

**Lynchburg City School Board
Regular Meeting
April 3, 2012**

**BOARD
MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Charles B. White, Chairman
Trenay L. Tweedy, Vice Chairman
Keith R. Anderson
Mary Ann H. Barker
Albert L. Billingsly
Regina T. Dolan-Sewell
Troy L. McHenry
J. Marie Waller
Joel A. Graham, Student Representative, E. C. Glass High School

**BOARD
MEMBERS
ABSENT:**

Jennifer R. Poore
Nick L. Comerford, Student Representative, Heritage High School

**ADMINISTRATION
PRESENT:**

Scott S. Brabrand, Superintendent
William A. Coleman, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Anthony E. Beckles, Sr., Chief Financial Officer
April M. Bruce, Director of Testing, Gifted, and Guidance
Steven L. Gatzke, Director of Facilities and Transportation
Merle P. Herndon, Director of Professional Development and School Business Partnerships
Michael K. Rudder, Director of Elementary Education
Gregory P. Sullivan, Director of Information Technology
Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk/Recording Secretary

**MEDIA
PRESENT:**

Jessie Pounds, *The News & Advance*

**Agenda
Items:**

- A-1. Public Comments
- B. Consent Agenda
- C. Student Representative Comments
- D-1. Beacon of Hope
- D-2. Reallocation of Budget
- E-1. School Board Policy 1-41: Public Participation
- E-2. William Marvin Bass Elementary School Calendar: 2012-13
- F. Superintendent's Comments
- G. Board Comments
- H-1. Notice of Closed Meeting
- H-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 by welcoming Dr. Scott S. Brabrand as the new superintendent and schools, and requested that those in attendance stand and recite *The Pledge of Allegiance*.

Upon MOTION by Mr. McHenry, SECONDED by Rev. Anderson, the school board added an addendum to the personnel report, item D-2. Reallocation of Budget, item H-1. Notice of Closed Meeting, and Item H-2. Certification of Closed meeting.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

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. Consent Agenda

Upon MOTION by Mr. McHenry, SECONDED by Rev. Anderson, the school board approved the school board meeting minutes for January 24, 2012 (Regular Meeting), the personnel report and addendum for the period March 20 – April 3, 2012, School Board Policy 6-48: Acceptable Use Policy for School Division Technology Resources (AUP), Administrative Regulation 6-48: Acceptable Use of School Division Technology Resources (AUP), School Board Policy 7-32: Student Code of Conduct, Administrative Regulation 7-32: Student Code of Conduct, School Board Policy 7-39: Gang Activity or Association, and Administrative Regulation 7-39: Gang Activity or Association.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF APRIL 3, 2012, EXHIBIT "A," FOR A COPY OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS.)

C. Student Representative Comments

Mr. Joel A. Graham, student representative for E. C. Glass High School, provided comments about the events and activities occurring at his school.

D-1. Beacon of Hope: Update

Mrs. Barker stated that this is an exciting time for the Beacon of Hope. Since last presenting to the school board, the Beacon of Hope board has been appointed, and their task will be to locate future centers at each high school by fall 2012. The Beacon of Hope has now applied for nonprofit status. Mrs. Laura L. Hamilton, executive director of the Beacon of Hope, has been working hard submitting grants. The Memorandum of Understanding will be presented to the school board by June. It is currently under review by legal counsel.

Each high school will have a director for each future center. They will need a classroom-size area at each school.

D-2. Reallocation of Budget

Fuel and Heating

The school division has realized a significant increase in fuel costs for the 2011-12 school year. This has negatively impacted the fuel budget for the Department of Transportation. At the beginning of the school year, the school division paid \$3.05 per gallon for diesel. This has steadily increased, and we currently pay \$3.40 per gallon. Although it was anticipated that we would experience high fuel prices when compared to last year's averages (\$2.13 per gallon in FY 2009-10 and \$2.77 per gallon in FY 2010-11), the increase has surpassed our budgeted estimate.

Fortunately, we have experienced a mild winter, and we are anticipating an excess in select utilities accounts, most notable are our heating accounts. To date, we have experienced only 50 percent of our \$850,000 heating budget.

The school administration requests that the school board approve an initial \$150,000 transfer from our heating budget to our diesel fuel account. The school administration also requests school board approval for future transfers between utilities and diesel fuel if and when the funds are deemed available.

