



Gloucester County School Board Meeting

Friday, September 15, 2023 / 5:30 p.m.

Special Called Meeting

(No public Comments)

T.C. Walker Education Center – Auditorium/ 6099 T.C. Walker Road, Gloucester, VA 23061

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** – Mr. Troy Andersen, chairperson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Carol Dehoux, clerk called roll with the following persons recorded as present: Troy M. Andersen (chairperson), George R. (Randy) Burak, Karen Espinoza, Nicole McPherson, Darren P. Post and Robin M. Rice, members. Carlton Drew was absent.

2. **Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance** – Mr. Andersen led the board and members in a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Mr. Post made a motion to allow citizen comments. Ms. Espinoza seconded the motion which failed in a 2/4 vote.

3. **Engaging a Neutral Third-Party Investigator for Claims of Harassment/Discrimination** – Mr. Andersen informed members of a report filed by a staff member claiming harassment/discrimination by a School Board Member and the need to hire a third party to investigate. Mr. Andersen then referenced “Policy GBA” which provides procedures for reporting claims of harassment and retaliation. A recommendation was made by Mr. Andersen to hire Jim Guynn Jr. of Guynn Waddell Law Firm to investigate the claims. At the conclusion of the investigation by the third party, the report will be provided to the entire board and per policy must be issued within thirty-five days. Following discussion, Ms. Rice made a motion to allow the expenditure of funds to obtain the neutral third party recommended (Jim Guynn Jr.) and allow the board chair to engage the necessary county officials to expend the funds for this process to move forward. Mr. Burak seconded the motion which passed in a unanimous 6/0 roll call vote.

Mr. Burak	<u>Aye</u>	Mr. Post	<u>Aye</u>
Mr. Drew	<u>Absent</u>	Ms. Rice	<u>Aye</u>
Ms. Espinoza	<u>Aye</u>	Mr. Andersen	<u>Aye</u>
Ms. McPherson	<u>Aye</u>		

4. **Call for Adjournment** – At 5:42 p.m., there being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Rice and seconded by Mr. Burak to adjourn the School Board Special Called Meeting of September 15, 2023, until the Regular Monthly Meeting on October 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Thomas Calhoun Walker Education Center auditorium.

Troy Andersen, Chairperson

Carol Dehoux, Clerk