

MINUTES

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

Thursday, January 20, 2022

9:05 a.m.

I. Call to Order

Robert Lowerre, Director of Maggie L. Walker Governor's School, called the meeting to order.

II. Moment of Silence

The Director called for a moment of silence.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

The board and audience stood for the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Introductions

Board members and superintendents are listed by locality in alphabetical order. New members were welcomed to the board: Ms. Mary Benjamin and Mr. Cecil Smith.

Present:

Ms. Martha Harris, *School Board*, Charles City Public Schools

Ms. Debbie Bailey, *School Board*, Chesterfield County Public Schools

Ms. Mary Benjamin, *School Board*, Dinwiddie Public Schools

Mr. John Wright, *School Board*, Goochland County Public Schools

Mr. John Axselle, *School Board*, Hanover County Public Schools

Ms. Michelle 'Micky' Ogburn, *School Board*, Henrico County Public Schools (**Remote Participation**)

Ms. Harwood Hall, *School Board*, King & Queen Public Schools (**Remote Participation**)

Ms. Sarah Grier Barber, *School Board*, New Kent Public Schools

Mr. Kenneth Pritchett, *School Board*, Petersburg Public Schools

Ms. Valarie Ayers, *School Board*, Powhatan County Public Schools

Mr. Cecil Smith, *School Board*, Prince George Public Schools

Ms. Mariah White, *School Board*, Richmond Public Schools

Dr. Dalphine Joppy, **Superintendent**, Charles City Public Schools

Dr. George Fohl for Dr. Merv Daughtery, **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. Brian Nichols, **Superintendent**, New Kent Public Schools

Ms. Regina Farr for Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin, **Superintendent**, Petersburg Public Schools

Dr. Eric Jones, **Superintendent**, Powhatan County Public Schools

Ms. Lynn Plevich for Mr. Jason Kamras, **Superintendent**, Richmond Public Schools
Dr. Robert Lowerre, **Director**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School
Ms. Barbara Marshall, **Clerk**, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School

Absent:

Dr. Krishan Agrawal, **School Board**, Colonial Heights Public Schools
Ms. Linda Hyslop, **School Board**, Hopewell Public Schools
Dr. William Sroufe, **Superintendent**, Colonial Heights Public Schools
Dr. Kari Weston, **Superintendent**, Dinwiddie Public Schools
Dr. Melody Hackney, **Superintendent**, Hopewell Public Schools
Dr. Carol Carter, **Superintendent**, King & Queen Public Schools
Dr. Lisa Pennycuff, **Superintendent**, Prince George Public Schools

Also present:

Michael 'Max' Smith and Dr. Lisa Williams– MLWGS Administration
Wendy DeGroat, Deborah Snagg, and David Bortz – MLWGS Staff
Ginger O'Neil – GS Foundation
Students: Alexis Barte, Avery Crumlish, Allyson Phillips, Riley Surratt, Izzy List, Katherine Streeter, and Catherine Garrison

V.a Approval for Board Member(s) to Participate in this Meeting Remotely

Policy No. 1020 – Electronic Participation in Meetings from a Remote Location

I. Quorum Physically Assembled

- A. The Regional School Board may conduct any meeting wherein the public business is discussed or transacted through electronic communication means if 1) on or before the day of a meeting, a member of the Regional School Board notifies the chair that such member is unable to attend the meeting due to a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents the member's physical attendance or that such member is unable to attend the meeting due to a personal matter and identifies with specificity the nature of the personal matter; and 2) **the Regional School Board approves the member's participation by a majority vote of the members present at the primary or central meeting location.**

On a motion by Martha Harris, seconded by Mariah White, Micky Ogburn from Henrico, and Harwood Hall from King & Queen were approved on a unanimous voice vote for electronic participation at this meeting.

V.b Approval of Agenda

On a motion by John Wright, seconded by Debbie Bailey, the agenda for this meeting was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

VI. Election of Chair

Nomination: John Wright was nominated by John Axselle. There being no other nominations from the floor; the nomination motion by John Axselle was seconded by Sarah Barber. John

Wright was unanimously elected on a voice vote to serve as the 2022 Chair of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Regional Board. After congratulations, the Director turned the gavel over to Mr. Wright.

VII. Election of Vice-Chair

Nomination: Kenneth Pritchett was nominated by Valarie Ayers. There being no other nominations from the floor; the nomination motion by Valarie Ayers was seconded by Mariah White. Kenneth Pritchett was unanimously elected on a voice vote to serve as the 2022 Vice-Chair of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Regional Board. The Chair thanked Mr. Pritchett.

VIII. Election of Clerk and Deputy Clerk

Nomination: Barbara Marshall was nominated for Board Clerk by the director. There was no nomination for the position of Deputy Clerk and that position will remain open at this time. There being no other nominations; on a motion by Sarah Barber, seconded by Martha Harris; Barbara Marshall was unanimously elected to serve as the 2022 Clerk of the Maggie L Walker Governor's School Regional Board. The Chair congratulated Ms. Marshall.

