

DICKENSON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
Regular School Board Meeting
May 24, 2017
5 p.m. – Central Office

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

ABSENT: Rocky Barton, Vice-Chairman

ROLL CALL AND MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN, MRS. SUSAN MULLINS:

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Good evening everybody. I would like to call this meeting to order and note that all members are present except Mr. Barton. Also present are our Superintendent, Mrs. Haydee Robinson and our Clerk, Mrs. Reba McCowan. As always, we will start with our Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Thank you. You may be seated.

We have the Agenda before us. Do I hear a motion to approve the Agenda?

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: made the motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Rick Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Okay, that brings us to Public comment. Shanghai would you please read the Guidelines. (So Read) Thank you, Shanghai.

The first name on the list is Ms. Phyllis Mullins:

Ms. Phyllis Mullins: Good Afternoon. I am here on behalf of the DEA. We had our meeting the other night, and I took back the budget to them for their concerns and recommendations. We feel that before any decisions are made on insurance we need to go back and try to get some more funding from the Board of Supervisors. None of the recommendations are good. It is going to negate any kind of raise that we might get which means that again we are going to be taking home less. Understanding that we need more money, we would like to go back and ask the Board of Supervisors for an increase, but we would like for this Board to assure the Board of Supervisors that if they gave us more money, it would be used for the purposes of not increasing our insurance, deductibles and not losing our retirees' insurance. The money would be spent on those things. Thank you.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Thank you. The second speaker is Ms. Melanie Baker:

Ms. Melanie Baker: Thank you guys for letting me come today. I want to introduce you to some new friends I have made through the Elgin Foundation. They are all dental hygienists. I have been doing a healthy habits initiative program by giving toothbrushes to our kids. Todd Pillion has been very helpful with that. He is a member of this group already. With the

help of our Child Advocacy Center which is above Wells Fargo it is about the dental health of our kids. They help pay for some treatments, and I will let them tell you some more about that.

Ms. Tracy Farmer: Thank you so much for giving us a moment of your time, but I will say that we did help with the CAC. We are not the only funders. We gave some money, but there were a lot of people who helped with that. I am the Dental Director with the Elgin Foundation. This is Heather Casey who is the Virginia State Coordinator so she works only in our Virginia counties. Our Foundation was founded by B. Ray Thompson, Sr. I am not sure if all of you are familiar with the Jewel Coke Plant in Vansant, but that was Mr. Thompson. That is why we are in Virginia. When he founded this, he wanted to give back to the areas where the family either lived or worked. We started with ten pilot counties, and that is where we have been since 1997. Last year in the dental work we had done all we could do in those counties. We were in all of the school districts and independent schools, and so Mr. Thompson asked us to begin expansion to the bordering counties. So we are in Buchanan and Tazewell Counties, and that is why we are here tonight. You are on the border with Buchanan County, and we wanted to tell you who we are. I know we just have a moment so we gave you this information. It kind of explains the dental program step by step. If you would like to hear more about it, we can come back another time and explain the details.

We try to facilitate a partnership between parents, the school system and the dental office. What we have found everywhere we have been is that a lot of kids have Medicaid, and a lot of dentists are willing to treat those kids, but they don't have an active parent who is willing to actually schedule those appointments and take them to the dentist. When they do schedule an appointment, there is a big rate of no-shows. From the dental world, I know that we would schedule two or three at a time hoping that one would show up. We work with the school system, and we would ask you to help us find partnering dentists in the area who are willing to take Medicaid and to treat kids and mark off time to treat them. All we do is facilitate that partnership. We keep everything local. We keep all of the money made through dental work local. We don't make any decisions on that. You would ask us to go talk to these dentists and tell them about the program and gage interest. The decision on who that dental provider will be would be yours. It could be one provider for a particular school and a different provider for another school. This is something that we do in the elementary schools. Our foundation only treats the youngest, poorest and most vulnerable kids. That is how our Charter is worded so we have to stop after the elementary age kids. We don't do any middle or high school kids. We would have the dental office go in and do a quick screening at the beginning of the year. They would send paper work home at that time. Someone at that school would call our liaison. An aide or school nurse would be that point of contact. When the permission forms come back in, they will call the dental office and tell them there have been a certain number of forms that have come back in and are ready to be treated. The dental office would then block off a certain amount of time for them, and you would schedule a field trip. That is what we call them. The Foundation would reimburse for the transportation. You would schedule a bus to pick those kids up, take them to the local dental office. The dental office would be closed to everyone but the kids during that time. A faculty member from the school would be with them. They would get treatment and go back to school for the rest of the day. If you ask principals in our neighboring areas attendance is

