

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

Thursday, May 15, 2014

9:20 a.m.

While awaiting quorum the Chairman began the meeting at 9:20am with introductions of those present and recognitions. Upon the arrival of Ms. Gray the regular business meeting schedule commenced.

I. 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 (late arrival)
Mr. Kevin Hazzard, *School Board*, Goochland County Public Schools
Mr. John Montgomery, *School Board*, Henrico County Public Schools
Dr. Deborah Marks, *School Board*, Hopewell City Public Schools
Mrs. Sarah Grier Barber, *School Board*, New Kent Public Schools
Mrs. Valarie Ayers, *School Board*, Powhatan County Public Schools
Ms. Kimberly Gray, *School Board*, Richmond Public Schools (late arrival)
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. Kim Evans, Assistant Superintendent, for Dr. John Fahey, **Superintendent**, Hopewell City Public Schools
Dr. Stanley Jones, **Superintendent**, King & Queen Public Schools
Dr. Joseph Melvin, **Superintendent**, Petersburg Public Schools
Dr. Eric Jones, **Superintendent**, Powhatan County Public Schools
Dr. Bobby Browder, **Superintendent**, Prince George Public Schools
Dr. Jeffrey 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

Absent from Meeting:

Mr. John Axselle, *School Board*, Hanover County Public Schools
Ms. Cora Armstrong, *School Board*, King & Queen Public Schools
Mr. Kenneth Pritchett, *School Board*, Petersburg Public Schools
Mr. Jerry Warren, *School Board*, Prince George Public Schools
Dr. Janet Crawley, **Superintendent**, Charles City Public Schools

Dr. Robert Richardson, **Superintendent**, New Kent Public Schools
Dr. Dana Bedden, **Superintendent**, Richmond Public Schools

Also present:

Phil Tharp – MLWGS Administration
Wendy DeGroat, Sharon Parker, David Barnes and Deborah Snagg – MLWGS Faculty
Hal Waller, Burt Hazelwood – GS Foundation
Jane Scheibe – PTSA President
Chamie Valentine – School Advisory Committee
Laura O’Bryan – PTSA Advocacy Committee
Virginia Byrd, Tierah West, Ali LaRoche, Kelsey Anderson and Catesby Wolski –
MLWGS Students
Sidney Bland, Ben Lewis, Liz Blue and Kathleen Fulton – MLWGS Parents
Additional names were inaudible on playback.

II. Recognitions

- *Newtowne Tutoring* student leadership Kelsey Anderson (’14-Henrico), Virginia Byrd (’14-Henrico) and Catesby Wolski (’14-Henrico) were recognized on behalf of this entire student led outreach program. This year 51 Maggie Walker students contributed 530 community service hours to 25-30 neighborhood children in this after school tutoring project. Hal Waller served as the project coordinator.
- Walker’s ‘*We the People*’ team placed third in national finals of The Citizen and the Constitution competition. Mr. Sam Ulmschneider, faculty sponsor, and student team membership were recognized for this accomplishment. MLWGS has competed in We the People for sixteen years; has won the state title sixteen times, and with the exception of a hiatus taken in 2013, has been a national top ten team each of the last sixteen years.
- *Student/Sponsor Belize follow-up report to the Board* with David Barnes, Science Faculty, and Ali LaRoche. Mr. Barnes and Ali discussed this interdisciplinary experience for students that was previously approved by this Board.

III. Call to Order Call to Order

With a quorum present, Kevin Hazzard, Chairman of the Regional School Board, called the meeting to order.

IV. Approval of Agenda

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

V. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Valarie Ayers, seconded by Deborah Marks, regular meeting minutes from April 24, 2014 were unanimously approved.

VI. 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 comments are not transcribed verbatim:

Mrs. Jane Scheibe, PTSA President, extended invitation to the Board for Senior Baccalaureate on June 12th, followed by an evening of friendship at Dogwood Dell featuring Walker's own Faculty Lounge Lizards band.

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Scheibe for her remarks.

