

MINUTES

The Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government & International Studies
Regional School Board Regular Meeting & FY24 Budget Approval
1000 N. Lombardy Street, Richmond, VA

Thursday, April 20, 2023

9:00 a.m.

I. Call to Order

Kenneth Pritchett, Chair of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Regional Board, called 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 is listed in alphabetical order by locality.

Present:

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

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

Mr. Steven Neece, *School Board*, Colonial Heights Public Schools

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

Mr. Bob May, *School Board*, Hanover County Public Schools

Ms. Michelle 'Micky' Ogburn, *School Board*, Henrico County Public Schools

Ms. Linda Hyslop, *School Board*, Hopewell Public Schools

Ms. Harwood Hall, *School Board*, King & Queen Public

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

Mr. George Fohl for Dr. Merv Daugherty, **Superintendent**, Chesterfield County Public Schools

Dr. Andrew Armstrong, **Interim Superintendent**, Goochland County Public Schools

Ms. Jennifer Greif for Dr. Michael Gill, **Superintendent**, Hanover County Public Schools

Dr. Amy Cashwell, **Superintendent**, Henrico County Public Schools

Dr. Jay McClain for Dr. Melody Hackney, **Superintendent**, Hopewell Public Schools

Dr. Brian Nichols, **Superintendent**, New Kent Public Schools
Dr. Traci Daniels for Dr. Tamara Sterling, **Superintendent**, Petersburg Public Schools
Dr. Beth Teigen, **Superintendent**, Powhatan County Public Schools
Ms. Melanie Ficke for Dr. Lisa Pennycuff, **Superintendent**, Prince George Public Schools
Ms. Lynn Pleveich 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:

Mr. John Wright, *School Board*, Goochland County Public Schools
Dr. Joseph Cox, **Interim Superintendent**, Colonial Heights Public Schools
Dr. Kari Weston, **Superintendent**, Dinwiddie Public Schools
Dr. Carol Carter, **Superintendent**, King & Queen Public Schools

Also present:

Dr. Max Smith and Dr. Lisa Williams – MLWGS Administration
Ginger O’Neil – MLWGS Foundation
Wendy DeGroat, Jeff Hall, Georgianne Stinnett, John Piersol, and David Bortz – MLWGS Staff
MLWGS students for public recognition: Kori Benjamin, Annabel Tang, and Sydney Brewer

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

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.**

No action was needed, and there were no requests for remote participation.

V.b Approval of Agenda

On a motion by Cecil Smith, seconded by Micky Ogburn, the agenda for this meeting was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

VI. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mariah White, seconded by Cecil Smith, the minutes of the regular meeting and FY24 budget public hearing of March 16, 2023, were unanimously approved on a voice vote.

VII. Recognitions

- **MLWGS English Teacher Kara Love Wins Scholarship to Study at Oxford University**

English department faculty member Kara Love was recognized for winning the English-Speaking Union’s scholarship to study at Oxford University this summer.

The Richmond branch of the English-Speaking Union awards two scholarships to Richmond area high school teachers for summer study at the University of Oxford, the International Shakespeare Globe Centre in London, or the Scottish Universities International Summer School in Edinburgh.

Kara will get to spend three weeks living and studying in the same hallowed halls as J.R.R. Tolkien, Oscar Wilde, and Benazir Bhutto. She will be taking two seminar courses at Oxford this summer: Shakespeare and Politics: Then and Now & Jane Austen.

- **MLWGS Senior Kori Benjamin wins National Gold Medal and American Vision Award in Scholastic Art & Writing competition.**

Congratulations were extended to Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School Senior, Kori Benjamin (Chesterfield), for receiving a Gold Medal in the **NATIONAL** Scholastic Arts Awards. Additionally, her work was also chosen as an American Visions Medal award winner (the equivalent to “best in show”) for her drawing, “Girls with Guns.”

Kori is the third Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School student to receive this high honor at the national level. This year the exhibition will be at the Metropolitan Museum in New York City and the awards ceremony will be held at Carnegie Hall where Kori will get to walk across the stage to be recognized. Please join us in congratulating her on this outstanding national award!