actually a lot better because if parents take them, they usually keep them out of school the rest of the day. If there is anything that is extensive, we work with Dr. Pillion, or the dentist would call the parent and tell them what they need done. We just want to make sure the parents are okay with it before anything extensive is done. We have all of this in place. We are in 156 schools in the State right now.

If they have Medicaid, the dentist would just bill Medicaid. All we are paying for is the transportation. If they don't have Medicaid and fall within the working poor, Mr. Thompson would say he doesn't want the parent to say they couldn't buy their child shoes because he had to pay for dental work. We actually pay for those students through the Foundation. We work with Delta Dental. There is a group number for Elgin to get the claim in, and we reimburse at Medicaid fees. The easiest way is that it is 185% or below on the poverty guideline. If they qualify for free or reduced lunch, they would qualify for our system. If you have a parent that has insurance and can pay for it. If they can't get off work, we will pay for transportation.

That is it in a nutshell. I would love to come back and explain if you would like more details. We do ask for a one-year memorandum of understanding with the school system. It is a two-page agreement. The school system would provide someone to go with the kids to the dental office. We won't send them there alone. They would ride the buses just like a field trip. There is no cost to you. We only ask for your cooperation in connecting all of these pieces. That is who we are and what we do. Thank you for your time.

Superintendent Robinson: Do you have a contact number that one of our directors could call you?

Ms. Tracy Farmer: Absolutely. On the back page is Heather's business card. I live in Kentucky and travel a lot so if you would contact her, I would be glad to come back with her.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: I have one question. If I understood correctly, they would have a screening at the beginning of school. Do you need consent of the parents to do the screening?

Ms. Tracy Farmer: That would be a School Board decision. You could send a passive permission form that says on this date we would do an open mouth screening. It is not invasive. They would just use a flashlight to look in their mouth. If they don't want their child screened, they would sign no and send it back. Some schools want the active permission. If that is the case, you would send a permission slip home and have the parents sign it. We have templates for those.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: How many children have you seen so far.

Ms. Tracy Farmer: This year alone we have screened over 30,000. We have treated in the dental office over 12,000. That is through our April report. Last August we did our 100,000th screening. This has been going on for about 10 years.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Okay, our next speaker will be Ms. Teresa Calo:

Ms. Teresa Calo: Good evening everybody. I have some serious issues:

1. Bus 48 is a handicapped bus, and I saw it in Pennington Gap, and it had no brake lights on it. It has Dickenson County on the side of it. I even stopped at a gas station to make sure that it was a Dickenson County bus. It had some kids going to a ballgame.
2. I went to the 8th Grade graduation, and there was not a Board Member there except Mrs. Robinson.
3. My last complaint is I have attended Ridgeview eight times for games, and there is no hand soap in the bathrooms. There was an incident where a kid got hurt up there, and there were no paper towels in any of the three bathrooms. I did a survey of some kids who were at the graduation, and this is what they had to comment.

They felt like they weren't important because none of the Board Members came, and some of them were out making money because they had businesses. The kid who got hurt got his nose busted, and there were no paper towels. Luckily someone found some somewhere up there. I think it is terrible to have this million-dollar school up there and not have the proper supplies for children. I don't have a kid that goes up there, but I have family that do. Without the proper supplies in the bathroom it could cause health issues for the children. I don't know if you all are aware of it, but I have visited several different times when the dryers didn't work. I think it was a shame that there were no paper towels up there when that kid got hurt. Taxpayers' money goes into this school, and I have been hearing this stuff since the day it opened. Haydee Robinson said that by closing these schools that Ridgeview would be better, but there was never a time when there wasn't toilet products, paper towels or hand soap at Haysi High School or Ervinton High School.

So I think you all should look into this. It is really a safety issue with that bus. It is serious. If that bus had been in a wreck, someone would have been held responsible for not having that bus in working condition. I know that Haydee Robinson has someone who is supposed to check those buses. I think before a bus pulls out from this parking lot to go anywhere, it should be checked. Something needs to be done because Mrs. Robinson makes more than a State Trooper of 12 years does. Thank you.