IX. Election of Executive Board 2022

Membership of the 2021 Executive Board was comprised of Sarah Barber, Micky Ogburn, Harwood Hall, Kenneth Pritchett, and John Wright. All 2021 members have agreed to continue to serve on the 2022 Executive School Board.

Sarah Barber made a motion to retain the slate of Barber, Ogburn, Hall, Pritchett, and Wright for the 2022 Executive Board, seconded by Valarie Ayers, the slate was unanimously approved on a voice vote for the 2022 Executive Board.

X. Assignment of Director's Designee 2022

The director recommended Michael Smith as the 2022 Director's Designee.

On a motion by Martha Harris, seconded by Cecil Smith, Michael Smith was unanimously elected on a voice vote to serve as the 2022 Director's Designee to the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Regional Board. The Chair congratulated Mr. Smith.

XI. The announcement of the Superintendent's 2022 Steering Committee Leadership

Per agreement among the superintendents, Dr. Jeremy Raley will serve in 2022 as the Superintendent Steering Committee Chair.

XII. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Sarah Barber, seconded by Martha Harris, minutes for the Executive Board meeting of November 11, 2021, were unanimously approved on a voice vote.

XIII. Recognitions

- The Girls' Cross-Country Track team was recognized as the 2021 VHSL State Champions. The following were in attendance: Alexis Barteo-'22-Chesterfield (Captain), Avery Crumlish-'22-Richmond (Captain), Allyson Phillips-'23-Hanover, Riley Surratt-'23-Hanover, Izzy List-'24-Chesterfield, Katherine Streeter-'24-Richmond, and Catherine Garrison-'22-Hanover.

The team is coached by Jim Holdren, Ryan Webb, and Deborah Snagg.

XIV. 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.

Submitted online from Alison Walter, MLWGS Alum.

To the Members of the Regional School Board:

Many of you are engaged in efforts to develop more equitable admissions processes for MLWGS. I wanted to make sure you are aware of HB127 proposed for this session, which would interfere with your efforts and local decisions. Specifically, it would not allow districts to “engage in proxy discrimination” - which sounds great on its surface, but bans those involved in admissions from looking at measures including zip codes or characteristics of feeder schools, and even from collecting demographic data from applicants. It could tie your hands as a representative of your district, barring you from collecting or considering various important data points and preventing you from utilizing the most up-to-date practices in gifted identification. The bill’s very narrow definition of “traditional academic success factors” would limit a district’s ability to value and assess all relevant factors in admissions. It specifically bars “the use of regional or feeder schools caps, quotas, or bonuses” – something that several of you are currently using or considering using in an effort to create a fairer admissions pool that truly represents the talent in each of your districts.

Although we are not always on the same page in terms of admissions processes for MLWGS, I think we can all agree that this wrests control away from local school boards and puts an unnecessary burden on board members and administrators to bend to the state’s control. As a Virginia educator myself, I do not want to contend with this for the rest of my career. I urge you all to discuss this with your boards and reach out to your Delegates to let them know about the problems that this bill would create for your districts.

Thank you for your time and attention.
Alison Walter Class of 2008

Submitted online from Mona Garimella and Annabel Tang, MLWGS students.

Good morning,

We are current students at Maggie Walker and editors of the school newspaper, The Jabberwock, which recently published a special issue on the years of buried history and racial reckoning at the school. Until our team started this project, we had no idea the many stories and large network of alumni we would encounter throughout our research. The amount of

support and aid we received from this community, along with the administration, student body, and the Foundation, was overwhelmingly positive.

With the lessons we've learned though, we also wanted to relay to you all the biggest thing we heard from the current study body: the necessity for better communication. Echoing the sentiment of many alumni who have paved the way to hold the school accountable, there is an evident gap in communication between the school board and student bodies regarding the many efforts administration is spearheading to address diversity and equity issues. When interviewing Dr. Lowerre, it was obvious how invested administration is in these efforts, particularly with the SAC task force led by Dr. Williams, former students noting how Dr. Lowerre is bridging the gap with alumni, and the entirety of administration giving us the time to interview them while being fully transparent and open to our questions. It is for these reasons that we were heartbroken when hearing students state they felt as though the school was not prioritizing these issues, and we know that it is truly because of a communication gap. As we mentioned, we learned much of our information after actively seeking out interviews with administration and outside resources which have commented on the governor's school, such as the 2009 UVA Study and Ms. Kenya Hunter's Richmond Times-Dispatch series; this should not have been the case though. Students and parents should be in the loop about the diversity and inclusion efforts going on throughout the recent years. Thus, we created the special issue as a means to communicate some of the behind-the-scenes efforts to the student body, but we truly believe that there is only so much we can do as the newspaper when it comes to reporting on these efforts. At the end of the day, only the administration and the rest of the school board can give the full story and provide topmost transparency to students' parents, as they are the ones who are leading these efforts.

The students and parents deserve to know what the school board is doing to ensure a comfortable environment for MLWGS students, and the school board deserves some credit for the efforts they've spearheaded, particularly in the past two years with the antiracist pledge and the SAC task forces. In our reporting, we understood that while Maggie Walker's administration is not perfect nor infallible, it is composed of people who want to see this school become a more equitable place. Therefore, we sincerely hope we can see better, more direct communication from the school moving forward so that both the students and administration receive the fair attention they deserve.

