

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

Attendance

March 19, 2009

9:00 a.m.

Superintendents

Present:

Janet Crawley, Charles City County
Linda Underwood, Goochland County
Stewart Roberson, Hanover County
Jean Murray, Henrico County (substituting for
Fred Morton)
James Victory, Petersburg City
Yvonne Brandon, Richmond City
Linda Minor, West Point (Sub for Jeffery Smith)

Absent:

Marcus J. Newsome, Chesterfield County
Richard Layman, King and Queen
Margaret Meara, Powhatan County
R. Francis Moore, Prince George County
J. Roy Geiger, New Kent County
Jeffery Smith, West Point

Others Present:

N. Douglas Hunt, Director
Crystal C. Charity, Clerk
Barbara Marshall, Deputy Clerk

Board Members

Present:

Barbara Crawley, Charles City County
Dianne Pettitt, Chesterfield County
Ivan Mattox, Goochland County
John Axelle, Hanover County
Gwynn Litchfield, King and Queen County
Kenneth Pritchett, Petersburg City
Valarie Ayers, Powhatan County
Kimberly Gray, Richmond City
Dudley Olsson, West Point

Absent:

Lisa Marshall, Henrico County
Teresa Lindsay, New Kent County
Robert Cox, Prince George County

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

Thursday, March 19, 2009

9:00 a.m.

I. Call to Order

Ivan Mattox, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order.

II. Introductions and Recognition

Each Board member introduced him or herself and stated their locality along with introductions of everyone attending the meeting.

III. Approval of Agenda

On motion by Diane Pettitt, seconded by Valarie Ayres, the agenda was approved. Motion carried.

IV. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Barbara Crawley, seconded by Diane Pettitt, the minutes of the February 19, 2009 meeting were approved. Motion carried.

V. Public Comments

None

VI. Director's Report

There are a lot of students that we would like to recognize so we will try to expedite things. I want to draw your attention to some of the things going on here the last week or so, as well as some of the things that are on the horizon. We are currently going through our scheduling process which is not a big deal in most locations with the arena scheduling. We had 2 classes yesterday the rising Seniors and Juniors. Today the rising Sophomores and Freshman selection will take place. Karl Zweerink plays a major part in that and we appreciate all the work that he does to make that happen. I am sure you all noticed the art work out in the hallway. Tomorrow night we will have the official opening of our Art Exhibit and we will certainly invite you back for that. On Saturday we will have our annual Science Day for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. There will be approximately 75 students who will attend this event. Saturday night is our annual Auction which is one of our major fundraisers that our PTSA and others put on, and we thank them for that. Last Friday the letters went out inviting the next year's 9th grade class

onboard from each of the Superintendents, and we will have them in visiting us next week through our Shadow Program on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

Now I will go into recognition of students. Mr. Max Smith who is one of our Global Studies teachers who has done a wonderful job coming in and getting involved in our Model UN program and we take students to Model UN Conferences throughout the East Coast. Next weekend we will be hosting our own Model UN Conference. This is a Friday and Saturday activity and during this they do some amazing things. Max has come in as the sponsor and has his top two students who will be putting on this conference.

“Good Morning Ladies and Gentleman, Thank you so much for your time this morning I am Max Smith. This year is going to be our 12th Annual GSMUN Conference which we are hosting. Close to 400 middle and high school students will be here at a Model UN Nations Conference. This is our largest year ever. We are also working for a Latin Charity, Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos. I have a stellar group of officers, and I wanted to thank each of the divisions that send us bright students that we send to these conferences. I would like to introduce you to my top two officers, Nitya Rao, Secretary General and Jessica our Director General