Superintendent Robinson: May I ask a question? Was this during the spring sports where there was no soap, paper towels or toilet paper?

Ms. Teresa Calo: This was in April.

Superintendent Robinson: Thank you.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Okay. Mr. Benny Kennedy:

Mr. Benny Kennedy: Mrs. Robinson and Members of the School Board I have some information that I would like to go over with you. I think you are well aware of the situation that

we are in terrible need of bus drivers and substitute bus drivers especially. To be a substitute bus driver you will be able to fill in for a regular bus driver. The problem is I have tried to take off two or three times this year and had no bus driver to fill in for me. It really makes it difficult. I think Mr. Mooney can verify that there is hardly a week that goes by that we don't have a bus mechanic drive an extra run. We have regular drivers making extra runs and things like that. It is tough to get substitute drivers when they want a full-time position. I hope this is correct information. We have 46 full-time drivers; 35 are full-time drivers and teachers who have full insurance and benefits. We have 11 part-time drivers with 2 being substitute drivers at this time. On the full-time, drivers have health insurance coverage. Part-time drivers have no health insurance coverage. They get 9 days per year sick days. The part-time drivers get no sick days. Retirement benefits for full-time drivers is paid for them. There are no retirement benefits paid for part-time drivers. For fringe benefits if you figure all of that up and for a family for full-time bus drivers the benefits would be \$20,300 plus retirement benefits. For a single policy, it would be about \$7,200. Fringe benefits for part-time drivers is \$0. The job description is the same for both. Duties are the same for both. The difference between full-time and part-time drivers is the wording on the contract: Full-time driver with benefits. Part-time driver without benefits. Why is the county having trouble finding bus drivers? When they look at this they think that it isn't fair. Why would they want to apply for a substitute job? There is no one training for the job right now. It is hard to find people to train because if they get hired as a bus driver, they would get a salary and basically that is all they would get. This is just something I would like for you all to look at and think about. I am not really asking for anything. I just want you to consider looking at it. It is up to you what you do with this information. Bus drivers have an important job, and I know of two or three who won't be driving much longer and will have to be replaced. The substitute bus drivers probably wouldn't take a full-time position because they have outside jobs they work between bus routes. They can't afford to give that up to only substitute a couple days a week. This is just something I want you to think about. If the bus mechanic has to fill in for a driver, and a bus breaks down, the mechanic is on a bus route. This happens frequently. We just can't find bus drivers. Something needs to be done to encourage people to apply for this position. Thank you for your time.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Thank you. Number five will be Mr. Seth Baker.

Mr. Seth Baker: Good evening Board and Mrs. Robinson. I am Seth Baker, Dickenson County Commonwealth Attorney. I just want to say a few things to follow up on the Elgin Foundation. I won't say anything about teeth because they are the experts, and I am lucky if I get to brush mine two times a day. I have had the opportunity to work with this Foundation through the Child Advocacy Center. We are all here about kids, and they have helped my office in the prosecution of multiple child abuse and child molester cases to the point that if I had not had their help through the Child Advocacy Center, I may have not been able to do that. They assist with counseling and interviews which has been priceless to my office. If their dental program is a piece of that, this county needs to jump on that. I don't know all of the fine details, but Mr. Mullins can review that. From what I know of the program, it is actually a no-brainer in order to help these kids out.

I just want to thank you all for all of your hard work. I know that you have to deal with a lot of hard decisions such as budgets. I am proud to say that I am a graduate of the Dickenson County School System, and my wife is, too. I have two boys and one of them finished Pre-K and one Kindergarten. I am proud that they are going to Dickenson County Schools. I can't brag on their teachers enough. They have learned so much. My office has been able to go into the schools. I want to brag on the middle school, Mr. Whitner, and the high school, Mr. Compton, and all of the staff and teachers. They allow me through the front doors and get in touch with these kids and talk to them about some of the problems. I think we are making a difference, and we can't do that without all of you. Even Mr. Setser puts a hand in every now and then. I want to thank all of you. You are doing a tough job but a much-needed job. Like I said, I am proud to have my kids in this school system.

