

**Lynchburg City School Board
Regular Meeting
August 16, 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
Anthony E. Beckles, Sr., Chief Financial Officer
April M. Bruce, Director of Testing, Gifted, and Guidance
Leigh F. Farmer, Public Information Officer
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
Billie Kay Wingfield, Director of Personnel
Charles E. Dellinger, Supervisor of Instruction
Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk/Recording Secretary

**MEDIA
PRESENT:**

Jessie Pounds, *The News & Advance*

**Agenda
Items:**

- A-1. Notice of Closed Meeting
- A-2. Certification of Closed Meeting
- B-1. Public Comments
- C-1. Finance Report
- D. Consent Agenda
- E-1. Superintendent Selection Process
- E-2. Administrative Regulation 7-45: Interscholastic Athletic Participation
- F-1. Central Virginia Governor's School for Science and Technology: 2011-12 Budget
- F-2. Pauline F. Maloney STEP with Links Program Budget: 2011-12
- F-3. Adequate Yearly Progress Results
- F-4. School Board Retreat
- G. Superintendent's Comments
- H. Board Comments
- 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*.

Upon MOTION by Mr. McHenry, SECONDED by Mrs. Tweedy, the school board added items A-1. Notice of Closed Meeting and A-2. Certification of Closed meeting and deleted item E-4. Administrative Regulation 5-53.8: Classified Personnel Evaluation.

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

No Votes: None

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Abstentions: None

A-1. Notice of Closed Meeting

Upon MOTION by Dr. Dolan-Sewell, SECONDED by Mr. McHenry, the school board convened a closed meeting at 5:34 p.m. pursuant to the Code of Virginia §2.2-3711 (A) (7) to receive information from legal counsel regarding probable litigation and to receive advice from legal counsel.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

A-2. Certification of Closed Meeting

Upon MOTION by Ms. Waller, SECONDED by Mr. McHenry, the school board reconvened in open session at 6:19 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. 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: Mr. White, Mrs. Tweedy, Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Mr. McHenry, Ms. Poore, Ms. Waller

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

B-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.

Mr. Larry Farmer provided comments about public education to members of the school board.

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 July 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 July 31, 2011, for the operating fund.

Total Operating Fund Budget		\$75,705,953.00
Through July 31, 2011		
Actual Revenue Received	\$ 2,314,249.22	
Actual Expenditures	\$ 2,517,999.91	
Actual Encumbered	\$14,497,761.55	
Percent of Budget Received		3.06%
Percent of Budget Used (excluding encumbrances)		3.33%
As of 07/31/11 – 1 month		8.33%

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

Mr. Beckles reported that he and his staff met with the auditors today to receive information about the audit process which will occur over the next two months.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF AUGUST 16, 2011, EXHIBIT "A," FOR A COPY OF THE FINANCE REPORT.)

D. Consent Agenda

Upon MOTION by Mr. Billingsly, SECONDED by Mrs. Barker, the school board approved the personnel report and addendum for the period August 2 – 16, 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 AUGUST 16, 2011, EXHIBIT "B," FOR A COPY OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS.)

E-1. Superintendent Selection Process

During the past several weeks, members of the school board have met to discuss the selection of a search firm to assist with the employment of a new superintendent. Hazard, Young, Attea, and Associates, Ltd. has been selected as this firm. HYA was founded in 1987, and is the nation's largest executive search firm serving public school districts. Key factors associated with the school board's evaluation of search firms included projected expenses, depth and breadth of expertise amongst professional staff, recruitment contacts, experience working in Virginia and a demonstrated commitment to community and stakeholder engagement in the search process.

Upon MOTION by Mr. Billingsly, SECONDED by Dr. Dolan-Sewell, the school board approved the selection of Hazard, Young, Attea and Associates, Ltd. as the firm to assist with the search of the new superintendent.

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 has scheduled its initial planning meeting with representatives of HYA for Monday, August 29, 2011, at 5:00 p.m., in the Board Room at the School Administration Building.

E-2. Administrative Regulation 7-45: Interscholastic Athletic Participation

At its August 2, 2011 meeting, the school board discussed changes to Administrative Regulation 7-45: Interscholastic Athletic Participation as related to Recommendation 5 from the Athletics Advisory Committee: "Academic eligibility requirements for all students in grades 6-12 shall be those stated in Virginia High School League Rule 28-401." The Virginia High School League rule states that, "Students must pass at least five subjects per semester to remain eligible."