“My name is Nitya Rao and I am a senior from Chester. This year I am Secretary General of the 12th Annual Model UN Nation Conference. For me this is a big thing. Model UN dominated my high school years and I am really excited to take this chance and give back to the club and help other students learn as much as I have learned from Model UN. This year is our largest conference with over 400 students. This is more than we ever had before and at this time I would just like to take the opportunity and invite all of you to come to GSMUN and get a first hand look at what GSMUN does for the students. These 400 delegates local middle and high school students who are coming from all over Central Virginia, Williamsburg, Arlington County Public Schools, and Manassas. So we have a really good mix of Virginia students. They are all coming to GSMUN hopefully to get what I hope will be a great educational experience. GSMUN should be fun, but I want our delegates to leave having learned something and feeling like this weekend was an enjoyable yet educational experience for them. Model UN is really important that it fosters valuable social skills like compromise and diplomacy but I think even more importantly it helps students gain international perspective and learn about international affairs in the world around them. I feel that Model UN is the way I learned about all these problems in the world and how there are people out there trying to deal with these problems and as students how we can deal with these problems and how we can make a difference. That is what I think Model UN is all about. They have the potential, the ability and the will that they can go out there and make a change. I think GSMUN is a really important stepping stone in helping these delegates to learn about the world around them and hopefully learn that they can make a change and it is time for them to realize they are citizens of the world not just of America. It is their responsibility to help everyone out and make sure that the world they live in is the one they want it to be

for their children. Next year I am looking to attend UVA, but I still can't decide if I want to be a doctor or a lawyer."

"My name is Jessica and I am the Director General of GSMUN from Hanover County. I would like to get into Georgia or Tech.

Mr. Hunt introduced the next group that is athletically inclined. These are our swimmers and Rob Schulzer is our coach. He provides tremendous leadership to the young people.

Good Morning, first of all I would like to thank you for having us here today and appreciate the opportunity to talk to you about swimming. My name is Rob Schulzer and I would like to thank all the counties and cities that bring students here who are athletically inclined. I especially like to thank the Superintendent's from Chesterfield and Henrico for not having swim teams; in both cases you probably would have championship swim teams! Students get up at 4:30 in the morning to swim for a 1 ½ hours and come back in the afternoon and swim another hour. We swim in the VCU pool through the great partnership that we have with VCU. I think we are the only outside entity to use the VCU Pool. I am actually a parent alumni, my son graduated from here in 1999 and I think so highly of the school that I started the swim team in 1997 and just kept it going because it is such a great school and I really appreciate that. We did win the region in both boys and girls. The boys went on to state and came in 4th in states going into the last relay we were 2nd. I was thinking we may get on the podium but lost by two points and came in 4th. It was the best we had ever done usually coming in the teens, so coming in 4th was a great accomplishment. So we have had such a great year. So with that I would like to introduce one of the captains of the boys team JH Vivadelli".

"My name is JH Vivadelli from Richmond City and I swim the 200 and the 500 freestyles and I will be attending the Air Force Academy next year; I am Patrick from Richmond City I'm a Junior this year and I swim the 100 Butterfly; I'm Matt from Chesterfield; I'm Scott Hazelwood from Henrico County; I am Emily Larsen from Chesterfield and I swim the 100 Breast Stroke; I am Emily Kasprzak from Henrico and I like the Butterfly; I am Eileen Wang a freshman from Henrico County; I am Sarah Partridge from Hanover County and I swim the Breast Stroke; Dylan Hamilton from Henrico and I generally do the 1500 Free, 100 Back and 500 Free. We have two students in the Junior National's this week in Orlando, Florida."

Mr. Hunt introduced the next group; Mr. Karl Zweerink has two gentlemen who have achieved academically. Scholarship winner and PSAT expert. I will turn it over to Karl.

"Good Morning Ladies and Gentleman, I am Karl Zweerink, Director of Guidance. Thank you for your time this morning. We are very honored to have with us two students who have done quite well recently. We will start with Mr. Howard. We

received a letter back in February saying it is our pleasure to inform you that Thomas Howard student nominated from your school for the Harry F. Byrd Jr. Leadership Award in your congressional district has been chosen to receive this award for 2009. The members of the committee was impressed with this student's record of achievement and proven leadership skills and wanted to thank us for making the nomination. Mr. Howard has been an outstanding student as well as leader and participant in a variety of activities"

"My name is Thomas Howard from Richmond City and this was an application process with the focus on essay writing. It was narrowed down to three finalists from each congressional district. I am in the 3rd Congressional District. We were interviewed at the Virginia Supreme Court Building"

Mr. Hunt added that the award was awarded by Senator Byrd in the Supreme Court Courtroom downtown and had the pleasure of being present and Thomas represented us quite well. He is an accomplished drama student and performer and mother teaches in Chesterfield County and he gets a lot of support at home. We are very proud of Thomas and what he has achieved.

