

MINUTES

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

Thursday, June 15, 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 Executive School Board and visitors stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Introductions

Each member is listed in alphabetical order by locality.

Present:

Mr. John Wright, *School Board*, Goochland County Public Schools
Rev. Roscoe Cooper, *School Board*, Henrico County Public Schools
Ms. Harwood Hall, *School Board*, King & Queen Public Schools
Ms. Sarah Grier Barber, *School Board*, New Kent Public Schools
Mr. Kenneth Pritchett, *School Board*, Petersburg Public Schools
Dr. Lisa Williams, *Assistant Director*, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School
Ms. Barbara Marshall, *Clerk*, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School
Mr. Lucas Veale, *Deputy Clerk*, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School

Absent:

Dr. Robert Lowerre *Director*, Maggie L. Walker Governor's School

Not Required to Attend:

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 County Public Schools
Mr. Bob May, *School Board*, Hanover County Public Schools
Ms. Linda Hyslop, *School Board*, Hopewell Public Schools
Ms. Valarie Ayers, *School Board*, Powhatan County Public Schools
Ms. Cecil Smith, *School Board*, Prince George Public Schools
Ms. Mariah White, *School Board*, Richmond Public Schools

Dr. Dalphine Jopy, *Superintendent*, Charles City Public Schools
Dr. Merv Daugherty, *Superintendent*, Chesterfield County Public Schools
Dr. Joseph Cox, *Interim Superintendent*, Colonial Heights Public Schools
Dr. Kari Weston, *Superintendent*, Dinwiddie Public Schools
Dr. Andy Armstrong, *Interim Superintendent*, Goochland County Public Schools
Dr. Melody Hackney, *Superintendent*, Hopewell Public Schools
Dr. Carol Carter, *Superintendent*, King & Queen Public Schools
Dr. Tamara Sterling, *Superintendent*, Petersburg 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
Dr. Beth Teigen, *Superintendent*, Powhatan County Public Schools
Dr. Lisa Pennycuff, *Superintendent*, Prince George Public Schools
Mr. Jason Kamras, *Superintendent*, Richmond Public Schools

Also present:

Ed Coleman – MLWGS Staff representing SAC
Deborah Snagg – MLWGS Staff

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

The assistant director made a note that item XI.d, which is the Annual Student Wellness Report, has been postponed until the August meeting with the Board.

On a motion by Sarah Barber to approve the agenda, seconded by John Wright, the agenda for this meeting was unanimously approved on a voice vote.

VI. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by John Wright, seconded by Harwood Hall, the minutes of the regular meeting of May 18, 2023, were approved on a unanimous voice vote.

VII. Recognitions

- None.

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.

Submitted online by Rachel Savoy Caldwell

Dear Regional School Board Members,

“I noticed from the April Board meeting minutes that the two-year cultural competency initiative for teachers wrapped up on April 10th. I hope that such a sustained focus on the topic helped teachers feel more equipped to welcome a diverse student body into their classrooms. As a teacher myself, I know that our time is precious, and quality PD is so important. I applaud Dr. Williams’s (and I’m sure many others’) efforts to develop such a thoughtful program of PD.

I’m also eager to hear how the Dare to Be A Dragon Day went. Was there good participation from many of the partnering divisions? I know that recruiting a diverse population of qualified students starts early, and I am excited to see this tradition take-off.

Thanks for your continued support of Maggie Walker’s growth and improvement - we alumni hope that current students get to have the best version of MLW possible.”

Ms. Marshall has been requested by the chair to respond to Ms. Savoy Caldwell's inquiry regarding Dare To Be A Dragon Day. Dr. Williams has kindly offered to provide the necessary information for communication.

IX. Consent Items

On a motion by John Wright, seconded by Roscoe Cooper, the following consent agenda items were unanimously approved as a slate on a voice vote: June personnel actions, fiscal status reports for May 31, 2023, and the donation report of May 31, 2023.

X. Action Items

a. FY23 Assignment of Reserve Funds (Second Read)

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board statement 54 (GASB 54) establishes fund balance classifications and provides a hierarchy of spending constraints. MLWGS implemented GASB 54 beginning in FY2011.

Under GASB 54, *Assigned fund balance* represents amounts *intended* to be used for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the

governing body delegates the authority. Assigned fund balance also includes any portion of the fund balance that will be incorporated into the subsequent year's budget. The governing body must take *formal action* that specifies to whom the delegation of authority to recommend fund balance assignments is given (i.e., the Director).