Thank you.

Addressing student concerns, Ms. Barber proposed a 'Director's Corner' with a recurring update in the Jabberwock publication (student newspaper) to facilitate communication with the students.

XV. Director's Report

A. Verbal Update

- **Review of Budget Calendar
Regulation 7003.1
Budget Calendar**

The following guidelines will be used in establishing the annual budget calendar:

- A. At least one public forum will be held before December 30 to solicit public input. *(Substituted an online form to submit public input shown below)*
- B. The budget work-session date(s) will be published as part of the Regional School Board’s Meeting Schedule. *(Proposed for February 17, 2022)*
- C. The proposed Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Plan will be presented by the third Thursday in February.
- D. The budget shall be adopted under applicable statutes.
- E. At least one public hearing will be held before budget adoption. *(Proposed for March 17, 2022)*

• **Budget Development Public Input via Online Comments.**

<i>What do you think we are doing now that we should consider continuing?</i>	<i>My spending idea relates to...</i>	<i>What is a new or expanding program or other issues you would like us to consider?</i>	<i>My cost-saving idea principally relates to...</i>	<i>What is your cost-saving idea?</i>
			Data and technology. Systems integration - specifically all the systems you currently leverage to manage and maintain student data and comms	<p>What: Capstone project that leverages community partners to improve data management. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ensure databases and systems are thoughtfully designed/integrated based on the needs of the school and the administration - ensure data privacy/security/accuracy across systems - enable the creation of targeted content by class level sub-segment and supporting knowledge management to better enable reuse and sharing - reduce the number of systems parents, teachers, and students have to access (site, PT Board, ticketing, Powerschool, Schoology, etc.). <p>Why: Would streamline admin tasks/reduce management hours, reduce dependency on volunteers to manage current systems improve teacher, parent, and student online experience, and better protect our info.</p>

<p>International travel and summer study abroad</p>	<p>support students who want to travel abroad for programs other than MLWGS teacher-led trips</p>	<p>Foreign students should be hosted at MLWGS for an academic year. My family has experienced this with ASSIST and with AFS programs. This was also a normal practice at my public high school in Williamsburg in the 1980s.</p>	<p>Make the district funding model more flexible</p>	<p>I would like to see the districts which send a large number of students to MLWGS commit to 4 years of funding based on the number of incoming freshmen they are starting. This could be a slightly reduced tuition rate that takes into account average attrition numbers between freshman and senior year. There would be many advantages to no longer precisely tracking how many students the district is sending in any one year: 1)MLWGS budget would be evened out and easier to plan in advance, 2)a district would no longer be "on the hook" for extra students whose families move there in the middle of high school, 3)a district that "loses" a student to another school or a move out of county would not feel compelled to more heavily stack its freshman class, 4)a student who decides to study abroad for junior year of high school would not "lose their seat", and 5)a few international exchange students could be included in the upper-class student body each year.</p>
		<p>I believe we need to do more to honor the legacy of Maggie L Walker and the origins of the school. Whether that's a ceremony of some sort, or an educational program, or a community investment. I'd suggest consulting with Black alumni and current students to understand what would honor the legacy in a meaningful way.</p>		

Everything	Position for Diversity and Inclusion Specialist	Diversity initiatives as described in the Racial Climate Survey Report as well as those outlined by the Strategic Planning Committee.	Compensation/ Benefits	Replacing retiring 12-month Counseling Coordinator with two Co-Coordinators that are on 11-month contracts (keeping extended contract hours on days when students are present).
I very much appreciate the liberal leave policy. I prefer to be respected as one who knows to tend to his responsibilities, rather than one who must be kept on campus to ensure that he's working.	Extracurricular Activities/Fundraising	I would like to see the budget for the Jabberwock increased. The costs of paper and printing are high, and even with 75% of the school reading the paper online, we are unable to meet those costs with the existing funds. Fundraising opportunities are limited, and the staff is unable to raise much money in the time available.		

- **Snow Date Closings:** January 3, 4, and 5, 2022 (3 days).
- **Community Service Requirement for the Class of 2022.** Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the seniors' community service hours' goal has been adjusted to 120 hours. This change is also provided in the Information Section of the board's January agenda.
- **Save the Date: Night of the Dragon Auction, Saturday, April 23rd.**

Mark your calendar for the 19th annual Night of the Dragon—April 23, 2022. This special event is a whole lot of fun and provides invaluable support to our amazing Dragons. You don't want to miss it.

- **Legal Representation:**

Maggie L. Walker Governor's School will continue to utilize the firm of Haney Phinyowattanachip PLLC for future services as needed. The firm is headed by Stacey Haney and Pakapon Phinyowattanachip who are both well versed in Virginia education issues and law.

- **VSBA Policy Services Agreement**

MLWGS originally entered into an agreement with the VSBA effective January 1, 2012, through December 31, 2016, at a contract fee of \$1,000 per year. This agreement was renewed with the VSBA on January 1, 2017, with four additional one-year terms and no change in contract pricing.

This agreement was renewed for one-year through 2022 with no pricing increase and is renewable for four (4) additional one-year terms at the original contract fee.