Mr. Zweerink stated the 2nd student today is Mr. John Clikeman he is a freshman from Chesterfield from the Manchester Program. We had PSAT's this October and we received the scores back. Mr. Hunt usually goes through them and called me to his office to look at this one score. We didn't know if we have ever had a score like this. Not just for freshman, but for Sophomores and Juniors. John scored a perfect 80 on each of the three sections, Critical reading, math and the writing. We were very impressed to the point where we pulled him in to talk to him and he thought he was in trouble. John we are honored to have you in this school; and very impressed by your score and hope that you continue to do as well.

Mr. Hunt introduced this next group of artist. Mr. Jeff Hall is the Chairman of our Fine Arts Department and one of our art teachers. Georgianne Stinnett is our Photography teacher. This whole department has exploded. So I will turn this over to Jeff.

"We are very pleased to present our Gold and Silver key winners from this years Scholastic Art Competition. So if the students will introduce themselves."

"My name Emily Qiu from Goochland County and won a Silver Key; Purnam Jantrainia from Hanover and I won Silver Key; Sarah McCalla from Goochland County and I won Gold Key; Morgan Wagner from Goochland County and I won Silver; Vaughan from Chesterfield and won a Silver Key."

Mr. Hall stated that we are very proud of students and certainly hope that you will join us tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. for our Arts and Technology Exhibition and hopefully you all have enjoyed the work outside.

This next group of students you don't want to get into a debate with. Mr. Hunt continued to say that Dan Brown is our sponsor/ teacher. They are a very quiet group. They just go about their business doing wonderful things and certainly it is an honor to take time out of their schedule to congratulate them on what they do.

"I am Mitch Caudill and I am from Chesterfield County. I had the Public Forum division of the Debate Team. There are three types of debate, Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas and Student Congress Debate. Public Forum debate which is what I do. I debate some temporary issues; we have a resolution that you have to argue both sides of. The resolution changes monthly so you constantly have to update new cases and do more research on different issues. This year the Debate Team as a whole won States for the third time in a row. We are now preparing for the VHSL States which will take place late April in Lynchburg. We are also preparing for national's which will be in Albany this year. We have also done some National Circuit Tournaments this year in Wake Forest, Charlotte and most recently California where we were 3 for 3; I am Kelsie Taylor from Chesterfield and I do Public Forum and my partner is Logan Ferrell who is also from Chesterfield. Some highlights from this year, we went to a few National Invitational this year. At the State Tournament we placed 1st place; I am Dallen McNerney from Powhatan County and I am in Student Congress we talk about a variety of issues, introduce bills and anyone can stand and speak whenever they want to and participate in debate for a while. We go 4 to 5 hours and it is a lot of fun. In the district championship I went and placed 4th. Just recently I went to States and placed 1st in the State. I am planning on going to Albany and hope to have a lot of fun; I am Elsa Schultze from Chesterfield and I am Mitch's partner. Some of the highlights we placed 1st in the CFL tournament, Also at the National Tournament in Charlotte, we placed in the top 16 out of 70 teams and top 8 at Wake Forest with 70 teams from all across the country; I am Kimberly Quick a Junior from Chesterfield County. I do the Lincoln Douglas part of the debate team. It is based on philosophy and moral and ethical issues. We have a very young team a lot of freshman so we will have a new generation up there so I am very excited about that. Lincoln Douglas is changing around the country so it is good for me to go to these national tournaments learn about the new developments in Lincoln Douglas and experience that. So debate is a really good opportunity to cultivate your speaking skills and even interpersonal skills."

Mr. Hunt added that Ms. Sharon Parker is our Mentorship and Senior Seminar Co-Ordinator and she has a student that she would like to introduce to you.

