. Robinson. Members of the Board you see before you the first 10 days of school, and I apologize for it being so small. I didn't have any larger paper. (Ha, Ha!) What you see before you is each day starting with Day 1. On the far left you see the gray shaded areas that identifies the school, and there is a number under that for example: Clintwood Elementary School, 472. That is what they ended the year with last year as a comparison. Every column except the first day you will see present, absent and those "no show" who didn't show during the 10 days. If you go to the far right you see Day 10 and that is the most accurate number we had at that time. Going down the columns you see a number down near the bottom of 2,097. That would be the total of students present and absent for the 10 days. It does not include the column of "no shows". So on the 10th day with the information we received from the schools we had 2,097 students compared to the end of the school year with 2,158 which is a decrease of 61 students. In the bottom left hand column you can see an enrollment comparison by year. There are actually two small columns following the main column. One of them says August which shows the reduction or addition of students from the first of each school year. The second column shows May to August which is the end of the year to the beginning of the year. I guess the most telling number there is that if you go back to August 2009 to the 10th day of August, 2016, we have lost 373 students in those seven short years. I will be happy to try to answer any questions you may have. The Pre-K numbers are on here as well, the small columns underneath the large columns. We seem to be holding steady with 84 Pre-K kids.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—We had more home schooled or what?

Mr. Mike Setser—I think the home school numbers are about the same as last year. I didn't make copies for the Board because I haven't been able to go through all of this. I have the schools list for all of the students who were going there. We are losing some to our neighboring counties. We are losing some throughout the State of Virginia, and we are losing some all over the country. As a matter of fact, we have several going to Arizona. I looked for the farthest away which was Arizona. At the same time we have received kids from Alaska. There has been a lot of movement throughout the summer. Thank you.

Superintendent Robinson—The most concerning number is the number of students since 2009 and that seems to be a trend. When we went to the superintendents meeting Friday, all of our neighboring counties had the same thing. They were losing enrollment.

Mr. Mike Setser—If you look at the enrollment comparison that I put on here, there was a year where we actually picked up 47 in 2014-2015 and that is when Russell Prater shut down. That is really our only positive gain.

Superintendent Robinson—Washington County, Wise County, Scott County, Russell County, Tazewell County and Buchanan County are all reporting lower enrollment from what they projected.

Mr. Mike Setser—Again, these numbers are not set in stone. It is just the 10-day report. Hopefully by the next Board Meeting we will have the numbers pretty well set by the end of August.

Superintendent Robinson—Thank you, Mr. Setser. Mr. Mark Mullins—

Mr. Mark Mullins—I also have something here to share with the Board. These are our student/teacher ratios on the 10-day enrollment that Mr. Setser just went over. We will briefly go over those and just kind of update the Board on where we are, and a potential issue that we may have. These are the pupil/teacher ratios for the elementary schools and the middle school. We will start with—

Clintwood Elementary School:

- you can see that we are a little over 22/1 in Kindergarten
- 17/1 in 1st Grade
- 26/1 in 2nd Grade, and we will come back and talk about that one
- A little over 19/1 in 3rd Grade
- 23/1 in 4th Grade
- 27.67/1 in 5th Grade which is the largest

Ervinton Elementary School:

- 15/1 in Kindergarten
- 20/1 in 1st Grade
- 13.5/1 in 2nd Grade
- 21/1 in 3rd Grade
- 15/1 in 4th Grade
- 25/1 in 5th Grade which is their largest class

Sandlick Elementary School:

- 22.67/1 in Kindergarten

- A little over 18/1 in 1st Grade
- 18.5/1 in 2nd Grade
- 21/1 in 3rd Grade
- 17.67/1 in 4th Grade
- 23/1 in 5th Grade which is their largest class

Ridgeview Middle School:

- 18.63/1 in 6th Grade
- 21.50/1 in 7th Grade
- 18.38/1 in 8th Grade

For the most part our student/teacher ratios are within the guidelines. We do want to mention to the Board or make you aware that we do potentially have an issue here with K-3 where we receive state funds for what they call Class Size Reduction. We have to meet certain criteria to maintain receiving those funds. Clintwood Elementary School at 26/1 in the 2nd Grade appears to be out of line. One of the stipulations to receiving the state funds for Class Size Reduction, and I think Mr. Barton that we received a little over \$300,000 total, not just for one school but for the total division. One of the stipulations is that we not have over 23 in maximum size in K-3. For Clintwood and Sandlick 23 will be the maximum class size. At Ervinton it will be 22. There is a formula that you use to come up with that which is based on the Free Lunch numbers, composite index and quite a few other things. You can see that we are okay in K-3 at Clintwood, Ervinton and Sandlick. We are not going over 23 in a class, but we are close in the Kindergarten at Clintwood and Sandlick. We aren't over it, but we are over it in the 2nd Grade at Clintwood Elementary School. We have been monitoring that waiting on the 10-day enrollment. We are going to make some contacts with the folks at the State Department to see exactly what the options are, but we may be coming back to the Board with some requests in the near future as we try to figure out exactly what our option might be in order to deal with this situation. If you have any questions, I will try to answer them.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—Did we see that coming?

Mr. Mark Mullins—It is a little high. It is higher than what we expected. The 5th Grade at Clintwood with 27.67/1 we didn't see that either. Some of them came in lower. It depends on where you lose those students and what grade loses those students. There are some other things that you have to take into consideration. We do have a few self-contained classes in the division at the elementary schools. Some of these students could possibly be in a self-contained classroom instead of a regular classroom for the majority of the day which would change these numbers just a little bit. That will not be a large number of students by any means, but it could affect it.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—What do our teachers think about these numbers?

Mr. Mark Mullins—Well I talked with Ms. Muncy this morning and asked her, and I think they are doing well. I am sure that is more students than they are used to.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—Do they have an aide in there who helps them?

Mr. Mark Mullins—There is an instructional aide but not in all of those classrooms. It is a shared instructional aide in 2nd Grade who floats back and forth.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—You could surely use another one though couldn't you?

Mr. Mark Mullins—Yes, at least. That is something that we will probably have to come back to the Board and be discussed after we get some more information from the State Department.

Superintendent Robinson—I think we have until September 30th to make a decision on those numbers and what the options are.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—I just hate to see a teacher get worn out. It's not good for the teacher at all, and it is not good for the kids. I would hate to have 26 like me or Rocky. (Ha, Ha!)

Chairman, Rocky Barton—I have had a couple of parents call about the Kindergarten kids this week.

Superintendent Robinson—We are okay now as far as teachers and pupil/teacher ratio in Kindergarten. If we were to get four or five more kids in Kindergarten, we would have some difficulties.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—I explained to them that we just didn't have any money, and we just had to do the best that we can. Are there any other questions about this?

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—I'm thankful for the students, but it is just pretty rough on the teachers in certain areas.

Superintendent Robinson—Thank you, Mr. Setser and Mr. Mullins.

APPROVAL OF THE 2016-2017 CRISIS MANAGEMENT PLANS:

Superintendent Robinson—We are now ready for the 2016-2017 Crisis Management Plans.

Mr. Mike Setser— As the Board knows, the Code of Virginia requires each year before August 31st that the superintendent certify that the School Board has reviewed each school's Crisis Management Plans. It is that time again this year. Just a note about this Crisis Management Plan, the State of Virginia and the Department of Education along with the Department of Criminal Justice put out a new model so that our piece is in work and will be for the remainder of this year to get this done. With that said we have to certify to the state that the Board has reviewed each school's Crisis Management Plan.

Superintendent Robinson—So we need a motion, Sir?

Mr. Mike Setser—We just need it in the minutes that the Board has certified they have reviewed the plans.

Superintendent Robinson—However you want to do that Mr. Chair.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Probably, we need to ask each Board Member that they have reviewed this plan. We will start with Dr. Lyle?

Dr. Lurton Lyle—Yes.

Mr. Rick Mullins—Yes.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Yes, I have.

Mrs. Susan Mullins—Yes, I have.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—Yes.

Superintendent Robinson—Thank you.

DISCUSSION OF THE DCPS'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

Superintendent Robinson—The next item is the Discussion of the Dickenson County's Comprehensive Plan. You have a copy there, and this is just a draft of the Comprehensive Plan for your review, feedback and input. This item will be on the agenda for the next several months as we receive input from the School Board and revise it. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Robinson or myself. We hope to get this Plan revised by November, 2016. Are there any questions or comments about that? Again, this is in the draft form and can be changed, revised and tweaked. Our staff here is also reviewing and providing input into the plan. Any questions or comments?

APPROVAL OF THE FIRST GRADE REPORT CARDS:

Superintendent Robinson—The last item on our agenda is the Approval of the First Grade Report Cards. This agenda item will require Board action. Mr. Robinson, if you would please come and very quickly go over this.