Unassigned fund balance represents resources remaining after all other classifications have been met and are available for any purpose.

*It is estimated that on June 30, 2023, the General Fund balance will be **\$1,077,681.96**, and the Capital Improvement Fund balance will be **\$218.60**. I propose that by June 30, 2023, we move **\$0.00** from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund which will bring the Capital Improvement Fund to **\$218.60**, leaving **\$1,077,681.96** in the General Fund, **\$426,314.00** of which will be assigned to benefit reserve. That will leave a balance of **\$651,367.96** in unassigned reserve in the General Fund.*

During the meeting, Dr. Williams discussed the concerns regarding maintenance and mentioned the possibility of using funds from the general, reserve, or capitol accounts for repairs if needed. Mr. Wright explained that the delay in addressing these issues was due to ongoing discussions about the exact amount of available funds, and that they (administration and RSB) were waiting for confirmation rather than relying on estimates. When asked about a timeline for resolution, Mr. Wright mentioned that based on his conversation with the auditor, it was expected to be sometime during the summer.

On a motion from John Wright, seconded by Sarah Barber, the FY23 assignment of reserve funds as recommended by the administration was unanimously approved on a voice vote, with the understanding these amounts could be amended at the August or September meeting if necessary.

XI. Director's Report

a. Verbal Update

- **The Class of 2023 had 179 Graduates (some of the totals below are updated from the May report)**

As a class, they have performed a total of **40,432.75 community service hours**. This is an average of approximately 226 hours per student.

Carson Wang (Henrico) reported **773 hours of community service**.

As a class, they earned **\$13.3 million in scholarship offers as of May 16th**, and that number continues to grow.

The average **GPA was 4.3**.

The average **SAT score was 1410** and **ACT is 31** (official numbers in the fall).

They are going to 63 different colleges, 107 are staying in-state, 66 are going out-of-state, and four are attending college outside the United States. One student is planning to take a gap year. Bethany Robinson (Prince George) has enlisted in the United States Marine Corps.

Fourteen were National Merit Finalists and 45 more received Commendations in the National Merit Program. **Four were offered National Merit Scholarships. One was awarded a corporate-sponsored scholarship through National Merit.**

Four were Presidential Scholar candidates.

In total, the Class of 2023 was recognized with **371 honors, awards, and scholarships!**

- **Summer Building Activities and Projects:**

- Two summer camps with Cadence Theater:
 - Camp 1 – June 19th – June 30th, Jammin in June with performances of Disney’s Aladdin Kids and The SpongeBob Musical: Youth Edition.
 - Camp 2 – July 10th – July 21st, Jammin in July with performances of Shrek The Musical JR.
- The policy committee will review the May VSBA updates for the board first-read in August.
- Finance will be busy closing out FY23 and starting FY24 with initial textbook orders and supplies.
- The administration will work to develop an RFP for the replacement of one rooftop unit with a 36-week lead time.
- HR will be processing new employees into payroll and benefits. VRS and insurance groups will be updated with new salaries.
- The technology group is working on:
 - Data and Server Center
 - *Infrastructure upgrades to include Firewall, FortiVoice VOIP, Wireless network (WLAN), Internet Service (ISP), and vCenter systems*
 - Computer Carts/Labs - *Updates and Repairs*
 - Classroom Interactive Panels - *Installations*
 - Website Platform - *Updates and Repairs*
 - General - *Account and Device Management and Inventory*
 - Technology Training - *Preparation for New Staff and Students*
- Department of Education web-based materials will be updated, including the school operating schedule and contact details, and the administrative manual.
- Counseling will receive records from the home divisions on incoming freshmen for updates in the MLWGS database. Student scheduling is still being tweaked and SOL scores will be updated.
- Security is pursuing additional staffing and working to implement a new ID Card System
- Annual gymnasium floor refurbishing is underway in June.
- The facility department will be busy on summer maintenance items, including; cleaning and lubricating rooftop units, painting and repairs to classrooms and furniture, replacing damaged ceiling tiles, and replacing lighting as needed.
- The sanitation team will perform its annual deep clean of the entire facility.

