

## MINUTES

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

Thursday, August 15, 2019

9:05 a.m.

### I. Call to Order

Sarah Barber, Chair of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Regional Board, gaveled the meeting to order.

### II. Moment of Silence

The Chair called for a moment of silence.

### III. Pledge of Allegiance

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

### IV. Introductions

Each member present is listed in alphabetical order by locality:

Ms. Martha Harris, *School Board*, Charles City Public Schools  
Mr. John Wright, *School Board*, Goochland County Public Schools  
M. John Axselle, *School Board*, Hanover County Public Schools  
Mrs. Michelle 'Micky' Ogburn, *School Board*, Henrico County Public Schools  
Ms. Linda Hyslop, *School Board*, Hopewell Public Schools  
Mrs. Harwood Hall, *School Board*, King & Queen Public Schools  
Mrs. Sarah G. 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. David Gaston, **Superintendent**, Charles City Public Schools (late arrival)  
Dr. Merv Daugherty, **Superintendent**, Chesterfield County Public Schools  
Dr. Jeremy Raley, **Superintendent**, Goochland County Public Schools  
Dr. Michael Gill, **Superintendent**, Hanover County Public Schools  
Dr. Amy Cashwell, **Superintendent**, Henrico County Public Schools  
Dr. Melody Hackney, **Superintendent**, Hopewell Public Schools  
Mr. Brian Nichols, **Superintendent**, New Kent Public Schools  
Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin, **Superintendent**, Petersburg Public Schools  
Dr. Eric Jones, **Superintendent**, Powhatan County Public Schools  
Mr. Willie Elliott for Dr. Lisa Pennycuff, **Superintendent**, Prince George Public Schools  
Dr. Robert Lowerre **Director**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School  
Mrs. Megan Perez, **Deputy Clerk**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School

The following new members were welcomed: Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin-Petersburg Superintendent, Mr. Brian Nichols-New Kent Superintendent, and Ms. Linda Hyslop-Hopewell School Board.

**Not in Attendance:**

Dr. Javaid Siddiqi, *School Board*, Chesterfield County Public Schools  
Mr. Rob Eley, *School Board*, Prince George Public Schools  
Mr. J. Scott Barlow, *School Board*, Richmond Public Schools  
Dr. Carol Carter, **Superintendent**, King & Queen Public Schools  
Mr. Jason Kamras, **Superintendent**, Richmond Public Schools  
Mrs. Barbara Marshall, **Clerk**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School

**Also present:**

Dr. Wendy Ellis and Michael 'Max' Smith – MLWGS Administration

**V. Approval of Agenda**

On a motion by John Wright, seconded by Martha Harris, the agenda for this meeting was unanimously approved.

**VI. Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Kenneth Pritchett, seconded by Micky Ogburn, the minutes of the executive meeting of June 20, 2019, were unanimously approved.

**VII. Recognitions**

- MLWGS wins its 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive VHSL Wells Fargo Cup for 2018-19, awarded to the school with the most state championships.

**VIII. 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.

*There were no public comments.*

**IX. Director's Report**

**A. Verbal Updates**

- **Opening of School**
  - Schoology (replaced itsLearning as the MW learning management system)
  - New Teacher Orientation 8-21-2019
  - All Teachers Return 8-22-2019 – MW is almost completely staffed; still looking for a part-time English teacher
  - Professional Development 8-23 and 8-28-2019
  - Facility Update – Summer Projects: custodial team is doing a great job and we are seeing results, a professional landscaping company is coming next week to spruce up the grounds,

the phone system upgrade/replacement will be completed in August, and the digital marquee will be installed shortly, replacing the current signage as permitting has been completed

- Enrollment at 756
- Freshmen Orientation 8-27-2019
- Back to School Night 9-19-2019

- **GS Foundation Enhancement**

The support of our Governor's School community is beyond compare. Our parents, alumni, alumni families, and faculty all made 2018-2019 one of our best years to date.

Just to name a few of our awesome accomplishments: 180 graduating seniors for the class of 2019.

**28** years of educational excellence.

More than 100 grants totaling over \$275,000 in direct support of educational enhancements, improved technology, financial assistance, and faculty professional development.

A phenomenal alumni campaign, yielding over \$85,000 from our 3,500+ alumni.

***B. Coming Events***

August 15, 2019, through September 19, 2019 (see page IX.b for details).

**X. Unfinished Business**

*There was no unfinished business.*

**XI. Consent Items**

On a motion by John Wright, seconded by Harwood Hall, the following consent items were unanimously approved as a slate: August 2019 personnel actions, fiscal status reports of May 31, 2019, and the donations report of May 31, 2019.