Additionally, three other Maggie L. Walker students were the recipients of the National Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. Senior, Annabel Tang (Henrico), received a Gold Medal in writing for her work titled, “Fractured Lines”. Junior, Sydney Brewer (Chesterfield), received a Gold Medal in writing for her work titled, “Smile”. They will both be recognized at the ceremony in New York. Finally, Junior Shorya Malani [*not in attendance today*] (Henrico) received a national Silver Medal for his photogram titled, “The Shaking City”.

Kori was accompanied for recognition by Jeff Hall, Fine Arts Dept. Chair.

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.

The following was submitted via email to the clerk.

Dear Regional School Board Members,

We noticed from the February Board meeting minutes Dr. Lowerre's recommendation to include funding for a new position in next year's budget, namely the Coordinator of Strategic Engagement. We are thrilled to see that this position will focus on equipping the school's faculty with the tools needed to recognize, accommodate, and appreciate cultural differences, and that this position can focus on all the DEI-related initiatives of the school. We hope this position is contained within the budget approved at tonight's meeting. This is a great investment in the future of Maggie Walker as a welcoming, equitable, and inclusive school for gifted students.

In addition, we are excited to see the Board's approval of the Alabama and Georgia trip proposed by the Civil Rights Movement and Black Literature classes! Coupled with ongoing professional development on cultural competency led by Dr. Williams and several Black History month events, these investments are important and worthwhile for our community.

*Sincerely,
Emily Figley
Antiracist Alumni of MLWGS*

The chair recognized Ms. Figley's positive comment.

IX. Consent Items

On a motion by Debbie Bailey to approve consent items as a slate, seconded by Mariah White, the following items were unanimously approved on a voice vote: personnel actions, fiscal status reports of March 31, 2023, the donations report of March 31, 2023, and the computer leasing agreement for staff 2024-2026.

The director's highlights about the leasing agreement for the board include a total contract price of \$127,800, paid 1/3 annually throughout the agreement at \$42,600, using budgeted funds. The Virginia Information Technology Agency was utilized to formalize this agreement.

X. Action Items

a. FY24 Operating Budget Proposal Board Review (Second Read)

Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Administration, in conjunction with the Superintendent's Steering Committee and the Finance Steering Committee (comprised of the Chief Financial Officers from Chesterfield, Hanover, Henrico, Powhatan, and Richmond) have worked to finalize an operating budget proposal for FY2024.

A draft proposal was presented to the Regional School Board for review and discussion at their budget work session on February 16, 2023. The public hearing for this proposal was held at the board's March meeting.

DISCLAIMER: Pending the Governor's Signature of the State budget.

This budget includes a 5% raise for staffing that has been endorsed by the superintendents and can be supported based on the dollars we will receive from the State as determined by what we have been told to date.

On a motion from Sarah Barber, seconded by Valarie Ayers, the MLWGS FY24 School Operating Budget was approved on a unanimous voice vote.

b. Annual Authorization for Director to Issue Personnel Contracts (*Second Read*)

The Regional School Board grants the Director of Maggie L. Walker Governor’s School the authority to issue faculty/staff contracts based upon salary scales, clubs/activities, and athletic stipend scales incorporated within the FY24 Operating Budget.

On a motion from Linda Hyslop, seconded by Martha Harris, this action was approved on a unanimous voice vote granting the director authority to apply Human Resource policies and salary scales in issuing contracts to faculty and staff for FY24.

c. FY24 Student Fees (*Second Read*)

The proposed student fee schedule has been updated for FY24 with current projected costs for all subject areas.

Changes highlighted include the integration of additional technologies in English and new courses in Science and Senior Seminars. Cost increases for individual workbooks and specific lab fees in Science, Fine Arts, and International Languages reflect recent trends in inflation on all educational resources. Overall reductions have been made in the lab fee and workbook

On a motion from Martha Harris, seconded by Mariah White the MLWGS FY24 Student Fee Schedule was approved on a unanimous voice vote.

d. Policy Updates (*Second Read*)

The Policy Steering Committee offered the following policies and procedures for Regional School Board consideration.