- **College Boot Camp for seniors will be held August 7th-9th** with two sessions each day, 9 am–noon, and 1 pm–4 pm.
- **Walker Way Welcome Day** has been organized by Dr. Williams, Ed Coleman, and Joy Cobb. It will occur on Monday, August 14th, the day before the official freshman orientation, and will be open to all freshmen. Some of the activities will include an intro to the Walker Way pillars with skits, scavenger hunts, icebreakers, card games, and other opportunities for incoming freshmen to engage and interact.
- **Reopening of School Preparations:**
 - Fall athletic season begins July 31, and student try-outs and practice start
 - College Boot Camp for Seniors (above) on August 7th-9th
 - New Teacher Academy on August 9th
 - Teachers return on August 10th
 - Walker Way Welcome Day (above) on August 14th
 - 9th Grade Orientation Day is scheduled for August 15th
 - Faculty professional development is scheduled for August 11th and 16th
 - Instruction for students begins August 21st.

b. Coming Events May 15th – August 17th, 2023

Monday, June 12 th – August	Summer Operating Hours, M-Thur, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm. Closed each Friday.
Monday, June 12 th – Wednesday, June 28 th	RSB approved Germany Exchange with MLWGS students traveling to Europe
Wednesday, June 14 th	MLWGS students return from RSB-approved trip to Spain
Thursday, June 15 th	Executive School Board Meeting, 9:00 am, Room 153
	Cadence Theater Load-In
Sunday, June 18 th – Thursday, June 22 nd	VUU Football Camp on the MLWGS Athletic Field
Monday, June 19 th	Holiday – Office Closed
Monday, June 19 th – Friday, June 30 th	Cadence Theater Summer Camp, 8:00 am – 3:15 pm, Black Box, Commons, + 2 classrooms, occasional use of Auditorium.
Monday, June 27 th	Last Day for Department Chairs
Monday, June 27 th – Thursday, August 5 th	Summer Operating Schedule Begins, 7:30 am – 5: 30 pm, M-Thur., Closed each Friday
Tuesday, July 4 th	Holiday – Closed
Monday, July 10 th – Friday, July 21 st	Cadence Theater Summer Camp, 8:00 am – 3:15 pm, Black Box, Commons, + 2 classrooms, occasional use of Auditorium.
Wednesday, July 12 th	New Resident Testing, 9:00 am, Room 153
Wednesday, August 2 nd	First Day for Department Chairs
Monday, August 7 th	Normal Operating Schedule Resumes
Monday, August 7 th – Wednesday, August 9 th	College Boot Camp for Rising Seniors, two sessions daily, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

Wednesday, August 9 th	New Teacher Academy, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Room 153
Thursday, August 10 th	First Day for Teachers
Friday, August 11 th	Professional Development for Faculty
Monday, August 14 th	Walker Way Welcome Day for freshmen, 8:30 am – 2:00 pm
Tuesday, August 15 th	Freshman Orientation, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm
Wednesday, August 16 th	Professional Development for Faculty
Thursday, August 17 th	Regional School Board Meeting, 9:00 am, Room 153

c. Annual Field Trip Report to the Board for AY23

Presented for board information required by policy 4006.

