**Roanoke Valley Governor’s School Regional Board**

**DRAFT Minutes of April 17, 2023 Meeting**

The Roanoke Valley Governor’s School Regional Board met on Monday, April 17, at 6:30 PM in the Governor’s School Lecture Hall. The following Board members were present:

Dr. Susan Mele Bedford County School Board

Mrs. Anna Weddle Botetourt County School Board

Dr. Kevin David Franklin County School Board

Ms. Laura Leroy Floyd County School Board

Mr. Mark Cathey, Chair Roanoke City School Board

Mr. Michael Wray Roanoke County School Board

Dr. Nancy Bradley Salem City School Board

**Members Absent**

Mr. Trace Bellassai Craig County School Board

**Also Present**

Roanoke City Public Schools Superintendent, Dr. Verletta White, representing the Committee of Superintendents; RVGS Director Mark Levy; Clerk Dawn Winter-Ware; Deputy Clerk Paula Buch.

**Call To Order**

Mr. Cathey called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

**Approval of Agenda**

On motion by Dr. David and seconded by Mr. Wray, the agenda was approved as distributed.

**Approval of the February 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

On motion by Dr. Mele and seconded by Mr. Wray, the February 6, 2023, meeting minutes were approved.

**Amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws**

At the October 2022 meeting, the Regional Board approved Floyd County joining the Board and at the February 6, 2023, meeting, Mr. Levy provided an overview of the Second Amendment to the constitution and bylaws which is adding Floyd County to the list of participating school divisions. The Chairman presented the Second Amendment to the Board as the second reading and approval. There was no discussion and the amendment passed unanimously.

**2022-23 Budget Update**

Mr. Levy presented Board members with an update on the current budget and stated expenses match closely during the same time as the previous year’s budget with no large surprises or expenses including no significant or unforeseen maintenance expenses. Mr. Cathey expressed appreciation for the update on the current year’s budget.

**2023-24 Budget for Approval**

Mr. Levy provided copies of the proposed 2023-24 budget and noted there were no significant changes. Dr. Mele inquired about any increases in utilities. Dr. Levy said he will check with the Finance Department. Mr. Wray inquired about any possible changes in staff. Mr. Levy said no retirements and no additional staffing at this time.

Mr. Levy mentioned the need to use carryover funds, however, the incoming enrollment over the next few years looks more positive, becoming closer to more typical past years seen at RVGS. Mr. Levy reminded members of the discussion at the February 6 meeting regarding a slight increase in the tuition charge to participating member school divisions. Mr. Levy said at the February 6 meeting it appeared everyone was comfortable with the tuition increasing to $5000 per student. Dr. Mele asked if there would be a need for additional tuition increases in subsequent years and Mr. Levy said he would prefer not to increase tuition again within the near future. He said he was hopeful for an enrollment approaching 252-267, though 270 would be ideal, and RVGS could handle as many as 278 students. Upon motion by Mr. Wray and seconded by Dr. Bradley, approval of the budget passed unanimously.

Mr. Cathey expressed appreciation for Mr. Levy’s efforts and the update on the budget.

**Director’s Report**

Mr. Levy provided Science Fair updates and reminded Board members they received a list of students receiving awards via email. He again told members enrollment has primarily rebounded with an estimated 267 students arriving in the fall.

Mr. Levy briefed Board members on the tabletop security exercise that took place recently in RCPS and said the division takes the exercises seriously and regularly trains and provides guidance to the schools. He said during the exercise, challenges of a reunification plan for the morning session had been identified. After discussion with Chris Perkins, RCPS Chief Operations Officer, it was decided it would be helpful to walk through a scenario with representatives from each participating school division. Mr. Levy said more information on the possibility to do that this summer would be forthcoming.

Mr. Levy said college admissions are continuing and RVGS is providing increased support to Senior students. He told member school divisions that as the school year winds down, if RVGS students are receiving awards, recognitions, etc., he would be glad to attend the awards or recognitions events at the participating school divisions.

Mr. Levy reminded Board members of the Senior Dinner on May 8, at the Hotel Roanoke.

**Board Discussion Items**

Board members expressed appreciation for the invitations to the Senior Dinner.

**Superintendent’s Discussion Items**

Superintendent Dr. Verletta White requested member school divisions reach out to elected officials on the budget and the potential impacts to the Roanoke Valley Governor’s School. Dr. Russ expressed agreement.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, June 5, 2023**.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.