Policy #	Name	New/Amended	Actions
	Foundations		
0000	School Legal Status	Amended	Reviewed but not revised by VSBA
	School Board Governance		
1019	Minutes	Amended	Legal and cross-references updated
	Administration		
2008	Director’s Contract, Compensation and Benefits	Amended	Reviewed but not revised by VSBA. One minor grammatic change
2009	Evaluation of the Director	Amended	Updated to reflect the requirement of HB 1904/SB 1196. Legal references updated

2013.1	Support Services	New	Simply states the school will provide a support system for operations
2065	Acceptable Computer System Use	Amended	Policy, legal, and cross-references updated. The code requires every school board to review, amend if necessary, and approve every two years. David Bortz has reviewed the changes.
	Instruction		
3010	School Libraries	Amended	Policy, legal, and cross-references updated.
3011.2	College and Career Readiness	Amended	Legal references updated to reflect codification of HB 1299/SB738 by the Code Commission
3045	Acceptable Computer System Use	Amended	Policy, legal, and cross-references updated. The code requires every school board to review, amend if necessary, and approve every two years. David Bortz has reviewed the changes.
	Student Services		
4015	Student Fees, Fines and Charges	Amended	Policy updated
	Human Resources		
5005	Professional Staff Contracts	Amended	Reviewed but not revised by VSBA
5065-R9	Military Leave	Amended	Policy updated to reflect amendment of VA Code §§ 44-93 by HB 231. Each school board must decide the amount of supplemental pay it provides.
5110	Resignation of Staff Members	Amended	Policy updated to reflect content of legal reference
	Community Relations		
	Finance & Operations		
7009	Management of Funds	Amended	Policy updated
7011	School Activity Funds	Amended	Policy updated to reflect content of legal reference.

			Cross-reference also updated.
7018	Vendor Relations	Amended	Reviewed but not revised by VSBA
7034	Supplementary Pay	Amended	Reviewed but not revised by VSBA
	Student Conduct		
8032	Vandalism	Amended	Cross-references updated to remove reference to deleted regulation Standards of Student Conduct

On a motion from Mariah White, seconded by Cecil Smith, the policy update was approved on a unanimous voice vote.

e. 2023-2024 School Operating Calendar (*Second Read*)

The 2023-2024 calendar is presented to the regional school board for the first read. Changes to highlight include a new format, ending the first semester before winter break, and the information forum moving to a Saturday. Election Day and Presidents Day will now be full holidays for both students and faculty/staff. Major holidays for our diverse student body continue to be observed. Our first day, winter break, spring break, and last day align with our major participating divisions on a two-week early start calendar.

On a motion from Sarah Barber, seconded by Mariah White, the 2023-2024 School Operating Calendar was approved on a unanimous voice vote.

f. The City of Richmond Request to Enter School Property (*Waive First Read Requested*)

The City of Richmond is beginning to perform preliminary engineering studies on transportation project N. Lombardy Street, UPC-104216. As part of this study, the City and its representatives must gather field information to determine the project’s suitability and allow for informed decision-making. This work does not mean the proposed project will affect school property. If the proposed project impacts the property, a City representative will contact us personally.

The dates requested for entry are between May 8, 2023, and June 27, 2023.

On a motion from Mariah White, seconded by Sarah Barber, the City of Richmond’s Request to Enter School Property was approved on a unanimous voice vote.

XI. Director’s Report

A. Verbal Updates

- **International Assembly March 30 for parents and March 31 for students**

Friday, March 31, Maggie Walker students will enjoy an exciting variety of multicultural performances during this year's International Assembly! Parents can also enjoy this special tradition by attending an evening performance in the auditorium at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 30!

“As the culmination of months of planning and rehearsal, this event represents a gratifying revival of—and improvement upon—a venerable Maggie Walker tradition. I know I'm not alone in being impressed by the diverse talents and skills that will be on display,” said Department Chair Michael White.

Kudos to Ms. Amanda Lemco, sponsor, and our dazzling singers, dancers, and musicians.