- **Teacher Generated Senior Seminar Proposals for 2022-2023:**

- Benesh: “Moneyball”; The History and Sabermetrics of Baseball
- Clark: Laboratory Techniques for the 21st Century
- Coleman: Black Literature, Black Lives: African American Literature and Culture
- Coleman and Hall: ‘Seduction of the Innocent’: A Modern History of the American Comic Book
- Cross: The African Diaspora: Intricacies, Nuances, and Practices
- Lecroy-Whitworth: The Power of Story: Teaching Narrative through Travel
- Merillat: Music Composition and Recording
- Piersol: The American Dream in Literature and Film
- Raviotta: Digital Video
- Reed: Inspired by DaVinci: Mathematics and the Arts
- Reed: Polarpalooza: A Multidisciplinary Exploration of the Polar Regions
- Rotche: Wilderness and the American Mind
- Sheppard: The Evolution of London—The Making of a Metropolis
- Stinnett: Fashion and Style: Implications of the Clothes on Our Backs
- Stinnett: Photojournalism in the Digital Age
- White: Slavic Folklore

- **Cultural Competency Training for the Leadership Team**

The Administrative team has provided two of four training sessions for the leadership team on pedagogical leadership and cultural competence. Dr. Lisa Williams and Max Smith have worked with the team using personality tests, such as Myers-Briggs and the Leadership Compass, for self-reflection and awareness. They have also discussed how Bloom’s Taxonomy can be used as a tool for constructive conversations for pre-and post-observations. Autumn Nabors, U of R professor and Director of Curriculum and Instruction for RPS, will work with the leadership team in January and February for the last two sessions.

- **SOS Program**

Our counseling department has partnered with the English department and the Health & Physical Education department to conduct the Signs of Suicide (SOS) program. These activities help develop an awareness of the signs of depression and suicidal ideation. Although such conversations are challenging to have with our young people, they are vital in keeping our community healthy and safe. SOS has been spearheaded by Lisa Ebeling and Karl Zweerink.

(The SOS program was also mentioned to the board at their October meeting in the director’s report at the launch of staff training).

- **The International Language Fair** is taking place on Saturday, March 19th, 2022 for any interested *middle school student* in the community. Registration and information can be found here: <https://mlwgsshowcase.weebly.com/about-the-2022-fair.html>

- **AP Scholar Awards for 2021:**

An AP Scholar is a student who receives an award from the College Board for outstanding performance on several AP exams. There are different award levels. Being an AP Scholar offers many advantages for students. AP classes offer another big perk: the opportunity to earn college credit.

When a student receives an AP award, they are notified by email, and the award is added to the students' online score report. Students can log in to the College Board website to view their AP scores and awards.

SCHOLAR SUMMARY

Total Scholars = 292, Average Score = 4.14
Total MLWGS Students Tested = 485 on 1,289 exams
96.08% of MLWGS Students Scored 3 or Higher

AP Scholars = 55	Average Score = 3.38	AP Scholar – Awarded to students who score 3 or more on at least three AP exams.
AP Scholars with Honor = 46	Average Score = 3.84	AP Scholar with Honor – Awarded to students who have averaged a minimum of 3.25 on the AP exams they take and score 3 or more on at least four of those exams.
AP Scholars with Distinction = 191	Average Score = 4.32	AP Scholar with Distinction – Awarded to students who average a minimum of 3.5 on all their AP exams and score 3 or more on at least five of these exams.
AP International Diploma = 1	Average Score = 4.00	AP International Diploma – The AP International Diploma (APID) is a globally recognized certificate awarded to students who display exceptional achievement across a variety of disciplines. Available to international students attending secondary schools outside the U.S. and to U.S. high school students applying to universities outside the country, the APID certifies outstanding academic excellence with a global perspective. Students must score a 3 or higher on 5 or more AP Exams. The student attended McGill University in Montreal, Quebec

5-Year AP Trends at MLWGS:

Even though we were virtual, we had a 4-year high in the number of testers and a record number of tests. While our percent of 3+ was down slightly, most of our exams had an average increase (when state and national averages were down pretty much across the board).

SCHOOL SUMMARY		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total AP Students		497	481	457	465	485
Number of Exams		1,287	1,207	1,116	1,254	1,289
AP Students with Scores 3+		487	472	450	447	466
% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+		97.99	98.13	98.47	96.13	96.08

2022 Registrations:



B. Coming Events

January 20, 2022, through February 17, 2022

Thursday, January 20 th	Reorganization Meeting for the Regional School Board, 9:00 am
	Newtowne Tutoring, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm, Room 105
Friday, January 21 st	Honor Council Retreat, 8:30 am – 11:30 am, Room 153
Thursday, January 27 th	Newtowne Tutoring, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm, Room 105
Friday, January 28 th	Student Holiday, Teacher Workday
Saturday, January 29 th	New Student Evaluation Day, 2-Sessions, morning and afternoon, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, MLWGS
Tuesday, February 1 st	Junior Class Course Registration Assembly, 11:15 am, Auditorium