VII. Director's Report

- Senior Showcase Report by Sharon Parker, Program Coordinator. Showcase Day on June 4th is the culminating activity for the program and is entirely devoted to seniors who have spent the last year in either a seminar or researching a field of particular interest. Students present their specific type of experience in a creative presentation. The entire student body will participate by selecting presentations they are interested in attending. The freshmen class participates in two morning sessions, then dismissed at lunchtime for a community service activity, field activities and cookout.
- Graduation reminder for the Class of 2014, Friday June 13th at Richmond CenterStage.
- Strategic Planning is underway with the Director proposing a July meeting between key constituencies to get some of the key issues on the table ahead of the essential work to be done by the Steering Committee and to ensure this process is one that brings the entire school community together. To that end, the Director proposed expanding Strategic Planning Committee membership as described in the Director's Report in the Board packet. Dr. McGee also offered an expectation of deliverables and timeline for strategic planning development.
- School year 2014-2015 request to the GS Foundation Annual Enhancement Grant Report so the Board may see the level of support from the Foundation.
- Coming Events reviewed: May 15, 2014 through June 19, 2014.

VIII. Action Items

a. Policy Approval:

The following policies are submitted from the Policy Steering Committee for approval: **No. 3005** – Instructional Materials, **No. 3006** – Textbook Selection, Adoption and Purchase, **No. 4030** – Student Organizations, **Procedure No. 4030-P** – Procedure for Student Organization Events, **No. 4031** – Fundraising and Solicitation. These policies are grounded in model policies of the Virginia School Board Association.

There being no discussion, on motion by Kim Gray, seconded by Sarah Barber, the policies and procedures listed were unanimously approved.

b. Annual Authorization for Director to Issue Personnel Contracts for 2014-2015

The Director recommends the Board approve this annual authorization action giving the Director authority to apply human resource policies and salary scales in issuing contracts to faculty and staff, pending all available monies. Salary scales are listed in the information section of the meeting packet.

With limited discussion on this matter, on motion by Deborah Marks, seconded by Valarie Ayers, the annual authorization for the Director to issue contracts was unanimously approved.

c. 2014-2015 School Operating Calendar

After brief review the Director recommends approval of the 2014-2015 school operating calendar submitted.

There being no discussion on this matter, on motion by Deborah Marks, seconded by Kimberly Gray, the 2014-2015 school operating calendar was unanimously approved.

d. Approval of the 2014-2015 Governor's School Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors

The Director recommends approval of the nominees submitted for Board review in April. Membership demographics are included with this slate as requested at the April meeting of this Board.

With no discussion on this matter, on motion by Deborah Marks, seconded by John Montgomery, the nominees as submitted for the Governor's School Foundation Board of Directors were unanimously approved.

Mr. Montgomery thanked the Foundation for their prompt and thorough response to provide demographic information.

e. Personnel

The Director recommends approval of the personnel actions listed on VIII.e – Addendum A (exempt folder).

On motion by John Montgomery, seconded by Deborah Marks, the Board unanimously approved personnel actions requested.

IX. Materials for Board Review and/or Discussion

a. FY15 Student Fee Schedule

The Director reviewed the proposed fee schedule with the Board. For public information the proposed schedule will be posted on the MLWGS website for public viewing following the conclusion of this meeting.

Approval of the 2014-2015 Student Fee Schedule School will be requested at the June 2014 meeting of this Board.

b. Approval of the 2014-2015 School Advisory Council Membership

Per School Advisory Council bylaws membership must be presented annually to the Regional Board. At this time the Director noted he is not providing a complete panel of candidates because of current recruitment efforts to fill upcoming vacancies, but expects to have a more complete slate by the June meeting.

Approval of the 2014-2015 School Advisory Council membership will be requested at the June 2014 meeting of this Board.

c. Assignment of Reserve Funds

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board statement 54 (GASB 54) establishes fund balance classifications and provides a hierarchy of spending constraints.