Superintendent Robinson: Mr. Baker, we appreciate your help and the help of your office. We could not do without it. Thank you.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Okay, our next speaker is Robin Charles:

Ms. Robin Charles: Members of the Board, Superintendent and Audience I am here simply because of my personal concern of the direction that the budget may take in terms of enabling the employees to have family members on insurance. Long story, short, I have contributed to the school system not just as a teacher but as a tax payer. As a person who did not receive raises much, I was able to keep insurance. Other agencies in the county piggy-back on our insurance which allows more people to be insured. That is what we were doing: making it a better place for more people. My husband is a 67-year-old diabetic who has had a spinal fusion. I am sure they would call this a pre-existing condition. If you are removing him from the insurance, it would possibly leave my family in dire straits. We won't be hurt worse than the families who have no other insurance, which fortunately we do because my husband worked all of his lifetime to secure those kinds of benefits. I just personally feel it a bit unfair because I feel like the retirees, the smallest number of people in the system, would be out here on our own. We probably have a smaller voice. Some of these people aren't able to get out and probably retired because of health issues. It just feels like we are being targeted. You have a system full of employees, and I use to be one of those people. Every year I shouldered the burden. How many years did I hear we will give you 2% instead of 4%, 5% or 6% so we can give everybody in the system 2%. We will keep your insurance as it is. It will be intact. We won't change your deductibles. We won't change your out-of-pocket expenses. We will continue to cover those prescription drugs if you will forego a raise. A lot of those years it was 0%. I don't feel like I am more of a drain on the system than anyone who preceded me in retirement; than those who accompany me there now; and those who will follow me into retirement. I think it is probably worthwhile to probably exercise some other option if your young employees look forward to a day when as they retire they are going to lose their insurance, how many of them will retire after five or six years early and will stay in the system that many more years at the highest rate of pay when you could hire younger teachers into those positions as they did retire, but who can afford to do that if they no longer have insurance. Because they are going to stay longer I think that is a sad situation as well. You have worked through your career to get to a place where you still have good enough health. That is the American dream, right? You can retire when you can still enjoy

life. We all know that can be a lie. My own father worked until he was 68 and developed heart disease and Alzheimer's and was robbed of that very dream. I didn't want that for me. I wanted to retire as soon as I hit my 30 years. I retired at 30 years and 8 months. I spent a lot of time talking about what it does for my options. I receive less pay, and one of the reasons is that I retired before I reached 60 years old. I turned 60 in October after I retired. I am one of those people who have to wait until I am 65 in order to draw Social Security. I have to wait 2 years for Social Security and 5 in order to receive Medicare. I made that decision because I knew that I would have this insurance coverage and that my family was going to have this coverage. It is just me and my husband. There aren't five or six of us. Again, I think you are going to see lots of people faced with this same decision and who will make a different decision than I made. I thought that I had earned this, not a frivolous privilege that was given to me without any effort on my part, but 30 years of dedication to the point of devotion. I am one of those people who cared more about my children in my classroom, and I saw them that way. They were my kids for that 90 minutes. Whatever time I had them during that day, they were mine. For that whole semester, they were mine. The ones who had issues were my burden to bare. You just didn't hire somebody to teach English. You hired somebody to teach people, young people who were going to become citizens who will be working out there to support me in my old age as I supported those who came before me. I know that sounds wrong, but I am just saying that there is a very real, very human face to denying people those kinds of benefits in return. When I was faced with those decisions, and I was a younger person working, I always had the voice that said would everybody bear a share of that. If it means paying a higher deductible, I will pay a higher deductible. I think it discourages people from wastefully taking advantage of medical care and using emergency rooms as doctor's visits for instance. Because if you have to pay a part of that, you will think hard before you go and do that. You are not going to wastefully use the system. I don't mind deductibles. I never have. I don't mind out-of-pocket expenses. They should be capped and reasonable, but that puts a bit of a burden on everyone. It doesn't place the whole burden on 30 people some of whom will be without insurance, a spouse will be without insurance or a child with special needs will be without insurance if that is the route the Board decides to take. So I am just here as one human being asking you to please consider the effect that that decision will have, and it won't be popular for everybody to bear a bit of the burden, but I think it is the more human and humane route as opposed to making a few people bear it all. I agree with you. Let's look more closely at buses. If you only have 10 people on a bus, why do you need a 60-passenger bus. Look at using smaller buses. When we looked it up it was about a \$20,000 difference per bus. There are savings out there. I hope you look for them, and I second the motion to ask the Board of Supervisors for more money. How can you rescind the trash tax? How can you not have wheel tax? How do you do these things knowing that the largest segment served in the county need the money? Thank you.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Thank you. That concludes Public Comment.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: I believe, Mrs. Robinson that we agreed to approve the Consent Agenda with one motion. That would be the Approval of the Minutes—one set,

