

## MINUTES

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

Thursday, October 16, 2014

9:13 a.m.

#### I. Call to Order

Kevin Hazzard, Chairman of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Regional Board, called the meeting to order.

#### II. 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. W. Kevin Hazzard, *School Board*, Goochland County Public Schools  
Mr. John Axselle, *School Board*, Hanover County Public Schools (late arrival)  
Ms. Cora Armstrong, *School Board*, King & Queen Public Schools  
Mrs. Sarah Grier Barber, *School Board*, New Kent Public Schools  
Mr. Kenneth Pritchett, *School Board*, Petersburg Public Schools  
Mrs. Valarie Ayers, *School Board*, Powhatan County Public Schools  
Dr. Marcus Newsome, **Superintendent**, Chesterfield County Public Schools  
Dr. James Lane, **Superintendent**, Goochland County Public Schools  
Dr. Mike Gill for Dr. Jamelle Wilson, **Superintendent**, Hanover County Public Schools  
Dr. Nyah Hamlett for Dr. Pat Kinlaw, **Superintendent**, Henrico County Public Schools  
Dr. John Fahey, **Superintendent**, Hopewell Public Schools  
Dr. Stanley Jones, **Superintendent**, King & Queen Public Schools  
Dr. David Myers, **Superintendent**, New Kent Public Schools  
Dr. Eric Jones, **Superintendent**, Powhatan County Public Schools  
Dr. Bobby Browder, **Superintendent**, Prince George Public Schools  
Mr. Anthony Washington for Dr. Dana Bedden, **Superintendent**, Richmond 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

##### Absent:

Mr. John Montgomery, *School Board*, Henrico County Public Schools  
Dr. Deborah Marks, *School Board*, Hopewell 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. Joseph Melvin, **Superintendent**, Petersburg Public Schools

Also present:

Phil Tharp– MLWGS Administration

Wendy DeGroat –MLWGS Librarian

Lisa Williams, Celie Boswell, Kerry Sheppard, John Piersol and Deborah Snagg –  
MLWGS Staff

Pranay Vissa– MLWGS Student

Elizabeth Wong – PTSA President

Marianne Macon and Anne Hayes – PTSA Advocacy Comm.

Laura Lewis – GS Foundation

Sydney Bland – Walker Parents

Other – Inaudible

### **III. Approval of Agenda**

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

### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

On motion by Kenneth Pritchett, seconded by Cora Armstrong, the minutes for September 18, 2014 were unanimously approved.

### **V. Recognitions**

*English Department members Lisa Williams, Celie Boswell, John Piersol and Kerry Sheppard* read a tribute entitled ‘*For Bear*’ for their late colleague Bear O’Bryan (August 20, 1947-October 11, 2014), written by alum Cass Morris. A copy of Ms. Morris’ work will be retained with the documents of this meeting.

### **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 remarks are not recorded verbatim:

*Mrs. Marianne Macon*, representing the PTSA Advocacy Committee, addressed the Board on two matters: 1) the recently released Academic Year Governor’s School Funding Formula Study (a copy of this study will be retained with the documents of this meeting) and 2) upcoming EduPac luncheons. Beginning with the study, Mrs. Macon spoke to its

conclusion items stating they confirm two years of work by this committee that the current formula for distributing state funds to Academic Year Governor's Schools is not based on specific staffing or cost standards, or the actual cost of the program. The state basically underfunds Governor's Schools in comparison to other public schools. Mrs. Macon supports the language in this report and expects the Secretary of Education to keep pursuing options to fix the funding problem.

Next, Mrs. Macon called attention to invitations at table for each Board member to EduPac's upcoming luncheons for officials from each locality. She stated EduPac has been working hard to recruit students from each of our divisions for these luncheons.

Following Mrs. Macon's remarks, the Chairman asked for her recommendation of messaging that Board members may use during occasions when they have access to legislators. In reply, Mrs. Macon suggested as 'this is a complex issue with competing interests and Governor's Schools caught in the middle with the state saying they are giving the localities plenty of money and they (*the localities*) are not passing it on, and the locality saying the state isn't giving them enough money ... we're doing the best we can and we have to be fair to everyone in the district.' Mrs. Macon recommends messaging of 'everyone working together to fix the funding problem, which is going to take compromise and agreement from all stakeholders across the board.'

Concluding, the Chairman asked her opinion of a JLARC study. Mrs. Macon replied that would involve a multi-year process and does the school have 2-3 more years to underfund this program.

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Macon for her remarks.

## **VII. Director's Report**

### *Verbal Updates*

- a. Recruitment efforts include (3) nightly public information sessions November 10, 11 and 12, radio advertising, social media, visitations at middle schools and elementary school visits to MLWGS.
- b. (2) National Achievement Scholarship Semi-Finalists for 2015.
- c. Fall Festival included representatives of the 1975 MLW HS state football championship team.
- d. Moving forward with the school climate survey conducted by the National Center for School Leadership.
- e. Strategic Planning Committee is making significant progress but has yet to confirm adjustments to the mission or goal statements to share with the Board. The committee expects said adjustments to be completed after its October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

### ***Coming Events***

October 16, 2014 – November 13, 2014 (see packet for details).

