

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
AGENDA
August 21st, 2019
4:30 P.M.

- I. Agenda Changes

- II. Adoption of Minutes
 - 1. May 15th, 2019

- III. General School Division Update

- IV. Instructional Updates

- V. Academic Profile Update

- VI. General Information

- VII. Town Council Agenda

- VIII. Next Meeting Date: October 16th, 2019

- IX. Adjournment

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 21st, 2019**

Mrs. Nichols called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm at Town Hall, 329 6th Street, Virginia. Committee members present included Gail Nichols, Chairperson, Tina Gulley and John Ragsdale.

Also Present: James H. Hudson, Mayor; Robert Lawrence, Town Council Member; John Edwards, Town Manager; Karen Barrow, Town Clerk; TC Moore, Town Treasurer, Jon Morr, Building Inspector; Mrs. Laura Abel, School Superintendent and other interested persons.

I. Agenda Changes

There were no changes made to the agenda.

II. Adoption of Minutes

1. May 15th 2019

Mr. Lawrence made a motion to adopt the minutes with amendments, seconded by Mr. Ragsdale. Upon a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

III. General School Division Update

Mrs. Abel advised that the enrollment update is between 795 and 800. Town students are 79% and the tuition students make up the other 21%. Class sizes are 18 to 20 students per teacher. The schools has engaged in a private program with Creative Critters with a before and after school program in the cafeteria. This will help parents that drop off and pick up their children. There is a time difference for the drop off and pick up of the elementary school and high school. This will allow parents to drop off and pick up their children at the same time. This is not a money making program the decision was made because it's the right thing to do.

Dr. Daniels stated that the time difference between the schools is 45 minutes. Often parents will drop off a child for the elementary school and have to wait 45 minutes till another child can be dropped off at the high school. This program works for the parents.

The schools are renting the cafeteria to Creative Critters for this program, Creative Critters provides their own staff and the rental fee assists with custodian cleanup and other expenses.

Mrs. Abel advised that the bus route is out and transportation is arranged for other programs at RCC and Bridging Communities program.

Mrs. Abel stated that convocation is scheduled for Friday at 1:30 p.m. in the auditorium, lunch will be provided prior to the program.

IV. Instructional Update

Dr. Daniels advised that the welding program is very popular with localities and RCC has expanded the welding program to two sessions, one in the morning the second in the afternoon. There are 11 students enrolled in Bridging Communities.

Dr. Daniel reviewed a power point presentation on the State formula to funding schools and the composite index. The presentation also includes students that qualify for free meals, learning trends and challenges for special education needs.

Mr. Lawrence asked if there has been a change in the criteria for who qualifies for free meals.

Dr. Daniels advised that it is based on the families that move into town, it is affordable for families to live in West Point and those families qualify for the program. The tuition families are not receiving free meals. The resident population that qualifies for free meals is 40%.

V. Academic Profile Updates

Nathaniel Leach presented the attached 2018-19 Numbers that focused on the results for the school system for 2018/19. Mr. Leach also reviewed the state changes for attendance.

Mrs. Gulley asked about students that might have a serious chronic illness.

Mr. Leach advised that a serve chronic illness would allow a child to receive in home teaching during the illness, but other illnesses would count towards the 18 days allowed for absence per school year, the reason for the absence is relevant, 18 days is 18 days and anything over 18 days is consider a chronic absence.

Mr. Leach reviewed a power point presentation for the Academic Performance. The academic performance covered the changes in SOL testing, special education students, students with disabilities, Reading and Writing

VI. General Information

Mr. Edwards advised there was nothing to report under General Information.

VII. Town Council Agenda

Mr. Edwards advised there are no items for the Town Council agenda.

VIII. Next Meeting Date September 16th, 2019 @ 4:30 pm

Mrs. Nichols advised that she will be out of town for the next scheduled meeting and suggested the next meeting be in October.

Mrs. Able advised that the schools would like to invite Town Council to the schools for the next meeting on October 16th at 4:30 p.m. for a tour of the facilities.

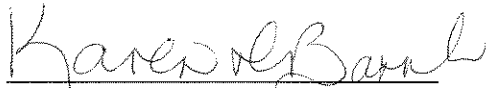
IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mrs. Nichols adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.



Gail Nichols
Chairperson

ATTEST:



Karen M. Barrow
Town Clerk