

DICKENSON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
Regular School Board Meeting
July 27, 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 July School Board Meeting. We will go ahead and get our meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence. Thank you. It looks like all of our Board Members are here including our Board Clerk and Superintendent. We have our Agenda before us. Are there any additions?

Superintendent Robinson: I have one. Mr. Chair we don't have an Agenda revision, but when we get to the bills, we do have an addition to the bills there that Mr. Barton and I will be explaining.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: So we can go ahead and approve the Agenda?

Superintendent Robinson: Yes, Sir.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: We need a motion to approve the Agenda.

Mrs. Susan Mullins: I make a motion that we approve the Agenda as presented.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: I second it.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: All in favor? (All Ayes) We will go on with Public Comment. Mr. Nickles, would you please read the Guidelines. (So Read)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairman, Rocky Barton: We are now ready for Public Comment. The first person on my list is Kathy Musick with VPE.

Ms. Kathy Musick: Good evening Chairman Barton, Members of the Board, Mrs. Robinson and guests. I am the Regional Representative for Virginia Professional Educators. I would like to take this time, which is an exciting time as school starts back for the students and parents and teachers are readying themselves for that first day of school. I just want to wish everyone the best with a good start. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate those honored here tonight who have given their lives to education in Dickenson

County. Thank you for your service and all that you have done for the students because it was once said that “it takes a village to raise a child”. I am so grateful as a former educator to have had the opportunity to touch the lives of so many students. For all of you out there tonight who are being celebrated, thank you very much. Also next week, I will not be able to be here Tuesday for the back to school thing at Ridgeview. I will be there Wednesday. I have two Walmart gift cards to be given out to two lucky people to help you get ready for back to school. So I will be set up at Ridgeview on Wednesday if anyone is interested in signing up for that gift card, and I will be around the schools passing out brochures during the evening of that day. I hope to see some of you then. Thank you.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Thank you. Ms. Allison Mullins of the DEA:

Ms. Allison Mullins: I want to talk primarily to the School Board and the Central Office Staff for a couple of minutes. I hopefully won't take up the five minutes. Sometimes we have misunderstandings because we don't really listen to each other or we only get part of the story. I am going to tell you the full story behind the DEA recommendations so everybody will understand the budget cuts. In May the Superintendent sent out a survey to the staff asking for input on budget cuts—a much appreciated survey. I, along with other teachers, sent the Superintendent an email expressing concerns about answering the survey. My primary concern was that I didn't feel qualified to make budget cut recommendations without looking at the detailed line item budget. The DEA had requested a line item budget, and we received it. Upon receipt of that budget our committee met with Mrs. Robinson and Mr. Barton. They very graciously answered our questions, but just glancing through that large document we could see that it was not a true line item budget. It only had expenditures. There were no allocations or balances. It was just expenditures. So with that document we had several individuals with experience with school budgets review it. We also had a group of teachers review that document. The teachers came up with about ten pages of questions that we just didn't know the answer to. In the June School Board Meeting a copy of these questions was presented to each one of you, Mrs. Robinson and the press. Not one Board Member answered any of the questions. We didn't even hear back from anybody on any of those questions. Then we had the Closed Session where the Superintendent listed the budget cut recommendations. That consisted of the loss of 29 jobs not counting the retirees, loss of important programs for students and increased health insurance costs. It was catastrophic to the community. It was not until a reporter from WCYB pointed out the questions about the budget had not been answered that we were asked by the Board and Mrs. Robinson to make recommendations. I informed Mrs. Robinson that we could not make those recommendations until the School Board had answered our questions that were submitted weeks earlier. The Superintendent informed me that she no longer had a copy of the questions. That really bothered me. She asked if I would send her another copy which I did. She gave us a very short time frame to turn our recommendations in. In fact, we got the last answer to the ten pages of questions the day before our recommendations were due. We were informed that in order to be on the Agenda, the recommendations had to be submitted several days before the meeting. I expressed surprise because it was my impression that the DEA was always on the Agenda. The DEA budget recommendations were focused on looking at the best interest of the students and the areas that would have the least negative impact on students. In our mind the best interest of the students was saving programs and jobs. The facts are that in the last

several years over 90 teachers and support staff positions have been lost along with numerous losses of vital programs particularly vocational and the arts. The reality is that when this School Board met in Closed Session to discuss the Superintendent's recommended cuts teachers and support staff who lost their jobs were not in there to present a defense of their position. The hundreds of students who lost programs were not in there to present a defense as to why you can't keep these programs such as music, art and drama. They weren't allowed. I just want to say that the DEA stands for the children. It stands for public records being made public. It stands for fairness in equity pay, benefits and accountability. We ask and beg this Board to listen to the people who you represent. Please listen to the people and remember the core values that made us great—respect, love, unity and community. Thank you.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Ok. Mr. Jarvis Deel, Mayor of Clinchco:

Mr. Jarvis Deel: Mr. Chair, Board Members and Mrs. Robinson, I am the Mayor of Clinchco, as you know. I have come tonight to discuss the building that may be going to an organization. I have been here several times and pleaded with you more times than I can remember about anything that we could piece back together down there. When that building came up I was always told that Clinchco would have first choice on it. We have not, from what I am hearing, had first choice.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Let's make clear he is talking about the community building next to the Vocational School.

Mr. Jarvis Deel: That is my fault. I am sorry. That building can also help the town out. With the county in the shape it is in and our town in the shape that it is in, we can't even hire someone to fix our lawn mowers. I have been down there working on them today. I am looking for anywhere that we can get a little revenue. If somebody needed to use the building, we would not have a problem with that. I just wanted to say that I have been promised that building. I want you all to think about that this evening. There are a whole lot of people behind me because it is really important for our Clinchco Days. I get calls every day on this. It has been a headache for me for the last couple of weeks. I know it is something that I have to deal with. I would like for you all to actually recognize that building for the town of Clinchco because we do need it for more reasons than one. Also, the fire department wanted me to ask if you had an emergency contingency plan for the new school.

Superintendent Robinson: I will check on that Mr. Deel. I had heard from the Emergency Board that they wanted the fire drill routes, and we are sending those to the Emergency Committee. I have not heard that about the Clinchco Fire Department. What are they requesting, Sir?

Mr. Jarvis Deel: The Emergency Contingency Plan. They would have been here tonight, but they are involved in training.

Superintendent Robinson: I will find out what I can, Sir, and share it with the Clinchco Fire Department.

Mr. Jarvis Deel: They would really appreciate that because it gives them more information in case something was to happen. I appreciate your time and say welcome to the new Board Members.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Mr. Joe Tate:

Mr. Joe Tate: Mrs. Robinson, Chairman and Board Members. My name is Joe Tate, and I was born and raised in Clinchco. If it does you any good, I will tell you that it was 1937. I am older than anybody in the house. (Ha, Ha!) If you all want to know what this tie is indicative of, he loves Dream Cycles! On several occasions I have talked to the Mayor and other people in authority, and they assured me that if anything happens to that building short of being torn down, Clinchco would have the first opportunity to take it. It is only right that the first person in line should be considered for it. Clinchco is a struggling town at its very best. We have one store left down there. That building would enable them to have a little bit of extra income by charging different organizations to rent the building for weddings, baby showers and things like that. I understand that it is tied up all the time. I know that we have had a yearly thing in Clinchco for the last 37 years, and we always had to call the first day in January to reserve it for the first Sunday in October. I figured that was because there was a big call for the building. If they got this building it would enable them to not only have a little bit of extra income, but it is a good thing for the community to have. I don't know of a place down there unless it would be the Senior Citizen Center that they could meet and have any kind of Community Center. Going back to what they were first told, they would have the first chance at it. I know from what I have heard that one of the fraternal orders has been put on notice that they were going to discuss it tonight and that is what I am doing here. I don't belong to the Kiwanis, but I belong to another fraternal order, and I know that there is honor in every one of them. That is all I am asking tonight that this Board consider that Clinchco was in line for this building first. They really need it more than anybody I can think of. Thank you all very much.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Thank you. Ms. Brittney Turner:

Ms. Brittney Turner: Good evening. My name is Brittney Turner, and I am here this evening to support the proposal for the early Pre-K classroom at Sandlick Elementary School for Special Needs Children. I am here to support this program as a mother in need of services for my child. My son was diagnosed with Autism in December of 2015. My husband and I started noticing delays in our son around the age of two, and we were able to place him in Early Intervention Services for children ages 2-3. We were fortunate to have him in speech therapy last year at Sandlick Elementary School. I can say first hand that these services have not only helped my son learn and grow, but also these programs have brought a lot of resources and assistance to my husband and me to be able to help our son. My son will turn four years old on October 3rd, just days short of being eligible for the regular Pre-K classroom. I am grateful that we are going to have another year to work with him, but I am concerned over the lack of resources and services in our community for Special Needs Children. The one piece of advice that I have been given by psychologists, therapists and counselors is that a child affected by autism the earlier services can be provided and introduced, the better

success and outcome a child will have in transitioning and be adapted into a regular classroom at some point. My son isn't the only reason I am in support of this program, however, I work in the mental health and services field in our county as well. I have seen the need for these programs, and I would like to advocate for these children and families who may be unaware of these services. Services should be provided to them regulated by the Virginia Department of Education. I researched the regulations concerning the Special Education Program for Children with Disabilities in Virginia. The Virginia Division of Special Education and Student Services states that the Board of Education shall prepare and supervise the implementation by each school division of a program of Special Education on how to educate and train children with disabilities. I have those Codes, but I am not going to read those. Children of disabilities mean those persons who are Age 2-21 who are disabled as defined by the Board of Education and need Special Education. Each school division shall provide free and appropriate education including Special Education for children with disabilities residing within its jurisdiction in accordance with the regulations of the Board of Education. With that I encourage the Board to review the regulations governing school divisions regarding Special Education and encourage the passing of the proposal of the Special Needs Program at Sandlick Elementary School. I am here today to be a voice for my son and others like him who are in need of special programming. I am here to advocate for services for the betterment for these children and for our school system as a whole. I appreciate your time and attention to this matter and your service to our children. Thank you.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Thank you, Brittney. April Collins:

Ms. April Collins: Good evening Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Chair and Board Members. I come as a representative from the Ervinton district regarding a community meeting that was held at McClure River Kiwanis on July 15th at 6 p.m. I know that we have extended invitations to all of the Board Members for this meeting, and we understand that due to already busy schedules and summer plans that, unfortunately, there weren't any Board Members who were able to attend. However, we felt it was important that you hear what happened at that meeting. At the meeting there were three representatives from the communities of Ervinton, Haysi and Clintwood that spoke regarding specific concerns and needs for those individual communities. I will not recap all of those needs. I think that over the last six months there have been some very vocal concerns going back to the last school year regarding bus routes and other needs and concerns from each community. Each community had very specific and individual needs. However, although those individual communities stand alone, we feel that it is very important for our communities to come together and stand together as one for the kids in our community. From that meeting there were three primary recommendations that the community wishes to request, not necessarily to the School Board, but to all members of the community. It was a call for attendance. Based on the attendance here at this School Board Meeting, I am pleased with our crowd and turnout of community members for our children. We also had a call to contact the media, social media and get the needs of our community out there for our kids. If it is not out there, you don't know about it. It is important that we do a better job at informing you what our needs are. The last call of action was that if Board Members, after knowing what the needs of the community are, fail to act for their community that there be a call of action such as recall petition or another action to make sure that that Board Member is held accountable for his or her action. One way that I personally feel that

this could be done is a better transparency for the community members. If you look on the school web site, the Board Members contact information is not noted. It may be difficult for other schools or other community members to get in contact with each of you. The Agenda, the budget would be helpful for individual community members to have access to. Lastly, I invite you to our next community meeting on August 16th at 6 p.m. at the McClure River Kiwanis. We have flyers that we will circulate. If you have somewhere you could hang it up, and if you could invite others, the more of us who come together to stand for our children the more successful we will be. We appreciate your service. We appreciate the hard work that you do for our kids, and we want to hopefully continue to work together to be more successful in the upcoming school year. Thank you.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Ms. Kathy Harrison:

Ms. Kathy Harrison: Mr. Chair, Board Members and Mrs. Robinson, tonight I would like to comment on community involvement, community needs and community unified. For community needs we can start with these questions for the Board Members.

1. When Superintendent Robinson made recommendations for cuts, did any School Board Member question this decision? The community feels that it is the Superintendent's job to present different options for the School Board to question and talk about those options, and then make an informed decision based upon the answers to those questions.
2. Did any School Board Member ask what the criteria was when used to decide which positions would be eliminated? Again, this goes back to Board Members asking questions. I know that you don't have as much information at hand as Superintendent Robinson and her staff. That is why you must ask her to present the criteria and question what you may not understand. Were School Board Members familiar with the policy for laying people off? That information should have been in front of you as you made those decisions. I'm not saying that it wasn't. We are just asking. In your opinion what is the role of the School Board? According to the National School Board Association the most important responsibility of School Boards is to work with their communities to improve student achievement in their local schools. School Boards get their power and authority from the State in compliance with State and Federal laws. School Boards establish policies and regulations by which the local schools are governed. School Boards are responsible for employing the Superintendent, developing and adopting policies, curriculum and the budget. Overseeing facility issues. Community members may bring some facility issues to you, and you need to pay attention to them and go visit the facility. Did the School Board Members consider the DEA's recommendations? If you didn't, why did you not? Are you willing to meet with a group of concerned citizens without the Superintendent present? If no, why? The shareholders, all of us, need to feel that Board Members are willing to hear any and all concerns that they may have in a sincere and listening atmosphere.

For community involvement and unification the community needs to feel that they have a stake in our schools. It is hard to have pride in just a building. We want to feel the pride we

once had at our old buildings only unified. Can you just imagine the spirit of all three high schools if they come together and have pride in what is going on inside the building, it would take the top off that mountain. The buildings we had weren't much, but the spirit and unity could be felt when you walked in. Even after 30+ years I could walk in and feel like I was a part of that unity whether I stepped into the building or the ballfield. The community needs to feel included and would like to have a stake in what is going on inside the building.

Let me leave you with something else from the National School Board Association. What makes a School Board effective?

1. Commitment to a vision of high expectation of student achievement
2. Strong shared beliefs and values about student ability to learn and the system and its ability to teach all children at all levels
3. Are accountability driven
4. Have a collaborative relationship with staff and the community
5. Data savvy
6. Align and sustain resources to meet district goals
7. Lead as a united team with the Superintendent
8. Take part in team development and training

Thank you for your time.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Glenda O'Quinn: I don't think she is here. Mrs. Mullins:

Ms. Phyllis Mullins: I'm not going to speak tonight.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Ms. Greer Mullins:

Ms. Greer Mullins: Good evening. The concerned citizens of Dickenson County are here to request this School Board follow their own policy and the law in evaluating the Superintendent. The Virginia Department of Education has given specific guidelines of what this evaluation should consist of. This evaluation is a process and cannot be adequately completed in a Closed Session. The Virginia Department of Education recommends that a community survey be a part of the evaluation. We are asking this Board to listen to the stakeholders that you are elected to serve.

