

**Lynchburg City School Board
Work Session
September 17, 2019**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

**Susan D. Morrison, Chair
James E. Coleman, Vice Chair
Robert O. Brennan
Belle H. Evans
Atul Gupta
Gary E. Harvey
Michael J. Nilles
Kimberly A. Sinha**

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sharon Carter

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

**Crystal M. Edwards, Superintendent
Ben W. Copeland, Deputy Superintendent
Christi Meservy, Clerk**

MEDIA PRESENT:

News & Advance

Discussion Items:

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Voluntary OCR Agreement**
- 3. Board Docs**
- 4. November Legislative Breakfast**
- 5. Committee and Workgroup Protocol**
- 6. Additional Items**
- 7. Adjournment**

1. Call to Order

The Lynchburg City School Board met for a work session at 5:02 p.m. in the Board Room of the School Administration Building. Mrs. Morrison called the meeting to order and led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon MOTION by Dr. Coleman, SECONDED by Dr. Nilles, the school board approved the September 17, 2019 School Board Work Session agenda.

Yes Votes: Dr. Brennan, Dr. Coleman, Mrs. Evans, Dr. Gupta, Gary Harvey, Mrs. Morrison, Dr. Nilles, Dr. Sinha

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

2. Voluntary OCR Agreement

Resolution agreement that was signed in 2014. Overview included 1) Parent engagement and awareness. 2) Honors and advanced programs and how to use them. Focus on advanced coursework. 3) Discipline and positive support for students and families.

It was mentioned that all 5th grade students have the ability to be placed in 5A Math. Also, all 8th grade students go to the James River and canoe. This will hopefully fuel their love of science. Dual enrollment classes are provided. Some resources used to see what students might benefit from advanced classes are: SOL Scores, conversations with parents, guidance counselors, teachers, and the student's performance. If the PETAL program is not catching students who want to go above and beyond, staff is catching those students and offering advance programs whether it is through the GO Center or not.

The school board now hears all appeals for long term suspension. There are now wrong behavior coaches at each middle school. There is behavioral support in all schools.

3. BoardDocs

BoardDocs is a management program that organizes board work. It also helps inform the public. All board members would have access to it. It should minimize some of the emails sent back and forth. This program would help us to be a high performance board. It provides more transparency. It was recommended that we purchase BoardDocs Pro, the mid-level program.

4. "Adopt a School"

This is an idea from the Legislative Advocacy & Community Relations committee. Every board member will choose two schools. This will be a pilot program. It will be monitored to see if it helps connect the schools and the board members.

5. Legislative Breakfast

The school board will host a Legislative Breakfast in honor of *Take Your Legislators to School Month*. It will be on November 8, 2019 at the E.C. Glass Marie Waller Lecture Hall from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. An informal gathering for legislators, city council members, school board members, student leaders, and media.

6. Committee and Workgroup Protocol

It was determined that the initial work should be done by the administration. They will present the information to the committees, which should include at least two school board members. After discussing and vetting, it will be brought to the full board for discussion. After all board member questions are answered, it will be voted on.

7. Additional Items/Comments

It was mentioned that a social in the fall would be fun. Possibly a Tailgate Party with the city council members for the E.C. Glass vs. Heritage Football game on November 1, 2019. Everyone would need to get tickets as a group.

City Council and Lynchburg City Schools are going to celebrate the great season that the Heritage HS Track and Field had on October 8, 2019.

Dr. Edwards' Goal Posts was mentioned and how much the board members enjoy reading it. Especially the young students describing what school means.

Dr. Edwards' participation in 'Over the Edge' was mentioned. It was a successful fund raiser for Human Kind.

The VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference is scheduled for September 24, 2019.


The next Work Session is scheduled for October 15, 2019.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.



Susan D. Morrison, Chair



Christi Meservy, Clerk