**XII. Action Items**

**a. Policy and Regulation Approval – Second Read**

The Policy Steering Committee offers the following policies for Regional School Board consideration and approval. These policies were submitted for the first read on April 18, 2019.

Pol 2026 – Authorized Use of School Owned Facilities and Materials *Amended*

Pol 3001.1 – Notification of Learning Objectives *Amended*

Pol 3003.1 – The Virginia Assessment Program and Graduation Requirements *Amended*

Pol 3003.2 – Retaking SOL Assessments *Amended*

Pol 3005 – Instructional Materials *Amended*

Pol 3012 – Health Education/Physical Education *Amended*

Pol 3015 – Character Education *Amended*

Pol 2013.1 – Educational Facilities Specifications

Pol 2021.1 – School Closings  
Pol 3003.3 – Academic Freedom  
Pol 3003.4 – Religion in School  
Pol 3003.5 – Alternatives to Animal Dissection  
Pol 3003.6 – Teaching About Controversial Issues  
Pol 3006.1 – Supplementary Materials Selection and Adoption

See Item XII.c for action taken.

**b. Policy and Procedure Approval – Second Read**

The Policy Steering Committee offers the following policies and procedure for Regional School Board consideration and approval. These policies were submitted for the first read on June 20, 2019.

Pol 4012 – Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting *Amended*  
Pol 5075 – Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting *Amended*  
Proc 5075-P – Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting and Follow-up *Amended*

See Item XII.c for action taken.

**c. Policy Approval – Study Abroad**

The Policy Steering Committee offers the following policies and procedure for Regional School Board consideration and approval. This policy was previously submitted multiple times in 2019 for the first read and this version represents a consensus of the policy committee.

Dr. Lowerre stated this policy stipulates that if a student wishes to miss a year at MLWGS due to an international opportunity 1) they need to seek and obtain home district approval by February 15<sup>th</sup>, and 2) prior to departure of the student within 10 working days of the first day of school we need to know exactly what credits are to be awarded based on communication with the international school due to the requirement that students complete the MLWGS program in 4 years.

The Director added, he had spoken to members of the community who had concerns about this policy, and while they were not in 100% agreement, they understand it and appreciated the flexibility that was put into this policy from its original format to the current version.

Pol 3032 – Study Abroad

On a motion from John Axselle, seconded by John Wright, the policies and procedure listed in items XII. a, b and c were unanimously approved in a block vote.

**d. Certification of the 2019-2020 Crisis Manual – Second Read**

On a motion by Valarie Ayers, seconded by John Wright, the Regional School Board unanimously approved updates to the adopted MLWGS Crisis Plan for certification to the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) by August 31, 2019.

**e. Annual Authorization of DOE Signatures 2019-2020 – Second Read**

The Director recommended authorization for Dr. Wendy Ellis to be the necessary designee signature utilized in the absence of the Director for the Virginia Department of Education through August 31, 2020.

On a motion by John Wright, seconded by Linda Hyslop, VDOE signature authorization for Dr. Wendy Ellis in the absence of the Director was unanimously approved.

**f. 2019-2020 Student Handbook**

The Director requested approval for updates to the following sections of the Student Handbook as listed below.

Page 1 Anonymous reporting option for suspected student abuse  
Page 6 Board, superintendents and administration contact information update  
Page 7 Planning committee contact information update  
Page 8-9 Transportation contacts update and calendar event information  
Page 10 Daily school schedule  
Page 11 Documentation of college visits  
Page 12-13 Intervention on chronic absenteeism  
Page 25 Notification on resources for eating disorders  
Page 26 Exam exemption policy  
Page 28 Posting of annual fee schedules

On a motion from John Wright, seconded by Harwood Hall, the 2019-2020 Student Handbook was unanimously approved.

**g. Health and Dental Contracts 2019-2020**

Technical assistance was provided by Scott Eastman, Faison Group, a benefits consulting firm.

Maggie Walker currently offers the following fully-insured healthcare options from Anthem Insurance: one PPO (Keycare 30 1000/20%/4500) and two HMO's (HK POS OA 25/20%/4500, and HK POS OA 25 500/20%/4000) for employees and retirees\* with Anthem Vision as a built-in benefit. Anthem Dental is offered for employees and retirees. \* The Health care renewal proposed by Anthem would incur a 3.97% increase. This is within budget projections. The three products proposed remain the same for health care. Anthem Vision has transitioned to a stand-alone voluntary benefit but is within budget projections. Anthem Dental increased by 3% and was within budget projections. Staff is pleased with the health, vision, & dental plan so we plan to renew with Anthem Health, Vision & Dental.

Open enrollment for employees is scheduled for September. Detailed information, as well as group meetings describing the benefit plans, will be available to our employees to assist them in making an informed decision.