There is about a 30 year teacher if they retired today is not guaranteed insurance. Only one person in the school system is guaranteed insurance beyond employment. That is all I have to say.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Melanie Fuller:

Ms. Melanie Fuller: I am not going to speak tonight.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: OK. Marcus Fuller:

Mr. Marcus Fuller: I'm not going to speak.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: OK. That concludes Public Comment.

Mr. J. B. Puckett: Rocky, I didn't get here in time to sign up, but I would like to say something.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: OK. Mr. J. B. Puckett:

Mr. J. B. Puckett: Rocky, Shanghai, Rick, Doc the thing that has not been brought up yet that bothers me a lot is this bathroom thing. What are you going to do about it?

Chairman, Rocky Barton: What thing?

Mr. J. B. Puckett: This bathroom thing. Are you familiar with it? The idea that a boy can walk into the girls' bathroom. I don't like that.

Mrs. Susan Mullins: You are talking about the transgender?

Mr. J. B. Puckett: What are you going to do about it?

Chairman, Rocky Barton: So far we haven't had to do anything about it, but I think it is coming.

Mr. J. B. Puckett: It is coming, and it is going to open up a big can of worms. So I would like for you to let me know what you are going to do because school is starting pretty soon. I want to send my kids to school, but I am perfectly capable of teaching them myself and so are others. I haven't heard any of you say anything about it, but everybody I talk to doesn't like it. So that is my question, what are you going to do about it?

Chairman, Rocky Barton: You can start by calling our Governor.

Mr. J. B. Puckett: Yeah, I already did that, and it didn't get me anywhere. You guys have the power.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Not if it comes from the State.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: Ask Mr. Mullins.

Mr. Scott Mullins: So it is my job to come up with an answer about transgender? (Ha, Ha!)

Mr. J. B. Puckett: I want an answer, no spin!

Mr. Scott Mullins: You want the no spin zone! This is what we are going to do. We are going to follow the law and policy. The reason we are going to follow the law and policy is because that is what we do, we play by the rules. We may not like the rules, but we follow

the rules. The reason we follow the rules is because if we don't, they cut off our Federal funding. If you think we have a problem now because we don't have local or State funding, try to run a school system without Federal funding. The other thing that I would remember is that we are not alone in this. There are a lot of people who feel the same way that we feel, and I am of the fundamental belief that enough people would have enough sense to do the right thing. It may take us a while to get there, but I think that to this point we have not had that problem. I think we have plenty of problems to deal with as it is. I think that by the time that problem comes to us, there will be a lot of other jurisdictions that will find fault with it, and the rule will be a lot more settled. That is what I hope. It is a difficult problem. I don't deny that. I don't claim to have an answer to it. I understand how the overwhelming majority of you people feel, myself included. But I also know that we have to follow the law. It is what it is, a developing changing landscape.

Superintendent Robinson: Mr. Puckett, we addressed the issue of that this year, and we, by talking with the parents, resolved that issue and hope to continue with that.

Mr. J. B. Puckett: Thank you.

Superintendent Robinson: Thank you, Sir.

GOOD NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS:

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Mrs. Robinson, we are ready for Good News from Our Schools.

Superintendent Robinson: This is the time of year that we get to recognize, as Ms. Musick stated, people who are dedicated. They have dedicated their lives and purpose to what they believe to our school system, and we are better for it, and even more important our children are better for that. So we have several bells and several plaques to give out. I am just going to take time to read each one, and I am going to ask each one to come to the front to be recognized by the audience and the Board. There is a lot of years of experience retiring:

- Debra L. Barnett, in appreciation for 40 years of service to the Dickenson County School System
- Robin Charles, in appreciation for 30 years and 8 months of service to the Dickenson County School System
- Carol Compton, in appreciation for 19 years of service to the Dickenson County School System
- Carrol Poston, in appreciation for 35 ½ years of service to the Dickenson County School System
- Mike Yates, in appreciation for 23 ½ years of service to the Dickenson County School System
- Gary R. Meade, in appreciation for 28 ½ years of service to the Dickenson County School System
- Debra L. Holmes, in appreciation for 29 years of service to the Dickenson County School System

- Benny Kennedy, in appreciation for 42 years of service to the Dickenson County School System
- Ruby Rasnake, in appreciation for 39 ½ years of service to the Dickenson County School System
- Ginger Mullins, in appreciation for 27 years of service to the Dickenson County School System
- Sherry Willis, in appreciation for 26 years of service to the Dickenson County School System

Superintendent Robinson: I know we have some family members here. I see Mr. Holmes, if he will please stand because we know that you have been a part of the 29 years. We thank you very much. We have some other staff members that we would like to recognize.

- Gwen Yates, in appreciation for 24 years of service to the Dickenson County School System
- Brenda Davis, in appreciation for 23 ½ years of service to the Dickenson County School system
- Jenny Bloodgood, in appreciation for 34 years of service to the Dickenson County School System

Ladies and gentlemen would you please rise and help me recognize our distinguished retirees. (Applause!) I don't know what we are going to do without all of these people. I started adding up all of the years of experience that are leaving us, and I just quit because it was a little bit depressing. But congratulations to all of you, and thank you again for attending this special ceremony. Thank you.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Ok, we will get on with our Consent Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Has everyone had a chance to look over the minutes? If so, I will need a motion.

Mrs. Susan Mullins: I make a motion that we approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Rick Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Mrs. Susan Mullins: I need to abstain for one because I wasn't here.

Approved:

Special Called Meeting – June 29, 2016 (*Mrs. Susan Mullins abstained*)

Regular Meeting – June 22, 2016

Special Called Meeting – June 6, 2016

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

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

Superintendent Robinson: Mr. Chair, there was a new bill that was added today for the Department of Treasury. Mr. Barton, is there anything that you can add to that, Sir? It is highlighted on the second page, and you should have just received that one.

Mr. Larry Barton: The Department of Treasury was for our self-insured policy.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: I have a question. Is the Trane parts relating to the air-conditioner?

Mr. Larry Barton: It is the compressor that we had to replace at Sandlick.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: How long had it been there?

Mr. Larry Barton: It is one of the older units.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: So it wasn't under warranty?

Mr. Larry Barton: It wasn't under warranty, and when they can, they try to take the parts off the others.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: I have a question about the one for Freedom Ford.

Mr. Larry Barton: That was for one of the smaller buses. We had some problem with the transmission and had to replace something that our guys couldn't do.

Mrs. Susan Mullins: If there are no more questions, I move that we pay the bills as presented. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

School Operating Fund – July 27, 2016 – Bills

Check Nos. 876304 through 876383 ----- \$306,163.92

School Operating Fund – July 29, 2016 – Payroll

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

SCHOOL ACTIVITY FUND:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—The School Activity Fund is an informational item in your packet. Are there any comments or questions?

Mrs. Susan Mullins: Can we talk about the Expenditure Summary Report that is in that section because I am not sure I understand? Okay, looking at the end of June 30th and the available balance.

Mr. Larry Barton: It is from our appropriations where we finished less than what our appropriations were.

Mrs. Susan Mullins: The next sheet is the post year expenditures, and we spent almost all of the money that was there.

Mr. Larry Barton: That is basically the payroll for the 9, 10 and 11 month employees. The payroll is handed out on July 31st in 2016, but it is counted as post year because of the contract. The June includes payroll for everyone in the division, the 9, 10, 11 and 12 month employees. The July gets a little confusing.

Mrs. Susan Mullins: So the available balance for post year is still going to be there?