Wednesday, February 2 nd	Sophomore Class Course Registration Assembly, 11:15 am, Auditorium
Thursday, February 3 rd	Freshmen Class Course Registration Assembly, 11:15 am, Auditorium
	Newtowne Tutoring, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm, Room 105
Saturday, February 5 th	Snow Day for New Student Evaluations
Monday, February 7 th – Friday, February 11 th	Mindfulness Week at MLWGS
Tuesday, February 8 th	Math League Contest, 11:30 am, Auditorium
	Report Cards Issued
Wednesday, February 9 th	College Kick-Off for Juniors, 8:30 am, Auditorium
Thursday, February 10 th	Newtowne Tutoring, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm, Room 105
	Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Thursday, February 10 th - Saturday, February 12 th	One Acts Performance, 6:00 pm, Black Box
Friday, February 11 th	VACEG Meeting, 9:00 am, Room 153
Tuesday, February 15 th	Make-up New Student Evaluations by Local Division Approval Only, 9:00 am, Room 153
Thursday, February 17 th	Regular Meeting of the Regional School Board, 9:00 am, followed by Budget Work Session.
	Newtowne Tutoring, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm, Room 105

C. GS Foundation 2021 Impact Report by Ms. Ginger O’Neil, Executive Director

Ms. O’Neil introduced herself as the Executive Director of the GS Foundation.

The mission of the GS Foundation cultivates resources to enhance the educational experience for all students at MLWGS.

The vision of the GS Foundation is for all MLWGS students to have access to the educational resources and experiences to reach their full potential.

The Foundation realized revenues of \$538,000 last year with expenses totaling \$335,700. The organization has an endowment and investment funds of \$721,000.

Support to the school known as the ‘Enhancement Fund’ was \$140,000. The fund is broken into three categories: 1) student travel and academic enrichments, 2) professional development, and 3) student financial assistance. While last year the fund supplied \$40,000 in student travel, based on expectations that students will resume international travel (post the COVID pandemic) this year, the Foundation has budgeted \$110,000. Professional development last year was supported with \$16,000 with \$30,000 budgeted for 2022. Lastly, the Foundation supplied \$7,000 for student financial assistance last year, increased to \$30,000 this year.

Since its inception, the GS Foundation has provided more than \$2 million in enhancements to MLWGS for the support of students and professional development.

Ms. O’Neil discussed other programs managed by the GS Foundation consisting of alumni outreach and the Pat Taylor Teaching Award which awards a \$7,500 travel grant annually.

Upcoming foundation events include the Alumni Showcase on April 1st, The Director's Circle on April 14th, Night of the Dragon Gala on April 23rd, and the Grandparents and Special Friends Day on April 29th.

The chair thanked Ms. O'Neil for this presentation and Ms. Barber encouraged board members to attend the Night of the Dragon, an outstanding event.

XVI. Unfinished Business

A. Strategic Plan Implementation Report

The Strategic Plan report is located at the end of these minutes. Dr. Lowerre reported that not much has changed from their last report as we were out of school for winter break; however, we are continuing to work on the plan. We are currently working on the communication and outreach pieces.

XVII. Consent Items

On a motion by Valarie Ayers, seconded by Sarah Barber, the following consent items were unanimously approved as a block on a voice vote: personnel actions for January 2022, fiscal status reports of November 30, 2021, and December 31, 2021, and the donations reports of November 30, 2021, and December 31, 2021.

XVIII. Action Items

a. 2022 Code of Conduct for Board Members (*Second Read*)

The Code of Conduct for Regional School Board Members is grounded in the model code of the Virginia School Board Association. The Chair called for a vote to approve the code presented.

On a motion from Sarah Barber, seconded by Kenneth Pritchett, the 2022 Code of Conduct for Regional School Board Members was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

b. 2022 Code of Conduct for Clerks (*Second Read*)

The Code of Conduct for Clerks is grounded in the model code of the Virginia School Board Association. The Chair called for a vote to approve the code presented.

On a motion from Valarie Ayers, seconded by Mariah White, the 2022 Code of Conduct for Clerks was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

c. 2022 Regional School Board Calendar of Meetings (*Second Read*)

No corrections were requested to the calendar proposal presented.

On a motion by John Axelle, seconded by Martha Harris, the 2022 Regional School Board Calendar of Meetings was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

d. Policy Committee Membership 2022 (*First Read*)

Per Policy 1012.a-Advisory Committees to the Regional School Board: It is the duty of the Regional School Board to appoint advisory councils or committees of citizens of the school for consultation with reference to specific matters pertaining to Maggie L. Walker Governor's School. These committees shall serve without compensation for one-year terms.

2022 Policy Committee Members

John Wright, Regional School Board
Valarie Ayers, Regional School Board
Robert Lowerre, Director
Lisa Williams, Assistant Director
Max Smith, Assistant Director
Barbara Marshall, Board Clerk
Paige Hawkins, Activities Director
Open, Parent (TBD)

The Chair called for a motion to waive first read and approve the 2022 policy committee membership. On a motion from Valarie Ayers, seconded by Sarah Barber, waiving the first read for 2022 policy committee membership was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

On a motion from Valarie Ayers, seconded by Debbie Bailey, membership for the 2022 policy committee listed was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

e. Wellness Committee Membership (*First Read*)

Per Policy 1012.a-Advisory Committees to the Regional School Board: It is the duty of the Regional School Board to appoint advisory councils or committees of citizens of the school for consultation with reference to specific matters pertaining to Maggie L. Walker Governor's School. These committees shall serve without compensation for one-year terms.

