

VIRGINIA: AT A JOINT MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF AMELIA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE AMELIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD HELD AT THE AMELIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD BUILDING ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2023.

PARTICIPANTS:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DAVID M. FELTS	District 1
DEXTER JONES	District 2
SHAUN WEYANT	District 3
TODD ROBINSON	District 5

AMELIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

BONNIE VEGA, CHAIR  
DR. SARAH TANNER-ANDERSON, VICE CHAIR  
MICHAEL NELLER, MEMBER  
ROBYN WHITTINGTON, MEMBER  
DAVID GERAGHTY, MEMBER  
LORI HARPER, SUPERINTENDENT  
EVA BIEREDER, BOARD CLERK

ALSO PRESENT:

A. TAYLOR HARVIE, III, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
ASHLEY GUNN, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
BRADY DEAL, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
CYNTHIA RESONER, DIRECTOR INSTRUCTION  
BO LYNCH, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS  
DANIEL TRUMP, SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND NUTRITION  
MIKE WEAVER, CTE COMMITTEE MEMBER  
MARGARET JONES, CTE COMMITTEE MEMBER  
MONICA JACKSON, DEPUTY CLERK

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Felts called the February 7, 2023 Joint Meeting of the Amelia County Board of Supervisors to order at 6:00 P.M. and determined there was a quorum with four members participating. Supervisor Easter was unable to attend due to family matters. Chairman Felts turned the meeting over to School Board Chairwoman Vega who called the Joint Meeting of the Amelia County School Board to order and determined there was a quorum.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On a motion by Robyn Whittington, seconded by Michael Neller, and carried, the agenda was approved.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Chairwoman Vega initiated the moment of silence.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairwoman Vega initiated the Pledge of Allegiance

**STAFF/COMMITTEE/ORGANIZATION REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

• **CTE TASK FORCE PROPOSAL PLAN:**

Dr. Reasoner noted that she along with Mr. Trump, Mr. Weaver, and Mrs. Jones, would be sharing a summary of the work conducted by our CTE Committee Task Force this past Fall along with recommendations for your consideration in moving forward. Our CTE Committee Task Force, comprised of community members, teachers, administrators, and representatives from both boards, formally met five times beginning in August 2022. Their names have been listed as part of this presentation in Board Docs. As part of this work the task force administered two (2) separate student surveys, researched various CTE programs, met with Moseley Architects to gather facility information, administered a survey to CTE committee members, shared detailed cost projection information with committee members, and voted on recommendations that they shared with the Amelia County School Board in December and will share with the Board of Supervisors this evening. A summary of the CTE Committee Task Force survey data completed by our Task Force members in November, 100% of respondents said that ACPS should seek funding for a work-based learning coordinator. Dr. Reasoner shared this information with Dr. Harper and Mr. Trump during budget meetings and have asked for this position to be considered in our FY 24 budget request. 95% of respondents said that ACPS should renovate the former CTE building, at no cost to the county, for future use of CTE programs. This former CTE building is the white building located directly beside the School Board Office. Shortly after this survey was conducted Moseley Architects provided us in November 2022 with a cost analysis for converting this building into usable CTE classroom and shop space, the amount of which is not feasible at this time. 100% of respondents said that ACPS should add Automotive Technology as a future CTE program offering. 85% of respondents said that ACPS should add Criminal Justice as a future CTE program offering. 90% of respondents said that ACPS should add Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) as a future CTE program offering. 60% of respondents said that ACPS should add Sports Medicine as a future CTE program offering. AMELIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES 2 MINUTES FEBRUARY 07, 2023 SPECIAL CALLED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AMELIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE 70% of respondents said that ACPS should add STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Math) as a future CTE program offering. 90% of respondents said

that ACPS should continue to participate in Brightpoint Community College CTE programs such as Welding, Industrial Electricity, Precision Machining Technology, Early Childhood Development, and Industrial Maintenance. Future CTE program offerings through Brightpoint for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year include Heating and Air Conditioning, Pharmaceutical Manufacturing, and Energy Technology. 60% of respondents said that ACPS should not continue to participate in Amelia Nottoway Technical Center's CTE programs which include: Auto Body, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, Medical Assistant, and Nurse Aide. At our final CTE Committee Task Force meeting on November 13 th, it was a unanimous decision on the part of the members present that Amelia County Public Schools should leave ANTC and offer these CTE programs in-house. The CTE Committee Task Force has several recommendations for your consideration:

- Seek funding for a full-time Work Based Learning Coordinator
- Build a new CTE building or facility adjacent to Amelia County High School
- Move the CTE programs from ANTC to ACHS beginning in the Fall of 2024
- Continue the CTE partnership with Brightpoint Community College
- Continue existing CTE program offerings at Amelia County High School
- Consider eventually adding the following new CTE programs at Amelia
- County High School: Automotive Technology, Criminal Justice, EMT, Sports Medicine, and STEM

Mr. Trump shared some information on the placement options for the ANTC programs, which includes building a new CTE facility for all Amelia County Public Schools CTE programs. We envision that this new facility could be used not only by ACPS but also by Amelia County as part of a larger adult education/ work force development initiative in the evenings and possibly weekends. Mr. Weaver and Mrs. Jones spoke about their perspectives as representatives from our CTE Task Force Committee.