Mr. Larry Barton: No. The \$500,000 is the balance of our appropriations. There are also two sheets of the Revenue Summary that you haven't had in the past. It is the summary of the revenues for the year so our carry over funds are attached also which is \$12,183 in GED funds (Couldn't hear)

Mrs. Susan Mullins: I would like to thank you for providing that. I don't think I have ever seen it before. I wasn't questioning you. I just wanted to understand the process.

Mr. Larry Barton: Sure. It gets confusing when you get to the Post Year Expenditures. Are there any other questions on Activity Fund or the Revenue Summary?

APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIPS:

Chairman, Rocky Barton: There are no Field Trips to approve.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS FOR THE BOARD:

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

Superintendent Robinson: In Governor McAuliffe's budget that was approved by the General Assembly there was a 2% salary increase that was going to be enacted in December 2016. We budgeted for that salary increase, and if you recall earlier in our budget process we even included all of our employees beginning in August. Since we suffered the cuts and budget loss that we did, we went back to December. We have now been informed by the governor's office that the general fund revenue collections for fiscal year 2016 were greater than one percent below the official revenue forecast. So as a result, the 2% compensation Supplement payment effective December 2016 for Standards of Quality positions is on hold pending budgetary actions to address the revenue shortfall. So at this time I wanted to inform the Board of that. We have informed our principals and administrators that the raise is

on hold. It is still budgeted and we will continue to do so until we receive further direction from the Board. In today's salary scales the Board will look at and improve, that 2% salary increase is not included in the salary scale. If the Governor does approve the 2% raise, then in November we will come back to the Board with a salary scale that will reflect the 2% raise. We are just on standby, and I wanted to let the Board know that this is the information that we have. We have had the opportunity to speak to other Region VII superintendents. Some of them are caught between a rock and a hard place because their raise was going to begin in August. All of us are kind of in a flux so that is where we are right now with the Compensation. Note please that it is only for Standards of Quality positions in any school division. We have many more positions than just the Standards of Quality positions. So our raise is going to be much more than what is appropriated because it will include all of our teachers, bus drivers and everyone who is an employee of the school system. I just wanted to take time to inform the Board of that. Are there any questions or comments on that?

APPROVAL OF AUDITOR FOR DCPS SCHOOL ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS:

Superintendent Robinson: We are ready to move on with Old Business if the Board is ready. Item E is the Approval of Auditor for DCPS School Activity Accounts. At our last Board Meeting we recommended an auditor to do the summer independent audits that the school division is responsible for the Board expressed some concern and asked us to go further with that. Since that time we have spoken with Mr. Porter, and he has agreed to all of the terms that the Board had some concerns about. As a matter of fact, we have a statement from him as to when the records will be returned and then all financial obligations have been taken care of by him. So with the short time remaining because this is usually something that is done in the summer, we are recommending to the Board the services of Michael T. Porter to perform the annual audit for FY 2016 for all school activity funds in the school division. Again, the cost of these services is \$5,300. We are asking the Board since we are in a time constraint to consider this recommendation. Then for next year we ask for direction if the Board wants us to go in another direction.

Mrs. Susan Mullins: I make a motion that we approve Michael T. Porter for his accounting services. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

APPROVAL OF DEMOLITION CONTRACT OF ERVINTON HIGH SCHOOL, CLINCHCO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND BUILDINGS AT HAYSI:

Superintendent Robinson: Mr. Elswick is here and he has information about the Demolition Contract for Ervinton High School, Clinchco Elementary School and the Buildings by the River at Haysi. Mr. Elswick, welcome.

Mr. Curtis Elswick: Thank you. I hope everybody is doing well. I am Curtis Elswick, and I am Vice President of Skanska. I am here to make a recommendation for the award of the contract for the demolition of Ervinton High School, Clinchco Elementary School and the Buildings by the River at Haysi. I have distributed a letter of recommendation and the tabulation of the bid we received. We received a total of six bids on July 7th which is actually more than we expected. The lowest responsible bidder was the E. Luke Green Company

who have done some work in Dickenson County and did a good job. The bid was for \$637,900. Since receiving bids we have checked numbers and confirmed that their bid was good. I am recommending the award of the contracts to them.

Superintendent Robinson: Mr. Elswick, if I may, Board Members and Mr. Chair, this is part of the Corps Contract and Agreements that were signed. The funding for the demolition of these schools will come from the \$110 million that the county has received. But it is part of the contractual agreement. It is one that now since Ridgeview has been opened for a year; we have to meet with these guidelines.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: You have worked with them before?

Mr. Curtis Elswick: They are the ones that demolished the jail and Exxon station. They did a really good job. We have done work with them in the past.

Mrs. Susan Mullins: Where are they from?

Mr. Curtis Elswick: They have an office in Bristol and Roanoke. This operation is from the Tri-City area.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: Who will be there to oversee it?

Mr. Curtis Elswick: Mr. Tim Burge.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: Can we vote on that? (Ha, Ha!)

Mr. Curtis Elswick: Yes, you can. I have a wrestler here from Virginia Tech.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: I don't want to mess with him. When will this happen?

Mr. Curtis Elswick: They plan to mobilize next week to do the abatement for the asbestos in the buildings.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: Will that impede any logging or coal trucks going up and down the road there?

Mr. Curtis Elswick: No. There is plenty of parking there.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: That is the main place for taking the coal and logs from Dickenson County. That would be a concern if they were to take up any kind of road time. If that is going to happen, I think StanCo and the other trucks that drive around here need to know that so they could possibly go Rt. 72.

Mr. Curtis Elswick: We actually discussed the logistics for all three sites, and it won't be a problem. We also mentioned keeping the roads clean. The only issue with road traffic would be at Haysi because of the pedestrian bridge, and they are going to get a VDOT permit

and also going to notify the police about what they are doing so people won't think that we are just tearing down buildings.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: They are taking the bridge down at Haysi so will they go up by the high school to divert traffic do you think?

Mr. Curtis Elswick: We are discussing it with VDOT. They think it will be something that they can do overnight and direct traffic around Haysi High School.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: The other thing would be about ambulance services and that kind of thing.

Mrs. Susan Mullins: How long will this project take?

Mr. Curtis Elswick: By their contractual schedule they would have to be done by February 4th, but the schedule they gave us today they are shooting to be done by the end of the year. They think they can beat that. It just depends on how long it will take to get the asbestos out.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Any more questions? We need a motion.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles *I make a motion that we go with the company suggested by Skanska. Mrs. Susan Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.*

Mr. Curtis Elswick: Thank you all very much.

Superintendent Robinson: Thank you, Curtis.

RECESS:

Chairman, Rocky Barton: We need to take a 5-minute recess because one of the Board Members needs to leave in a few minutes.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: *I make a motion that we take a 5-minute recess. Mr. Rick Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.*

***Note:** Mrs. Susan Mullins had to leave the meeting during the recess and was unable to return. All unanimous votes from this point forward reflect board members; Dr. Lurton Lyle, Mr. Rick Mullins, Mr. Shanghai Nickles and Chairman Rocky Barton.

MEETING RECONVENED:

APPROVAL OF 2016-2017 ESTIMATED BUDGET:

Superintendent Robinson: Mr. Chair we are up to the Approval of the 2016-2017 Estimated Budget. We are recommending the approval of the Budget. There is a PowerPoint presentation. You also received this earlier this week. Mr. Barton will be presenting the

amended budget to the School Board for your approval. The contracts for employees will be completed and distributed the week of August 1, 2016, as soon as our budget is approved. If you have any questions throughout the presentation, please feel free to ask as we move forward. Thank you.