Field Trip Report 2022-2023

Date:	Organization:	Sponsor:	Location:	Purpose:	*Student Cost
9/12/2022	Polarpalooza Seminar	L. Reed	Va Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA)	Scotch Whaler exhibit	\$0
9/19/2022	We The People	S. Ulmschneider	James Madison Montpelier	Study the constitution	\$0
9/21/2022	Env. Science Classes 1, 3,	D. Barnes	Bryan Park, RVA	Field Studies for Environmental Science	\$0
9/23/2022	Yearbook	M. White	Fulghum Conference Center	Yearbook workshop	\$0
9/30/2022	Civil Rights Movement	R. Cross	Nat'l Museum of African American Hist	Study the history of African American cult	\$0
10/11/2022	Brit Lit & Drama Classes	L. Glatt	VCU Arts Theatre	Enhance & enrich study of Brit lit & arts	\$0
10/23/2022	Photography	G. Stinnett	Blueridge - Humpback Rock	Photography, hiking, apple picking	\$0
11/3/2022	Art 1 classes	D. Utterback	Maymont Part	scientific illustration	\$0
11/4-11/6/2022	Model United Nations	M. Smith	College of William & Mary	Helps student to engage in research	\$150
11/10-11/12/2022	Princeton Model Congre	R. Lowerre	Washington, DC	conference	\$0
12/2/2022	Art & Seminars	J. Hall, Benesh	Washington, DC Smithsonian	Art & Architecture	\$35
1/27/2023	Photography	G. Stinnett	Va Beach - Charles City	Photographing whales & wildlife	\$0
2/16-19/2023	Model United Nations	M. Smith	Norfolk, VA	To debate/discuss major world events	\$150
2/23-2/26/2023	Civil Rights Movement	R. Cross/E. Colema	Alabama & Georgia	to learn about civil rights/literature	\$150
2/23/2023	Spanish Conversation	R. Bradner	Belle Island - James River	Study ecosystem	\$0
3/1/2023	US History	K. Rogers	VMHC	Study US History in the museum	\$2
3/8-10/2023	SABR	D. Benesh	Phoenix, AZ	SABR Diamond Dollars competition	\$1,000
3/10-3/11/2023	Photojournalism	G. Stinnett	Farmville, VA	Camping	\$0
3/23-3/24/2023	Baseball Seminar	D. Bensch	Cooperstown, NY	Research at Baseball Hall of Fame	\$500
3/23-24/2024	Music	A. Barnes	Atlanta, GA		\$600
3/13/2023	We The People	S. Ulmschneider	Va Supreme Court, JM House	Study law systems	\$0
3/27/2023	German Class	K. Macklin	Jamestown/Williamsburg, VA	Touring explaining history to German students	\$7.25
3/29/2023	German Class	K. Macklin	Charlottesville, VA	Tour Monticello with German exchange studen	\$13
3/31/2023	Visual Arts	J. Hall, Stinnett	New York	To study fashion & art	\$700
3/30-31/2023	Comparative Govt	D. Brown	Ireland	Study of parliamentary systems	\$1,875
4/13-4/15/2023	Japanese Class	Y. Eshita	Univ. of Maryland	Japanese Quiz Bowl	\$0
<p>Executive Summary: The 2022-2023 school year showed an uptick in field trips at MLWGS from the previous school year. This is to be expected with the easing of COVID restrictions and diminishing fear of a resurgence. Teachers were encouraged to take their students further afield and have additional authentic experiences. This is reflected in the report above. Costs increased as trips went out of state or even out of the country but once again the MLWGS Foundation has done an admirable job of supporting student financial aid to make all trips accessible to all students.</p>					

Ms. Barber said she is pleased to see the wide variety of field trips taken by MLWGS students.

d. Annual Student Wellness Report to the Board for AY23 (Policy 4075) – postponed until the August meeting during Agenda Approval, Item V.b.

e. GS Foundation FY24 Enhancement Grant Information

This FY24 Enhancement Grant request was submitted to the Governor's School Foundation by Dr. Lowerre for the 2023-2024 school year and approved by the Foundation Board at its June 7 meeting. It is a fairly significant increase from last year's approved request (\$45,000) that reflects, in part, the increase in the number of students enrolled next year, increased costs for travel, a widening of the opportunities and experiences available to our students post-covid, and increased costs for teacher professional development. The Foundation will be working with MLWGS administration over the summer to clarify the parameters for funding and ways to better communicate the internal processes used by the school to teachers.

Presented for board information annually.

Board Approved Grants (6/7/23) BUDGET	
TEACHERS	
GRADUATE COURSEWORK	\$ 18,000.00
CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS	\$ 10,000.00
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS	\$ 2,000.00
STUDENTS	
INSTRUCTIONAL ENHANCEMENT	\$ 15,000.00
ACADEMIC CLUBS AND TEAMS	\$ 18,000.00
STUDENT AID	\$ 25,000.00
WE THE PEOPLE	\$ 24,000.00
EVOLUTION OF LONDON SEMINAR TRAVEL	\$ 18,000.00
AP COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT TRAVEL	\$ 15,000.00
BASEBALL SEMINAR	\$ 16,000.00
MATH MODELING (SABR Analytics)	\$ 24,000.00
CIVIL RIGHTS SEMINAR	\$ 10,000.00
MENA SEMINAR	\$ 10,000.00
PANAMA TRIP	\$ 10,000.00
OTHER STUDENT TRAVEL	\$ 10,000.00
TOTALS	\$ 225,000.00

f. School Advisory Council (SAC) AY23 Year-End Report to the RSB with Ed Coleman, Representative for the Chair