- **Schoolwide Professional Development, April 10, 2023**

As a culminating activity to our two-year cultural competency initiative, we will have Ed Cowell, who leads diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts at St. Christopher's, work with our team on team-building for the morning session. To recognize Desi-American culture, we will then have a luncheon, enjoying Indian cuisine and engaging with a panel of Desi-American guests who represent diverse walks of life. For the afternoon session, three faculty members, Joy Cobb (counselor), Wendy DeGroat (librarian), and Dr. Rachel Loving (counselor), as well as Dr. Williams and Dr. Smith, will lead group activities by facilitating discussions on case studies related to cultural competency.

- **New Student (Incoming 9th Graders) Registration April 12, 2023**

The New Student Registration Evening is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12th, and will be held in person at 6 pm in the auditorium. We distributed a welcome packet to students during Future Dragon Days. The information included in the welcome packet is available on the [school counseling webpage](#) as well.

Families are asked to plan to arrive a few minutes early as parking can be challenging. They are also asked to **bring their completed Rising 9th Grader Course Registration Form** to obtain department signatures and register for classes.



- **Senior Art Exhibition at Artworks Gallery, April 14-22**

The gala opening of the 2023 MLWGS Senior Art Exhibition: iSpy at Artworks Gallery was Friday, April 14th from 6-8 PM. The show, which is the capstone event of our visual arts program, will highlight the collected works of 20 Maggie Walker seniors.

Come meet these amazing young artists and mingle with other Maggie Walker art lovers. Artworks Gallery is located at 320 Hull Street, RVA 23224 in the Manchester area of downtown Richmond. The show will continue through April 22.



- **The We the People: The Citizen and Constitution National Finals**

WTP is an academic competition that allows students to display their civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to effectively participate in our constitutional democratic republic through simulated congressional hearings. Approximately one thousand students from forty-eight classes

will participate in 648 half-hour hearings during the National Finals, **April 22-24, 2023**. This year marks MW's 25th appearance at nationals.

The 2023 WTP team was recognized by the RSB at their February meeting.



- **Tomahawk Middle School (Chesterfield) Visits Maggie Walker Governor’s School, Friday, April 21st**

Students are visiting MLWGS during the morning of April 21st for performances and clinics with our chorus, band, and orchestra students.

- **Dare to Be a Dragon Day, April 22nd**

200 fifth graders from all 14 partnering divisions are invited to our school to attend 8 exciting workshops on coding, math, languages, art, drama, creative writing, and more! Note: Gifted coordinators from our partnering divisions agreed to a specific number of invitations based on their current number of seats.

- **Grandparents Day, Friday, April 28th**

Sponsored by the GS Foundation, this is an afternoon event where we invite current students’ grandparents (or other special family members and friends) to learn a little about our school, take a brief tour, and have a reception with their grandchildren.

- **AP Testing May 1 – 12, 2023**

Students will take all exams in a paper-and-pencil, in-person format.

Day – Date	Tests Administered
Monday, May 1	US Government & Politics, Chemistry, and Spanish Literature & Culture

Tuesday, May 2	Chinese Language & Culture, Environmental Science and Psychology
Wednesday, May 3	English Literature & Comp, Comparative Government & Politics, and Computer Science A
Thursday, May 4	Human Geography, Macroeconomics, and Statics
Friday, May 5	European History, US History, and Microeconomics
Monday, May 8	Calculus AB and Calculus BC, Computer Science Principles
Tuesday, May 9	English Language & Comp, Japanese Language, and Physics C – Mechanics, and Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism
Wednesday, May 10	Spanish Language & Culture, and Biology
Thursday, May 11	French Language & Culture, Physics 1 Algebra Based
Friday, May 12	German Language & Culture, Music Theory, and Latin

- **Athletic Signing Day for Seniors, Friday, May 5th**

Maggie Walker will recognize all students participating in varsity athletics at their selected college on Friday, May 5th. Recognition includes all students who have committed to play on a college team (whether Division I, II, or III).

