

**Lynchburg City School Board  
Regular Meeting  
November 15, 2011**

**BOARD  
MEMBERS  
PRESENT:**

Charles B. White, Chairman  
Trenay L. Tweedy, Vice Chairman  
Mary Ann H. Barker  
Albert L. Billingsly  
Regina T. Dolan-Sewell  
Troy L. McHenry  
Jennifer R. Poore  
J. Marie Waller

**BOARD  
MEMBERS  
ABSENT:**

Keith R. Anderson

**ADMINISTRATION  
PRESENT:**

Larry A. Massie, Interim Superintendent  
William A. Coleman, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction  
Anthony E. Beckles, Sr., Chief Financial Officer  
Leigh F. Farmer, Public Information Officer  
Steven L. Gatzke, Director of Facilities and Transportation  
Gregory P. Sullivan, Director of Information Technology  
Billie Kay Wingfield, Director of Personnel  
Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk/Recording Secretary

**MEDIA  
PRESENT:**

Jessie Pounds, *The News & Advance*

**Agenda  
Items:**

- A-1. Public Comments
- B-1. E. C. Glass High School and Heritage High School: Graduation Rate
- C-1. Finance Report
- D. Consent Agenda
- E. Student Representative Comments
- F-1. Legislative Positions: 2011-12
- G-1. School Board Policy 7-14: Nonresidents
- H. Superintendent's Comments
- I. Board Comments
- J-1. Notice of Closed Meeting
- J-2. Certification of Closed Meeting
- I. Informational Items
- J. Adjournment

The Lynchburg City School Board met for its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the School Administration Building. Mr. White opened the meeting and requested that those in attendance stand and recite *The Pledge of Allegiance*.

**A-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.

There were no individuals who wished to speak before the school board.

**B-1. E. C. Glass High School and Heritage High School: Graduation Rate**

Mr. Kevin M. Latham, principal at E. C. Glass High School, and Dr. Mark L. Mear, principal at Heritage High School, provided information to the school board about the strategies they are implementing to improve graduation rates.

**Lynchburg City School Board – Regular Meeting  
November 15, 2011  
Page Two**

In 2011, Virginia implemented a graduation and completion index whereby high schools must meet graduation objectives as well as achieve the required pass rates in all four core subjects for full accreditation. The benchmark of 85 points was established with various points given to each area of identified completion, i.e., graduation, GED certificate, etc.. This year, E. C. Glass High School passed with 87 points, and Heritage High School passed with 85 points. Dr. Mear explained that one of the key elements used at Heritage High School was the implementation of an enrichment period that can be used as a remediation period for students who are struggling academically. Dr. Mear also stated that they have implemented a freshman transition/mentor program, and a student incentive program known as Pioneer Power. Mr. Latham explained that three years ago, stakeholders at E. C. Glass High School met to develop a plan which focused on increasing academic achievement for all students with the graduation rate as being one important indicator. One of the key components of the plan was to copy the enrichment program at Heritage High School, and they have established a more aggressive transition protocol using student mentors who train over the summer.

**C-1. Finance Report**

The school administration, in accordance with the 2011-12 school's operating budget, authorized, approved, and processed the necessary payments through October 31, 2011. The school administration certifies that the amounts approved are within budgetary limits and revenue.

The operating fund expenditure report summarized the payments made through October 31, 2011, for the operating fund.

Total Operating Fund Budget		\$75,705,953.00
Through October 31, 2011		
Actual Revenue Received	\$ 12,932,955.08	
Actual Expenditures	\$ 17,041,346.91	
Actual Encumbered	\$ 48,824,887.49	
Percent of Budget Received		17.08%
Percent of Budget Used, excluding encumbrances		22.51%
As of 10/31/11 – 4 months		33.00%

The revenue and expenditure reports detail the transactions recorded through October 31, 2011. All reports appeared as attachments to the agenda report.

Mr. Beckles stated that the operating budget is on target with the schedule. He is currently working on the capital improvement plan, and he has been working with city staff regarding the health benefits consolidation. The city and the schools have sought information from other schools divisions that have health insurance benefits similar to what they are investigating. Once this work is completed, information and options will be provided to the city council and the school board.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF NOVEMBER 15, 2011, EXHIBIT "A," FOR A COPY OF THE FINANCE REPORT.)

**D. Consent Agenda**

Upon MOTION by Mr. McHenry, SECONDED by Mrs. Tweedy, the school board approved the school board meeting minutes for September 20, 2011 (Regular Meeting); September 21, 2011 (Called Meeting); and September 27, 2011 (Student Discipline Committee Meeting); and the personnel report for the period November 1 – 15, 2011.