**Maggie L. Walker School Advisory Council 2022-2023
End of Year Report
Rachel Gable – Chair**

It is my pleasure to share the following report on the activities of the Maggie Walker Governor's School for Government & International Studies (MLWGS) School Advisory Council (SAC) for the 2022-2023 academic year. This year, SAC was comprised of nineteen members who provided a range of perspectives on matters related to the enhancement of the school, its culture, and its role in the broader region. SAC representatives included:

- 6- Parents (representing various school districts)
- 4- Students (2 juniors, 2 seniors)
- 4- Faculty and Staff
- 3- Director's Appointees (one faculty, one parent, one alumnus)
- 1- Gifted Coordinator
- 1- Administrative Representative

SAC members met as a full group six times this academic year. Committees were formed and tasks were identified at the outset of the year, and committee members met in small groups regularly throughout the year to identify and accomplish near-term goals and to monitor progress toward long-term goals established by the MLWGS Strategic Plan. This year's committees included the following:

- Nominations and Bylaws
- Policy and Curriculum
- Culture and Student Engagement
- Strategic Marketing Plan
- Prospective Students Early Engagement
- Measurement and Methodology Team

In addition to work accomplished in committees, the SAC is available to the Regional School Board and the school administration for ad-hoc advisory services. At its September meeting, four SAC members agreed to serve on an ad hoc Measurement and Methodology Team if advisory requests arose during the calendar year. While the SAC did not receive any such requests during 2022-2023, I would advise that SAC members continue to form a Measurement and Methodology Team again in 2023-2024.

A summary of the work accomplished by each committee is outlined below.

Nominations and Bylaws

There were no requests for review or changes to the bylaws this year. Given that the bylaws were updated most recently in 2018, the committee recommends that they be reviewed for potential revisions in the upcoming academic year.

This year concluded the service term for two parents (Rachel Gable, Leigh Anne Ratliff), one faculty (Dr. Rachel Loving), and two students (Sean Fang, Audrey Paulson). Faculty representative Ed Coleman spearheaded the nominations, interview, and selection process to replace departing SAC members. Mr. Coleman and committee members interviewed candidates in the month of April, and the full SAC committee voted on new members during its May meeting. Parents Asima Chakravorty and Allison Dunnaway, and students Sophia Watson and Sonia Chornodolsky were invited to join SAC for 2023-2024. The selection process to replace outgoing faculty has been scheduled for August 2023. Director's Appointees Lynn Pleveich, Matteo Carter, and Laura McCoy all agreed to serve again in the 2023-2024 year on one-year renewable terms.

Policy and Curriculum

The SAC Committee on Policy and Curriculum has worked the last two academic years (2021-2022, 2022-2023) to examine and produce recommendations related to course labeling and weighting at MLWGS. Through its subcommittee on grading and weighting, the committee gathered feedback from students and colleges through two surveys (see attached results summaries for the [student survey](#) and [college survey](#)) and partnered with a faculty committee to **develop a recommendation to create a new course label, called “Intensive,” to replace the current label, “University,”** to better describe courses requiring exceptional commitment and intense work at or above the Advanced Placement or Dual Enrollment level. This new label acknowledges and rewards the additional rigor expected of students and comes with an additional one-point grade weight. All “Intensive” level courses will include a discipline-appropriate culminating assessment (e.g. research paper, presentation, portfolio, exam, or other capstone project) from which no student may be exempt. Teachers interested in having their challenging honors courses re-labeled as “Intensive” with a 1.0 weight worked with their Department Chairs to formally request approval for the label change in January 2023. Courses approved by the administration were announced prior to the start of spring registration. The new label was announced to the Regional School Board at the January 2023 meeting and introduced to students during course scheduling assemblies during the week of January 23rd, 2023. The 2023-2024 Course Catalog will be the first year to introduce the new “Intensive” level offerings. The SAC Committee on Policy and Curriculum plans to continue liaising with faculty and administrators to assess the extent to which the new course label achieves its aim.

A general summary of the process and final recommendations concerning course labeling and weighting is [attached here](#).

School Culture and Student Engagement

This committee continued its mission of creating a more accepting and inclusive environment at MLWGS by facilitating new events and activities for students and teachers. Student feedback was solicited regarding decreasing barriers to student participation via a student survey conducted at the annual Fall Festival event. Inclusive activities included designing cultural heritage displays for Native American Heritage Month, African American History Month, and Women’s History Month as well as facilitating student engagement opportunities for African American History Month and Women’s History Month. To round the year off, the subcommittee expanded its efforts by assisting in Dare to Be a Dragon Day. During this event, 200 fifth graders from our partnering districts visited MLWGS to engage in a variety of activities that illuminated our school’s vibrant culture.