Technology Purchases

The school administration is also seeking school board approval for a budgetary transfer for essential technology purchases. There is a need for an internal fiber upgrade (\$35,000); server replacement (\$30,000); UPS upgrade (\$8,000); a wireless network upgrade which allows an initial base installed at each site (\$6,000); network monitoring expenditures (\$10,000); a directory structure replacement (\$12,000) and an upgrade to the existing phone system in the central office (\$36,000).

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These items were initially requested as possible fund balance purchases, but they were unable to be funded through that source. It is the desire of school administration to fund these items from within our FY 2011-12 operating budget. Since the assistant superintendent of operations position has not yet been filled, this provides an excess of funds within that department. The school administration is requesting a budgetary transfer from that department in the amount of \$132,265 to assist the Department of Information Technology in facilitating these purchases.

Upon MOTION by Mrs. Barker, SECONDED by Mr. Billingsly, the school board approved the reallocation of budget for 2011-12.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

E-1. School Board Policy 1-41: Public Participation

The school administration is reviewing school board policies and administrative regulations. As a result of that review, it was found that the school board policy regarding public participation had not been updated in accordance with school board action taken on August 6, 2002, which states that the time period of the public comment portion of the agenda would be no longer than 30 minutes in length and have no more than six speakers. A copy of the revisions to the policy appeared as an attachment to the agenda report.

The school board will consider action on this item at the April 17, 2012, school board meeting.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF APRIL 3, 2012, EXHIBIT "B," FOR A COPY OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 1-41: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.)

E-2. William Marvin Bass Elementary School Calendar: 2012-13

Using the division-wide academic calendar for the 2012-13 school year and the current academic calendar for William Marvin Bass, the school administration designed a calendar for William Marvin Bass for 2012-13. This draft has been shared with the principal of the school who has shared the calendar with the faculty and staff.

The proposed calendar includes the following:

- 180 instructional days
- The same number of contracted working days for staff as the division-wide calendar
- Student and employee holidays that mirror the approved division calendar for 2012-13
- The same convocation day and professional development/work days as designated in the division-wide calendar
- The same disbursement of intersession days as in previous calendars for the school
- A change from six weeks grading periods to nine weeks grading periods

The school administration was able to maintain the same number of weeks of intersession.

The school board will consider action on this item at the April 17, 2012, school board meeting

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF APRIL 3, 2012, EXHIBIT "C," FOR A COPY OF WILLIAM MARVIN BASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CALENDAR: 2012-13.)

F. Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Brabrand commented on the videos he had produced for student to view on Monday. Each of the videos contained information about "keeping the main thing the main thing" and "smart is sweat." He also talked about his entry plan, which is posted on the website. During the next 100 days, Dr. Brabrand plans to meet with each school board member, council member, and other leaders throughout the community. Further, Dr. Brabrand will meet with each principal and their faculty before school is out for summer.

G. Board Comments

Dr. Dolan-Sewell said that the last couple of weeks she has spent time after school helping to work on science projects. She was impressed to see teachers remaining after school to work with students on remediation. She thanked teacher for what they continue to do in support of our students.

Rev. Anderson welcomed Dr. Brabrand and stated that he looks forward to the number of days left as a school board member.

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Mrs. Tweedy welcomed Dr. Brabrand and stated that she was excited about the video for students and parents. She attended the strings festival last week and was inspired by the diverse number of parents she saw in attendance.

Mr. White commended Mr. Gatzke and his staff for their work during the fire that occurred earlier in the day at Bedford Hills Elementary School. He also thanked the Lynchburg Fire and Safety Departments for their assistance.

H-1. Notice of Closed Meeting

Upon MOTION by Mr. Billingsly, SECONDED by Rev. Anderson, the school board convened a closed meeting at 6:45 p.m. pursuant to the Code of Virginia §2.2-3411 (A) (1) (6) (7) to discuss personnel matters, the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected, and to receive a legal briefing by staff where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

H-2. Certification of Closed Meeting

Upon MOTION by Mr. Billingsly, SECONDED by Rev. Anderson, the school board reconvened in open session at 7:40 p.m.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Upon MOTION by Mr. McHenry, SECONDED by Mrs. Barker, 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, Rev. Anderson, Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mr. McHenry, Ms. Waller

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

I. Informational Items

School Board Work Session: Thursday, April 17, 2012, 5:30 p.m., Board Room, School Administration Building

J. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 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.)