2022 Wellness Committee Members

Paige Hawkins, Activities Director
Barbara Marshall, Board Clerk
Mike Brown, Health & PE Faculty
Don Blanton, Health & PE Faculty
Pam Jones, Food Service Provider
Open, Student (TBD)
Open, Student (TBD)
Open, Parent (TBD)
Open, Parent (TBD)

The Chair called for a motion to waive first read and approve the 2022 wellness committee membership. On a motion from Sarah Barber, seconded by Mariah White, waiving the first read for 2022 wellness committee membership was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

On a motion from Kenneth Pritchett, seconded by Mariah White, membership for the 2022 wellness committee as listed was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

f. Finance Committee Membership 2021 (*First Read*)

Per Policy 1012.a-Advisory Committees to the Regional School Board: It is the duty of the Regional School Board to appoint advisory councils or committees of citizens of the school for consultation with reference to specific matters pertaining to Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School. These committees shall serve without compensation for one-year terms.

2022 Finance Committee Members

Robert Lowerre, Director
Max Smith, Assistant Director
Lisa Williams, Assistant Director
David Bortz, Technology Officer
Karen Hoover, MLWGS Business Manager
Barbara Marshall, Board Clerk
Financial Officer, Richmond Public Schools
Financial Officer, Henrico Public Schools
Financial Officer, Chesterfield Public Schools
Financial Officer, Hanover Public Schools
And
Financial Officer, Powhatan Public Schools

The Chair called for a motion to waive first read and approve the 2022 finance committee members. On a motion from Valarie Ayers, seconded by John Axselle, waiving the first read for 2022 finance committee membership was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

On a motion from Kenneth Pritchett, seconded by Valarie Ayers, membership for the 2022 finance committee as listed was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

g. School Advisory Committee Membership 2021-2022 (*Second Read*)

Per Policy 1012.a-Advisory Committees to the Regional School Board: It is the duty of the Regional School Board to appoint advisory councils or committees of citizens of the school for consultation with reference to specific matters pertaining to Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School. These committees shall serve without compensation for one-year terms.

Per Policy 1050-SAC By-Laws: ARTICLE 1, Membership Section 1.
Composition Membership of the SAC may consist of parents, staff, and students of MLWGS, corporate and community members, alumni, higher education representatives, school administrators, and gifted program specialists. Membership should reflect the diversity of the community in terms of school district size and underrepresented minority groups. The Regional School Board (RSB) shall be notified annually of the SAC membership.

2021-2022 SAC Members

Michael Larkin, Chair	PTSA	Chesterfield	2022
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Ed Coleman, Vice-Chair	Faculty	n/a	2022
Karen Townsend, Secretary	PTSA	Richmond	2022
Rachel Gable, Historian	PTSA	Richmond	2023
Jill Bowman	PTSA	Chesterfield	2024
Julie Solomon	PTSA	Chesterfield	2024
Leigh Anne Ratliff	PTSA	Richmond	2023
Rachel Loving	Faculty	n/a	2023
Joy Cob	Faculty	n/a	2024
Kyleen Terrana	Faculty	n/a	2024
Virginia Warren	Student – Senior	Chesterfield	2022
Madison King	Student – Senior	Chesterfield	2022
Sean Fang	Student – Junior	Chesterfield	2023
Audrey Paulson	Student – Junior	Richmond	2023
Dr. Lisa Williams	Administration	n/a	2024
Karen Smith-Will	Director’s Appointee	Hanover	2022
Open	Director’s Appointee		
Open	Director’s Appointee – Alumni		
Lynn Pleveich	Planning Committee	Richmond	2023

2021-22 SAC members were first presented to the Regional School Board under the Director’s Verbal Updates at the October 21, 2021 meeting. **The work of this committee coincides with the academic year rather than the calendar year.**

On a motion from Valarie Ayers, seconded by Cecil Smith, membership for the 2021-2022 School Advisory Committee as listed was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

h. Disciplinary Committee Membership 2022 (First Read)

Policy 1012.c A **DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE** composed of **at least three school board members** presides over all cases of student suspensions of more than 10 days and expulsions within Maggie L. Walker’s Governor’s School. The decision of the Committee, if unanimous, is the final decision of the regional school board. If the Committee’s decision is not unanimous, the pupil or pupil’s parent may appeal the decision to the regional school board. Such appeal shall be decided by the regional school board within 30 days.

Policy 1012.a **ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD**
It is the duty of the Regional School Board to appoint advisory councils or committees of citizens of the school for consultation with reference to specific matters pertaining to Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School. These committees shall serve without compensation for one-year terms.

