

**Lynchburg City School Board
Regular Meeting
January 6, 2015**

**BOARD
MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Regina T. Dolan-Sewell, Chairman
Mary Ann Hoss, Vice Chairman
James E. Coleman
Michael J. Nilles
Jennifer R. Poore
Katie K. Snyder
J. Marie Waller
Thomas H. Webb
Mia I. Brandon, Student Representative Pro Tem, E. C. Glass High School
Angelica M. Walker, Student Representative, Heritage High School

**BOARD
MEMBERS
ABSENT:**

Charles B. White

**ADMINISTRATION
PRESENT:**

Scott S. Brabrand, Superintendent
Ben W. Copeland, Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Administration
John C. McClain, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Anthony E. Beckles, Sr., Chief Financial Officer
April M. Bruce, Director of Testing, Gifted, and Guidance
David A. Childress, Director of Information Technology
Jason J. Ferguson, Director of Transportation
Steven L. Gatzke, Director of Facilities
Marie F. Gee, Director of Personnel
Ethel E. Reeves, Director of Culture and Engagement
Michael K. Rudder, Director of School Improvement
Marianne Turner, Director of Student Services
Wyllys D. VanDerwerker, Director of Special Education
Brian S. Wray, Director of K-12 Instruction
Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk/Recording Secretary

**MEDIA
PRESENT:**

Katrina Dix, *The News & Advance*

**Agenda
Items:**

- A-1. Public Comments
- B. Consent Agenda
- C. Student Representative Comments
- D-1. Lynchburg City Schools Comprehensive Plan: Achievement, Behavior, and Culture
- D-2. School Operating Budget: 2015-16
- E-1. Cellular Antennas for Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation
- E-2. Partners In Education: Board of Directors
- F. Superintendent's Comments
- G. Board Comments
- H. Informational Items
- I. Adjournment

The Lynchburg City School Board met for its regular meeting at 5:34 p.m. in the Board Room at the School Administration Building. Dr. Dolan-Sewell opened the meeting and asked those in attendance to stand and recite *The Pledge of Allegiance*.

Upon MOTION by Mr. Webb, SECONDED by Ms. Snyder, the school board added item B-3. Personnel Report to the consent agenda items.

Yes Votes: Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Ms. Hoss, Dr. Coleman, Dr. Nilles, Ms. Poore, Mrs. Snyder, Ms. Waller, Mr. Webb

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

A-1. Public Comments

In accordance with Policy BDDH Public Participation at School Board Meetings, 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. Consent Agenda

Upon MOTION by Mr. Webb, SECONDED by Ms. Poore, the school board authorized the school administration to act as the fiscal agent for the the LAUREL Regional School and to administer its 2014-15 budget in the amount of \$5,280,181.00, and the school board authorized the school administration to act as the fiscal agent for the Pauline F. Maloney STEP with Links and to administer its 2014-15 budget in the amount of \$45,539.00, and the school board approved the personnel report for the period December 16, 2014 – January 6, 2015.

Yes Votes: Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Ms. Hoss, Dr. Nilles, Ms. Poore, Mrs. Snyder, Ms. Waller, Mr. Webb

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF JANUARY 6, 2015, EXHIBIT "A," FOR A COPY OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS.)

Dr. Coleman arrived at 5:37 p.m.

C. Student Representative Comments

Ms. Mia I. Brandon, student representative pro tem for E. C. Glass High School, and Miss Angelica M. Walker, student representative for Heritage High School, shared comments about events and activities occurring at their schools.

D-1. Lynchburg City Schools Comprehensive Plan: Achievement, Behavior, and Culture

Dr. John C. McClain, assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction, provided the school board with a brief presentation about the comprehensive plan's focus for 2015-2017. For Achievement, the plan will focus on on-time graduation, mastery of content for students, and for students to have at least one year of growth each year. For Behavior, the focus will be on engagement, attendance, appropriate behaviors, goal setting/grit, and presenting school as a positive force. Dr. McClain also reviewed the similarities and differences between the 2012-14 plan and the new plan. At the next school board meeting, Dr. McClain will present details of targets and strategies for the 2015-17 plan.

