

MINUTES

The Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government & International Studies Regional School Board Reorganizational Meeting

Thursday, January 22, 2015 (snow date)

9:05 a.m.

I. Call to Order

Jeffrey McGee, Director of Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Regional Board, called the meeting to order.

II. Moment of Silence

The Director called for a moment of silence.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The Director led a reading of the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Introductions

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

Present:

Mrs. Barbara Crawley, *School Board*, Charles City Public Schools
Mrs. Dianne Smith, *School Board*, Chesterfield County Public Schools
Mr. Kevin Hazzard, *School Board*, Goochland County Public Schools
Mr. Henry Lowry, *School Board*, Hanover County Public Schools
Mrs. Michelle Ogburn, *School Board*, Henrico County Public Schools
Dr. Deborah Marks, *School Board*, Hopewell Public Schools
Ms. Cora Armstrong, *School Board*, King & Queen Public Schools
Mrs. Sarah Grier Barber, *School Board*, New Kent Public Schools (late arrival)
Mr. Kenneth Pritchett, *School Board*, Petersburg Public Schools
Mrs. Valarie Ayers, *School Board*, Powhatan County Public Schools
Mr. Jerry Warren, *School Board*, Prince George Public Schools
Ms. Kimberly Gray, *School Board*, Richmond Public Schools
Dr. David Gaston, **Superintendent**, Charles City Public Schools
Dr. Marcus Newsome, **Superintendent**, Chesterfield County Public Schools
Dr. James Lane, **Superintendent**, Goochland County Public Schools
Dr. Jamelle Wilson, **Superintendent**, Hanover County Public Schools
Dr. Pat Kinlaw, **Superintendent**, Henrico County Public Schools
Dr. John Fahey, **Superintendent**, Hopewell Public Schools
Dr. Eric Jones, **Superintendent**, Powhatan County Public Schools
Dr. Jeff McGee, **Director**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School
Mrs. Barbara Marshall, **Clerk**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School
Ms. Megan Rainey, **Deputy Clerk**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School

Mrs. Ogburn was welcomed as the newly elected board member from Henrico County Public Schools and Mr. Lowry as the duly elected alternate from Hanover County Public Schools.

Absent:

Dr. Stanley Jones, **Superintendent**, King & Queen Public Schools
Dr. David Myers, **Superintendent**, New Kent Public Schools
Dr. Joseph Melvin, **Superintendent**, Petersburg Public Schools
Dr. Bobby Browder, **Superintendent**, Prince George Public Schools
Dr. Dana Bedden, **Superintendent**, Richmond Public Schools

Also present:

Phil Tharp and Wendy Ellis – MLWGS Administration
Wendy DeGroat – MLWGS Librarian and Deborah Snagg - Staff
Elizabeth Wong – PTSA President
Burt Hazelwood and Laura Lewis – GS Foundation
Laura O’Bryan – PTSA Advocacy Comm.
Jewel Caven – School Advisory Council
Terri Purcell – Walker Parent

V. Approval of Agenda

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

VI. Election of Chairman

Nomination: Kevin Hazzard was nominated by Valarie Ayers. There being no other nominations; on motion by Cora Armstrong, seconded by Kimberly Gray, Kevin Hazzard was unanimously elected to serve as Chairman for 2015 of the Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School Regional Board. After congratulations, the Director turned the gavel over to Mr. Hazzard.

VII. Election of Vice-Chairman

Nomination: John Axselle was nominated by Valarie Ayers. There being no other nominations; on motion by Kimberly Gray, seconded by Barbara Crawley, John Axselle was unanimously elected to serve as Vice-Chairman for 2015 of the Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School Regional Board.

The Chairman congratulated Mr. Axselle in absentia.

VIII. Election of Board Clerk and Deputy Board Clerk

Nominations: Barbara Marshall was nominated for Board Clerk and Megan Rainey for Deputy Board Clerk by Barbara Crawley. There being no other nominations; on motion by Valarie Ayers, seconded by Barbara Crawley, Barbara Marshall and Megan Rainey were unanimously elected to serve as the 2015 Clerk and Deputy Clerk respectively of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Regional Board.

The Chairman congratulated both Clerks.

IX. Announcement of 2015 Superintendent's Steering Committee Leadership

Per agreement among the Superintendent's, Dr. James Lane will serve as Chair of the committee for 2015 and Dr. Jamelle Wilson will serve as Vice-Chair.

X. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Barbara Crawley, seconded by Cora Armstrong, minutes as submitted for December 18, 2014 were unanimously approved with no members abstaining.

XI. Recognitions

The following senior students were recognized in absentia due to exams:
Lexus Pursuit of Leadership Weekly Award Winners – **Joseph Boyle (Hanover) Week 8, Eliza Bellamy (Richmond) Week 11 and Josh Barlow (Chesterfield) Week 12.**

XII. Public Comments

The Public Information Period shall not exceed thirty (30) minutes. Each speaker will be allotted three (3) minutes (at the discretion of the Chairperson) to make his/her comments. Individuals representing groups will be allotted five (5) minutes. Citizens must schedule their appearance with the Board's Clerk no later than 10:00am on the last business day before the meeting at which they desire to be heard.

The following remarks are not recorded verbatim:

Mrs. Elizabeth Wong addressed the Board to welcome Michelle 'Micky' Ogburn, Henrico School Board, to MLWGS. Mrs. Wong stated she has known Mrs. Ogburn to be a voice of reason and a pillar of integrity within the community for many years.

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Wong for her remarks.

XIII. Director's Report

A. Verbal Updates

- **Admission Testing**

The following participating divisions test students on Saturday, January 24th:
Goochland, Hanover, Henrico and King & Queen.

The following participating divisions test students on Saturday, January 31st:
Charles City, Chesterfield, Hopewell, Petersburg, Powhatan, Prince George, New Kent and Richmond.

Testing snow date: Saturday, February 7th. Regional Evaluation Day: Wednesday, February 18th.

Testing history:

2015 – 1,126 total prospective students to be tested

2014 – 1,186 total prospective students tested

2013 – 1,138 total prospective students tested

2012 – 1,200 total prospective students tested

2011 – 1,163 total prospective students tested

2010 – 1,130 total prospective students tested

- **Board and Superintendent Portraits** taken by Lifetouch at February meeting.
- **Capitol Day**, Monday, February 9th, MLWGS students at General Assembly.
- **Save the Date: Night of the Dragon Auction**, Saturday, February 21st.
- **Strategic Planning Committee Update** (document provided at table). Dr. McGee reported the committee anticipates completing its work on February 4th. Focus has been directed to:
 - Mission Statement,
 - Vision Statement, and
 - Goals, Objectives and Initiatives

Dr. McGee commended the Strategic Planning Committee, comprised of Mr. Hazzard, Dr. Eric Jones, administrators, faculty, support staff, parents, PTSA, students, alumni, Foundation and School Advisory Council, for its dedicated and thoughtful work on behalf of students and families.

Upon completion of the committee's work, a report will be submitted to the Superintendent's Steering Committee, then ultimately to the Regional School Board for first read. After Board review a public roll out through a public town hall will be planned (*similar to the budget process*). Community input will be collected at the town hall for the Board to consider. Final plan approval should be completed by the end of this school year.

B. Coming Events

- January 15, 2015 through February 19, 2015. See schedule in packet.

Dr. McGee highlighted a visit by Congressman Dave Brat who will tour MLWGS on February 20th.

A brief discussion occurred regarding graduation, Monday, June 15th. Date change was made to accommodate VHSL championship play.

XIV. Unfinished Business

None.

XV. Action Items

a. & b. Code of Conduct for Regional School Board Members and Clerks

Codes of Conduct for Regional School Board Members and for Clerks is grounded in model policies of the Virginia School Board Association. There being no changes from first read, the Chairman called for a vote to approve both Codes as a slate.

On motion from Kimberly Gray, seconded by Valarie Ayers, both the Codes of Conduct for Regional School Board Members and Clerks was unanimously approved.

c. 2015 Regional School Board Calendar of Meetings

With correction of January 15, 2015 to January 22, 2015 for historical accuracy, and no additional comments; on motion by Cora Armstrong, seconded by Kimberly Gray, the 2015 Regional School Board Calendar of Meetings was unanimously approved.

d. New Policy Proposals

The following policy was submitted from the Policy Steering Committee for Board approval:

Policy No. 0001 School Goals

Highlighted by the Director, Policy No. 0001 was adjusted from first review presentation based on community and superintendent feedback. Compliance language for SOQ's reporting was amended to reflect that participating school districts will report through their annual data reporting to VDOE.

There being no additional comments, on motion by Barbara Crawley, seconded by Kimberly Gray, Policy No. 0001 was unanimously approved.