- **Teacher Appreciation Week, May 8 -12, 2023**



B. Coming Events

April 20, 2023, through May 18, 2023

Thursday, April 20 th	Regional School Board Meeting, 9:00 am, Room 153
	Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, 5:30 pm, Cafeteria/Commons
Thursday, April 20 th – Sunday, April 23 rd	MLWGS Robotics Team at Championship in Houston
Friday, April 21 st	Richmond Urban Dance Performance, 6 pm, (Auditorium Rental)
Saturday, April 22 nd	MLWGS Quiz Bowl Team at Spring Tournament, VCU
	Dare to Be A Dragon Day, 8 am – noon, MLWGS
Saturday, April 22 nd – Monday, April 24 th	We the People Nationals, In-Person Competition, Washington, DC
Tuesday, April 25 th	Class of 2023 Group Photo, 11:30 am, Grand Staircase
Wednesday, April 26 th	Interim Reports Available Online
Thursday, April 27 th	Multiple International Language Honor Societies Induction Ceremony, 11:30 am, Auditorium
Thursday, April 27 th – Saturday, April 29 th	One-Acts Performance, 7:00 pm, Black Box
Friday, April 28 th	MLWGS Blood Drive, 9 am – 2 pm, Room 104
Friday, April 29 th	Grandparents Day at MLWGS, 1:30 pm, Auditorium
Saturday, April 30 th	VCU Chinese Cultural Show, 6:00 pm, Auditorium (Auditorium Rental)
Monday, May 1 st	AP Testing - US Government & Politics morning session. Chemistry and Spanish Language & Culture afternoon session
Tuesday, May 2 nd	AP Testing – Chinese Language & Culture and Environment Science AP morning session. Psychology afternoon session.
	Planning Committee Meeting, 10 am, Location TBD
Wednesday, May 3 rd	AP Testing - English Lit & Composition morning session. Comparative Government & Politics and Computer Science A afternoon session
Thursday, May 4 th	AP Testing - Human Geography, and Macroeconomics morning session. Statistics afternoon session
Friday, May 5 th	AP Testing - European History, and US History morning session. Microeconomics afternoon session
	Athletic Signing Day for Colleges, 3:30 pm, Forum
Monday, May 8 th – Friday, May 12 th	Teacher Appreciation Week
Monday, May 8 th	AP Testing - Calculus AB and Calculus BC morning session. Computer Science Principles afternoon session
Tuesday, May 9 th	AP Testing – English Language & Composition, and Japanese Language & Culture morning session. Physics C – Mechanics, and Physics C – Electricity and Magnetism afternoon session
Wednesday, May 10 th	AP Testing – Spanish Language & Culture, morning session. Biology afternoon session

Thursday, May 11 th	AP Testing – French Language & Culture morning session. Physics 1-Algebra Based afternoon session
Friday, May 12 th	AP Testing – German Language & Culture, and Music Theory morning session. Latin afternoon session
Saturday, May 13 th	Junior/Senior Prom at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture, 8 pm
Thursday, May 18 th	Executive School Board Meeting, 9:00 am, Room 153

C. RPS School Board Documents Related to Auditor Engagement Letters FY19-FY22

The outstanding audits for Fiscal Years 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 are being conducted by the firm of Cherry Bekaert, under the supervision of audit engagement partner, Rob Churchman.

- March 7, 2023: Audit engagement letters outlining the scope of work for Fiscal Years 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 were signed by all parties. The auditor provided the Prepared by Client (PBC) list of required audit documentation and schedules for the relevant fiscal years.
- March 31, 2023: Due date for reconciling the RPS General Ledger and providing all audit schedules to the auditor.
- June 30, 2023: Due date for the auditor to complete all remaining audits.

D. Graduation Invitation for the Class of 2023 with Kerry Sheppard, Sponsor [Ms. Sheppard was invited to address the board at the beginning of the Director’s Report but is shown here to align with the agenda]

Ms. Kerry Sheppard was on-hand to provide information about graduation and invitations to board members that were sent to their email addresses.

XII. Unfinished Business

A. Strategic Plan Implementation Report

The Strategic Plan matrix update is located at the end of these minutes.

The director reported on items that are additions to the plan including the professional development from April 10th and the on-campus team that has worked the better part of the year liaising to make this day happen.

He also advised that within the next eighteen months, this plan will need to be updated and a team should be assembled soon to begin this work.