### ***Slot Letters***

Provided at table for each Superintendent and Board member are their division's 2015-2016 student enrollment commitment at MLWGS. Executed letters are due November 1st.

### ***Senior Seminar/Mentorship Program and Community Service Report by Sharon Parker***

Total seniors in the class of 2015 = (178) with (69) seniors in mentorships and (109) in seminars. Of the (69) mentorships, 43% are in medical/science research/engineering research, (6) in languages, and the remainder covering a wide variety of interests. Also, 37-38% of mentorships are at VCU, so this continues to be a relationship we cultivate. Mentorship and seminar projects are presented at Senior Showcase June 3, 2015.

Community Service: Ms. Parker described how two years ago a team of teachers and administrators constituted a task force to flesh out the purpose statement and supporting guidelines relating to community service. Out of this task force came the recommendation to establish a Community Service Coordinator. As that coordinator Ms. Parker created a website this summer (accessible through the school's main website), in an effort to bring greater visibility and accessibility to parents and recognition to students for the work they do.

### ***ESCo***

Dr. McGee stated that he continues to be engaged with Siemens as we await the certification of Maggie Walker's FY13 audit, as well as working through details of the overall proposal.

Mrs. Barber, who has also been involved in ESCo discussions, added that in her professional opinion this is a well put together study and it would be prudent to move forward.

## **VIII. Unfinished Business**

Upon discussion from the September meeting, new Club approvals will transition into Board awareness instead of Board approval. A regulation will be developed through the policy steering committee outlining the process. Clubs submitted at this meeting for approval are a holdover from the September meeting as first review.

**IX. Action Items**

**a. New Club Approvals**

Presented in September for review, the Director recommends the Board approve the following student organizations: B-Movie Club, Dragons for Vets Club, Foreign Affairs Club, Programming Club and Richmonds of the World Club.

On motion by Valarie Ayers, seconded by Cora Armstrong, the Board unanimously approved the specific clubs mentioned above.

**b. Amend 2014-2015 School Board Calendar of Meetings**

An amendment to the previously adopted current School Board Calendar of Meetings is requested changing November 13, 2014 to a Regular Meeting only with the addition of a public budget town hall on December 3, 2014 (quorum will not be required at this public event).

On motion by Barbara Crawley, seconded by John Axselle, changing the School Board Calendar of Meetings as noted was unanimously approved.

**X. Items for Board Review and/or Discussion**

**a. New Policy and Regulation Proposals**

The following policies were submitted from the Policy Steering Committee for Board consideration:

Policy No. 5062	Staff Fringe Benefits
Regulation 5062-R	Health and Dental Care Benefits
Regulation 5065-R1	Sick Leave <i>Amended</i>

These policies are grounded in model policies and/or regulations of the Virginia School Board Association, Richmond Public Schools and Chesterfield County Public Schools. Approval will be requested at the November meeting of the Regional School Board.

Regulation 5065-R1 is resubmitted with language from previously adopted Board sick leave accrual advancement language (March 15, 2007) that was not included in the September 2014 submission.

**b. International Trip Proposal – Guatemala Spring 2015 with Stephanie Welles**

Mrs. Welles, Relevance Rising Seminar, made presentation via video, proposal and remarks. Approval for this proposal will be requested at the November meeting of this Board.

## **XI. Information**

Finance Committee Minutes October 2, 2014

### *Student News:*

Chess Club Helps Elementary and Middle School Students  
Mech Tech Dragons (Robotics) Providing Support  
Model UN to Host Ben Bernanke  
VA Folk Music Association Honors MLWGS Senior  
MLWGS Golf – District Champions

### *Other News:*

Virginia Living Editor's Choice Award for MLWGS  
MW Alums at Fall Festival

### *New Club Proposals Approved by MLWGS Administration*

Earth and Mind Club sponsored by Kinsey Hall	Stipend =\$0
EDM Club sponsored by Todd Raviotta	Stipend =\$0
Hacky Sack Club sponsored by John Piersol	Stipend =\$0
Katie's Company Against Cancer sponsored by Kerry Sheppard	Stipend =\$0
Music Orchard Club sponsored by John Walter	Stipend =\$0

## **XII. Superintendent's Steering Committee Report**

Dr. Lane disclosed that today's meeting focused on initial conversations around budget development and the upcoming town hall. The Superintendent's also discussed the Secretary of Education's study.

In closing, the Superintendent's recommended to the Director that he consider development of a budget calendar for presentation at the November meeting that clarifies the upcoming budget process as it is expected to unfold over the next few months.

## **XIII. Closed Meeting**

None

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

None

## **XV. Announcements**

The Director thanked the Chairman for serving at Walker's recent NHS induction as guest speaker.

**XVI. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, on motion by John Axselle, this meeting was adjourned.

**Next Meeting**

November 13, 2014 at 9:00am. MLWGS Room 153, 1000 N. Lombardy St., Richmond, VA 23220. 804-354-6800 x2190 or x2111.

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W. Kevin Hazzard, Chairman

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Jeffrey W. McGee, Ph.D, Director

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Minutes Recorded by:  
Barbara Marshall, Regional Board Clerk