Mr. Larry Barton: Mr. Chair and Members of the Board we are looking at the proposed revised estimated budget for FY 17. As you know, you approved the first budget back in March. This budget here is \$1,789,266 less than that previous budget. We are actually \$1,196,899 less than the 2016 budget that we just completed. I will give you the highlights here:

As far as looking at our State funding, we had an increase of \$21,551. When we did the budget back in March, a lot of those were still estimates from the State. We have actual numbers here. The primary increase of the \$21,551 is basically in technology. State funding totals \$15,191,000.

Looking at Federal funding, it has decreased \$336,000 which is basically a correction of the statement for the FY 16 Federal funding for the FY 16 budget. The Federal funding is listed by line item in your budget. It is based on the actual budget amounts you received from these individual programs. We anticipated receiving a couple of budget that have not come in, but they have given us a close estimate.

- Our cafeteria funding has a decrease of \$100,000 on it. \$1.2 million is the estimated revenue for cafeteria. This is based on actual receipts from FY 16. In our other funds there is a decrease of \$259,815 which is basically a correction from the over statement from the previous year's budget. We have marked that down again in the detailed budget that you have by major categories which is:
 - Medicaid--\$150,000
 - Erate--\$130,000
 - Grant--\$18,000
 - Dual Enrollment Tuition--\$30,000
 - Columbus Phipps--\$8,000
 - Other--\$150,000

As we all know, the local county funds came in \$800,000 less than what we originally budgeted for. The correction is \$6,100,000.

Looking at the other funding, this is our carryover funding or other funding. When the budget was prepared, the amounts in our FY 16 budget had not been corrected from the FY 15. So we are seeing a decrease of \$322,006 in this account. The only funds that we are carrying forward to FY 17 from FY 16 are the GED Testing Fund of \$12,183. That gives us a total estimated revenue of \$24,556,734. Again that is \$1,196,899 less than FY 16.

If we look at our expenditures, this does include the 2% raise that should go into effect on December 1, and of course it is subject to the State Budget as far as what happens with that.

But looking at this category it is our salaries and wages, you will see a decrease of \$1,098,685 from the previous estimate. It is due to the reduction of staff and also the change with the 2% raise for December. As I mentioned it still includes the 2%. If we look forward to the related expenditures on the next line, it will be a decrease of \$758,694. Most of these accounts are primarily related to the wages such as your taxes at the top such as FICA, VRS benefits and group life. All of those are directly calculated from the wages. On the health insurance there is a decrease of \$623,768 on that line item. That is due to the change in the insurance plan when we went to Plan 2, and the increase in employee contributions and also because of the reduction in staff which decreased that number. The unemployment insurance there is an increase of \$90,000 in that account which we anticipated the number of unemployment that we would have to pay out. The sick leave also had an increase of \$40,000 in that account due to the anticipated pay outs in sick leave and retirements which brought that number up \$60,000. So the total in that category is \$8,472,306 which is an increase of \$84,108 from last year.

Next we have our non-payroll expenditures. Looking at this category there are a few changes:

- Utilities—we had to increase that account by \$8,000 from the budget we did back in March for the utilities for a full year. They came in a little bit more than we thought.
- Internet Connection—is a decrease of \$3,000. It is based on the actual expenditures from FY 16.
- Insurance—we had an \$8,000 increase there because there was so much uncertainty with the property being transferred to the county. So that was an estimate. We actually received our premium that you all approved last month, so it is based on that actual premium. Our Insurance line item is now \$104,000.
- Textbooks—there was a decrease of \$26,888. That is based on our actual textbook funding received from the State. We don't have any carryover in that.
- Instructional Supplies—it is decreased by \$15,000. Part of that is based on \$19,000 reduction in the Columbus Phipps Funding anticipated to be received this year.
- Technology Software—is an increase of \$12,000. It is based on the actual FY 16 expenditures. If you will look we have technology Software and Hardware in the Technology Software. All of those accounts are worked out of that budget we received from the State.
- Bus Lease—we also had to add this line item near the bottom of \$55,000. The previous budget did not have that in it because we were carrying forward \$55,000 from last year to pay our bus lease this year. We didn't have these carryover funds.
- Technology Hardware—there is an increase of \$25,000 based on the increase in technology that we receive from the State. We actually have a match that goes with that.

Looking at all of these categories it is an increase of \$68,112 over the previous estimated budget. It is a decrease of \$1,196,899 from the FY 16 budget.

Looking at the summary:

- Total Expenditures are down \$1,196,899 for a total of \$24,556,734

- Revenues are the same amount \$24,556,734

So that gives us a balanced budget presented for approval. Are there any questions on that?

Mr. Rick Mullins: What was the bus lease again?

Mr. Larry Barton: \$55,000. We thought we had carryover funds of \$55,000 which would be coming in from FY 16 but it was carried forward from FY 15 to FY 16.

Mr. Rick Mullins: So this is the second year?

Mr. Larry Barton: No. It is the 3rd year.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: On the insurance, Larry, you said we accepted No. 2. I thought we chose No. 1.

Mr. Larry Barton: I think it was No. 2. It was the one that had the drug cards with it. We can look in the minutes.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: It was the one we voted on last month wasn't it?

Superintendent Robinson: Yes. The Insurance Committee had suggested two options.

Mrs. Reba McCowan: It was a 3-2 vote for Option 2 - Carrier Option 1.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: I'm sorry. My mistake.

Mr. Larry Barton: Are there any more questions on the budget?

Superintendent Robinson: We need a motion if the Board so chooses.

Dr. Lurton Lyle: *I make a motion that we approve the 2016-2017 Estimated Budget. Mr. Rick Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.*

Mr. Larry Barton: Mr. Chair, also related to the budget, I wanted to address several issues from the 2016 budget. My first day was February 29, and our first budget workshop was a little less than two weeks after that. So I hit the ground running, and I don't think I have stopped yet. Within weeks of my arrival some issues came up that the division had to address immediately. We all know that we had the loss when we had the budget cuts of \$376,000 in March, and then we found that we had the over anticipation of revenues prior to this budget that had to be corrected along with the carryover adjustments that we had. We had an issue with the non-reconciliation of revenues and expenditures. Lastly, in completing our end-of-year reconciliation we found an issue with the prior balance resulting in the treasurer's office of \$270,658.27 more on the deposit of the school division than our records reflected. These additional funds assisted us to finish out our year and balance our budget for 2015-2016. As you can see in the budget, we are actually carrying over \$12,183 in the GED testing funds. As of June 30, 2016, all of the funds are reconciled with the treasurer's office.

Since this issue we have implemented a new reconciliation procedure on revenues and expenditures monthly to assure that this does not occur again. Are there any questions?

APPROVAL OF 2016-2017 SALARY SCALES:

Superintendent Robinson: Our next item is the Approval of the 2016-2017 Salary Scales. We are recommending the approval of the 2016-2017 Salary Scales as presented. As you remember the 2% Compensation Supplement payment is effective on December 1, 2016. It is on hold due to the state budget shortfall. These salary scales do not reflect the 2% increase. Again, we will wait for direction from the State, and if it looks like we are moving forward with the raise beginning on December 1, 2016, then we will bring the revised scales to the Board in November so that the 2% Compensation is addressed. Are there any questions on the salary scales? As you can see we have included teachers, principals, assistant principals, maintenance, custodians, cooks, support staff, secretaries and everyone who is employed by the school system. Are there any questions on that?

Mr. Rick Mullins: *I make a motion that we approve the 2016-2017 Salary Scale. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.*

APPROVAL OF DIRECT DEPOSIT FOR ALL FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES:

Superintendent Robinson: Next we have the Approval of Direct Deposit for all Full-Time Employees. We are recommending to the School Board the approval of the use of Direct Deposit for all Full-time employees. As we have looked at our financial office and the ways to become more efficient, we found that by emailing the direct deposit slip to our employees that the school division can save approximately \$7,200 a year for the cost of envelopes, stamps, paper and labor. So instead of printing the statement, placing it in an envelope and mailing or distributing it, the monthly payroll statement will be emailed to each employee on the last day of each month. We had a trial run last week with that, and it worked well. It was very confidential and was received on time. Many of our employees are already signed up for Direct Deposit. That is not the issue. The significant difference will be the change in emailing the Monthly Payroll Statement to individual employees. Many school divisions already do this, and the main reason we are looking at this is the \$7,200 savings for our division.