XIII. Materials for Board Review and/or Discussion

- a. **Approval of GS Foundation Officers 2023-2024 Per Amended and Restated Bylaws, Article I (First Read)**

Section 1.3 Election. Candidates for Director of THE FOUNDATION shall be nominated by members of the Board of Directors or by the Governance and Nominations Committee. The names of the nominees shall then be submitted to the Regional School Board for review. Subject to the approval of such candidates by the Regional School Board, candidates for Director shall be elected by the Board of Directors. No individual shall be named or elected as a Director without his or her prior consent.

Section 1.5 Term of Office. Each Director shall serve a term of three years and until his or her successor is elected and qualified, except that (i) each person who serves as an ex officio Director shall serve for as long as such person holds the office entitling him or her to be an ex officio Director unless a different term is provided therefore by the Board of Directors at the time of such person's election; and (ii) any Director filling a vacancy as a result of an increase in the number of Directors shall be designated to serve a term of one (1), two (2) or three (3) years as necessary to most closely achieve a result that one-third (1/3) of the members of the Board of Directors will be elected each year. At the expiration of the term of a Director, such Director shall be eligible for election to another term as a Director, except that no Director may serve more than six (6) years in succession without a break in service.

The Governance and Nominations Committee of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Foundation is pleased to recommend to the MLWGS Regional School Board the following individual for Director of the Foundation for a term of 3 years, beginning on July 1, 2023. If approved by the Regional Board, this slate will be presented to the Foundation Board for election on June 7, 2023.

Officer Nomination

Veronica Chornodolksy (Parent, Chesterfield)

Veronica Chornodolsky has been a Midlothian, VA resident in Chesterfield County since 2015. Her daughter, Sonia, is a sophomore at MLWGS. Veronica is a Pittsburgh, PA native and graduate of the University of Dayton. She lived and worked in Washington, DC for 10 years in public relations and marketing until moving into a consultant role at The Atlantic Magazine, which allowed her to work remotely. Veronica continues to work remotely as a personal business manager for an executive at the US Chamber of Commerce since 2010 and also as an events consultant for The Middleburg Forum. Veronica serves on the organizing committee for the Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies of Washington, DC, for their annual fundraiser since 2014. She is also co-manager of the MLWGS school store, the Dragon's Lair, Class of 2025 parent representative, and co-chair of the Night of the Dragon 2023.

The following **Directors** have agreed to serve as officers of the Board in 2023-2024. They will be officially elected at the Foundation's June Annual Meeting:

Chair–Stinson Mundy '97*

Vice Chair–Beth Simms*

Treasurer– Karen Setzer*

Secretary– Jewel Caven*

Committee Chairs

The following Directors have agreed to serve as committee chairs for Board committees in 2023-2024. They will officially begin their terms on July 1, 2023.

Alumni Steering:

Current (2022-2023): Erin Ortiz '06/Karen Setzer '99

2023-2024: Erin Ortiz '06

Development:

Current (2022-2023): Brian Baird

2023-2024: Brian Baird*

Events:

Current (2022-2023): Beth Simms

2023-2024: Julie Seabury

Finance:

Current (2022-2023): Adam Powers '10

2023-2024: Adam Powers '10*

Governance and Nominations:

Current (2022-2023): Emily Stegmaier Winbigler '00

2023-2024: Emily Stegmaier Winbigler '00*

Rolling Off

One Director will be rolling off the Foundation Board following the close of the Foundation's meeting on June 7, 2023:

Karen Setzer '99 **

* Returning

** Karen has agreed to continue to serve in the role of Treasurer

MLWGS Foundation Board members' approval will be sought at the Board's Executive Committee May 2023 meeting.

Ms. Harris inquired about diversity on the Foundation board. Ms. O'Neil answered the Foundation strives for diversity as one of its goals. The Foundation also strives for geographic diversity which can be a little harder because of distance. Ms. O'Neil added she believes it to be a diverse board.

Ms. White asked what the number of board members is, to which Ms. O'Neil answered 18. She then asked for the diversity composition as a follow-up to her previous question while stating we are doing the same at RPS. Ms. O'Neil shared her sight observations of the diversity of the Foundation board members.

b. **Textbook Adoption AY24** (*First Read*)

The MLWGS textbook adoption process for implementation in 2023-24 followed proper protocol. The social studies and science departments are seeking the adoption of new textbooks in the following courses: Chemistry and Human Geography.