The new plan year begins on October 1, 2019.

\*No school paid subsidy is provided for retirees who contribute 100% premium.

Based on the favorability of the renewal rates offered, the Director requested the RSB authorize the Director to renew with Anthem for health and dental contracts for 2019-2020.

On a motion from Valarie Ayers, seconded by Kenneth Pritchett, the 2019-2020 health and dental contracts were unanimously approved.

#### **h. International Trip: United Kingdom, December 2019**

AP Comparative Government Interdisciplinary trip to London and Cardiff to learn about the Westminster Parliamentary system and to learn about the differences between the United States/United Kingdom politics.

This trip is designed to accommodate a minimum of twelve students, and two chaperones plus the sponsor.

Estimate per Student Cost: \$2,100 plus a \$584 per student subsidy from the GS Foundation.

This trip was previously adopted by the RSB and successfully conducted during December 2018.

On a motion from Micky Ogburn, seconded by John Wright, the 2019 United Kingdom trip as proposed by Matt McGuire was unanimously approved.

### **XIII. Materials for Board Review and/or Discussion**

#### **a. Policy and Regulation Proposals (First Read)**

The following is submitted to the Regional School Board for first read and review:

##### FOUNDATIONS

- 0000 School Legal Status
- 0001 School Goals and Objectives *Amended*
- 0003 Construction Planning *Amended*
- 0004 Educational Facilities Specifications

##### SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE

- 1000 School Board Powers and Duties
- 1001 Conflict of Interest and Disclosure of Economic Interest *Amended*
- 1004 Board Member Authority
- 1012.c Disciplinary Committee *Amended*
- 1015 Calling and Certification of Closed Meetings *Amended*
- 1017 Board Staff Communications *Amended*
- 1019 Minutes *Amended*
- 1020 Electronic Participation in Meetings From Remote Locations
- 1025 Voting Method *Amended*
- 1035 Relations with Educational Accreditation Agencies

##### ADMINISTRATION

- 2006 Appointment and Term of Director
- 2007 Qualifications and Duties for the Director *Amended*
- 2020 School Crisis, Emergency Management and Medical Emergency Response Plan *Amended*
- 2021 Safety Drills *Amended*
- 2021.2 Electronic Room Partitions
- 2023 Threat Assessment Teams *Amended*

- 2025 **DELETE:** Use of Tobacco and Electronic cigarettes on School Premises.  
Replaced by Policies 4077, 5091 and 6009.1
- 2049 Public Information Program
- 2050 Distribution of Information/Materials *Amended*
- 2050-R Guidelines for Distribution of Information Materials to Students and Staff
- 2051 Media Relations
- 2065-R Technology Use Guidelines *Amended*
- 2070 Internet Privacy *Amended*
- 2070-R Internet Privacy Disclaimer and Statement

#### INSTRUCTION

- 3003.8 Online Courses and Virtual School Programs
- 3003.9 Human Research
- 3005.1 Guest Speakers
- 3004 School Year/School Day *Amended*
- 3007 Administration of Surveys and Questionnaires *Amended*
- 3014 Family Life Education *Amended*
- 3015 Character Education *Amended*
- 3020 Teaching About Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco *Amended*
- 3045-R Technology Use Guidelines *Amended*

#### STUDENT SERVICES

- 4003 **DELETE:** School Meals and Snacks. Replaced by Policy 4075/7006
- 4008 Suicide Prevention *Amended*
- 4009 Drugs in School *Amended*
- 4030 Student Organizations *Amended*
- 4030.1 Sororities and Fraternities
- 4030-P Procedure for Student Organization Activities *Amended*
- 4030-R Student Organization Approval *Amended*
- 4031 Fund Raising and Solicitation *Amended*
- 4032 Student Publications *Amended*
- 4045 Student Records *Amended*
- 4073 Blood Borne Contagious or Infectious Diseases
- 4073-R Regulation for Blood Borne Contagious or Infectious Diseases
- 4074 Guidelines for School Attendance for Students with Human Immunodeficiency  
Virus
- 4077 Tobacco Products and Nicotine Vapor Products
- 4077-R Regulation: Tobacco Products and Nicotine Vapor Products
- 4078 **DELETE:** Electronic Cigarettes. Replaced by 4077
- 4090 Student-Athlete Concussion *Amended*
- 4090-R Guidelines for Concussion Management

#### HUMAN RESOURCES

- 5000 Personnel Policies Goals *Amended*
- 5000.2 Employment of Family Members *Amended*
- 5014 Staff Board Communication *Amended*
- 5016.1 Tutoring for Pay
- 5016.2 Staff Gifts and Solicitation
- 5017.1 Staff Compensation Procedures
- 5050.2 Regulation Pertaining to Retirement
- 5050.3 Regulation Pertaining to Post-Retirement Earnings

