

**Lynchburg City School Board
Regular Meeting
March 16, 2010**

**BOARD
MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Mary Ann H. Barker, Chairman
Thomas H. Webb, Vice Chairman
Albert L. Billingsly
Regina T. Dolan-Sewell
Trenay L. Tweedy
Charles B. White
Joshua K. Graham, Student Representative, E. C. Glass High School
Robert W. Jones, Student Representative, Heritage High School

**BOARD
MEMBERS
ABSENT:**

Keith R. Anderson
Darin L. Gerdes
Ingrid M. Hamlett

**ADMINISTRATION
PRESENT:**

Paul McKendrick, Superintendent
Stephen C. Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Edward R. Witt, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Administration
Beverly A. Padgett, Chief Financial Officer
William A. Coleman, Jr., Director of Secondary Education
Leigh F. Farmer, Public Information Officer
Steven L. Gatzke, Director of Facilities and Transportation
Michael K. Rudder, Director of Elementary Education
Gregory P. Sullivan, Director of Information Technology
Pamela D. Smith-Turner, Assistant Director of Personnel
Billie Kay Wingfield, Director of Personnel
Charles E. Dellinger, Supervisor of Instruction
Wendie L. Sullivan, Recording Secretary/Clerk

**MEDIA
PRESENT:**

Jessie Pounds, *The News & Advance*

**Agenda
Items:**

- A-1. Virginia School Boards Association Art Contest
- B-1. Notice of Closed Meeting
- B-2. Certification of Closed
- C-1. Public Comments
- D-1. Finance Report
- E. Consent
- F. Student Representative Comments
- G-1. School Operating Budget: 2010-11
- G-2. School Board Policy 5-18: Reduction in Force
- H-1. School Calendar: 2009-10
- H. Superintendent's Comments
- I. Board Comments
- J. Informational Items
- K. Adjournment

The Lynchburg City School Board met for its regular meeting at 5:33 p.m. in the Board Room at the School Administration Building. Mrs. Barker opened the meeting and requested that those in attendance stand and recite *The Pledge of Allegiance*.

Upon MOTION by Mr. Billingsly, SECONDED by Mrs. Tweedy, the school board moved item B-1. Virginia School Boards Association Art Contest to the first item on the agenda and added a closed meeting to immediately follow item B-1.

Yes Votes: Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mrs. Tweedy, Mr. White

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No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

A-1. Virginia School Boards Association Art Contest

The Lynchburg City Schools has participated in the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) Southern Regional Forum Art Contest for a number of years. Due to the efforts of elementary, middle, and high school art instructors, students have had the opportunity to display their artwork regionally in this and other forums. Selected to represent Lynchburg City Schools at the VSBA Spring Southern Regional Forum to be held on March 23, 2010, are: Jaden Naulty, of Sandusky Elementary School; Montez Jordan, of Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation; and Jerome Carter, of Heritage High School. Jaden and Montez presented their artwork to the school board.

B-1. Notice of Closed Meeting

Upon MOTION by Mr. White, SECONDED by Mrs. Tweedy, the school board convened a closed meeting at 5:37 p.m. pursuant to the Code of Virginia §2-2.3711 (A) (1) to discuss several employee assignments.

Yes Votes: Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mrs. Tweedy, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

B-2. Certification of Closed Meeting

Upon MOTION by Mr. Webb, SECONDED by Mr. White, the school board reconvened in open session at 6:12 p.m.

Yes Votes: Mrs. Barker, Mr. Webb, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mrs. Tweedy, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Upon MOTION by Mrs. Tweedy, SECONDED by Mr. Billingsly, the school board approved by roll call vote the following Certification of Closed Meeting:

The Lynchburg City School Board certifies that, in the closed meeting just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matters specifically identified in the motion to convene in a closed meeting and lawfully permitted to be so discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act cited in that motion.

Yes Votes: Mrs. Barker, Mr. Webb, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mrs. Tweedy, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

C-1. Public Comments

In accordance with School Board Policy 1-41: Public Participation, the school board welcomes requests and comments as established in the guidelines within that policy. Individuals who wish to speak before the school board shall have an opportunity to do so at this time.

The following individuals spoke before the school board:

Jamie White, Perrymont Elementary School, Vice President PTO
Brian Lee, Perrymont Elementary School, Member PTO
Kathy Hudson, President of the Lynchburg Education Association
Tanya Tracey Coleman, Perrymont Elementary School
Lanaux Hailey, Heritage High School Teacher

D-1. Finance Report

The school administration, in accordance with the 2009-10 school operating budget, authorized, approved, and processed the necessary payments through February 28, 2010. The school administration certifies that the amounts approved are within budgetary limits and revenue.

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The attached operating fund expenditure report summarized the payments made through February 28, 2010, for the operating fund (unaudited).

Total Operating Fund Budget	\$86,877,698.01
Expenditures through 02/28/10	(\$46,754,854.17)
Outstanding Encumbrances	(\$1,527,679.96)
Available Balance	\$38,595,163.88
Outstanding Payroll Encumbrances	(\$30,285,139.21)
Available Balance after Payroll	\$8,310,024.67
Percent of Budget Used as of 02/28/10 without payroll encumbrances	55.58%
Percent of Budget Used as of 02/28/09 without payroll encumbrances	57.32%
As of 02/28/10 – 8 months	66.67%

The operating fund revenue report detailed the revenue received through February 28, 2010. The expenditure summary report summarized the payments made through February 28, 2010, for all funds. Both reports appeared as attachments to the agenda report.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF MARCH 16, 2010, EXHIBIT "A," FOR A COPY OF THE FINANCE REPORT.)