Mr. Charles E. Dellinger, supervisor of instruction and co-chair of the Athletics Advisory Committee, spoke with representatives from 17 schools/divisions and asked how other divisions determine academic eligibility for middle school students. Following is a summary of findings.

- Of the 17 schools/divisions, 11 responders indicated that their schools/divisions use Virginia High School League Rule 28-4-1 to determine the academic eligibility of middle school students.
- Other responses varied greatly and were difficult to categorize. Some have no middle school academic requirements. Some have "commissions" comprised of representatives from schools within the division. These commissions are empowered to establish academic requirements. Some have requirements set by outside organizers like recreation departments. Some have teams comprised of middle school and ninth grade students, and, therefore, follow Rule 28-4-1.
- None of the schools/divisions completely drop a student from a middle school team for poor academic performance.

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- In many cases, if the student's academic performance does not meet minimum standards, then the student may not be allowed to participate in games/contests but can continue to practice with the team. The student is allowed to play once achievement levels reach minimum requirements.
- Four (4) schools/divisions require students to attend after-school study hall due to poor academic performance.
- Three (3) schools/divisions base placement in after-school study hall on interim grades or marking period grades (six weeks or nine weeks).
- Two (2) schools/divisions base placement in study hall on performance in the core subjects of math, English, science, and social studies.

The revised version of Administrative Regulation 7-45: Interscholastic Athletic Participation appeared as an attachment to the agenda report. The revisions are based on the recommendation of the Athletics Advisory Committee. An item was added to section C requiring a study hall for student athletes who receive a grade of less than "C" on the three-week interim report or the six-week report card.

Upon MOTION by Mrs. Tweedy, SECONDED by Mr. Billingsly, the school board approved Administrative Regulation 7-45: Interscholastic Athletic Participation.

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 AUGUST 16, 2011, EXHIBIT "C," FOR A COPY OF ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION 7-45: INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION.)

F-1. Central Virginia Governor's School for Science and Technology: 2011-12 Budget

The Lynchburg City School Board serves as fiscal agent for the Central Virginia Governor's School for Science and Technology. The governing board of the school has approved its 2011-12 operating budget in the amount of \$939,451.20, which represents an increase of \$20,728.27 over the prior year budget of \$918,722.93. All funds expended at the school are totally reimbursable from participating school divisions and state funds as listed on the attached budget. School divisions supporting this program are Amherst County Schools, Appomattox County Schools, Bedford County Schools, Campbell County Schools and Lynchburg City Schools.

Provided below is the financial impact summary for the Lynchburg City Schools:

	2010-11	2011-12
Student Tuition	\$4,200	\$4,200
Number of Students	30	32
Total Tuition	\$126,000	\$134,400

Total tuition is budgeted to remain the same at \$4,200 per student.

Upon MOTION by Dr. Dolan-Sewell, SECONDED by Mr. Billingsly, the school board authorized the school administration to act as fiscal agent for the Central Virginia Governor's School for Science and Technology and to administer its 2011-12 budget in the amount of \$939,451.20.

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 AUGUST 16, 2011, EXHIBIT "D," FOR A COPY OF THE 2011-12 BUDGET.)

F-2. Pauline F. Maloney STEP with Links Program: 2011-12 Budget

The Lynchburg City School Board serves as fiscal agent for the Pauline F. Maloney STEP with Links program. The organization's governing board has approved its 2011-12 operating budget in the amount of \$40,432, which represents a decrease of \$3,300 over the 2010-11 fiscal year.

The Pauline F. Maloney STEP with Links program enhances academic and cultural development of minority students who are in the sixth grade and is sponsored by the Links, Inc., a national organization of professional

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women. The program is funded entirely through donations. Lynchburg City Schools contributes \$10,000 annually to this program.

The 2011-12 budget appeared as an attachment to the agenda report.

Upon MOTION by Mr. McHenry, SECONDED by Ms. Waller, the school board authorized the school administration to act as fiscal agent for the Pauline F. Maloney STEP with Links Program and to administer the 2011-12 budget in the amount of \$40,432.