Mr. Tony Robinson—Members of the Board you have in your packet a copy of those Report Cards the teachers have put together. What they have is the beginning of the year, the middle of the year and the ending of the year.

Superintendent Robinson—Mr. Robinson, we did not include those Sir, but we will send those to them.

Mr. Tony Robinson—The teachers collectively got together and do a beginning of the year, the middle of the year and the ending of the year assessments in reading and math. What they wanted to do was have the report cards reflect their assessments of what they were actually teaching. These assessments were based on SOLs, reading and math for the 1st Grade, and their skills based. They would say whether they were on grade level or below grade level. Each of those would show if they were letter recognition or number recognition counting up to 10. Those were the things that were put in there. What it would do is align them with the prerequisites they would need for the 2nd Grade for the vertical alignment of that. It would help them to better communicate with the parents so they would know what they needed to do to help their kids to achieve. There are things in there they can do at home so there is communication between the school and home. I did a survey that I sent out to the teachers, and they were all unanimously in favor of these changes. Initially when we talked about this at the end of last year, there was some discussion about whether everybody was in favor of that. There is unanimous support of that now so we recommend the approval of the revised 1st Grade Report Card. The administrators and everybody has looked at this, and they are in favor of it as well. So we just ask for your approval.

Superintendent Robinson—We will need a motion, Mr. Chair.

Chairman, Rocky Barton—Do we have a motion?

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—I make the motion to approve the 1st Grade Report Card as requested. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

BOARD COMMENT:

Chairman, Mr. Rocky Barton—That brings us to Board Comment. Dr. Lyle?

Dr. Lurton Lyle—I don't think it is too early to start thinking about next year's budget. I read in the paper today that the Board of Supervisors anticipates \$300,000 about a third of what they took from the school last year. I would recommend that anyone connected to the school community, parents, teachers or educators attend the Board meetings and let them know that we are still hurting from last year's action and anticipate with the addition of the judicial center payment, we might be in more trouble next year. If enough of us attend the meetings and speak to them, and I am one that hasn't been there much, it might help.

Mr. Rick Mullins—I think Dr. Lyle has a real valid point there. I also love that the SOL scores continue to increase which tells us that we are going in the right direction. We had a great transition at the beginning of the school year. Everything seems to be going right.

Chairman, Mr. Rocky Barton—I also want to commend the teachers, the Central Office Staff, the administrators and Mrs. Robinson on the starting of a great year. The SOL scores are kind of unbelievable from where we were this time last year. So I appreciate everybody that had any input at all. It is just unbelievable that we could pull those scores up like we have. I am just anxious. The football jamboree the other day I will follow Mr. Compton.

Everybody says we are going to have a down year because we had a lot to graduate, but I thought they looked pretty good. So I am interested in that, too.

Mrs. Susan Mullins—I am just thankful that the SOLs are where they are, and I appreciate all the teachers have done to get us there.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles—I echo exactly what you folks have said, and I am very proud of that young bunch of kids from Ervinton, Haysi and Clintwood to have our first national championship in Dickenson County. Although we have had a couple of national champion horses a time or two owned by a couple of undertakers (one that sits on the Board here) (Ha, Ha!) But on a serious note I am proud of those kids and proud of what Shane Hammons has done with those kids. I think we have good enough people with good enough hearts and minds that the building at Clinchco will not be a hassle. I think it will work out for the best for both parties.

Superintendent Robinson—Mr. Barton, today we had the honor of hosting the Secretary of Education of Virginia, Dr. Deidre Trent. She came and was going to visit several schools, but her time was short. We went to Ridgeview because she wanted to see that school. She had heard a lot about Ridgeview. There were several of us there. It was a very good visit. She was very impressed. She was very interested in our Career/Technical and Nursing Programs. We walked into classrooms and talked to students. She has such a great report, and I think Mr. Compton said that on the Robotics Team she asked each one individually what they were going to major in and where were they going. I was fascinated by the responses of our students. We are very proud of our school division. I have been in all of our schools two or three times, and we am very proud of what we see. Thank you.