Dr. Lurton Lyle: Do all employees have a bank account that it can be directly deposited into?

Superintendent Robinson: For our full-time employees, yes. Now for our part-time and substitutes we will continue what we have been doing with the paper copy. For all full-time contractual employees we will be able to just email them the copy. The question there is to make certain that all full-time employees have an email address, and they are verifying that now. If they don't, we will have to resort to the other option of a paper copy. We would like to implement this for the August payroll if the Board so chooses to approve it. We will have that information to the employees when they sign their contract.

Dr. Lurton Lyle: I make a motion to approve the Direct Deposit for all full-time employees. Mr. Rick Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.

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

Superintendent Robinson: Thank you, Mr. Barton. Our next item is the Discussion of the Community Center at the Former Dickenson County Career Center. I will turn this discussion over to our Board since they placed this item on the Agenda.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: I think we have somebody from the Haysi/Clinchco Lions Club who would like to speak about this if it is okay, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Sure.

Mr. Charlie Turner: We are not asking for a “give me”. We are asking for a lease on the building. We understand that there is going to be some expense. I know that one of the heat pumps is not right. If you will give us some consideration, I would like to be able to have that checked before we take the building. About the promise, I have no idea who promised what. We serve Haysi, Clinchco and half of the Ervinton district. We sent David Robbins a check Monday night to help him. I understand that we would have to take care of the power and water bills. If the School Board had any need for a meeting, we would be glad to do that. If the people from Clinchco want it for Clinchco Days, we have no problem with that. We would just want them to leave it like they find it.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: Would you continue to feed the veterans?

Mr. Charlie Turner: Yes. We started that last year. I know that I have been a nuisance to her, but she was very nice about it. She supplied us with tables down there.

Ms. Brenda Ramey: I would just like to say that we are non-profit, and nobody really realizes what the Lions Club is all about. We don’t turn any child away. We do a lot of fund raisers. This money is strictly from donations or fund raisers. All the money we get, we earn. That was one of the reasons that we wanted this building. We do everything we can to help our community. We don’t turn any child away, but there are guidelines for the adults such as income. We participate in the I Can Day, Veterans, Work with the School, Easter Egg Hunt we worked with the Haysi Kiwanis and had over 600 kids and their parents. So we are asking for that building for our community. We need a place for our meetings. We need a place to store our stuff.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: Where are you meeting now?

Ms. Brenda Ramey: They let us meet at the Main Street Pizzeria in Haysi. We don’t have a lot of privacy there because there are people coming in and out. We don’t want to go nose to nose with the town of Clinchco. We didn’t know there were any promises made to them about the building. But we need the building and would love to have the building.

Mr. Charlie Turner: She mentioned the I Can Day. Every year we supply the tents, water and everything for the events in that. We would like for the Board to consider us. We appreciate your time. Thank you very much.

Superintendent Robinson: Thank you for coming.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: I would just like to make one clarification. I don't know that we ever promised the town of Clinchco that they could lease it, but we promised them that they could always have it for their Clinchco Days as long as it was in our control. If that building is not used by the school system, we have to turn it over to the Board of Supervisors. I can remember us saying that as long as it was in our control, it would be open for the Clinchco Days.

Mr. Joe Tate: If there are no other speakers, I will take up the rest of the time. I can be sympathetic to what Charlie and the lady said, and I know they do good work. I am not here to criticize them. I am here to simply say again that the town of Clinchco made a request months ago. I don't know who made these folks aware that it was going to be made available, but there are still some promises out there that ought to be honored. Some of the members of this Board made them. If you are going to treat your constituents that lightly, you need to go into another line of work. Don't tell them something if you are not going to deliver. That was always my credo from the Board of Supervisors to every group I belonged to. Don't make promises that you can't keep. Don't write checks that you don't want to sign. It was promised a long time ago that if anything goes with this building, Clinchco would have first choice. What they said works right in with the plan. They can use the building if they will pay a little more for it. Probably wouldn't cost them as much, but we can't have it tied up when other people want to use it. It has to be available for the whole community and the surrounding community. Thank you.

Mr. Rick Mullins: I'll tell you what I would like to see. Maybe we could get Joe Tate and Charlie into a room and create a compromise so we can sit down and look at something that is feasible for both entities. Would you guys be willing to do that?

Ms. Kathy Harrison: I just have a question. I know when we gained the library building, it was owned by Stone Mountain. Stone Mountain turned it over to the town. The town wasn't able to help us renovate it, so they had to turn it over to the county. The county then let us move in and help renovate it. From what I understand you have already had to turn over ownership of Haysi High School and Clintwood High School. The schools that aren't being torn down you have had to turn over to the Board of Supervisors. Are you going to have to turn this building over to the Board of Supervisors too?

Chairman, Rocky Barton: We will in the long run. Our long-term plans were with the money from the Corps we could use the Vocational School as the Central Office. That is the reason that that property has not been turned over yet to the Board of Supervisors because that was our goal to get out of all of these little buildings everywhere and have one centrally located office. You are right the Haysi High School property that has not been torn down has

already been turned over to the Board of Supervisors and the Clintwood High School campus has already been turned over.

Superintendent Robinson: Ms. Harrison, also our technology department is at the Career Center now with the hopes that the Central Office will soon follow there. The Community Center is part of that area, but it is two separate buildings.

Mr. Charlie Turner: Rick, to answer your question I would be willing to work with Clinchco. We don't want any conflict with anybody. But I will have to mention it to the club before I can answer that question.

Mr. Rick Mullins: Could we table this until we see what can be worked out between them?

Mr. Shanghai Nickles Let them work it out between the two of them and then come back to us and tell us what they have worked out.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Do you meet every week or every other week?

Ms. Brenda Ramey: We meet twice a month.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: When is your next meeting?

Ms. Brenda Ramey: Next Monday.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Maybe you all could set up a meeting with the Town Council of Clinchco and see what you could do. Work it out if you could. It could be informal. You all could just work it out and see what you could come up with. Then if you needed a formal meeting, you could do that.

Superintendent Robinson: There were many people who donated things across the county. Are they requesting to have those things back?

Dr. Lurton Lyle: I think Rick's idea sounds good to me. They can work it out between them and get back to us.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: I do know that we let everyone know that it could be used for Clinchco Days.

Mr. Joe Tate: It is only one day a year, and this will be the 37th day that we have done that. It breaks my heart to go through that town that I was born and raised in and see exactly what has happened. There is just one grocery store down there. My heart bleeds for those people. If something doesn't take place, I don't know what will become of them. I really don't.

Ms. April Collins: Will a Board Member be present with the two groups just to clarify what has been promised?

Chairman, Rocky Barton: I know that is all we can say that has been promised. The promise was that they could use it for Clinchco Days. If it ends up being leased to the Lions Club, it would have to be in that lease that the Clinchco Community gets it on that day. As far as us being involved with you working it out, I don't think we need to.

Dr. Lurton Lyle: It would be a lease. We cannot give them the building.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: We will put you on the Agenda for next month, and you can come back and let us know what you decide.

Dr. Lurton Lyle: I move we table this discussion until next month. Mr. Rick Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.