Bills--and I believe the Bills have changed and Field Trips. Are there any questions? If there are no questions, I will entertain a motion that we approve the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Rick Mullins: made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

❖ **Minutes:**

April 27, 2017 – Regular Meeting

❖ **Monthly Bills:**

School Operating Fund – May 24, 2017 – Bills

Check Nos. 877327 through 877426 ----- \$215,616.88

School Operating Fund – May 26, 2017 – Payroll

Check Nos. 388162 through 388186 ----- \$1,615,541.78

❖ **Field Trips:**

Ridgeview High School

April 29th – Workshop – Abingdon, VA – 9th – 12th Grade

May 10th – UVA @ Wise – 9th – 12th Grade

May 13th – Barter Theatre – Abingdon, VA – 11th – 12th Grade

May 16th – Creation Kingdom – Gate City, VA – 9th – 12th Grade

June 18th – Cheer Camp – Gatlinburg, TN – 8th – 12th Grade

June 22nd – 24th – Basketball Camp – Lynchburg, VA – 10th - 12th Grade

June 26th – 29th – Virginia Tech – Blacksburg, VA – 10th – 12th Grade

June 28th – July 3rd – National BETA Convention – Orlando, FL – 9th – 12th Grade

Ridgeview Middle School

May 17th – Poplar Gap Park – Grundy, VA – 8th Grade

May 17th – Harris Park – Council, VA – 8th Grade

May 19th – Movie Theater – Norton, VA – 6th Grade

May 22nd – Cinema City & Prime Sirloin – Norton, VA – 8th Grade

Clintwood Elementary School

May 12th – Kids Corner Park – Clintwood, VA – 2nd Grade

May 11th – Kids Corner Park – Clintwood, VA – 1st – 5th Grade

May 12th – Pizza Hut – Clintwood, VA – K – 5th Grade

May 15th – Library, Food City, Bank PO & Kids Park – 1st Grade

May 18th – Norton Cinema – 3rd Grade

May 19th – Kids Corner Park – Clintwood, VA – 4th Grade

May 19th – Mr. Gatti's – Pikeville, KY – 5th Grade

Ervington Elementary School

April 28th – Ridgeview High School – 3rd – 5th Grade

May 17th – McClure Ball Field – McClure, VA – PK – 6th Grade

May 18th – Kids Corner Park – Clintwood, VA – K
 May 22nd – Just Jump Trampoline Park – Bristol, TN – 4th – 5th Grade

Sandlick Elementary School

April 17th – Bristol Caverns – Bristol, VA – 5th Grade
 April 28th – Poplar Gap Park – Grundy, VA – PK
 May 12th – Council Park – Council, VA – K
 May 17th – Poplar Gap Park – Grundy, VA – 3rd Grade

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS FOR THE BOARD:

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Item IV is Informational Items for the Board. The information is in your packet. Do we have any questions about the Informational Item for the Board? If not, we will move on down to New Business.

GOOD NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS:

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: That brings us to New Business, Item E. Mrs. Robinson:

Superintendent Robinson: At this time I would like to invite Mrs. Wilder to come to the front, please, and introduce her guests.

Board Members, I had the opportunity to visit with these young ladies and Mrs. Wilder. I was so impressed that I asked them if they would come and do a short presentation. Would you please come forward and present it to the Board?

Thank you very much for doing this. I know that yesterday was your last day, and you are going beyond the call of duty. So we thank you very much and thank you Mrs. Wilder.

Mrs. Susan Wilder: Mrs. Wilder introduced her FFA students and they presented an overview of the activities that they had been involved in throughout the 2016-2017 year.

FFA presenters: **Alexis Fleming, Cassidy O'Quinn, Hannah Thacker**

Superintendent Robinson: I have a comment. Mrs. Wilder I hear that your students are going to plant flowers around our sign. I think that is wonderful. We are very excited. I'm sure with all of the rain they haven't had time to do that. (Applause!)