2022 Proposed Discipline Committee Members

- Open**, Regional School Board Representative
- Open**, Regional School Board Representative

Open, Regional School Board Representative

2022 Disciplinary Committee membership was not established at this meeting.

On a motion from Cecil Smith to table this action, seconded by Mariah White, the board approved tabling this action on a voice vote.

i. Policy Update: #1010 Constitution and Bylaws (*Second Read*)

The following policy is submitted for Regional School Board consideration.

#1010-Constitution and Bylaws.

Changes include a reconstruction of board meeting agendas, minor grammatical edits of the chairperson to a chair, and the annual designation of the director's designee.

On a motion from Martha Harris, seconded by Sarah Barber, amending Policy #1010 – Constitution and Bylaws were unanimously approved on a voice vote.

XIX. Materials for Board Review and/or Discussion

Dr. Lowerre submitted for information his attempt to comply with the Governor's new executive order regarding masking. He stated we have been able to maintain a very low infection rate (COVID) because of the student's willingness to be responsible and they value what they have here and don't want to see a pivot to virtual instruction. The director intends to send a message that respects the parent's decision but also allows us to continue with masking as best as possible. It's a difficult position to be put in, but we want to keep everyone safe while we await further updates from various agencies and the Governor.

XX. Information Items

- COVID Safety Protocols at MLWGS, January 2022
- Finance Committee Meeting Minutes, January 6, 2022
- Robotics Team Newsletter with photos from the Lego Tournament at MLWGS
- MLWGS Boys 2021 3B VHSL XC Runner-up
- Varsity Boys Volleyball finish as the Runner-up at VHSL Championship
- Visual and Performing Arts Field Trip to Washington DC on December 3rd
- December Senior Art 5 Solo Art Exhibition at MLWGS
- January Senior Art 5 Solo Art Exhibition at MLWGS
- Community Service Hours for the Class of 2022 Reduced to 120 Hours

XXI. Superintendent's Steering Committee Report

Dr. Raley reported some superintendents participated this morning through Zoom and some in-person, and they discussed the new Governor's Executive Order and its implications at Maggie Walker. The committee also had a conversation about budget status and projected revenue based on the Governor's budget which at this time forecasts a 3% increase to local division tuition increases.

XXII. Closed Meeting

- *None.*

XXIII. Certification of Closed Meeting

- *None.*

XXIV. Announcements/Additional Discussion

- Mr. Pritchett asked for an update regarding the audit(s) status. The director reported we are still years behind. He further shared he has been in communication with one of the partner divisions that has expressed interest in picking up MLWGS as its fiscal agent.

For new board members, Mr. Wright added the school is considered to be a part of the City [fiscal agent] regarding its audits that are now several years behind, resulting in discussions about changing our fiscal agent. He presented this information to members to raise their awareness and knowledge for participation in possible future discussions.

XXV. Adjournment

On a motion by Martha Harris, seconded by Cecil Smith, the meeting was unanimously adjourned on a voice vote at 10:01 am.

Next Meeting and Budget Work Session

February 17, 2022, at 9:00 am.

Kenneth Pritchett, Vice-Chair

Robert Lowerre, Ph.D., Director

Minutes Recorded by:
Barbara Marshall, Regional Board Clerk

MLWGS 2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS/OBJECTIVES/ACTION STEPS

DATE: January 20, 2022

Blue Text = Updates

Green = Completed

GOAL 1	MAGGIE L. WALKER GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL WILL CREATE A WELCOMING AND RESPONSIVE ENVIRONMENT THAT CELEBRATES AND REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS WE SERVE AND FOSTERS A SENSE OF BELONGING FOR ALL.	Responsible Party	Measurement	Year to begin Implementation	Cost to Budget
				2020	
OBJ 1.1	MLWGS will engage and educate our school districts about the opportunities available to them in our learning environment.				
1.1.2	Develop and enhance relationships with districts, schools, administrators, counselors, teachers, parents, and potential students.	Administration, Counseling, Faculty	We are establishing relationships with local administrators through outreach.		
OBJ 1.2	MLWGS will create an environment that provides a sense of belonging and fosters student and family engagement.				
1.2.1	Examine and eliminate structural barriers that prevent students from availing themselves of all the opportunities at MLWGS.	Planning Committee, Administration, Foundation	SAC is working on this.		
1.2.2	Access to wraparound services (Identify and fill gaps in student mental health and wellness programs)	School Counseling			
1.2.3	Review and reform policies and procedures that impede inclusion (e.g. mental health intake, bathroom policies, club and extra-curricular policies)	Counseling, Administration, AD, School Board			
1.2.4	Enhance communications to make sure students have knowledge of and are able to seek resources	Counseling			
1.2.5	Facilitate student input and feedback	Administration, Counseling	Surveys completed by SAC		
1.2.6	Analyze and strengthen the student onboarding process to prepare accepted students for the MLWGS experience	Counseling	Freshmen Orientation is being studied as well as the process for registering for classes. Piloting		