CLOSED SESSION:

Chairman Rocky Barton— Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712(a) of the Code of Virginia, I move that the board convene a closed session for the purpose of discussing: 1.) Student request for early graduation and homeschool applications. 2.) Employment issues relating resignation, hiring of a custodian, secretary, ISAEP teacher (part-time), Special Ed. Teacher (part-time), substitutes and superintendent evaluation pursuant to VA Code 2.23711 A (1) and to consult with legal counsel on these issues pursuant to Virginia Code section 2.2-3711 (A) (7). Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION:

Chairman Rocky Barton—I now entertain a motion to go out of Closed Session. Mr. Shanghai Nickles made the motion and Mr. Rick Mullins seconded. All votes aye. Chairman Rocky Barton stated; we have been in closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3712(a), Section (1) to discuss potential contracts and proprietary information. Pursuant to Section 2.2-3712(d) of the Code of Virginia, he moved to certify that during the closed meeting just concluded the Dickenson County School Board discussed only matters lawfully exempt from the open meeting requirements under section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia.

Dr. Lurton Lyle, Mr. Rick Mullins, Mrs. Susan Mullins, Mr. Shanghai Nickles and Chairman Rocky Barton; all certified true.

BOARD ACTIONS:

Mrs. Susan Mullins—I make the motion we approve the coaching recommendations as presented. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- Kent Grant, Softball – Assistant
- Tamara Edwards, Volleyball - Volunteer

Mrs. Susan Mullins—I make the motion we approve the early graduation requests as presented. Mr. Rick Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- Student #21924
- Student #23118
- Student #200514
- Student #200549
- Student #600552

Mrs. Susan Mullins—I make the motion we approve Homeschool Applications as presented and authorize the Division Superintendent to approve applications from this point forward. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| • Student #320 | Student #207 | Student #227 |
| • Student #305 | Student #317 | Student #298 |
| • Student #299 | Student #328 | Student #328 |
| • Student #318 | Student #306 | Student #286 |
| • Student #283 | Student #284 | Student #309 |
| • Student #230 | Student #268 | Student #323 |
| • Student #255 | Student #269 | Student #310 |
| • Student #287 | Student #270 | Student #324 |
| • Student #296 | Student #332 | Student #333 |
| • Student #325 | Student #313 | Student #272 |
| • Student #314 | Student #223 | Student #224 |
| • Student #315 | Student #107 | Student #326 |
| • Student #231 | Student #253 | Student #254 |
| • Student #273 | Student #290 | Student #225 |
| • Student #276 | Student #277 | Student #279 |
| • Student #334 | Student #335 | Student #336 |
| • Student #337 | Student #338 | Student #339 |
| • Student #340 | Student #341 | Student #342 |

- Student #345 Student #343 Student #346
- Student #347 Student #344

Mrs. Susan Mullins—I make the motion we accept the resignations are requested. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- Nancy Childress, Clerk/Manager, Sandlick Elementary
- Michele Hayes, Cook, Ridgeview Cafeteria
- Brittany Matney, Part-time Aide, Sandlick Elementary
- Ashley Mullins, Part-time Aide, Sandlick Elementary
- Noel Page, Part-time Aide, Clintwood Elementary
- Marilyn Vaughan, Part-time Aide, Ridgeview Middle

Mrs. Susan Mullins—I make the motion we approve the FMLA request for Elizabeth Silvers as requested. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Mrs. Susan Mullins—I make the motion we approve the request and allow Benny Kennedy to keep his sick days for the bus driving position as presented. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Mrs. Susan Mullins—I make the motion we approve the employment recommendations as presented. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- Sydney Compton, Part-time Special Ed. Teacher – Sandlick Elementary
- Sharon Hall, Part-time ISAEP Teacher – Ridgeview High
- Missy OQuinn, Secretary – Ridgeview High
- Donald Barnes, Custodian – Ridgeview Middle
- Michelle Fields, Cafeteria Clerk/Manager – Sandlick Elementary
- Angela Neece, Part-time Cook – Ridgeview Cafeteria
- Brenda Ramey, Part-time Cook – Sandlick Elementary

Mrs. Susan Mullins—I make the motion we approve the substitutes as requested contingent upon completion of background checks and all necessary paperwork. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- Rozina Branham
- Donny Edwards
- Zachary Hill
- Brittany McClanahan
- Andrea Mullins
- Heather Mullins
- Jenny Mullins

- Savannah Ormes
- Jessica Robinson
- Amanda Schiffer
- Jennifer Singleton
- Amanda Thomas
- Larry Van Hoorebeke
- Barbara Woods

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Susan Mullins—I make the motion to adjourn this meeting. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Adjourned: 9:25 p.m.

Rocky Barton

CHAIRMAN

Approved: September 28, 2016

Reba McCowan

CLERK