Strategic Marketing Plan

The Strategic Marketing Plan Committee met several times throughout the year to strategize ways to excite and engage prospective students about Maggie Walker’s unique culture and curriculum. While several methods were discussed, the committee ultimately decided on the creation of a flier to be distributed to middle schoolers. The flier was drafted and given to members of Maggie Walker’s administration for feedback and is currently in its final stages before it is ready for distribution. Additionally, the committee discussed ways in which Maggie Walker administration could assess middle schoolers’ engagement and knowledge about Maggie Walker and considered

whether this would be best done through a middle school counselor survey or a middle school parent survey. Moving forward, the committee hopes to begin the distribution of the flier and continue to create resources to increase middle school engagement and participation.

Prospective Students Early Engagement

During the 2022-23 school year, this committee developed a wide array of ideas to shine a light on all that Maggie Walker has to offer to better inform and attract younger students. The group laid the groundwork for the execution of larger-scale projects next year, namely an activities fair featuring high-interest MLWGS clubs geared toward older elementary school students and younger middle school students. Committee members met with and sought input from student club leaders and concluded that an Activities Fair facilitated in conjunction with SAC members is a feasible strategy for prospective students' early engagement. While this idea for a Fair was not executed this year, the committee proposes to develop a strategy and timeline for such an event in the upcoming calendar year. Committee members also began working with the Strategic Marketing Plan subcommittee to develop an informative, tangible resource covering the highlights of Maggie Walker's history and community that clubs visiting local elementary schools can distribute. Overall, this group successfully identified and outlined solutions to the various obstacles detracting from a wider applicant pool, providing a strong launching pad for the committee's work in the next year.

Measurement and Methodology Team

This ad hoc committee was formed to respond to ad hoc requests from the school administration or from the Regional School Board, as well as to serve as methodology experts as SAC continues to refine its research aim in support of school enhancements.

Year-End Business: Selection of 2023-2024 Officers

The SAC is fortunate to have exceptionally qualified and engaged members committed to serve in the upcoming year. Officers for the upcoming year are selected among continuing members at the final business meeting of the current year. During its May meeting, the SAC received nominations and voted to elect officers for 2023-2024. The following SAC members were elected to officer roles: parent Julie Solomon - Chair, parent Bethany Brady Spalding - Vice Chair, teacher Dr. Christine Anderson - Secretary, and teacher Sam Ulmschneider - Historian. These four current SAC members share a wealth of knowledge that will serve the larger school community and the SAC well in the new academic year.

We thank the 2022-2023 officers for their service and acknowledge the important work they accomplished, all while laying the groundwork to achieve long-term goals in the years to come. Outgoing officers Rachel Gable – Chair, Dr. Rachel Loving – Vice Chair, and Leigh Anne Ratliff – Secretary concluded their terms as SAC members this spring. Outgoing officer Dr. Lisa Williams – Historian will continue on SAC in 2023-2024; her guidance will provide valuable continuity and perspective for the newly elected officers as they establish objectives for the year.

Looking Ahead

The SAC maintains a high level of commitment to the MLWGS community with its thoughtful

guidance developed through iterative and collaborative engagement with the school's many stakeholder groups. We thank all the outgoing members and officers for their impressive efforts this year, and we look forward to a great year ahead with incoming members and a new officers. We would like to take a moment to congratulate our graduating seniors, Sean Fang and Audrey Paulson, as they say farewell to Maggie Walker and set their sights on exciting possibilities in college. Both Sean and Audrey led committees and provided tremendous insight, guidance, and leadership during their two years on SAC. As with so many of our high school members, their work was both impressive and inspiring. When we think about SAC's role in the larger school community, we are pleased that students and parents continue to show a strong interest in the work of SAC, and we take our advisory responsibility seriously in the spirit of enhancing the school. We view this organization as special in large part because of the diversity of opinion and the thoughtful recommendations provided by students, faculty, administrators, parents, and key stakeholders within the community. I would like to conclude this report by echoing the remarks of Michael Larkin, the 2021-2022 SAC Chair, in last year's end of year report, "We've developed a culture of collaboration, inclusion, and respect over the last several years, and I look forward to seeing an even greater impact of the School Advisory Council in the future."