A notice was posted to the MLWGS website on March 17, 2023:

The social studies and science departments have selected textbooks, which are available for public view, review, and comment, in our school's library until Wednesday, April 12th. Evaluation forms and a labeled envelope for completed forms are located next to the books.

Science

Introduction to Organic Chemistry: Intensive

Hart, Harold; Hadad, Christopher M.; Craine, Leslie E.; Hart, David J. *Organic Chemistry: A Short Course, 13th edition*, ISBN: 9780357670897, Cengage Publishing, 2012

Price: \$217.95 x 22 = \$4794.90 (without shipping)

McMurry, John, *Organic Chemistry, 9th edition*, ISBN: 9781305080485, Cengage Publishing, 2016

Price: \$347.95 x 22 = \$7654.90

Klein, David R., *Organic Chemistry, 4th edition*, ISBN: 978-1-119-65959-4, Wiley Publishing, 2020

Price: \$112.50 for e-book x 22 = \$2475.00

Introduction to Biochemistry: Intensive

McKee, James R. and McKee, Trudy; *Biochemistry: The Molecular Basis of Life, 7th Edition*, ISBN: 9780190847609, Oxford University Press, 2019

Price: \$129.98 x 22 = \$2859.56

Nelson, David L. and Cox, Michael M.; *Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, 8th Edition*, ISBN: 9781319228002, Macmillan Publishing, 2021

Price: \$246.99 for e-book; \$362.99 for paperback

Miesfeld, Roger L. and McEvoy, Megan M.; *Biochemistry, 2nd Edition*, ISBN: 9780393533491, Norton Publishing, 2021

Price: \$99.00 per year for e-book; \$236.25 for hardcover

AP Human Geography

Hildebrant, Lu, Keller, Neumann, *Human Geography for the AP Course*. ISBN: (Need to check with representative), Bedford, Freeman, & Worth, Boston/New York 2021

Publisher Description: "Human Geography for the AP® Course was written by veteran AP® experts who know the challenges students face in taking the AP® course and preparing for the AP® exam. These authors have created a textbook that supports the content and skills required for students to be successful, and they offer a multitude of practice questions. Available in print and digital formats, this book will prepare students better than any other AP® text."

Budget: Approximately \$5480.00 Estimated cost of **\$137.00** per textbook.

Bednarz, Bockenbauer, Hiebert, *Human Geography A Spatial Perspective*, AP Edition
ISBN: 0357119088, Cengage, 2021

Publisher Description: “Human Geography A Spatial Perspective is designed specifically for high school AP students. It aligns closely to the College Board Course and Exam Description to improve student performance on the AP Exam. The program emphasizes learning through inquiry; establishes real-world content authenticity through the storytelling of National Geographic Explorers and photographers; offers original National Geographic videos shot across the world; encourages students to write routinely and use qualitative, quantitative, and spatial information; provides Formative Assessments--including "Unpacking the FRQ activities--that increase student confidence and familiarity with course content and assessment formats; provides Summative Assessment test practice aligned to the AP exam.”

Budget: Approximately \$6120.00 Estimated Cost: **\$153.00** per textbook.

Rubenstein, *The Cultural Landscape*, 13th Edition, AP Edition. ISBN: 9780135116159, Pearson, 2019

Publisher Description: “The Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography uses a structured learning path to explore the patterns and processes of Earth’s human landscapes. Rubenstein weaves the themes of globalization and diversity and their relationship throughout the text, addressing these themes with a clear organization and presentation that will engage you.

The 13th Edition incorporates the latest data and applied examples of human geography, helps you connect global concepts and phenomena to your local geography, and engages you in active debate around the most critical topics of human geography.”

Budget: Approximately \$7040 (Estimated Cost: \$176.00 per textbook.)

Textbook adoptions for AY2023-24. Approval will be requested at the May 2023 Executive RSB meeting.