5062-R	Health and Dental Care Benefits <i>Amended</i>
5064	Staff Time Schedules <i>Amended</i>
5065-R2	Personal Leave <i>Amended</i>
5065-R10.1	Leave Without Pay
5074	Effect of Criminal Conviction or Founded Complaint of Child Abuse or Neglect <i>Amended</i>
5080	Staff Research and Publishing
5091	Tobacco Products and Nicotine Vapor Products
5091-R	Regulation: Tobacco Products and Nicotine Vapor Products
5092	<b>DELETE:</b> Electronic Cigarettes. Replaced by 5091
5101	Nonschool Employment by Staff Members

#### COMMUNITY RELATIONS

6009.1	Tobacco Products and Nicotine Vapor Products
6009.1-R	Regulation: Tobacco Products and Nicotine Vapor Products

#### OPERATIONS AND FINANCE

7002	Insurance Management <i>Amended</i>
7002.1	Inventory Reporting of Loss or Damage
7005	Food Service Management <i>Amended</i>
7005.1	Food Sanitation Program
7006	Food Services <i>Amended (includes title change)</i>
7010	Advertising in School <i>Amended</i>
7011	School Activity Funds <i>Amended</i>
7013	Commercial, Promotional and Corporate Sponsorships <i>Amended</i>
7013.1	Sales and Solicitations in School
7016	Non-Locally Funded Programs
7017	Cash in School Building
7019	Petty Cash Funds <i>Amended</i>
7021	Custody and Disbursement of School Funds
7030	Payroll Procedures <i>Amended</i>
7031	Salary Deduction
7050	Public Gifts to the School <i>Amended</i>

#### STUDENT CONDUCT

8029	Search and Seizure <i>Amended</i>
8030	Gang Activity and Association <i>Amended</i>
8032	Vandalism <i>Amended</i>

With RSB review, approval will be requested at the October 2019, meeting of the Regional School Board.

#### **XIV. Information Items**

- MW English faculty member in residence in France, August 2019

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

Dr. Raley reported the committee met during the morning with seven school divisions represented. He stated the items Dr. Lowerre shared in his verbal updates were also presented to the superintendents. Additional topics were: 1) a new funding model is in development by

the VDOE that is not only for MW but all 19 Governor's Schools in the Commonwealth – advocacy may be needed. 2) a new strategic plan is to be developed in the coming months that will develop a roadmap for the future of this school well into the next six years. Dr. Lowerre will be working with stakeholders to develop a team to create that roadmap. A topic of interest is what we can do to create a more welcoming and inclusive atmosphere at MLWGS. 3) a discussion about next year's school opening [2020-2021]. And 4) changes taking place with the VHSL, specifically concerning Robotics and E-sports.

Dr. Raley concluded remarks by adding the committee welcomed Dr. Pitre-Martin and Mr. Nichols.

## **XVI. Closed Meeting**

The Chair announced the item for the closed session:

Do I hear a motion 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:

**Subsection 1:** Discussion, consideration or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of the School Board. Any teacher shall be permitted to be present during a closed meeting in which there is a discussion or consideration of a disciplinary matter which involves the teacher and some student and the student involved in the matter is present, provided the teacher makes a written request to be present to the presiding officer of the School Board.

On a motion by Micky Ogburn, seconded by John Wright, the Regional School Board unanimously approved moving into closed session. The recorder was paused and the door closed.

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

On a motion by Martha Harris, seconded by John Wright, the Regional School Board unanimously approved moving into open session.

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

The Chair read the certification of 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 Chair asked if there were any statements or concerns from board members. Being none, a motion was requested for closed session certification.

On a motion by John Axselle, seconded by Linda Hyslop, the Regional School Board unanimously approved closed session certification.

The Chair then called for a motion to approve the personnel matter discussed in closed session.

On a motion by Micky Ogburn, seconded by Valarie Ayers, the Regional School Board unanimously approved the personnel matter discussed in closed session.

#### **XVIII. Announcements/Additional Discussion**

*None.*

#### **XIX. Adjournment of Regular Meeting**

On a motion by Micky Ogburn, seconded by John Wright, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:20 am.

#### **Next Meeting – Executive School Board**

September 20, 2019, at 9:00 am. MLWGS, 1000 N. Lombardy St., Room 153, Richmond, VA 23220. 804-354-6800 x2190.

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Sarah G. Barber, Chair

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Robert Lowerre, Ph.D., Director

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Minutes Recorded by:  
Barbara Marshall, Regional Board Clerk