			Dragon Dialogues.		
1.2.7	Equip faculty with tools to foster an inclusive environment	Administration, External Trainers	Cultural Competency PD has been introduced.		
OBJ 1.3	MLWGS will codevelop a plan with its districts to increase enrollment of historically underserved populations.				
1.3.1	In compliance with FY 2021 Budget Item 145, C-27,I, the school will work with the partner districts to collect application and admission data to be used to support a plan to increase the percentage of historically underserved populations at MLWGS.	Dr. Lowerre	We have been working with districts to improve access for underserved minorities. Significant improvement has been made this year. RSB approved removal of Achievement Test as part of admissions process.		
OBJ. 1.4	MLWGS will develop a strategy to increase the demographic diversity of our faculty and staff.				
1.4.1	Examine barriers to hiring and retaining diverse faculty.	Dr. Lowerre, Dr. Williams,	Recruitment sub-committee has been created.		
1.4.2	Strengthen professional development resources for faculty.	Dr. Williams, Dr. Lowerre, Mr. Smith	Currently reviewing PD proposals for 21-22 including outside support.		
1.4.3	Develop hiring strategy.	Leadership Team			
1.4.4	Develop outreach program for recruiting teachers from multiple districts and education graduate schools.	Dr. Lowerre			
GOAL 2	MAGGIE L. WALKER GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL WILL ENGAGE STUDENTS WITH INNOVATIVE CURRICULA AND RESPONSIVE INSTRUCTION THAT FOCUSES ON STUDENT-CENTERED EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING. INSTRUCTION WILL BE INTERDISCIPLINARY AND ENRICHED BY LOCAL AND GLOBAL CONNECTEDNESS.	Responsible Party	Measurement	Year to begin Implementation	Cost to Budget
OBJ 2.1	Students will engage in exciting distinctive courses that are designed to deepen students interest.			2020-2021	
2.1.1	Encourage a collaborative environment for ongoing	Admin, Mr. Zweerink	New classes have been offered and		

	innovation of all course offerings.		recommended for future years		
2.1.2	Expand dual enrollment course offerings and include courses through additional university partners.	Dr. Lowerre	Meetings with VCU are ongoing		
2.1.3	Investigate offering courses with comparatively smaller student enrollment.	Admin and School counseling	We allowed classes to “make” this year with lower enrollments.		
2.1.4	Expand the menu of teacher-created courses that center on experiential learning, interdisciplinary and global awareness.	Admin and Department Chairs	New Seminar courses are being offered		
2.1.5	Expand student enrollment in SGC's and teacher-developed courses.	Dr. Lowerre	New Courses are being taken to the Planning Committee and the RSB.		
2.1.6	Augment opportunities for student travel and beyond-the-classroom experiences.	Leadership Team	A partnership with a French school is being discussed.		
2.1.7	Develop a reimagined FIRC course to equip freshmen to succeed at MLWGS	Dr. Lowerre and Culture Sub-Committee	A sub-committee is being formed to review FIRC and re-imagine the freshman experience.		
OBJ 2.2	Teachers will provide engaging, student-centered instruction.				
2.2.1	Encourage teachers to enhance student engagement, embed community engagement, and integrate instructional technology within their curricula.	Leadership Team, Tech Integrators			
2.2.2	Provide opportunities for teachers to participate in training and collegial discussions about enhancing student engagement, embedding community engagement, and integrating instructional technology within their curricula.	Admin			
2.2.3	Incentivize teachers to enhance student engagement, embed community engagement, and integrate instructional technology within their curricula.	Admin			
GOAL 3	MAGGIE L. WALER GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL WILL BE A SAFE SCHOOL WITH EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES.	Responsible Party	Measurement	Year to begin Implementation	Cost to Budget
OBJ 3.1	Create and fund a ten-year capital improvement plan.			2023	

3.1.1	Conduct a needs assessment of future needs for the facility and technology.	Facilities and Technology	Project is underway		
3.1.2	Forecast ten-year costs.	Facilities and Technology			
OBJ 3.2	Create a better experience for students, teachers, and parents through available software solutions.			2021	
3.1.3	Implemental funding mechanism separate from the operating budget.	Mr. Smith			
3.2.1	Purchase of on-line teacher receipting program.	Ms. Hoover; Ms. Charity			
3.2.2	Implement field trip request and tracking software.	Mr. Smith	Working to automate forms		
3.2.3	Integrate field trip software with student information system.	Mr. Bortz			
3.2.4	Reduce student fees.	Leadership Team	We have reduced fees where we could, but many of the fees are simply pass-through accounts.		
3.2.5	Incentivize the use of current on-line payment systems.	Dr. Lowerre	Budgeted and Completed.		
OBJ 3.3	Enhance our safe school environment.			2020	
3.3.1	Implement an annual climate survey.	Dr. Lowerre			
3.3.2	Complete a full revision of the safety/crisis plan.	Mr. Smith	Completed Fall 2021		
3.3.3	Further develop relations with local fire, police, and EMS in order to incorporate best practices and facilitate external audits.	Mr. Jordan	Completed Fall 2021		
3.3.4	Train faculty on cyber security and teaching digital literacy.	Library and Technology			
OBJ 3.4	Transition the fiscal expectations of MLWGS to a new fiscal agent.			2022	
3.4.1	Research options for future fiscal processing.	Mr. Smith			
3.4.2	Secure board approval for a new fiscal agent.	Dr. Lowerre	Discussions have begun		
3.4.3	Create a transition plan.	Ms. Hoover			