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Before you leave, Mrs. Wilder, I would like to personally thank you for the difference you have made in these students lives.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE FOR APRIL, 2017:

Superintendent Robinson: Mr. Setser has the information for Student Enrollment. Mr. Setser:

Mr. Mike Setser: Thank you, Mrs. Robinson. We finished the month of April with 2058 students which is actually one more from the month of March. It has been a while since we have seen a positive increase. As always you have the transfer sheets in your packet. If you

have any questions about those, I will try to answer them. For the month of April I would like to commend Ervinton Elementary School for having the highest student attendance rate with 94.12 %. I don't think Mr. Baker is here today, but they will be receiving the attendance banner. That is all I have unless there are any questions.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Do you guys have any questions for Mr. Setser? Is that all for Good News from Our Schools?

Superintendent Robinson: Yes, Ma'am.

ADDRESSING THE FY 2018 DICKENSON COUNTY SCHOOL BUDGET:

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Okay. We are ready for Item F. Addressing the FY 2018 School Budget.

Superintendent Robinson: This is just a recap. I know you have seen that we have been appropriated \$812,000 shortfall. I would like to ask Mr. Barton to come forward. He has prepared a PowerPoint presentation that will go through some of these ideas. We will email all of this information to the teachers after this meeting. We have worked with our office and with the Board and others to try to come to a balanced budget.

Mr. Barton: Presented and reviewed the following: (See attached)

- *Attachment A: Potential Budget Cuts FY2018 (July 2017 – June 2018)*

Superintendent Robinson: We are not prepared to ask the Board for a budget. We are still going through the bus runs and the consolidation of buses. There are still a few things like that that we have out there, so we are not prepared to ask the Board for a budget. Ms. Mullins mentioned the public hearing for the Board of Supervisors which is on June 12th. This has been for the Board's information.

Ms. Phyllis Mullins: On the flat renewal would that increase our insurance?

Mr. Barton: No. Employees would pay the same thing and have the same coverage. Everything would stay the same.

Ms. Phyllis Mullins: What time is the meeting on June 12th?

Superintendent Robinson: It is at 6 pm. I will look it up to make sure.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: When you are talking about consolidating the bus routes, will that save us on bus drivers?

Superintendent Robinson: If we consolidate buses or eliminate bus runs, it would probably mean that we would lose bus drivers. The other issue with consolidating bus runs is adding additional time to those bus runs in the morning and in the afternoon. That is what Mr. Mooney is working through right now.

Mr. Burl Mooney: It would possibly be 20-30 minutes that we are looking at. I will have to do a trial run to see exactly how long it would take. It would probably mean adding 20 minutes in the morning and 20 minutes in the afternoon.

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: I hear sometimes an assistant principal would have to drive a bus or sometimes even a principal. The school would not be left without an assistant principal and a principal, would it?

Superintendent Robinson: No. One or the other would be at the school. At Ervinton the guidance counselor would assume that role. Our goal is to have an administrator in the school at all times. Sometimes we have had to use the assistant principal at Sandlick because it is too late or it is going to be a double run.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Thank you Mr. Barton.

EARLY MAY PAYROLL FOR EMPLOYEES:

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Okay, next is Item G. Finally, some good news—the Early May Payroll for Employees.

Superintendent Robinson: We are just recommending Early Payroll for May which will be this coming Friday, May 26th.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Is there a motion for Early Payroll?

Dr. Lurton Lyle: made the motion to approve early payroll as requested. Mr. Rick Mullins seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Superintendent Robinson: I would like to thank our financial department. They have worked very hard to get that completed.

4TH OF JULY HOLIDAYS FOR TWELVE MONTH EMPLOYEES:

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Our next item is Item H. 4th of July Holidays for Twelve Month Employees.

Superintendent Robinson: We are recommending that the School Board approve Monday, July 3rd and Tuesday, July 4th as a paid holiday for all twelve-month employees. The State of Virginia is following the same schedule.

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Do I have a motion?

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: made the motion to approve July 3rd and 4th as holiday for all twelve month employees. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

REMINDER: STUDENT ENROLLMENT/POPULATION PRESENTATION FOR THE NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: We will move on to Item I which is a reminder.

