A special work session meeting of the Gloucester County School Board was held on Thursday, March 12, 2015, in the Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center auditorium. The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by the Deputy Clerk, and the following persons were recorded as present: Troy M. Anderson, Chairperson, George R. (Randy) Burak, Carla B. Hook, Anita F. Parker, Charles B. Records, and Kevin M. Smith, Members; Walter R. Clemons, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools; and Betty Jane Duncan, Deputy Clerk. Kimberly (Kim) E. Hensley, Member, was absent at roll call and arrived at 5:40 pm.

II. MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mr. Records led the Board and citizens in a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

III. APPROVAL OF FY2016 BUDGET – Dr. Clemons and Ms. Joanne Wright, Director of Budget and Finance, presented the Superintendent's Recommended FY2016 budget as adjusted based on revised revenue. The Board discussed the expenditures and revenue as presented. (Copy of presentation on School Board's Recommended FY2016 Budget attached to minutes) A motion was made by Mr. Burak and seconded by Mr. Smith to adopt the recommended budget for FY2016 totaling $63,519,114.00 (Operating Fund, Central Food Service, Capital Improvements Fund, and Debt Service Fund) and Construction Fund totaling $5,600,000.00. The Deputy Clerk recorded the following poll vote:

- Mr. Burak Aye
- Ms. Hensley Aye
- Mrs. Hook Aye
- Ms. Parker Aye
- Mr. Records Aye
- Mr. Smith Aye
- Mr. Andersen Aye

IV. APPROVAL OF GCPS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Dr. Clemons reviewed the proposed Comprehensive Plan, as revised. Changes recommended by the Board at the meeting on March 10, 2015, had not been totally incorporated into the document presented, but the plan is ready for approval pending the addition of those adjustments as agreed upon. A motion was made by Mr. Burak, seconded by Mr. Records, and unanimously adopted to approve the GCPS Comprehensive Plan, with minor adjustments to be made as agreed on at the March 10 meeting. A copy of the finalized plan will be sent to all Board members and members of the Board of Supervisors and will be posted on the school division website. (Copy of Final Comprehensive Plan attached to minutes)

V. HIGHLIGHTS FROM BLACK HISTORY MONTH ACTIVITIES – Dr. Chuck Wagner, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, highlighted activities in each school in observance of Black History Month in February. Ms. LaQuiche Parrott, Abingdon Principal, introduced Abingdon 4th grade students Samantha Lindemann and Reese Lielbler, who read poems they had composed as part of the observance of Black History Month at Abingdon. Ms. Sherri Miller, Bethel first grade teacher, presented information on unique projects accomplished by Bethel first graders during Black History Month. (Compilation of School Activities for Black History Month attached to minutes)
VI. INFORMATIONAL REPORT -- MATHEMATICS MID-YEAR REVIEW – Ms. Melanie Jenkins, Elementary Math Specialist, presented a mid-year progress report on K-5 Math. (Copy of report attached to minutes) Board members had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the elementary math curriculum and assessments.

Mr. Alvin Coleman, Secondary Math Specialist, provided an update to the Board on the Secondary Math programs. (Copy of presentation attached to minutes) Board members asked questions and received information on the secondary math curriculum and assessments.

VII. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION ON GHS E-BACKPACK IMPLEMENTATION – Mr. David Pluim and Mr. Zach Pickard, GHS Mathematics teachers, and Ms. Erin Pluim, GHS ITRT, provided an informative presentation and demonstration on the use of Ipads under the new E-Backpack program being incorporated into the GHS curriculum. Board members were allowed a hands-on opportunity to see how the programs are being utilized in the classroom.

VIII. SECONDARY MATHEMATICS TEXTBOOK ADOPTION – Mr. Coleman discussed the textbook adoption procedures for secondary mathematics. Books are currently being reviewed for consideration for adoption. Recommendations for adoption are expected to be made in April with adoption by the Board at the April work session

IX. INFORMATIONAL SPRING 2015 (6TH GRADE) COMPUTER-ADAPTIVE TESTING REPORT – Ms. Cindy Carmine, Instructional Supervisor, informed the Board of procedures for the spring 2015 computer-adaptive testing for the 6th grade. (Copy of information on Computer Adaptive Testing attached to minutes)

X. UPDATE ON ACADEMIC REVIEWS AT PAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND GHS – Dr. Wagner updated the Board on the academic reviews being conducted at Page Middle School and Gloucester High School. Collaborative team visits coordinated by the Department of Education have been completed. The next step will be to assess feedback from these visits, schedule training sessions for administrators, and develop plans for improvement based on the recommendations of the visiting team.

XI. DISCUSSION OF LESSON PLANS – Ms. Hensley expressed concern regarding lesson plans developed by teachers and what the requirements are from the administration for these lesson plans. A lengthy discussion followed. Dr. Clemons will discuss the issue and concerns at a principals’ meeting to be held on March 13. Mr. Burak suggested that this topic remain on the agendas for consideration at the next several meetings.

SNOW MAKEUP DAYS – Dr. Clemons advised the Board that probably will be necessary to add additional minutes to each school day for the remainder of the year in order to make up the days missed due to inclement weather. He will discuss the matter with the principals to devise a plan. A motion was made by Mr. Burak and seconded by Mr. Records to allow Dr. Clemons to add up to 15 minutes to each school day for the remainder of the school year as necessary to meet attendance requirements. After further discussion, Mr. Burak withdrew his motion, and Mr. Records withdrew the second to the motion. Dr. Clemons will provide further information to the Board at a later date so that a decision can be reached on this matter.
XII. **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Mr. Andersen read the following public announcements:

A. County’s Public Hearing on Budget/Tax Rates – 7:00 pm on Monday, March 23, 2015 @ the Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center (Auditorium)

B. Joint Budget Meeting w/Board of Supervisors – 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 26, 2015 @ the Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center (Auditorium)

C. Makeup Day – School in Session – Friday, April 3, 2015

D. Spring Break-All GCPS Schools and Offices Closed – Monday-Friday, April 6-10, 2015 (12-month employees on annual leave April 9-10)

E. Next Monthly School Board Meeting – Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 7:00 pm @ the Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center (Auditorium)

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT** -- At 9:50 pm, there being no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Hook, seconded by Ms. Parker, and unanimously approved to adjourn the work session meeting of March 12, 2015, until the next special meeting (Joint Budget Meeting with Board of Supervisors) on Thursday, March 26, 2015, at the Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center Auditorium.

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Troy M. Andersen, Chairperson    Betty Jane Duncan, Deputy Clerk

**Attachments (7):**

1. Agenda for March 12, 2015, Monthly Meeting; and
2. Presentation on School Board’s Recommended FY2016 Budget
3. Final Comprehensive Plan
4. Compilation of School Activities for Black History Month
5. Mid-Year Progress: K-5 Math
6. Winter Secondary Mathematics Update
7. Computer Adaptive Testing Information

**Note:** The attachments will be bound with the official minutes once approved.

**END**

BJD: bjd
MIN-03-12-15