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 AUGUST 16, 2011, EXHIBIT "E," FOR A COPY OF THE 2011-12 BUDGET.)

F-3. Adequate Yearly Progress Results

Each year since 1998, the school division has administered Standards of Learning (SOL) tests in grades three through eight as well as 12 high school end-of-course tests. On August 11, 2011, the Virginia Department of Education released official Adequate Yearly Progress results based on Standards of Learning testing during 2010-11. Mrs. Bruce explained that there are two separate systems for school accountability: the state accreditation system, and the federal Adequate Yearly Progress system. The difference between these two systems is that the state's required passing rates remain constant from year to year while the federal's required passing rates continue to rise each year.

This year, high schools must meet graduation objectives as well as achieve the required pass rates in the four core subject areas of English, history/social science, mathematics, and science for full accreditation under the Virginia Graduation and Completion Index. The benchmark is 85 points. High schools that do not meet the benchmark but meet all other requirements can earn provisional accreditation until 2015.

Under the federal accountability system, the *No Child Left Behind Act*, now known as the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act*, the same Standards of Learning test scores used to determine state accreditation are used to determine Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), but the calculation rules and benchmark scores are not the same. There are 29 targets for AYP with subgroups within each target: total school, black, Hispanic, white, economically disadvantaged, students with disabilities, and limited English proficiency. There must be a 95% participation rate in each subgroup, and there must be an 85% pass rate. All students must be tested, and any student not tested counts against the school's participation rate.

Thomas C. Miller Elementary School for Innovation and William Marvin Bass Elementary School made AYP this year. Two schools, Robert S. Payne Elementary School and Linkhorne Elementary School, missed AYP in reading and math for the second year, and both schools entered the first year of school improvement. Perrymont Elementary School and Heritage Elementary School are both in the second year of school improvement and holding.

The first year of school improvement, students must be offered a choice of two schools to attend that are not in school improvement. Transportation must be provided for those students who choose to attend another school. In the second year of school improvement, the school must offer outside supplemental services as well as continue to offer school choice. In the third year of school improvement, the school must continue to offer all previous services and take a corrective action which could include implementing a new curriculum, extending the school day or school year, reorganizing the school internally, appointing an outside expert to advise, decreasing authority of school management, or replace selected school staff.

F-4. School Board Retreat: 2011-12

Each year the Lynchburg City School Board conducts a retreat in order to establish priorities for the school year and to discuss programs and operational issues relative to those priorities. Last year, the school board's retreat occurred on October 6 and 7. This year, suggested dates are October 13 and 14 or October 20 and 21.

Mrs. Sullivan will poll the school board to see which dates school board members will be available by the end of the week.

G. Superintendent's Comments

Mr. Beckles met with the city manager and his staff to discuss the possibility of a joint health insurance contract. Dr. Dolan-Sewell met with Dr. Massie and Mr. Beckles to provide a summary of the process that has occurred to date. The city and schools staff will meet again on August 24, 2011.

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Dr. Massie participated in a Virginia First Cities conference call with fellow superintendents throughout the Commonwealth. During that conference, it was learned that the composite index is expected to increase by two points. Also discussed during the conference call was state funding for at-risk populations and the need for funding for Career-Technical programs.

H. Board Comments

Ms. Waller attended the LAUREL School Board meeting. She noted that 66 students are center based while 100 of the students' population is non-center based.

Dr. Dolan-Sewell thanked teachers, administrators, and staff for their efforts toward getting ready for registration.

Ms. Poore thanked the transportation department for their efforts. The department is challenged with formulating schedules for students attending schools for innovation, school choice, and other programs in the school division. Their efforts are appreciated.

Mr. Billingsly visited several schools during registration. He also attended the recent Heritage High School Task Force meeting, which went quite well. The subcommittees are quickly wrapping up reports, and he hopes there will a report presented to the school board next month.

Mr. McHenry announced that the Superintendent's Evaluation Tool Committee will meet on August 24, 2011, at noon in Room 206 at the School Administration Building.

Mrs. Tweedy visited Heritage High School during registration and was able to view the new gym floor. It looks great, and she was very impressed with the last minute cleanup.

I. Informational Items

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

J. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 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.)