Yes Votes: Mr. White, Mrs. Tweedy, Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mr. McHenry, Ms. Poore, Ms. Waller

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF NOVEMBER 15, 2011, EXHIBIT "B," FOR A COPY OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS.)

**E. Student Representative Comments**

Mr. Nick L. Comerford, student representative for Heritage High School, and Joel A. Graham, student representative for E. C. Glass High School, provided comments about the events and activities occurring at their schools.

**F-1. Legislative Positions: 2011-12**

During the school board meeting November 1, 2011, the school board discussed its legislative positions for 2011-12. The school board requested that the school administration develop a legislative position regarding private school vouchers. That item has been added and appeared in the attachment to the agenda report.

Further, Charles B. White, school board chairman, will be the delegate representing the school board at the Virginia School Boards Association Annual Convention on November 16-18, 2011, and he will be asked to vote on the legislative positions developed by the VSBA during that convention. Mr. White requested input from school board members regarding those legislative positions.

Upon MOTION by Mrs. Barker, SECONDED by Ms. Waller, the school board approved the legislative positions for 2011-12.

Yes Votes: Mr. White, Mrs. Tweedy, Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mr. McHenry, Ms. Poore, Ms. Waller

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

The school board also agreed through consensus with the legislative positions developed by the Virginia School Boards Association.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF NOVEMBER 15, 2011, EXHIBIT "C," FOR A COPY OF THE LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS FOR 2011-12.)

**G-1. School Board Policy 7-14: Nonresidents**

During the school board retreat, school board members discussed the ability of students who live outside the city and pay tuition to attend the Lynchburg City Schools to have access to the same programs as students who reside in the city. Revisions have been made to School Board Policy 7-14: Nonresidents that reflect those discussions. A copy of the policy appeared as an attachment to the agenda report.

Dr. Sullivan stated that the policy has been reviewed by legal counsel. Following discussion by the school board, it was determined that all programs available to students who live within the city would also be available to nonresident students, with the exception of the prekindergarten program. The prekindergarten program would not be included as it is a state funded program based on the number of disadvantaged population within a city or county. Dr. Sullivan noted that changes to this policy would also affect Administrative Regulation 7-14.1: Nonresidents – Employee Student Tuition Waiver.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF NOVEMBER 15, 2011, EXHIBIT "D," FOR A COPY OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 7-14: NONRESIDENTS.)

**H. Superintendent's Comments**

Dr. Massie congratulated the finance department staff for an outstanding audit.

Dr. Massie announced that he would like to use a portion of the fund balance to provide employees with a two percent bonus. Upon MOTION by Mr. Billingsly, SECONDED by Dr. Dolan-Sewell, the school board authorized the superintendent to ask the Lynchburg City Council at its meeting on Tuesday, November 22, 2011, for re-appropriation of \$1,047,695.35 from the FY 2011 fund balance in order to provide a two percent bonus for all full-time and part-time employees, excluding retired employees who are working part time.

Yes Votes: Mr. White, Mrs. Tweedy, Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mr. McHenry, Ms. Poore, Ms. Waller

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

The social studies textbooks can be reviewed at the schools or in Conference Room 2 at the School Administration Building. Once the textbooks have been reviewed, a form can be completed either at the site or online.

Dr. Massie presented school board members with certificates from the Virginia School Boards Association which recognized their participation in VSBA board development activities.

**I. Board Comments**

Ms. Waller reported that Mr. Thomas H. Webb, former school board member, had attended several events and activities throughout the school division and wanted school board members to know that he was still actively supporting the Lynchburg City Schools.

**J-1. Notice of Closed Meeting**

Upon MOTION by Mrs. Barker, SECONDED by Mr. Billingsly, the school board convened a closed meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m. pursuant to the Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711 (A) (1) (7) to discuss personnel matters and receive a briefing by staff about probable litigation.

Yes Votes: Mr. White, Mrs. Tweedy, Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mr. McHenry, Ms. Poore, Ms. Waller

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

**J-2. Certification of Closed Meeting**

Upon MOTION by Mr. McHenry, SECONDED by Mr. Billingsly, the school board reconvened in open session at 8:35 p.m.

Yes Votes: Mr. White, Mrs. Tweedy, Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mr. McHenry, Ms. Poore, Ms. Waller

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Upon MOTION by Mrs. Barker, SECONDED by Ms. Waller, 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: Mr. White, Mrs. Tweedy, Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mr. McHenry, Ms. Poore, Ms. Waller

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

**K. Informational Items**

Next School Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 6, 2011, 5:30 p.m., Board Room, School Administration Building

**L. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

---

Charles B. White, Chairman

---

Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk

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