

MINUTES

The Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government & International Studies
Regional School Board Meeting
1000 N. Lombardy Street, Richmond, VA

Thursday, August 18, 2016

9:10 a.m.

The meeting began without a quorum for non-voting business.

I. Call to Order

John Axselle, Chairman of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Regional Board, called the meeting to order and welcomed new Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Raley of Goochland County Public Schools, Dr. Marcus Newsome, now representing Petersburg Public Schools and Dr. James Lane now representing Chesterfield County Public Schools.

II. Moment of Silence

The Chairman called for a moment of silence.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Regional School Board and visitors recited the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Introductions

Each Board member introduced him or herself and stated their locality (listed in alphabetical order by locality).

Present:

Dr. Javaid Siddiqi, *School Board*, Chesterfield County Public Schools (late arrival)
Mr. John Wright, *School Board*, Goochland County Public Schools
Mr. John Axselle, *School Board*, Hanover County Public Schools
Mrs. Michelle 'Micky' Ogburn, *School Board*, Henrico County Public Schools
Dr. Deborah Marks, *School Board*, Hopewell Public Schools
Mrs. Sarah Grier Barber, *School Board*, New Kent Public Schools
Mrs. Valarie Ayers, *School Board*, Powhatan County Public Schools
Dr. James Lane, **Superintendent**, Chesterfield County Public Schools
Dr. Jeremy Raley, **Superintendent**, Goochland County Public Schools
Dr. Michael Gill, **Superintendent**, Hanover County Public Schools
Dr. Pat Kinlaw, **Superintendent**, Henrico County Public Schools
Dr. Kim Evans for Dr. Melody Hackney, **Superintendent**, Hopewell Public Schools
Dr. David Myers, **Superintendent**, New Kent Public Schools
Dr. Marcus Newsome, **Superintendent**, Petersburg Public Schools
Dr. Eric Jones, **Superintendent**, Powhatan County Public Schools
Mrs. Barbara Marshall, **Clerk**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School

Mrs. Megan Perez, **Deputy Clerk**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School
Mr. Phil Tharp, **Assistant Director**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School

Absent:

Ms. Martha Harris, **School Board**, Charles City Public Schools
Ms. Celestine Gaines, **School Board**, King & Queen Public Schools
Mr. Kenneth Pritchett, **School Board**, Petersburg Public Schools
Mr. Reeve Ashcraft, **School Board**, Prince George Public Schools
Ms. Kimberly Gray, **School Board**, Richmond Public Schools
Dr. David Gaston, **Superintendent**, Charles City Public Schools
Dr. Carol Carter, **Superintendent**, King & Queen Public Schools
Mrs. Renee Williams, **Superintendent**, Prince George Public Schools
Dr. Dana Bedden, **Superintendent**, Richmond Public Schools
Dr. Jeff McGee, **Director**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School

Also present:

Dr. Wendy Ellis and Michael Smith – MLWGS Administration
Lynn Reed and David Bortz – MLWGS Staff
Bill Benos and Suzannah Stora – GS Foundation
Marianne Stack and Eric Wolf - Walker Parents

V. Recognitions

None

VI. Public Comments

The Public Information Period shall not exceed thirty (30) minutes. Each speaker will be allotted three (3) minutes to make his/her comments. Individuals representing groups will be allotted five (5) minutes.

None

VII. Director's Report

A. Verbal Updates

Mr. Tharp offered the following information provided by Jeff McGee: Student achievement remains strong overall.

- a. PSAT summary scores will be captured populated once staff return.
- b. ACT summary scores have been requested from ACT but not yet received.
- c. SAT summary scores represent a new benchmark (SAT format/content changed in 2016).
- d. Our expectation for AP scores is 4.
 - i. AP mean score across all courses is 4.2.
 - ii. In FY16, nineteen courses (82.6%) reached a mean score of 4.0.