As Mr. Hunt said I am the Mentorship and Senior Seminar Co-Coordinator. That means that I coordinate the seminars which happen in house and also work with the students in preparing a mentorship. It is a required course for the advance studies diploma. I love this program because what it does is provide a unique opportunity for students to embrace a larger world. In this case Hannah Cockrell has been a star mentorship student this year. She is doing amazing things along with many other students who really are out there working with the surgeons, judges and business owners and the evaluations that we get from their mentors

are outstanding. They are very impressed with Maggie L. Walker Governor's School students and thank you for sending us very bright students. The students come to me in their junior year to start planning for their senior year. Hannah came and I knew that this was going to be a challenge for me. I would have to let her go and find out what it is that she wants because she had lots of interest wasn't quite sure of what she wanted to do. Hannah's first mentorship fell through because her mentor agreed to mentor her then relocated out of state. So she found what was an even a better opportunity. She has just blown professionals out of the water with her presentations. She has made about 5 or 6 to Board Members of the International Hospitals for Children. She has traveled twice to Belize to presents a number of people including Ministry of Health Officials. So I will present to you Hannah Cockrell.

"Thank you for that introduction. I am Hannah Cockrell and I am a senior from Richmond City and I am still waiting to hear from some colleges I have applied to. I just want to go through and outline the project here today. Hopefully later on in the near future we will expand the program across Central America. Just to begin for those of you who don't know about the International Hospital for Children it is a Richmond based organization and its mission it to link world wide pediatrics surgical, diagnostic and preventative research to help heal critically ill children in developing countries. There are four parts to our mission. We Bring. We actually bring children up to Richmond or to our partner hospitals in Charlottesville. We Send. We send surgical and diagnostic teams to our partner countries on a regular basis. We Prevent. What we have done is gone and actually trained Belizean health care professionals how to perform the cost saving method club foot crushing. Just to introduce you to club foot and why we are focused on treating it. Club foot is one of the most common congenital orthopedic problems. Its rate of incident 11 to 20 children are born with club foot per year. It is characterized by four different deformities of the foot which means the heel points downward and the toes turn inward with an unusually severe arch. We have now a program up and running in Belize. We have partnered with CARE for persons with disabilities. So they are based in Belize City and what is really great about this organization is that they have rehabilitation field officers that work in all the Ministries Health Districts. Most recent studies investigated that between 98 and 100% of cases treated with this method was successful. We are treating children there for \$500. Having to bring them here would cost in excess of \$5000.00. Once a week the child will come into the clinic and RFO will stretch the feet and try to loosen the tight ligaments that hold it in that position. After about 4 to 7 cast changes the foot is then in a neutral position. Right now we have 5 children in that program and this is one of them his name is Kevin. I was lucky enough to meet the Minister of Health Mr. Peter Allen and we would not have done this program without the support of the Minister of Health and the Belizean Government".

A note from Mr. Hunt, brought attention to us that our projector is mounted up on the wall and is not in the middle of the table thanks to our PTSA who funded for a new projector controlled from the wall over there. It is quite a nice system and Belle thank you for supporting us.

VII. Action Agenda Items

a. Personnel

Resignation of Tamiko Nelson and the Retirement of Les Schreiber, on motion by Kimberly Gray, seconded by Valarie Ayres the Board approved the Personnel action. Motion carried.

Mr. Hunt stated that the replacement for Les Schreiber will be Sarah Dwelling, who this Board gave a leave of absence. To refresh the Boards memory she was granted a spot if one was available. With this opening we will look forward to having her back.

VIII. Materials for Board Review

Mr. Hunt states that we have a lot for review and take some time and come back next month prepared to respond to them. Text book Adoption as Mrs. Taylor stated are being bought to you a little earlier at least part of them. The reason we divided the Textbook Adoption into two phases is because as we got to December we had in the budget for FY9. The replacement of a 12 old set of Primary Source Readers for Global Studies 9 and 10. As we did that review we did not find books on the market at this point and time that would really be an upgrade content wise. So they were arranged to be taken out over the Christmas Holiday and we paid to have them moved out, which meant we had some extra money in the FY09 budget that we could purchase them. AP European History text that is the #1 book used nation wide. The Survey of Contemporary Russia very few books out there. The Latin II, III, and IV, Dr Broeniman actually served on the State Committee in 2002. These two books are on the state list but they also actually supported the curriculum. Fine Arts introduce the evolution of media into our society and one does not replace one. These books that we bring to you for review are bought to you not just by our teachers, but we involve school division curriculum leaders and teachers, professors, parents and students.