APPROVAL OF GUIDELINES FOR FACEBOOK WEBSITES SPONSORED BY DCPS:

Superintendent Robinson: Next is the Approval of the Guidelines for Facebook Websites Sponsored by Dickenson County Public Schools. I am going to ask Mr. Setser if he would come to the front. We have included in your packet the proposed Guidelines and have also sent them to you last week. These are proposed guidelines for Facebook and Websites sponsored by the Dickenson County Public Schools. With the increased usage of our school sponsored activities, communicating with students and parents by Social Media, Facebook and Websites, we strongly recommend implementing guidelines by legal and consistent procedures for these Websites. Mr. Setser, if you would please go over this proposed policy:

Mr. Mike Setser: Thank you, Mrs. Robinson. Mr. Chair and Members of the Board, I want to start by stating that this proposed policy in no way addresses the personal use or private use of Social Media sites by any of our employees or anyone affiliated with the school. This is only dealing with the desire to have an official presence. It could be a department, athletic team or club. We are not talking about personal or private accounts for Social Media outlets. It is not specific to Facebook. It could be Linked or Twitter, but these guidelines do provide our schools with the method for teams or clubs. It provides guidelines to them in order to establish official Social Media presence that is connected to the school. If you look at the proposed policy, you will see that it starts out with Considerations. There should be a reason for a club, athletic team or even a teacher to have an online presence that is official and associated with the school itself. These Considerations have nothing special about them. The main thing is to follow the Social Media terms of use. The principal will have the final authority on whether to allow the official site. It is related to the school again. I want to keep emphasizing this. It is not personal or private websites of the employee, but it is something that is related to the school division.

If after the teacher, group or team again goes through the Considerations and decides that this is something that they need then they will fill out on Page 2 a Social Media Request Form and submit it to the principal. On that form will be the contact or person's name. For obvious reasons there are some websites, and I can remember this from when I was at Ervinton, we created one of the first Websites in the county for our school. After that individual left

we had a hard time getting into the Website to change anything so we eventually had to shut it down completely. This form will also include a content media expert who is responsible for posting on the Website (any Social Media outlet). After this form is submitted the principal will decide whether to allow the official school or division sponsored site and then they can go forward with it.

The rest of the policy deals with what is not allowed and what is allowed. For example, anything with pornography or vulgarity would have to be removed immediately. These sites are used to promote communication with our stakeholders. It is a good way to share information with them. Athletic teams use them to share schedules. They are very common in today's society and our lives. Again, we are talking about the officially recognized sites that are linked to the schools. I will be happy to answer any questions that I can.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: What about the ones that are already in existence?

Mr. Mike Setser: If they are performing an official function in the school, they would have to go along with the official Guidelines of the Site. The ones that I have seen are basically doing a good job. Again, the principal would have the final say, and if it starts to get out of control, he would have the authority to shut it down because it would be an official site of the school.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: If he shuts it down, who would have the authority to put it back on?

Mr. Mike Setser: They would have to go through the process again. The application page is so that they have the information if they need to shut it down. Sometimes a teacher may take another job in a different county and leave that site behind. If we don't have the information to get in it, it is useless. The whole purpose is that it is just guidelines. There is nothing here that would affect a site that we have up. If they want to be recognized by the school, they have to go by these guidelines. There are some liability issues there as well in order to protect the teacher or group and the school. Mr. Mullins do you have anything that you want to add?

Mr. Scott Mullins: No, other than I would like to thank Mike for all of the hard work trying to get a policy that balances the fact that Social Media is a great way to communicate. It is also sort of a new frontier as far as exposure. He has reasonable guidelines so that the employees know where the lines are when they go about posting things. You also have to recognize that the people authorized to do this are people who have shown themselves to be trustworthy and professionals. We had very few guidelines before, and now we have a workable policy. This policy like all policies will probably be a work in progress. We will go forward and in a year or so there will be some problem come up, and we will have to tweak it. This is a pretty fluid area.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: Are there any more questions?

Dr. Lurton Lyle: I move that we approve the Guidelines for Facebook Websites and Social Media for the Dickenson County Public Schools. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

DISCUSSION OF PRE-SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Superintendent Robinson: Our last item on the Agenda is the Discussion of our Proposed Pre-School Special Education Program. We are including for your information, and you also received this by email, the proposed Pre-School Transition Program for our 2-3 year-olds with significant health and developmental issues. I think you heard today a parent with a child who would be eligible for this program. The reason we are proposing this program for implementation for the 2016-2017 school year is that we are projecting 6-7 pre-school age children with significant issues.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: Are they throughout the county, Mrs. Robinson, or all at one spot?

Superintendent Robinson: No, Sir. They are throughout the county. The issues that these children are facing are autism, developmental delay, vision, speech and behavior. Early intervention for these students is a focused priority and a significant identified need for the school division. I am going to ask Mrs. Edwards, Director of Special Education, to come to the front and explain the program to you and show you how important it is at this time for our school division.

Mrs. Denechia Edwards: Chairman Barton and Members of the Board, we do have a significant need for the Pre-School Program in our school division. This has been a need for several years. This year there seems to be more of a need than years in the past. Mr. Nickles, you asked a question if it would service the county. Yes. We are looking at hosting the class at Sandlick Elementary School. They have a classroom available there, and of course, we will transport the students from Clintwood, Ervinton and the Haysi area to serve that particular program. At this time we will service a small number of students, and we have pooled together 6-7 names by recommendations from our therapists, and there will be some assessments to determine the significant needs for those kids prior to the entrance into that program. We will have a contracted teacher that would be available two days a week in the classroom setting serving those kids, and the third day would be a parent home support day in which we would provide training resources, materials etc. for the parent resource. We will provide lunch support which is often a resource need for the children we would be serving so our therapists would be providing services in the classroom including our occupational therapist and a physical therapist. We would have a joint team, an educational person as well as a therapist in the classroom the days they are there. Our staff is very excited about this opportunity because we do feel that we have a need in our division, and these kids deserve an opportunity to be in a classroom setting.

Our goal is to transition them into Pre-K. This is primarily for 3-year-olds because these kids do not have opportunities for other services in the county. We would serve the 3-year-olds with a plan to transition them into Pre-K the following year. So it gives us an entire year in a

structured environment to provide services for those kids, identify their needs, meet their needs and transition them into a Pre-K setting the following year should that be possible.

We will provide pre-academic instruction, social skill development as well as behavioral support. All of that is involved in the program. We are looking at two days a week as I said earlier in the classroom setting and one day for parent support. We will be starting the program very soon at the beginning of the school year should you approve this program.

So I am asking if you would consider approving this program and give me the authority to move forward by making plans, talking with my therapist, talking with the administration at Sandlick and selecting a contract teacher for this particular position.

Superintendent Robinson: How is this program funded?

Mrs. Denechia Edwards: It is funded by our Pre-School 6-19 program.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: How will the kids get there?

Mrs. Denechia Edwards: We will pay the parents to transport them. We will pay mileage for the parents to transport them to the school setting. The third day of course would be the home setting.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: Is this number growing over the years?

Mrs. Denechia Edwards: Yes, I have seen the need grow over the last several years. It is the best practice for these particular supports because it gives us a chance to work with these kids prior to them coming into Pre-K and to give our community some support in this area.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: *If you guys don't have any questions, I make a motion that we approve this program. It is very important to these children and the parents. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.*

Mrs. Denechia Edwards: Thank you so much. I will get started with this job.

Superintendent Robinson: Thank you, Mrs. Edwards. Mr. Barton that concludes our Open Session.

BOARD COMMENT:

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

Dr. Lurton Lyle: I think, as I said earlier, we have much work to do, and I think we are headed in the right direction. Although again; we have much work to be done.