- iii. Six (6) courses matched strongest score ever (AB Calculus, BC Calculus, AP Language, AP Human Geography, AP Physics C (Mechanics), AP US History).
- iv. Percent of scores 3 or higher is 96.4.
- e. More students sat for AP assessments in FY16 than in any other year. The increase in number of AP assessments was due in part to bringing our assessment requirement for seniors in line with that of underclassmen (i.e., seniors enrolled in AP courses must sit for either the AP assessment or final exam). Prior to FY16, seniors were permitted to opt out of the AP assessment without a requirement to sit for a final exam.
- f. Our expectation for SOL scores is 100% passing.
 - i. Two students were not successful on the World History 2 assessment.
- g. National Merit and Scholarships remain very strong, and we were once again home to a Presidential Scholar.

B. 2016 Achievement Profile – see the packet.

C. Coming Events

August 18, 2016, through September 15, 2016 (*see packet, Section IX.b for details*)

VIII. Unfinished Business

None

IX. Materials for Board Review and/or Discussion

a. Policy, Regulation and Form Proposals

The following are submitted from the Policy Steering Committee for Board review:

- 1001 – Conflict of Interest *Amended*
- 1010 – Constitution and Bylaws *Amended*
- 1014 – Closed Meetings *Amended*
- 1024 – Public Participation at School Board Meetings *Amended*
- 1030 – Admission of Students *Amended*
- Reg 1030-R2 – Admission of Students
- 2023 – Threat Assessment Team *Amended*
- 4090 – Student-Athlete Concussions During Extracurricular Activities *Amended*
- 5011 – Prohibition Against Harassment – Employee *Amended*
- 5012 – Equal Employment Opportunity/Nondiscrimination *Amended*
- 6000 – Requests for Information *Amended*
- Reg 6000-R – Requests for Information *Amended*
- Form 6000-F1 – Requests for Public Records *Amended*
- 6030 – Public Participation at School Board Meetings (New – cross reference to 1024)
- 8000 – Prohibition Against Harassment and Retaliation – Student *Amended*

8001 – Equal Education Opportunity/Nondiscrimination – Student *Amended*

Proposed, policies, regulation and forms are grounded in model policies of the Virginia School Board Association. Approval will be requested at the September 15, 2016, meeting of the Regional School Board.

b. Student Honor Code Revision

Mr. Tharp reported the review committee has met and are proposing revisions to the previous code. Suggested changes were presented at the Superintendent's Steering Committee prior to this RSB meeting.

Mrs. Barber confirmed the committee has another meeting scheduled and as a group has agreed that once adopted and with operation for at least one semester, the group will reconvene for the last review of how the council has operated under the new code.

Approval for the revised Student Honor Code will be requested at the September 15, 2016 meeting of the Regional School Board.

X. Information Items

2016-2017 School Advisory Council Membership

Alumni

Maggie Walker has its first Olympian in Glen Allen native Cheta Emba ('11), Harvard

XI. Superintendent's Steering Committee Report

Dr. Gill reported the committee met this morning and discussed three major topics: 1) Mr. Tharp walked through the work that had been done on the Student Honor Code and the SSC looked at the redline changes being presented today. Dr. Jones was acknowledged for his service on this committee. 2) The need to change health insurance providers this year and the rationale behind such a move. 3) Policy 2021 (Safety Drills) which will be impacted by discrepancies between legislation passed by the General Assembly and State Fire Marshall requirements. While there is a policy for Board approval, it will require changes based on directives from the State Fire Marshall.

Dr. Javaid Sidiqi entered the meeting and completed a quorum for business.

XII. Approval of Agenda

On motion by Deborah Marks, seconded by Valarie Ayers, the agenda for this meeting was unanimously approved.

XIII. Approval of Minutes

On motion by John Wright, seconded by Deborah Marks, minutes for the regular meeting of June 16, 2016, were unanimously approved.

XIV. Consent Items

On motion by John Wright, seconded by Sarah Barber, the following consent items were unanimously approved: personnel actions, fiscal status report June 30, 2016, and FY17 donations from the GS Foundation totaling \$183,830.00.

XV. Action Items

a. Annual Certification of the MLWGS Crisis Plan 2016-2017

On motion by John Wright, seconded by Sarah Barber, the Board unanimously approved updates to the adopted MLWGS Crisis Plan for certification to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) by August 31, 2016.