I would like to close by encouraging the Regional School Board to continue leveraging the School Advisory Council for input and recommendations. On behalf of the entire SAC membership, thank you for the opportunity to serve MLWGS and its constituents.

On behalf of the board, the chair thanked Mr. Coleman for this report.

II. Unfinished Business

b. Strategic Plan Implementation Report

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

During the meeting, Dr. Williams went through the plan updates, which highlighted the importance of creating a more welcoming and inclusive environment for students. The team successfully hired a coordinator for strategic engagement, an experienced professional who will address student concerns and help achieve this goal.

Next year's professional development will prioritize wellness and mindfulness in accordance with the strategic plan. During the meeting, Dr. Williams mentioned a bank of 500 PD opportunities available for teachers to choose from and expressed gratitude towards Ms. Wendy DeGroat for her help in developing the bank.

XIII. Items for Board Review and/or Discussion

a. Annual Authorization of DOE Signatures 2023-2024 (*First Read*)

At the August 2023 meeting, the Director suggests that the Regional School Board choose a designated signature to use when the Director is not available for the Department of Education.

b. Annual Certification of the MLWGS Crisis Manual 2023-2024 (*First Read*)

Each school board shall ensure that every school that it supervises shall develop a written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan, consistent with the definition provided in this section. MLWGS has developed such a plan and it describes the components of a medical emergency response plan in coordination with local emergency medical services providers, the training of school personnel and students to respond to a life-threatening emergency, and the equipment required for this emergency response. The Regional School Board shall review this plan annually and has the authority to withhold or limit the review of any security plans and specific vulnerability assessment components as provided in subdivision 7 of §2.2-3705.2. The Superintendent (Director) shall certify in writing that the review has taken place no later than August 31 of each year to the Virginia Center for School Safety VCSS.

The existing Crisis Plan was originally approved by the Regional School Board on August 21, 2008. The updated manual will be available for Board viewing at the August 2023 meeting. Unless otherwise noted, updates generally reflect personnel changes and vendor contact updates.

Approval will be sought at the Board's August 2023 meeting.

c. 2023-2024 Student Handbook (*First Read*)

Updates to the student handbook will be proved in August and changes highlighted in the document. The handbook is currently under construction for AY24.

Approval will be sought at the Board's August 2023 meeting.

d. Health and Dental Benefit Rates 2023-2024 (*First Read*)

Renewal rates are typically updated in August. The Regional School Board will be asked to review and approve new rates at their August meeting.

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 October 1, 2023.

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

Approval for new health and dental premium rates will be sought at the Board's August 2023 meeting.

XIV. Information

- Finance Committee Meeting, June 8, 2023
- Farewell to Departing Faculty
- Graduation for the Class of 2023 plus Ceremony Animation. The keynote speaker for 2023 was Lucy Dacus, singer and songwriter, and MLWGS alum.
- MW Quiz Bowl Travels to Atlanta for the NAQT Nationals plus Results

- MW Latin Students Win the Gamma Division of the 93rd Annual Latin Tournament
- MW Regional Tennis Champions, Boys' Team, and Girl's Team
- MW Region 3 VHSL State Champions, Boy's Team, and Girl's Team
- MW Girl's Track Wins 3B Regionals Championship

XV. New Business

None.

XVI. Announcements

None.

XVII. Adjournment

On a motion by Roscoe Cooper, this meeting was adjourned on a unanimous voice vote at 9:40 am.

The next scheduled meeting is the Regional School Board, on August 17, 2023.

Kenneth Pritchett, Chair

Robert Lowerre, Ph.D., Director

Minutes Recorded by:
Barbara Marshall, Regional Board Clerk

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

DATE: June 15, 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 took place for 5 th grade students in April 2023. We have hired a Coordinator for Strategic Engagement who will assist in implementing strategies for increased community 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	Fall Festival begins before the end of the school day to eliminate the barrier of transportation. Also, SAC conducted a		

			student survey during Fall Festival to determine ways to eliminate barriers related to accessing and participating in activities		
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. Professional Development efforts for 2023 will focus on wellness and mindfulness.		
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	The Counseling Department 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	Freshman 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 and will happen again in 2023.		
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. Year Three will include resources and activities on equity and inclusion.		
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, School Counseling	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 WITH EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES.	Responsible Party	Measure-Ment	Year to begin Implemen-tation	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	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			