The following policy was submitted from the Policy Steering Committee for Board approval:

Policy No. 1012.c Disciplinary Committee (*with added language*)

Dr. McGee noted that language added by the Policy Steering Committee is the result of in-depth conversation from the December meeting. The committee added that one of the three committee members would be the Board member from the student's home division.

Ms. Gray offered for discussion that Richmond was exploring an option to expunge discipline files in cases where safety was no longer an issue; however, current policy does not allow for that unless an error occurred on the record. The Chair stated the Board would look to Ms. Gray for leadership and guidance on this matter.

Ms. Armstrong questioned the need for such a committee at all, believing this step might make the process longer. Dr. Lane remarked that by law administration is not allowed to suspend a student for more than ten days without the oversight of the Regional School Board and Superintendents. Another reason for a smaller committee is the concern that a case could arise where a review and/or hearing would have to occur within ten days and the Regional School Board might be unable to convene a quorum in that timeframe; therefore resulting in the student automatically winning the case.

Mr. Warren questioned if the process is defined by a hearing or review of file. Dr. Lane stated in this scenario an actual hearing would be held.

There being no additional comments, on motion by Kimberly Gray, seconded by Barbara Crawley, Policy No. 1012.c was unanimously approved.

The following policy was submitted from the Policy Steering Committee for Board approval:

Policy No. 8002 Student Conduct

Dr. McGee emphasized that Policy 8002 is not 'code of student conduct,' but a policy that sets out timelines, informational requirements, etc., required by law regarding student behavior and a policy that Maggie Walker currently does not have.

There being no questions, on motion by Dianne Smith, seconded by Deborah Marks, Policy No. 8002 was unanimously approved.

For the record, all policies submitted are grounded in model policies of the Virginia School Board Association.

e. Personnel

Dr. McGee recommends Board approval of the following personnel action:

New Hire: Edward Coleman, English Department, effective February 4, 2015, replacing Greg 'Bear' O'Bryan, death in service.

There being no questions, on motion by Barbara Crawley, seconded by Valarie Ayers, this action was unanimously approved.

XVI. Materials for Board Review and/or Discussion

a. New Policy and Procedure Proposals

The following policy and regulation was submitted from the Policy Steering Committee for Board review:

Policy No. 1001	School Board Members Conflict of Interest
Procedure No. 5023	Classified Employee Grievance Procedure

Proposed policy is grounded in model policy of the Virginia School Board Association and Procedure No. 5023 was provided by legal counsel. Approval will be requested at the February 2015 meeting of the Regional School Board.

The Chair questioned a comment in the margins of Policy No. 1001 regarding the appropriate assignment of anti-nepotism regulation and who it relates to. Dr. Lane stipulated in his opinion it should include the Regional School Board, the Superintendent's Steering Committee and the administration of Maggie Walker. Edits will be updated to this policy proposal before requesting approval in February.

b. New Course Proposal

In the interest of meeting student interest, Italian III will be requested to be added to the schedule for AY15/16. The Director will seek Board approval at the February meeting.

XVII. Information Items

Student News:

RTD: Maggie Walker's Khloe Pointer Named All-Metro girls cross country runner of the year

RTD: Miles of scarves knits fun into philanthropy

MLWGS Student (Margaret Graham-Petersburg) Performs in concert to benefit homeless

Other News:

Course Update: Engineering Revised

XVIII. Superintendent's Steering Committee Report

Dr. Lane reported the committee discussed a confidential student situation at its morning meeting, moving into budget discussions and review of the proposal the Board will hear at its work session. The committee also discussed a proposal to begin assessing a VHSL fee; however, the Superintendent's do not recommend this action and have asked the Director to revise the budget accordingly. Lastly, the committee took a look at climate surveys (student and parent satisfaction) and asked the Director to find a third party researcher to comb through the data and make presentation to the Board.

XIX. Closed Meeting

None

XX. Certification of Closed Meeting

None

XXI. Announcements

Those Harvey Girls will be playing at Swift Creek Mill Theatre January 29th – March 7th

XXII. Adjournment

On motion by Valarie Ayers, this meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Next Meeting

February 19, 2015 at 9:00am. MLWGS Board Room, 1000 N. Lombardy St., Room 153, Richmond, VA 23220. 804-354-6800 x2190 or x2111.

W. Kevin Hazzard, Chairman

Jeffrey McGee, Ph.D, Director

Minutes Recorded by:
Barbara Marshall, Regional Board Clerk