Under GASB 54, *Assigned fund balance* represents amounts *intended* to be used for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority. Assigned fund balance also includes any portion of fund balance that will be incorporated into the subsequent year's budget. The governing body must take *formal action* that specifies to whom the delegation of authority to recommend fund balance assignments is given (i.e., the Director).

Unassigned fund balance represents resources remaining after all other classifications have been met, and that are available for any purpose.

Pending receipt of the finalized MLWGS FY13 audit and in line with GASB 54, the Director recommends the Board review designating the balance of funds (if any) as categorized below:

830....3218	Capital	\$863,378
830....3224	Technology	\$200,000
830....3225	Benefit Reserve (@70%)	\$246,911
830....3223	Unassigned	\$105,818
	Sub Total	\$1,416,107

Approval for the assignment of reserve funds will be requested at the June meeting of this Board.

X. MLWGS Informational Items

FY15 Employee Salary Scales with the Director’s recommendation to continue the partially decompressed scale for faculty.

MOU: Memo of Understanding Proposed for MLWGS/Richmond Parks & Recreation facility usage (legal counsel was not consulted as the document is not legally binding and is neither a fiscal nor funds obligated document).

Student News

- Freshmen Wins Governor’s Volunteerism Award
- MLWGS Senior Samantha Marquez Featured in People Magazine
- Council of International Schools Honors MLWGS Model UN Club
- Allstate Foundation/VHSL Achievement Winner: Mark Fleckenstein
- Italian Students Ace National Exams

XI. Superintendent’s Steering Committee Report

Dr. Lane stated the committee met prior to today’s Regional Board meeting and discussed Walker’s salary scale and the consensus was to keep the methodology that has been used. Additionally reviewed were items to be discussed in closed session today.

XII. Closed Meeting

The Chairman directed the Clerk to announce items for closed session:

It is my understanding that the School Board desires to enter into a Closed Session in accordance with Sections (§) 2.2-3711 and/or 2.2- 3712 of the Code of Virginia, the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and specifically under the following enumerated subsection, the following items:

Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the Regional School Board; and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Regional School Board regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. For purposes of this subsection, “probable litigation” means litigation which has been specifically threatened or on which the Regional School Board

or its legal counsel has a reasonable basis to believe will be commenced by or against a known party. The closure of a meeting is not permitted merely because an attorney representing the Regional School Board is in attendance or is consulted on a matter.

On motion by Barbara Crawley, seconded by Deborah Marks, the Board unanimously approved moving into closed session. The recorder was paused and the door closed.

At the conclusion of closed session, the Clerk was invited back and asked to record a motion to reconvene in open session.

On motion by Deborah Marks, seconded by Valarie Ayers, the Board unanimously approved moving into open session.

XIII. Certification of Closed Meeting and any action, if necessary, as a result of closed meeting.

The Chairman directed the Clerk to certify the closed session:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Regional School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i-one) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements, and (ii-two) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting. Any member of the Regional School Board or committee who believes that there was a departure from these requirements shall so state prior to the vote, indicating the substance of the departure that, in his or her judgment, has taken place.

The Chairman asked if there were any statements or concerns from Board members. Being none, a motion was requested for closed session certification.

On motion by Barbara Crawley, seconded by Kimberly Gray, the Board approved closed session certification.

Roll Call Vote on Closed Meeting Certification:

Barbara Crawley	Aye
Dianne Smith	Aye
Kevin Hazzard	Aye
John Axselle	Absent
John Montgomery	Aye
Deborah Marks	Aye
Cora Armstrong	Absent
Sarah Barber	Aye
Kenneth Pritchett	Absent
Valarie Ayers	Aye
Jerry Warren	Absent
Kimberly Gray	Aye

XIV. Announcements/Unfinished Business

None.

XV. Adjournment

On motion Barbara Crawley, seconded by Deborah Marks, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Next Meeting

June 19, 2014 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 W. McGee, Director

Minutes Recorded by:
Barbara Marshall, Regional Board Clerk