XIV. Information Items

- Finance Committee Meeting Minutes, April 14, 2023
- GSMUN 25 Raises Over \$12,000 for Charity
- Battle of the Brains Post-Season All-Star is MLWGS Junior
- MLWGS Orchestra Earns Superior and Excellent Ratings
- MW Debate Takes 1st Place at Regionals
- Baseball Seminar Travels to Cooperstown in March
- Two Dragons Create PSA for Hitting Cancer Below the Belt
- MLWGS competes at the National Japan Bowl April 13-14

XV. Superintendent’s Steering Committee Report

Dr. Nichols reported on the morning superintendent’s steering committee meeting where the group talked about several items on the board’s agenda, primarily the budget and what could be done with the anticipated correctional revenue from the State if received.

XVI. New Business

None.

XVII. Closed Meeting

None.

XVIII. Certification of Closed Meeting

None.

XIX. Announcements/Additional Discussion

None.

XX. Adjournment of Regular Meeting

A motion to adjourn was made by Mariah White and was unanimously approved at 9:40 am.

Next Meeting

May 18, 2023, at 9:00 am for the Executive School Board at MLWGS, 1000 N. Lombardy St., Room 153, Richmond, VA 23220. 804-354-6800 x2190.

Kenneth Pritchett, Chair

Robert Lowerre, Ph.D., Director

Minutes Recorded by:
Barbara Marshall, Regional Board Clerk

Continued

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

DATE: April 22, 2023

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
OBJ 1.1	MLWGS will engage and educate our school districts about the opportunities available to them in our learning environment.			2020	
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. A middle school counselor day took place in September of 2022. Dare to be a Dragon Day is scheduled for 5 th grade students in April 2023.		
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	A Full-time School Social Worker has been hired.		
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	Bathroom policies have been addressed.		
1.2.4	Enhance communications to make sure students have knowledge of and are able to seek resources	Counseling	School Psychologist has sent out multiple messages regarding mental		

			health resources as well as holding parent training sessions		
1.2.5	Facilitate student input and feedback	Administration, Counseling	Surveys completed by SAC and VSCS		
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. The Walker Way Welcome Day was implemented in August 2022.		
1.2.7	Equip faculty with tools to foster an inclusive environment	Administration, External Trainers	Year one of Cultural Competency PD has been completed. Year two has also been completed culminating in a full-day of PD on belonging led by a DEI expert.		
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,l, 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. A focused effort		

			has been made to recruit minority faculty and staff candidates.		
1.4.2	Strengthen professional development resources for faculty.	Dr. Williams, Dr. Lowerre, Mr. Smith	Comprehensive PD has begun with positive feedback from staff.		
1.4.3	Develop hiring strategy.	Leadership Team	We have actively targeted HBCUs and other colleges with information about employment openings.		
1.4.4	Develop outreach program for recruiting teachers from multiple districts and education graduate schools.	Dr. Lowerre	We have actively targeted HBCUs and other colleges with information about employment openings.		
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
				2020-2021	
OBJ 2.1	Students will engage in exciting distinctive courses that are designed to deepen students interest.				
2.1.1	Encourage a collaborative environment for ongoing innovation of all course offerings.	Admin, Mr. Zweerink	New classes have been offered and 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 and we have established a strong dual enrollment program.		
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 including ones that target undertaught areas. Several new courses have been added to the Course Catalog.		
2.1.5	Expand student enrollment in SGC's and teacher-developed courses.	Dr. Lowerre	New Courses have been 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 has been established. We have also entered into an exchange program with a school in Germany.		
2.1.7	Develop a reimagined FIRC course to equip freshmen to succeed at MLWGS	Dr. Lowerre and Culture Sub-Committee	A sub-committee has been 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	Following the COVID pandemic, a renewed effort to assess and implement student-centered learning strategies has been taking place.		
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	Departments have been reaching out to the community to bring in alumni and others to enhance instruction and learning.		
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	Responsible Party	Measure-Ment	Year to begin Implemen-tation	Cost to Budget

	WITH EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES.				
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	Participation in the Virginia School Climate Survey. Jan 2022		
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	Discussions have taken place with the superintendents.		
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			