Mr. Rick Mullins: I can't help but to continue to think about the SOL scores and about how much better they were across the county. I think that is a step in the right direction.

Chairman, Mr. Rocky Barton: I will second that, too. I would like to thank everybody for coming out. Sometimes you may not think we are listening, but we are. I just appreciate everybody.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: I want to thank Brittany for coming up and speaking about her child and also for the rest of the children in Dickenson County. It is a tough situation, and I know Allison was talking about the line item. I visited with Mr. Larry Barton, and we talked about that very same thing. I also talked to Allison about the reason I was not down at McClure because I had switched vacations three different times because of School Board stuff, and my wife said that she was going by herself. I didn't think she deserved that. (Ha, Ha!) I was going to ask Mr. Mooney. I know he is in here somewhere. When we started the school year, how many problems did we have and how many problems did we have at the end.

Mr. Burl Mooney: I can't give you a specific number, but problems were minimal at the start and less at the end. It has all smoothed out. As far as serious problems, I don't think we had any. It just needed some tweaking.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: For the upcoming school year is there anything out there that we don't know that we should know? Anything that is going to come up and bite us?

Mr. Burl Mooney: We are working on some things so it is still a work in progress. I don't foresee any problems. We did absorb one run. Bus 4 will be transporting Bus 21's children.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: What Route is that Mr. Mooney?

Mr. Burl Mooney: It is on the Ralph Stanley highway and Sandy Ridge area. Both buses; transverse the same road. Bus 4 will be picking up all of the students off of that ridge, then that driver will be switched over to Bus 30. Bus 30's driver will switch to another route in order to absorb a run.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: The other thing that I would like to mention is the use of Social Media. It is absolutely fantastic as long as it doesn't turn into gossip. That is something that you have to remember. You mentioned that you are going to have another meeting on August 16th, and if I get out of surgery on the 9th and am able, I will be at your next meeting. I have hip surgery on the 9th. I guess what I wanted to ask is if you have meetings at McClure, will you not have meetings at Haysi and Clintwood too so that everybody could come to your meetings.

Ms. April Collins: We talked about that. We feel like McClure right now is a central location because there were members from Haysi, Clintwood, Hazel Mountain and Sandy Ridge. For right now we are going to continue to have it there because it takes 15 or 20 minutes for all of the people to get there.

Ms. Allison Mullins: Shanghai, if I could mention too. At the beginning of the school year there was a Concerned Citizens Meeting in Haysi, and you and Mrs. Robinson were there. It was very well attended. Mr. Mooney, you weren't there but the primary focus mentioned was the bus issues.

Ms. April Collins: You mentioned that there weren't very many bus issues, but it was on the news at the beginning of the school year that the bus problem was such a big issue it was on News Center 5. There were some concerned parents about what time their kids were being picked up and brought home.

Ms. Allison Mullins: It wasn't minimal issues for the Haysi citizens. I know I talked to Mr. Barton about it.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: It is getting better. I talked to the bus drivers about the students who have to switch buses. I will just say this. I appreciate everybody coming out tonight.

Ms. Allison Mullins: I just want to make it perfectly clear to all of the Board Members, Mrs. Robinson and everybody that these community meetings are not DEA meetings. We can be a DEA member and be can be Concerned Citizens. It is completely different and apart from the DEA.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: A lot of people have thrown that in together. That is why I talked about gossip on Social Media. I appreciate you being here tonight. It is always good to see the people from Skanska come here as far as stepping forward. I appreciate a lot of people who don't get recognized. It worries me when we start talking about this transgender situation. That has happened right up 81 in a couple of places, and it is a really hot topic. You wonder what other counties do. If you step out there and step on the wrong tomato, you are gone because the people in Washington D.C. will cremate you. I appreciate you guys and lady wherever she may be.

CLOSED SESSION:

Chairman, Rocky Barton—That is it for Board Comment. We will go on to Closed Session. PURSUANT TO Section 2.2-3712, Paragraph A of the Code of Virginia, I move that we go into a Closed Session for the purpose of discussing: 1.) Employment issues relating to resignation, FMLA and Superintendent Evaluation Pursuant to Va. Code 2.2-3711A (1) and to consult with legal counsel on these issues pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A) (6). Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Chairman, Rocky Barton: We are now in Closed Session.

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, Mr. Shanghai Nickles and Chairman Rocky Barton; all certified true.

BOARD ACTIONS:

Chairman Rocky Barton—I make the motion we approve the coaching recommendations as presented. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- Adrian White, Academic
- Dakota Stanley, Academic
- David Robinette, Boys Basketball – Head Coach
- Evan McCowan, Boys Basketball – Assistant
- Brandon Mullins, Boys Basketball – Assistant
- Dakota Stanley, Boys Basketball – Assistant
- Adrian White, Boys Basketball – Volunteer
- Scott Stanley, Boys Basketball – Volunteer
- Donnie Frazier, Girls Basketball – Head Coach
- Mike Gulley, Girls Basketball – Assistant
- Holly Fleming, Girls Basketball – Assistant
- Gary Fleming, Girls Basketball – Assistant
- Chris Fleming, Girls Basketball – Volunteer
- Tara Toohey, Girls Basketball – Volunteer
- Donnie Frazier, Cross Country
- Amber Owens, Cross Country
- Rick Mullins, Football – Head Coach
- Kent Grant, Football – Assistant
- Jason Edwards, Football – Assistant
- Jason Mullins, Football – Assistant
- Jason Gibson, Football – Assistant
- Dewayne Stanley, Football – Assistant
- Mike Owens, Football – Assistant
- Matt Large, Football – Assistant
- Kenneth Branham , Football – Assistant
- Nick Lyall, Football – Volunteer
- Dakota Stanley, Football – Volunteer
- Darius Branham, Football – Volunteer
- Jalene Sykes, Football – Volunteer
- David Vanover, Softball – Head Coach
- Sydney Compton, Softball – Assistant
- Adrian White, Boys Tennis
- Tanya Grant, Girls Tennis

- Mike Owens, Boys Track – Head Coach
- Evan McCowan, Girls Track – Head Coach
- Amber Owens, Girls Track – Assistant
- Lenoir Jones, Volleyball – Head Coach
- David Vanover, Volleyball – Assistant
- Shenna Edwards, Volleyball – Assistant
- Holly Fleming, Volleyball – Assistant
- Miranda Newberry, Forensics
- Lisa Davis, One Act Play
- James Colley, Golf
- Eric Vitatoe, Soccer – Head Coach
- Fate Fleming, Soccer – Volunteer
- Derek McCowan, Soccer – Volunteer
- Shelly Molinary, Band

Chairman Rocky Barton—I make the motion we accept the resignations as requested. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- Lila Cox, Part-time Aide
- Diana Mann, Custodian, Ridgeview (Retirement)
- Heather Mullins, PALS Aide
- Shamberlie Ratliff, Aide/Bus Driver

Chairman Rocky Barton—I make the motion we approve FMLA (maternity leave) requests as presented. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- Brooke Hearl, Teacher, Ridgeview
- Brenda McCowan, Teacher, Sandlick
- Kristy Webb, Teacher, Ridgeview

Chairman Rocky Barton—I make the motion we approve the advertisement of the following positions: Custodian – Full and Part-time; Secretary – Full time; ISAEP Teacher – Part-time; Special Education Teacher – Part-time. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Chairman Rocky Barton—I make the motion we table the Superintendent Evaluation until Mrs. Susan Mullins can participate. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Lurton Lyle—I make the motion to adjourn this meeting. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Adjourned: 8:30 p.m.

Rocky Barton

CHAIRMAN

Approved: August 24, 2016

Reba McCowan

CLERK