D-2. School Operating Budget: 2015-16

As part of the budget development process for FY2015-16, the school administration has conducted several community budget meetings in order to share information and receive comments about next year's budget. As a result of those meetings, the school administration prepared a tiered budget proposal for presentation to the school board. The budget proposal addresses the school division's challenges of early childhood education, personnel and professional development, and mental health and poverty. Tier I items for this year include a two percent salary increase for all employees; hiring 39 instructional assistants – one for each Kindergarten classroom; hiring additional physical education teachers at the elementary level; hiring two board certified behavior analysts; English Language Learning assistance (program immersion and/or materials); hiring school secretarial staff during summer months; hiring one network engineer and one network technology; provide a local match for the E-Back Pack program; hiring one special education interpreter and an additional interpreter for after school hours (extracurricular access); hiring athletic trainers for middle schools; providing "Discover Lynchburg" field trips; providing stipends for career-technology student organization leaders; providing stipends for three reading specialists (three extra periods); hiring one secretary for Carl B. Hutcherson Building; hiring one school social worker; hiring one science academic coach; and hiring six bookkeepers for elementary schools.

An update of revenues and expenditure as of January 5, 2015, was provided. The budget request presented to the school board represents a total request of \$1.1 million, and is totally devoted to a salary increase for employees. This represents a 2.7 percent increase to the school operating budget.

The school administration will present more in-depth information during the work session on January 15, 2015. School board members should direct questions to Dr. Brabrand prior to the work session.

E-1. Cellular Antennas for Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation

The city of Lynchburg was contacted by nTelos regarding the possibility of leasing space on the roof of Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation for a cellular antenna. Due to zoning ordinances, the antenna must be concealed as the school is considered historic property. Mr. Copeland provided several photographs for school board review which depicted the school with simulated chimneys that would hide the antennas. The city attorney has reviewed the agreement, which has a renewal period that can be ended if necessary or continued. The school division will receive the funding generated from leasing this space.

The school board will consider this item for action at its next meeting.

E-2. Partners In Education: Board of Directors

The Partners In Education Board of Directors is comprised of one representative each from the Lynchburg City School Board and the Lynchburg Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, along with community leaders who represent education, business, professional, and organizational sectors of the community. Each representative serves a term of three years. Members are appointed jointly by the Lynchburg City School Board and the Lynchburg Regional Chamber of Commerce Board. Board members provide general leadership in the community for the partnership program and serve as policy makers under the overall jurisdiction of the school board and the chamber board.

A list of the Partners In Education Board of Directors appeared as an attachment to the agenda report.

The school board will consider this item for action at the next school board meeting.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF JANUARY 6, 2015, EXHIBIT "B, " FOR A COPY OF THE PARTNERS IN EDUCATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS.)

F. Superintendent's Comments

The school division received confirmation that it has been approved to offer an AP Capstone course at E. C. Glass High School. E. C. Glass High School is one of two schools in Virginia that has been approved to offer this experience to students.

Benchmark assessments were administered prior to winter break, and the results will be presented to the school board at its next meeting.

G. Board Comments

Mr. Webb extended his heartfelt wishes that Mr. White would soon return to his duties as a school board member.

Dr. Coleman and Ms. Poore have accepted membership on the Key Communicators Advisory Board. Ms. Poore will also represent the school board as a member of the Pauline F. Maloney STEP with Links Board.

Dr. Dolan-Sewell expressed her gratitude and appreciation to the coaches, teachers, and administrators who worked over winter break to provide enrichment opportunities for students.

H. Informational Items

School Board Work Session: Thursday, January 15, 2015, 5:30 p.m., Board Room, School Administration Building

Next School Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 5:30 p.m., Board Room, School Administration Building

I. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Regina T. Dolan-Sewell, Chairman

Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk

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