## **NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Discussion of CTE Proposal:**

Mr. Trump and Dr. Harper discussed the CTE current program enrollment and per student cost at ACHS, ACMS, ANTC and Brightpoint, as noted in the attachment in Board Docs. Dr. Harper also reviewed the ANTC enrollment benchmark for FY 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 noting that at this point in our 5-year agreement, we are only at 56.67% of capacity instead of the anticipated 73% of capacity for this time period.

Chairwoman Vega pointed attention to the increase from 67 in 2021 to the 2022 to 86%. She stated the bulk of that was due to moving the culinary from Amelia to the ANTC. Dr. Harper confirmed this statement. Dr. Harper explained concerns that have occurred in the last two years with instructors.

### **Chairwoman Vega opened the floor for discussion:**

- Supervisor Felts asked if the lack of instructors will still be an issue if the programs are moved to Amelia or is there a plan in place. Dr. Harper pointed out that for two instructors leaving was due to a change in administration (three times in the last 4 years). She hopes moving the

programs here will provide that stability. Board member Tanner noted that the original goal was to provide two new programs every year. However, due to not being able to get instructors it wasn't that the programs closed, but that they never opened. Discussions on instructor availability continued.

- Supervisor Felts pointed out that previously Cumberland was apart of ANTC and asked if that would be an option for them or Chesterfield to attend if the program was moved here. Dr. Harper stated it would be a decision for the school board and if there were slots available that would not be filled by Amelia students that it would be a reasonable option.
- Supervisor Jones brought up the topic of transportation and what type of vehicle was being used. It was stated that a school bus is in use for transportation.
- Supervisor Jones asked if home school students would be able to enroll as well. Dr. Harper stated it depends on board policy. Chairwoman Vega asked if that would be a state policy or school board policy. Dr. Harper stated that it would depend on the different bills in front of the General Assembly every year about that. Chairwoman Vega mentioned that if the state allowed it, then it could be a policy that would allow it. Dr. Harper answered that she would have to look into their policy and stated the VSBA policy outlined requirements. Continued discussions took place in regard to who can attend with minimum requirements.
- Supervisor Robinson asked to clarify the location being next to the school auditorium. Dr. Harper confirmed with details.
- Supervisor Felts asked details of the building and in which Mr. Trump was able to provide as well as its purpose.
- Members of the meeting continued to discuss what programs would take place in the proposed building as well as in the school.
- Supervisor Jones inquired about the ANTC building and what would happen to that. Dr. Harper explained the details of the contract with the building. Discussion about Nottoway also wanting to pull out of the contract. Chairwoman Vega explained different discussions that have taken place since the CTE Task Force as taken place. Board member Tanner explained the current situation since original discussions. Continued conversations took place regarding the contract and what is to take place in the near future.
- Board members discussed the current and future situation of the High school and its students. Board member Neller discussed the lifetime of the high school structurally.
- Supervisor Weyant brought up concerns about the deficits Trades are facing and how we as the leaders of today need to encourage students to build these deficits. Other Board members of the meeting agreed.
- Discussions continued with the stability of the program and other concerns. The board members discussed having a program coordinator to assist with filling positions and slots for students. Board member Tanner mentioned that if the students were able to see the program on campus it would be encouraged to sign up and show more interest with it being local. It would mitigate the travel complications. Board Member Geraghty brought up his experience with being a part of auto mechanics in school and mentioned that he still uses those skills today. Mr. Weaver stated that his program has a waitlist for auto shop. Mrs. Jones stated that they've had to turn away students for various courses as well due to courses being full. Mr. Weyant mentioned that if we have 100% contributions, we could get 110-120% output and not have to turn away our students. Mrs. Jones brought up the pros and cons of having a local facility compared to what we have currently.

- Mr. Weaver mentions the lack of job security based on enrollment also being part of the problem with keeping or recruiting instructors. If job stability is guaranteed or not based on enrollment, then instructors and students would be easier to recruit and retain.
- Various individuals discussed having different schedules with other counties causes difficulties with our students. Having a school here would also eliminate that issue.
- Discussions with the courses being offered in Amelia would also eliminate the issues with students struggling to keep up with curriculum requirements and attending the courses off campus.
- Supervisor Jones stated he is in support of having the trades and other courses for these student, but has the student population increased enough to get the percentage of enrollment for the courses up to sustain it. What are the guarantees? Dr. Harper stated there are no guarantees, however there were surveys done that Amelia Students want to stay local to take these courses.
- Discussions of where the funding will come from, justifying it with the citizens, what it costs per student now to attend, and how it would change if programs were located here.
- Discussions of allowing programs for young adults and adult programs in the evening would be a possibility for a use.
- The current budget, what will be needed, and what would be the long-term savings was discussed. Mr. Trump provided various budget and finance information.
- Supervisor Robinson proposed reprioritizing the school board's list of wants and needs.
- Mutual agreement from both boards of wanting trades and other programs here in Amelia and financial concerns were discussed.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN/CONTINUE MEETING**

There being no other business, the February 7, 2023 Regular meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

Minutes Approved: March 15, 2023



A. Taylor Harvie, III  
Amelia County Administrator



David M. Felts, Jr., Chairman  
Amelia County Board of Supervisors

