

AT A JOINT MEETING OF THE JAMES CITY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, THE WILLIAMSBURG CITY COUNCIL, AND THE WILLIAMSBURG-JAMES CITY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD, HELD ON THE 16TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2007, AT 9:03 A.M. AT RAWLS BYRD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 112 LAUREL LANE, COUNTY OF JAMES CITY, VIRGINIA.

A. WELCOME

Mr. John J. McGlennon welcomed the Williamsburg City Council and the Williamsburg-James City County School Board.

B. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. McGlennon called the Board of Supervisors to order and Mr. Wanner called the roll.

John J. McGlennon, Jamestown District, Chairman
James O. Icenhour, Jr., Powhatan District, Vice Chairman
Jay T. Harrison, Sr., Berkeley District, arrived at 9:16 a.m.
Bruce C. Goodson, Roberts District
M. Anderson Bradshaw, Stonehouse District
Sanford B. Wanner, County Administrator

Ms. Zeidler called City Council to order and Mr. Tuttle called the roll. Present from the Williamsburg City Council were Mr. Bobby Braxton, Mr. Mickey Chohany, Mr. Paul Freiling, and Ms. Jeanne Zeidler (Mayor). Mr. Clyde Haulman was absent. Also present was Mr. Jackson C. Tuttle, City Manager.

Ms. Denise Koch, Chair of the Williamsburg-James City County School Board, thanked the groups for meeting, stated a goal of becoming the best school division in the Commonwealth by providing the best education possible. Ms. Koch called the School Board to order at 9:05 a.m. Present from the School Board were Dr. John Alewynse, Ms. Elise Emanuel, Mr. Joseph Fuentes, Ms. Denise Koch (Chair), Ms. Ruth Larson, and Ms. Mary Ann Maimone. Mr. Ron Vaught arrived at 9:12 a.m. Also present were Dr. Gary S. Mathews, Superintendent and Clerk of the Board; Ms. Janet Cerza, Deputy Clerk of the Board.

After the welcome and roll call for the three public bodies, Dr. Mathews asked the group to move from the multipurpose room to the Library Media Center for a demonstration on Information Technology in the classroom.

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Demonstration/Discussion of Proposed Technology Program

Instructional Technology Resource Teachers, Ms. Patricia Bowen, Ms. Marion Ponton, and Mr. Rob Ponton demonstrated technology that teachers and students would use in the classroom in the proposed technology plan. The teachers demonstrated a projector tied to a multimedia retrieval system, large projection screen, stereo speakers, a wireless keyboard, document camera, video streaming, and remote responders that could be used to enhance classroom teaching.

The group moved back to the multipurpose room at 9:51 a.m. Mr. Brian Landers, Director of Technology for WJCC Schools, reviewed portions of the Instructional Technology Standard (ITS) Technology Update and Possible Future Plans that were presented at the November 21, 2006, WJCC School Board Work Session.

There was discussion regarding the staff development plan; the cost(s) required to get the Information Technology equipment into the classrooms, i.e. software, digital media management systems (currently through WHRO); bandwidth available for use on the County fiber (enough available except for Stonehouse Elementary School and Matthew Whaley Elementary School); licensure costs (would still have these costs, even if proposed technology program is not done); and the integration of the current plan into the proposed plan.

The group also discussed how the proposed technology plan would impact achievement; evaluation plans for the proposed program; the proposed equipment/program refreshment cycle; possible effects on closing the minority achievement gap; and staff development.

2. Long-Term Budget Forecast and Other Capital Budget Needs

Mr. Scott Burckbuchler, Assistant Superintendent/Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the Five-Year Enrollment and Budget Projections for FY 2007/08 - FY 2011/12. He noted the anticipated dollars for enrollment growth and professional development. Mr. Burckbuchler also noted that the student/teacher ratio is being changed for middle and high school teachers in FY 2007/08. The new formulas take into consideration how many classes a teacher teaches.

The group discussed the cost of opening new schools; employee benefits; how distance learning versus busing could benefit classes where there are fewer students or it is difficult to obtain a teacher for the class.

3. Special Education in WJCC Schools - A Better Understanding of Fiscal Implications

Dr. Stephen Chantry, Executive Director for Student Services, stated that WJCC Schools meet the State or Federal standards, sometimes slightly below. These standards change depending upon the entry/departure of special education students. WJCC Schools cannot deviate from special education standards. If WJCC Schools are out of compliance, parents have a right to file a complaint.

Dr. Chantry noted that special education students that transfer into WJCC Schools come from all over the Peninsula and elsewhere. Ms. Karen Davis, Special Education K-12 Instruction Supervisor, and Ms. Patricia McMahon, Supervisor of Special Education Compliance, reviewed special education referral, assessment, and services.

The group discussed the number of special education students that transferred into WJCC Schools; 1) class space needs (currently the autism program is in trailers); 2) tuition for special education students that other districts pay for their students to attend our special education classes (because they cannot provide the services the child needs); 3) how tuition is calculated based on the real costs for the services provided; 4) services provided by New Horizons; 5) Federal funding and grant programs reflected in the budget; and 6) identification of special education students.

4. Update of PreK and Governor's Start Strong Initiative

Ms. Renee Dino, Early Childhood Development Supervisor, reviewed the WJCC Schools preschool programs. The group discussed early identification of at-risk factors; the children on the waiting list; and what it would take to provide preschool to the 39 students eligible for free and/or reduced lunch. The groups also discussed the need for three additional classrooms, teachers, and teacher assistants.

Ms. Dino reviewed the Governor's Start Strong Initiative. The original plan was for six communities to pilot the program; the House of Delegates has eliminated all funding for the pilots, and the Senate has reduced the funding for the pilots (hoping to serve up to an additional 1,250 children not already enrolled in publicly-funded preschool programs). The final amount of funding has not been determined by the General Assembly.

The group discussed the need to impact the home environment; also possible partnerships with parents; and Child and Family Connections and Child Development Resources.

5. Ways the Board of Supervisor, the Williamsburg City Council, and the WJCC Schools can Jointly/Address Youth Activities to Spend Time Productively

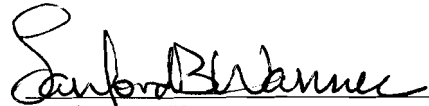
Mr. Harrison has been working with local law enforcement, Social Services, and community groups to address this issue. He invited someone from WJCC Schools to attend a meeting at 1 p.m. on February 16, 2007, with Police and Department of Social Services representatives as they discussed ideas to help adolescents spend their time more productively. Mr. Fuentes suggested that the County-appointed Youth Advisory Board work on this issue.

D. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Harrison made a motion to adjourn the Board until 4 p.m., February 27, 2007.

On a roll call vote, the vote was: AYE: Harrison, Bradshaw, Goodson, Icenhour, McGlennon. (5)
NAY: (0)

The Board of Supervisors adjourned at 12:06 p.m.


Sanford B. Wanner