Mr. Hunt went on to explain we have a 9th grader loosing his sight and it is happening much quicker than anyone anticipated. She is an outstanding student and she is really doing well and wished to remain at our school. Thanks to Richmond City and the support they have given us with Paula Watson. There is one area we need your consideration and that is the 2 year language requirement and replaced with 2 year Language for Braille. She will finish her 4 year language requirement and of course we require 4 years of one language and 2 years of another. We would like to substitute 2 years of Braille. She won't get credit for a language requirement that way, because this is not something that we can get credit and units for. It will take a real effort to learn the Braille and to do it rather quickly. Right now Mr. Zweerink is running off large print. She can get around fine. We would like for you to consider that.

We have talked to the State Department they say it is a local choice that this Board has the authority to do that if they so desire. We do not want Braille to be another language option for our students. Please do some research on that and come back next month and get your support on this waiver. Please refer to the information provided to you in your packet.

Please carefully look over the 2009-2010 Calendar. If there are any changes you have questions, please see Mr. Tharp. The only concern was that Labor Day came so late. And I am sure you feel the same pressures that we do. So look over it carefully.

Mr. Hunt requested that everyone look over The 2009-2010 budget – We did meet with our Finance Committee last week and with their advise and direction have prepared a budget that reflects a 3% cut. We would be more than happy to answer any questions and if I can not answer them then I am sure Phil can. The way it has impacted us is through pay raises, professional development. We are not cutting any positions. We have delayed some things and obviously that catches up with you eventually. We feel comfortable with what we have. We don't necessarily like what we have but we feel comfortable with it and feel like we can provide the same services that we provided this year.

Mr. Tharp stated that the 3 Food Service RFP proposals have been looked over and have decided recommend Serve 1 a business which is run by our current lunch Manager/Cashier of Cake Sculptures by Michael, Pam Jones. The menu she put together is very similar to what we currently have only a slight increase. She will partner with the food distribution Sysco for her food purchases. The other 2 groups Mrs. Marshall and I had the opportunity to visit on site today and that is the company that runs the Appomattox Regional Governors School Cafeteria. Their lunch was higher than our meal. Our hot meal is \$3.75 and theirs was \$5.25. We may take away the Dragons Lair and make that a Grab-N-Go Bar.

The Lawn Care contract is also time for renewal. We will also make sure that background checks are done on this organization as well. We will recommend Shelton's. They were our contractor of our several years ago. We were pleased with the services they provided before. The only problem we had with them is they were not billing us. Karen would have to call them and request an invoice to pay them. They are about \$7000 less than any of the other proposals. We have checked the current references on them and that is the group that we will recommend.

IX. Information

Please see the information in the back of your packet. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

I will draw special attention to a letter from an alumnus. He is a Professor of Finance at the Kellogg School of Management Northwestern University and is 31 years old had sent a small donation. Mr. Waller responded to him and thanked him. The next thing we know he shows up and he and his wife came through and did a tour of the building and wanted to see some of his old teachers. So when he went back home he sent this letter and was very appreciative of what this school had given him and included a check for \$10,000.00 check to the foundation.

Please review the 2008-2009 Student achievement listings

Also there is a very nice write up about one of our own Kelsey Sawyer in the Richmond Magazine. So please read that as well. We are very proud of her.

X. Superintendents' Steering Committee Meeting

None

XI. Closed Meeting

None

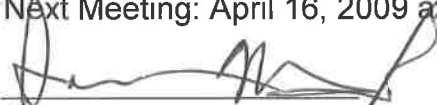
XII. Certification of Closed Meeting and any action, if necessary, as a result of closed meeting.


None

XIII. Announcement

There being no further business to discuss, Motion by John Axselle, seconded by Valarie Ayres, the meeting was adjourned. Motion carried.

XIV. Next Meeting: April 16, 2009 at 9 a.m. MLWGS Board 2nd Floor.


Ivan Mattox, Chairman


N. Douglas Hunt, Director