

Roanoke Valley Governor's School Regional Board Minutes of June 12, 2017 Meeting

The Roanoke Valley Governor's School Regional Board met on Monday, April 3, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Roanoke Valley Governor's School Lecture Hall. The following Board members were present:

Mrs. Ruth Wallace	Botetourt County	Chairman
Mr. Mark Cathey	Roanoke City	Vice Chairman
Dr. Michael Chiglinsky	Salem City	
Mr. Jason Johnson	Bedford County	
Mr. Patrick Myers	Craig County	
Mr. Mike Wray	Roanoke County	

Absent: Mrs. Sarah Alexander Franklin County

Also present: Botetourt County Schools Superintendent, Mr. John Busher, representing the Committee of Superintendents; Governor's School Director, Mark Levy; Clerk, Cindy Poulton; Deputy Clerk, Paula Buch; and Dawn Verhoeff, Bedford County Schools' Science, Foreign Language and Gifted Supervisor.

Call to Order

Mrs. Wallace called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. She welcomed her Superintendent, Mr. John Busher, who was serving as the representative for the Committee of Superintendents in Dr. Bishop's absence. Mrs. Wallace noted Mrs. Alexander was absent due to her School Board's regular meeting.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Dr. Chiglinsky and Mr. Wray, the Board unanimously approved the agenda as distributed.

Approval of April 3, 2017 Meeting Minutes

On motion by Mr. Cathey and Dr. Chiglinsky, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the April 3, 2017 meeting as distributed.

2017-18 Budget

Director Mark Levy reviewed the 2017-18 Budget noting the unspent funds balance is yet to be determined. He stated there were no problems with current year expenditures within the budget categories; however, he noted the need for some equipment upgrades and replacement, and funds from the current budget would be used to cover the expense.

Director's Report

Mr. Levy stated Dr. Bishop asked him to express her regrets that she is not present due to her participation in the Grade Level Reading and All-America City conferences in Denver. Mr. Levy stated that 12 months ago he was introduced as the new Director for the Roanoke Valley Governor's School, and he was appreciative of the support provided by the Board, superintendents, and staff, which resulted in a very successful year.

Mr. Levy stated since the Board's last meeting in April, students have participated in two additional science fairs providing the students with an opportunity to be recognized using different talents. First, the Virginia Junior Academy of Sciences Symposium where 12 students were selected to present resulting in 1st Place awards for Vanessa Lin from Franklin County and Dino Oikonomou from Roanoke County; 2nd Place awards for Matthew Svec from Roanoke County, Richard Qiu from Roanoke County, and Kendall Livesay from Roanoke City; and special awards presented to Kailyn Janiga from Roanoke County, Matthew Svec and Vanessa Lin. Second, Richard Qiu presented his research at the National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium in San Diego.

He reminded the Board that Christine Flora and Reid Tenzer attended the International Science and Engineering Fair in May, and Christine received a special award and scholarship.

Mr. Levy reported 74 graduating seniors were offered more than \$2.6 million in scholarships and will attend 24 different colleges and universities across the world. He reviewed the top choices that include Virginia Tech, UVA, Washington & Lee, and Virginia Commonwealth University and the RVGS acceptance rate versus the national acceptance rate for each.

Mr. Levy stated he has focused on community outreach and collaboration; mentorship students are all paired with partners, and there is an opportunity for 10 to 11 more students to be placed in the research labs with the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute (VTCRI), and he is working with the School of Medicine to reinvigorate the middle school program in summer 2018.

Mr. Levy stated in an effort to support first year students he met with incoming students and families this spring to frame expectations and school culture and facilitate a smooth transition. He stated as a result of a student's recommendation, a student-driven mentorship program will be initiated this fall, and each first-year student will be paired with an upper classman (senior or junior) who will provide support and advice.

Mr. Levy stated in an effort to establish a school-wide growth mindset culture, the faculty is planning to introduce an initiative, RVGS Determined, to support personal development tailored to the School's gifted population through virtues that lead to success at the Governor's School as well as post-secondary pursuits.

Mr. Levy stated significant efforts were made to identify staff for four positions for the upcoming school year following the loss of four staff members—two due to relocation, one joined the faculty at the Jefferson College, and one who was not returning.

Mr. Levy stated the hiring was careful and deliberate with activities beyond standard interviews for each of the positions, and he was excited to announce that all of the positions had been filled with highly-qualified teachers. Mr. Johnson asked what the individuals taught; Mr. Levy said two were math, one was physics, and one was environmental science. Mr. Busher noted that Lord Botetourt High School lost three math teachers—two were hired by the Governor's School and one was hired by Virginia Western.

Board Items

Dr. Chiglinsky stated everyone should be very proud of the graduating class and where they will attend college as these young people reflect the best of our financial investment, and everyone needs to understand that our investment as a region and as board members here and in our respective districts is a vital investment for our future and they deserve recognition. Mr. Wray added that he planned on covering this information at his board's next meeting.

Superintendents' Items

Mr. Busher stated as a Superintendent, he feels fortunate that an opportunity like the Governor's School is available to the communities and shared amongst the divisions as the divisions prepare students for the future; he expressed appreciation that students can receive this type and amount of pedagogy while forming relationships with students from other divisions.

Next Meeting

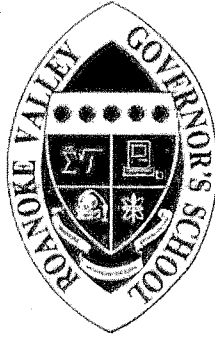
The next meeting of the Roanoke Valley Governor's School Regional Board is Monday, October 23, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Ruth E. Wallace, Chairman

Cindy H. Poulton, Clerk



REGIONAL BOARD MEETING CALENDAR - 2018

Meetings of the Roanoke Valley Governor's School Regional Board are held at 6:30 p.m. in the Roanoke Valley Governor's School Lecture Hall. Meetings in 2018 will be held on the following dates:

Monday, February 5, 2018 - Organization Meeting

Monday, April 23, 2018

Monday, June 11, 2018

Monday, October 22, 2018