Superintendent Robinson: Yes. The presentation for Student Enrollment/Population for the New Elementary School is scheduled for Wednesday, May 31st, at 5 p.m. It will be at the Dickenson County Education and Research Center. We have invited the Members of the Board of Supervisors and the Members of the Industrial Development Authority. The Dickenson Star has done a good job promoting this. It will be a School Board meeting, but we would certainly like to invite all of our community members, stakeholders and both of our Boards to attend.

BOARD COMMENT:

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: That brings us to Board Comment. Shanghai:

Mr. Shanghai Nickles: It is amazing about the Members of the FFA. When I was in high school that wasn't allowed; fifty years ago it was strictly for guys, and the guys who got into it had to be really sharp people. So I think that is wonderful what you guys have done and what you are doing. You will make a difference for a lot of people down the road. You are to be commended. I would like to congratulate Dr. Lurton Lyle on receiving his 50th year pin for Kiwanis. Of course, Kiwanis is all about kids. I think he and Dr. Alderman are two of the four people who have 50 years in. It is really a high honor to make it 50 years in that service organization. Congratulations!

Mr. Rick Mullins: I am just tickled with the FFA. I was in the FFA when I was in school and really enjoyed it. You guys will have to come down. I would like to make that happen.

Dr. L. B. Lyle: I would like to thank Shanghai. That was one reason I wasn't here Monday night. I had a fairly good reason that I wasn't here last week. I was in Lexington, Kentucky. So I'm back. I would like to commend Mr. Barton and the staff up here for their hard work, and the FFA for their successful and hopefully continued success. I'm an old-timer!

Chairman, Mrs. Susan Mullins: Okay. All hearts and minds clear?

CLOSED SESSION:

Chairman, Susan Mullins: That brings us to Closed Session. PURSUANT TO Section 2.2-3711A of the Code of Virginia I move that the Board convene a Closed Session for the purpose of discussing: (1) Students disciplinary referrals for final disposition and student requesting early graduation. (2) Employment issues relating to resignation, retirement, consider of hiring substitutes and non-continuing contract letters pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3711 A (1) (2); 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.

Chairman, Susan Mullins: We are now in Closed Session.

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION:

Chairman Susan Mullins: I now entertain a motion to go out of Closed Session. Dr. Lurton Lyle made the motion and Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded. All votes aye. Chairman Susan Mullins stated; pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A) of the Code of Virginia, I move 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 and identified in the motion convening the closed meeting. Dr. Lurton Lyle, Mr. Rick Mullins, Mr. Shanghai Nickles and Chairman Susan Mullins; all certified true.

BOARD ACTIONS:

Chairman Susan Mullins: I make the motion we approve disciplinary action for students #0454 and #0523 as discussed in closed session. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Disciplinary Action:

- Place at the Regional Learning Academy for a period of 45 school days.
- Undergo an evaluation for drug abuse and participate in a drug treatment program if recommended by the evaluator.
- Not allowed on school property without prior permission from the Superintendent’s office during the alternative placement.
- Probation for the 2017-2018 School Year
- Re-evaluate prior to the end of the 45 days before decision to allow the return to school.

Chairman Susan Mullins: I make the motion to approve early graduation for Student #0554. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Chairman Susan Mullins: I make the motion we approve the resignations and retirement as presented. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved:

- Donald Barnes, Custodian – Resignation
- Linda Woods, Teacher – Resignation
- Deborah Crabtree, Teacher – Retirement

Chairman Mrs. Susan Mullins: I make the motion we approve the request of Colleen Deel to transfer sick leave days as requested. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Chairman Susan Mullins: I make the motion we approve the Sabbatical Leave Agreement as presented. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Chairman Susan Mullins: I make the motion to approve the substitute list contingent upon background checks and any other requirements as presented. Dr. Lurton Lyle seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Approved Substitutes:

- Donald Barnes, Teacher
- Derek McCowan, Teacher
- Gregory O’Quinn, Bus Driver
- Rebecca Turner, Teacher

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Susan Mullins: I make the motion we adjourn this meeting. Mr. Shanghai Nickles seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Adjourned: 9:00 p.m.

Susan Mullins

CHAIRMAN

Approved: 6/28/2017

Reba McCowan

CLERK