



# City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23219  
www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk

## Minutes

### RVA Education Compact Quarterly Joint Meeting

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Monday, December 11, 2017

9:00 AM

Richmond Police Academy

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#### Council Members Present

The Honorable Chris Hilbert, President  
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, Vice President  
The Honorable Andreas Addison (*Late arrival*)  
The Honorable Parker Agelasto  
The Honorable Kim Gray  
The Honorable Michael Jones  
The Honorable Kristen Larson (*Early departure*)  
The Honorable Ellen Robertson (*Late arrival*)

#### Others Present

The Honorable Levar Stoney, Mayor  
The Honorable Patrick Sapini, School Board Vice Chair  
The Honorable James Barlow, School Board Member  
The Honorable Cheryl Burke, School Board Member  
The Honorable Elizabeth Doerr, School Board Member  
The Honorable Kenya Gibson, School Board Member  
The Honorable Linda Owen, School Board Member  
The Honorable Jonathan Young, School Board Member  
Kimberly Collins, Deputy Clerk of School Board  
Candice Reid, Interim City Clerk  
Selena Cuffee-Glenn, Chief Administrative Officer  
Thomas Kranz, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
David Meyers, Chief Financial Officer for Richmond Public Schools  
Candice Reid, Interim City Clerk  
Lincoln Saunders, Mayor's Chief of Staff  
Thad Williamson, Mayor's Senior Policy Advisor  
Angela Wilson, Clerk of School Board

Senior Policy Advisor to the Mayor Thad Williamson opened the meeting at 9:17 a.m., provided a brief overview of the information to be discussed, and stated that the Education Compact is the result of preliminary discussions between local government officials and citizens who have a shared interest in supporting the education of public school students.

*A copy of the material provided has been filed.*

#### Updates on Education Compact Deliverables

Mayor Levar Stoney stated that his appointments to the Education Compact Team would be made public by the end of 2017. Council President Chris Hilbert stated that City Council has selected Vice President Cynthia Newbille, Councilor Michael Jones and Councilor Kristen Larson as

their representatives for the Education Compact Team. Richmond School Board Vice Chair Patrick Sapini stated that the school board is accepting applications for its community member representatives who will be selected soon.

Mr. Williamson provided an update on the Richmond Children's Cabinet stating that the following individuals serve on the cabinet: Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Human Services Debbie Jackson, Director for Community Wealth Building Reginald Gordon, Director of Parks and Recreation Chris Frelke, Director of Social Services Shunda Giles, and himself. Mr. Williamson also stated that the Harvard Fellow of the Virginia Governor's Children's Cabinet Kim Bridges is assisting the local cabinet through the process. Mr. Williamson further stated that the Richmond Public Schools (RPS) representatives are Interim Superintendent Thomas Kranz and Director of Student Services Angela Jones. Mr. Williamson noted that the cabinet has been concentrating on out of school time and developing a shared plan to assist all children with access to high quality programs in school, in addition to securing non-departmental funding as it relates to education.

Interim Superintendent of Schools Thomas Kranz introduced Jason Kamras, the incoming RPS superintendent. Mr. Kranz provided an update on RPS stating that there are nineteen unaccredited schools. Employing qualified teachers is an ongoing challenge and there is a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the state that the state must approve all expenditures and the school division cannot incur state or federal grants without the state's approval.

### **Overview of City of Richmond Financial Picture**

Chief Administrative Officer Selena Cuffee-Glenn introduced Senior Vice President and Manager of Public Finance for Davenport and Company, LLC, David Rose who provided a brief overview of the city's financial status. Mr. Rose reviewed the city's credit ratings and the city's school funding as it relates to operations and debt service. Mr. Rose also reviewed the city's challenges regarding its pension fund levels and general fund budgets. Mr. Rose responded to questions and comments of individuals in attendance.

*A copy of the material provided has been filed.*

### **Overview of RPS Financial Needs and Recent History**

Chief Financial Officer for RPS David Myers reviewed the state and city financial contributions to the RPS budget. Mr. Myers stated that the city has provided its fair share; however, the state needs to make education a higher priority in its budget. Mr. Myers also stated that RPS needs to offer competitive salaries and benefits for employees, maintain current technology and curriculum for students and have the ability to repair or replace faulty equipment on an as needed basis. Mr. Myers informed members that the Local Composite Index (LCI) has been published for fiscal year 2019 and shows an increase of approximately 3.5% for Richmond, which equates to a reduction of approximately \$4,000,000 in state funding. Mr. Myers responded to inquiries of compact members.

*A copy of the material provided has been filed.*

### **RPS Facilities Plan Update**

Interim Superintendent Kranz provided a brief overview of the RPS facilities plan. Mr. Kranz reviewed the anticipated student enrollment in various areas of the city and reviewed phase I of the RPS construction/renovation project. Mr. Kranz responded to questions and statements of compact members.

*A copy of the material provided has been filed.*

**Adjournment**

Mayor Stoney thanked everyone for attending.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

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CITY CLERK