E. Consent Agenda

Upon MOTION by Mr. White, SECONDED by Dr. Dolan-Sewell, the school board approved the personnel report for the period February 16 – March 16, 2010, and the request for religious exemption.

Yes Votes: Mrs. Barker, Mr. Webb, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mrs. Tweedy, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF MARCH 16, 2010, EXHIBIT "B," FOR A COPY OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS.)

F. Student Representative Comments

Mr. Joshua K. Graham, student representative for E. C. Glass High School, and Mr. Robert W. Jones, student representative for Heritage High School, provided information about events and activities occurring at their schools.

G-1. School Operating Budget: 2010-11

The school administration has proposed that students be charged a fee to play in middle school athletics. The school board requested information about the number of students participating in middle school athletics, the most popular sports, and a breakdown by sport with the number of players. Mr. Coleman provided some information about the number of middle school students who participated in sports in 2007-08. During that school year, 1,859 students participated in sports. Middle school sports include football, cross country, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, tennis, track, and soccer. The school board also asked for information regarding students in extra-curricular activities that do not have pay a fee for participation.

The school administration provided the information to the school board about elementary school facilities utilization that included enrollment data and staffing information. Staffing at the elementary level cannot be based upon total enrollment as students are not distributed equally among school and grade. Maximum class sizes are established by the Standards of Quality, and the school division receives additional funding from the Virginia Department of Education through the K-3 Class Size Initiative. Class size for students in Kindergarten through third grade is determined by the percentage of free and reduced lunch at each school. Maximum class sizes range from 19 to 24 per class.

A review of the proposed calendar for 2010-11 was provided by the school administration along with current survey results regarding the proposed calendar. While the majority of the respondents, 81 percent, are in favor of the calendar, there were a few comments regarding the length of the school day for younger students.

At the high school level, the elimination of the optional first period bus runs will save transportation costs as all high school students will begin school at 7:40 a.m. Further, the first semester ends prior to winter break, and no exams will be administered to students. Teachers will have the opportunity to administer cumulative tests during class.

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High school students will have more opportunities to participate in electives and pursue an Advanced Studies Diploma, and credit recovery courses will be available during the typical school day. This will eliminate the need for summer school for high school students. Study halls will provide additional opportunities for academic support.

At the middle school level, students will have more instructional time in each course, and no concerns have been raised relative to the later ending of the school day.

G-2. School Board Policy 5-18: Reduction in Force

As a result of discussions by the school board regarding the school division's policy for reduction in force, the school administration has made revisions to the policy. During this presentation, the school administration reviewed the policy with the school board. Those revisions include credit for part-time service, classification of teacher assistant positions, destaffing procedures for employees who are on a plan of assistance, and recall procedures.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF MARCH 16, 2010, EXHIBIT "C," FOR A COPY OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICH 5-18: REDUCTION IN FORCE.)

H-1. School Calendar: 2009-10

On March 2, 2010, the school administration received a letter from the Lynchburg Electoral Board requesting that the Lynchburg City School Board modify the current school calendar for 2009-10. Specifically, the electoral board requests that the school board reschedule the teacher workday from April 30, 2010, to May 4, 2010. The reason for this request is because the Lynchburg City Council election is scheduled for that date, and several schools are used as polling places during elections.

Upon MOTION by Mr. Webb, SECONDED by Dr. Dolan-Sewell, the school board approved closing elementary and middle school on May 4, 2010.

Yes Votes: Mrs. Barker, Mr. Webb, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mrs. Tweedy, Mr. White

No Votes: Mr. Billingsly

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF MARCH 16, 2010, EXHIBIT "D," FOR A COPY OF THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENT.)

I. Superintendent's Comments

On March 30, 2010, a historical marker will be placed at the site of the Biggers Elementary School at 10:00 a.m. Dr. McKendrick will be keynote speaker during the dedication ceremony.

Corwin Press has selected Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation to serve as a model for effective teaching strategies which will be featured in an educational kit and video to be released this summer in the United States, Canada, and Australia. The video is being filmed today and tomorrow with interviews being given by teachers and students.

J. Board Comments

Mr. Billingsly noted that the proposed budget presented to city council by the city manager is just that; a proposal. City council members need to hear comments from the community about the budget for next year.

Mr. White attend the performance of *Peter Pan* at Heritage High School. He noted that Harrison Smith, the son of Dr. Smith, played tenor sax during the performance.

Mrs. Tweedy attend the Partners In Education breakfast and Breakfast with the Superintendent sponsored by the Lynchburg City Schools' Education Foundation, Inc., on March 9 and 11 respectively.

Mr. Webb thanked everyone for their help and support during his recovery following hip surgery.

Mrs. Barker extended her thanks and appreciation to everyone during this incredible budgetary process. She particularly thanked the school administration for the time dedicated toward this process.

K. Informational Items

The school board will meet for a special meeting on March 18, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the School Administration Building.

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L. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Mary Ann H. Barker, Chairman

Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk

(SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILES ARE LOCATED IN THE DEPARTMENT FOR FINANCE AT THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.)