

Draft Minutes

Regular Meeting of the York County School Board
Monday, February 23, 2026
York Hall
301 Main Street
Yorktown, VA
Time of Meeting- 7:00 p.m.

Members present

Zoran Pajevic, Lynda Fairman, Mark Shafer, Kim Goodwin

Members absent

James E. Richardson

Also present

Dr. Jim Carroll, Interim Division Superintendent; Mr. Bill Bowen, Chief Financial Officer; Dr. David Reitz, Chief Human Resources Officer; Dr. Candi Skinner, Chief Academic Officer; Ms. Melanie Berry, Esq., School Board Attorney; Ms. Nicole Howard, School Board Clerk; Ms. Bonnie Gray, Deputy Board Clerk

1. Call to Order

A. Call to Order- Mr. Pajevic called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Remarks by Board Chair

A. Remarks by Board Chair

3. Moment of Silence

A. Moment of Silence

4. Pledge of Allegiance

A. Pledge Leader- Landon Brown, a Kindergartener at Dare Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Recognitions and Awards

A. Special Recognition of THS Field Hockey Team

B. Seniors of the Month-The following Seniors were recognized for their achievements: Jecy Koak and Dominic Granados from Bruton High School; Bansari Patel and Reagan Wall from Grafton High School; Hiyab Berhe and Samuel Christophel from Tabb High School; and Dominic Montanaro and Zoe Ringo from York High School.

C. Student Service Awards- The following students were presented with a plaque of recognition: Lucas Cotayo from Bethel Manor Elementary; Harper Murphy from Dare Elementary; Kayla Hill from Coventry Elementary; and Madison Damon from Queens Lake Middle School.

D. Volunteers of the Month- The following individuals were recognized for their contributions to the school and community: Ms. Valerie Nell, Bethel Manor Elementary; Ms. MaryBeth Antcliff from Dare Elementary; and Ms. Kim Steinport from Queens Lake Middle School.

E. York Foundation for Public Education Presentation- Ms. Glynnis Ellis, YFPE member, presented special gifts to award recipients from "Cookie Text-An Edible Tweet!" and a gift certificate from Sweet Frog.

F. Virginia Department of Education Math Acceleration Grant- The York County School Division has been awarded a \$42,216.85 Math Acceleration Grant from the Virginia Department of Education. The funding will support Praxis testing fees for eight teachers and provide resources for a Summer Bridge Program serving Grade 5 and middle school students.

G. Accent on Academics- Queens Lake Middle School presented: *Connection Counts: Reimagining School through Community Schools Programming.*

6. Recess

A. Recess to Meet with Award Recipients and Families- The Board took a brief recess at 8:01 p.m. and reconvened at 8:11 p.m.

7. Unfinished Business

A. None

8. Presentations

A. Board Committee Updates: Mr. Shafer- Shared that the YFPE Golf Tournament will take place on June 17. The tournament raises money for scholarships for students; Mrs. Goodwin- Shared that the Gifted Education Committee met earlier this month with over 32 stakeholders in attendance, reflecting strong and uncommon community involvement and demonstrating

York County's commitment to gifted education. Updates included the testing of 800 first-grade students between November and February to identify gifted talent, as well as 70 current kindergarten referrals for the upcoming testing cycle. The Gifted Education Program Coordinator, Miss Haywood, reported that her team participated in professional development focused on effective feedback and noted one current staff vacancy in the department. Information was also shared regarding available summer scholarships for gifted students. The Board will assist in recruiting a new student liaison for the 2026–2027 school year, with a timeline for interviews to be provided in the coming weeks. The next committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 29; Mrs. Fairman- The Special Education Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for December 9 was canceled due to inclement weather, so no report is available. The next meeting is scheduled for March 3, and increased community participation is encouraged to gather input, experiences, and student needs. Appreciation was expressed for Director Termaine Hopkins and her team for her leadership and ongoing work in the special education program.; Mr. Pajevic- The New Horizons and CTE Advisory Committee held its first meeting of the year last week after prior postponements due to weather. Updates included the announcement of a culinary partnership with Hampton University, recognition of the Governor's School of Science and Technology as a top high school in Virginia for the 14th consecutive year, and approval of the FY25 audit. A budget timeline for FY27 was presented, with a preliminary budget expected by March 30 and adoption planned for a May meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for March 30 at Woodside. New programming highlights included the opening of a Yamaha Marine Motor Lab, providing students with certification opportunities and strong workforce pathways, as well as a grant to expand welding labs on both campuses to meet growing demand. No CTE Advisory Committee meetings have been held yet this year, with the first scheduled for the following day.

9. Comments of Citizens

A. Public Participation at Board Meetings

Pam Pouchot-Education
Easter Digangi-Lifewise
Marc Forrest- Lacrosse

B. Public Hearing on FY27 Operating Budget

None

10. Financial Matters

A. Consideration of Approval of Claims Certified for Payment

B. Consideration of Approval of Financial Reports

C. Consideration of Approval of Resolution 26-09, a Resolution Authorizing Specific Procurement

D. Consideration of Approval of Financial Matters as Listed

Motion to Approve Financial Matters as Listed

Motion by Mark Shafer, second by Kim Goodwin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Zoran Pajevic, Lynda Fairman, Mark Shafer, Kim Goodwin

11. Consent Calendar

A. Consideration of Approval of Personnel Actions

B. Consideration of Approval of Minutes For a Special Meeting on January 28, 2026; a Special Meeting on February 4, 2026; and a Work Session on February 9, 2026

C. Consideration of Approval of Donations in the Amount of \$3,611.00

D. Consideration of Approval of Updates to the FY27 Program of Studies

E. Consideration of Approval of a Lease Agreement Between the County School Board of York County, Virginia and the Lionsbridge Football Club

F. Consideration of Approval of Consent Calendar as Listed

Motion to Approve the Consent Calendar as Listed

Motion by Kim Goodwin, second by Mark Shafer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Zoran Pajevic, Lynda Fairman, Mark Shafer, Kim Goodwin

12. Action Items

A. Consideration of Approval of Minutes from a Special Meeting on February 11, 2026

Approval of Minutes from a Special Meeting on February 11, 2026

Motion by Mark Shafer, second by Kim Goodwin.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Zoran Pajevic, Mark Shafer, Kim Goodwin

Abstain: Lynda Fairman

13. Policy - Discussion

A. None

14. Policy - First Reading

A. None

15. Policy - Second Reading - Action

A. Section J-Students

Approval of Revisions to Section J-Students

Motion by Kim Goodwin, second by Mark Shafer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Zoran Pajevic, Mark Shafer, Kim Goodwin

Nay: Lynda Fairman

16. Report of the Superintendent

A. Report of the Superintendent

17. Comments of Citizens Who Did Not Sign Up to Speak Previously

A. Comments of Citizens Who Did Not Sign Up to Speak Previously-None

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Zoran Pajevic, Chair

Nicole Howard, Clerk