Mrs. Ayers questioned if adoption of the crisis plan as presented will require a future edit as a result of action to be taken with the upcoming Policy 2021-Safety Drills. Mr. Tharp replied it would not, Board action certifies that the crisis plan is in place; however, the plan can be modified as changes are needed throughout the year.

b. Annual DOE Authorization of Signatures for 2016

Director McGee recommended authorization of Philip Tharp as the necessary designee signature to be utilized in the absence of the Director for the Virginia Department of Education through December 31, 2016.

On motion by John Wright, seconded by Valarie Ayers, VDOE signature authorization in the absence of the Director was unanimously approved.

c. FY17 Operating Calendar Amended

Director McGee requests waiving the first read of the amended FY17 operating calendar and recommends approval of this new version that moves January/February assessment dates which conflicted with the Appomattox Governor's School schedule. This version also moves Senior Showcase from Wednesday, May 31st to Thursday, June 1st.

Mr. Wright questioned why our testing schedule would conflict with Appomattox's schedule, to which Mr. Tharp responded that many students choose to test for both institutions and this change accommodates them.

On motion by John Wright, seconded by Deborah Marks, the amended operating calendar for 2016-2017 was unanimously approved.

d. 2016-2017 Student Handbook

Director McGee requests waiving first read of the 2016-2017 Student Handbook and approval of updates proposed for regulatory compliance prior to the start of the academic year. Mr. Tharp acknowledged that Mr. Max Smith took the lead for updating and reformatting the handbook as presented and generated the student handbook test that each student will be required to take.

On motion by John Wright, seconded by Sarah Barber, the Board unanimously approved the 2016-2017 Student Handbook.

e. Health and Dental Contracts

Director McGee requests waiving first read of the FY17 health and dental contract offers to align with September open enrollment and authorize him to contract Aetna Health and Vision and Anthem Dental. Aetna's health premium will be under 5% compared to Anthem's renewal offer of 12%. Anthem Dental increased by 3% and was within budget projections.

Technical assistance was provided by Scott Eastman, Faison Group.

On motion by John Wright, seconded by Valarie Ayers, the Board unanimously approved waiving first read of health and dental offers.

On motion by Micky Ogburn, seconded by John Wright, the Board unanimously approved contract awards to Aetna for health and vision coverage and to Anthem for dental coverage.

f. Policy for Approval

The following was submitted by the Policy Steering Committee with a request from Director McGee to waive the first read:

Policy No. 2021 – Safety Drills *Amended*

Mr. Tharp stated the policy submitted has been modified by the Virginia School Board Association to incorporate changes for two lock-down drills and also for two fire drills within the first twenty (20) days of school. Originally this policy read two additional lock-downs in the second half of the school year and two additional fire drills. However, the State Fire Marshall recently trumped the VSBA recommendation/modification and we need to redirect this proposal to indicate MLWGS will conduct one fire drill per month. MLWGS is asking for an amendment to the policy proposal submitted and for Board approval.

On motion by Micky Ogburn, seconded by Deborah Marks, Policy 2021 – Safety Drills (modified to incorporate one fire drill per month) was unanimously approved.

XVI. Closed Meeting

None

XVII. Certification of Closed Meeting and Any Action Taken if Necessary as a Result of Closed Meeting

None

XVIII. Announcements/Additional Discussion

Not covered under the Director’s Report – Facility Update, Summer 2016 Projects:

Mr. Tharp reported that the school had changed cleaning contractors and they are busy working; we have full expectation everything will be ready on time.

The solar ‘art form’ turbine is on the roof and operational. The last phase of this project is the monitor installation which will be displayed in the senior commons and will capture real-time data to share with other schools as part of the educational piece of this project.

Finally, the Chairman asked for the Clerk to send a reminder to all school divisions that should a member be unable to make a meeting they are requested to send their alternate.

Mrs. Ayers added that a response to the Clerk’s request regarding attendance would also be helpful and asked for member diligence.

XIX. Adjournment

On motion by Deborah Marks, seconded by John Wright, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Next Meeting

September 15, 2016, at 9:00 am. MLWGS, 1000 N. Lombardy St., Room 153, Richmond, VA 23220. 804-354-6800 x2190.

John Axselle III, Chairman

Jeffrey McGee, Ph.D., Director

Minutes Recorded by:
Barbara Marshall, Regional Board Clerk