

**Lynchburg City School Board  
Regular Meeting  
September 2, 2014**

**BOARD  
MEMBERS  
PRESENT:**

Mary Ann Hoss, Vice Chairman  
James E. Coleman  
Michael J. Nilles  
Jennifer R. Poore  
Katie K. Snyder  
J. Marie Waller  
Thomas H. Webb  
Charles B. White  
Alexandra T. Wieczorek, Student Representative, Heritage High School  
Jamison R. Spinner, Student Representative, E. C. Glass High School

**BOARD  
MEMBERS  
ABSENT:**

Regina T. Dolan-Sewell, Chairman

**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  
Jason J. Ferguson, Director of Transportation  
Steven L. Gatzke, Director of Facilities  
Marie F. Gee, Director of Personnel  
Marianne Turner, Director of Student Services  
Michael K. Rudder, Director of School Improvement  
Wyllys D. VanDerwerker, Director of Special Education  
Brian S. Wray, Director of K-12 Instruction  
Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk/Recording Secretary

**MEDIA  
PRESENT:**

Michael Neary, *The News & Advance*

**Agenda  
Items:**

- A-1. Notice of Closed Meeting
- A-2. Certification of Closed Meeting
- B-1. Public Comments
- C. Consent Agenda
- D. Student Representative Comments
- E-1. Crisis Plan: 2014-15
- F-1. Lynchburg City School Board Policies and Administrative Regulations Miscellaneous Conversion Policies
- F-2. Year-Round School Expansion Grant
- G. Superintendent's Comments
- H. Board Comments
- I. Informational Items
- J. Adjournment

The Lynchburg City School Board met for its regular meeting at 5:05 p.m. in the Board Room at the School Administration Building. Ms. Hoss opened the meeting.

Upon MOTION by Mr. White, SECONDED by Ms. Poore, the school board added a legal briefing by staff to its closed meeting agenda and item C-2. Personnel Report to the consent agenda.

Yes Votes: Ms. Hoss, Dr. Coleman, Ms. Poore, Ms. Snyder, Ms. Waller, Mr. Webb, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

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

Upon MOTION by Dr. Coleman, SECONDED by Mr. White, the school board convened a closed meeting at 5:05 p.m. pursuant to the Code of Virginia §2.2-3711 (A) (1) (7) to discuss personnel matters and to receive a legal briefing by staff.

Yes Votes: Ms. Hoss, Dr. Coleman, Ms. Poore, Ms. Snyder, Ms. Waller, Mr. Webb, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Dr. Nilles arrived at 5:08 p.m.

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

Upon MOTION by Dr. Coleman, SECONDED by Mr. White, the school board reconvened in open session at 5:33 p.m.

Yes Votes: Ms. Hoss, Dr. Coleman, Dr. Nilles, Ms. Poore, Ms. Snyder, Ms. Waller, Mr. Webb, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Upon MOTION by Mr. White, SECONDED by Ms. Poore, 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: Ms. Hoss, Dr. Coleman, Dr. Nilles, Ms. Poore, Ms. Snyder, Ms. Waller, Mr. Webb, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Ms. Hoss asked those in attendance to rise and recite *The Pledge of Allegiance*.

**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. Jim Baldwin, executive director of the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals, presented Dr. Brabrand with the Pathfinders Award. VAESP presents this award in recognition of those individuals in Virginia who have provided exceptional educational leadership, made significant contributions to educational reform, and who have, by their deeds, enhanced the quality of education for the children of their divisions," stated Mr. Baldwin in his remarks.

**C. Consent Agenda**

Upon MOTION by Mr. White, SECONDED by Ms. Poore, the school board approved the school board meeting minutes for August 5, 2014 (Regular Meeting), and the personnel report for the period August 19 – September 2, 2014.

Yes Votes: Ms. Hoss, Dr. Coleman, Dr. Nilles, Ms. Poore, Ms. Snyder, Ms. Waller, Mr. Webb, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

**D. Student Representative Comments**

Miss Alexandra T. Wieczorek, student representative pro tem for Heritage High School, and Mr. Jamison R. Spinner, student representative for E. C. Glass High School, shared comments about events and activities occurring at their schools.

**E-1. Crisis Plan: 2014-15**

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia §22.1-279.8, each school board shall ensure that every school develops a written school crisis, emergency management, and medical emergency response plan. The school must also review the plans on an annual basis.

On August 19, 2014, the school administration provided the school board with information about the process for updating the crisis plans for each school and indicated that the plans would be completed and submitted to the Virginia Department of Education by August 29, 2014. Those plans have been reviewed by the school board and submitted to VDOE.

**F-1. Lynchburg City School Board Policies and Administrative Regulations Miscellaneous Conversion Policies**

The process of converting the Lynchburg City Schools' (LCS) policies to the Virginia School Board Association (VSBA) format is ongoing process which has involved the conversion of entire sections of the LCS policy manual at a time. During the conversion of the first three LCS sections, several VSBA policies were not adopted at that time as there was no corresponding LCS policy. In addition, updates to VSBA policies have been received that need to be adopted immediately as a LCS policy. Rather than delay until an entire section is converted, individual policies are being brought to the Board for adoption.

This item will be considered for action at the next school board meeting.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2014, EXHIBIT "B," FOR A COPY OF THE LYNCHBURG CITY SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION MISCELLANEOUS CONVERSION POLICIES.)

**F-2. Year-round School Expansion Grant**

The Virginia Department of Education has provided an opportunity for districts with current year-round school programs to apply for a planning grant to expand those programs. Lynchburg City Schools has a year-round program at William Marvin Bass Elementary School and recommends applying for the grant to be able to study more deeply the impact of the program at Bass for those students and determine the potential merits of expanding these programs at Bass and/or other schools in the district. Dr. McClain outlined the parameters and opportunities of the grant and asked the school board to consider support of applying for this planning grant opportunity. The grant would provide \$50,000 to plan for possible expansion of year-round programming to divisions with existing year-round program. Planning grant awardees have the possibility of applying for an implementation award in 2015-16 for up to \$300,000.

Should the school division receive this planning grant, consultant support would be obtained to determine short- and long-term impacts of the year-round program at Bass and at other similar schools outside LCS. Options for possible expansion at Bass and/or beyond will also be explored. Further, the study would determine opportunities and liabilities for expansion through coordination with various community agencies, and then a plan, together with the school board would be developed for community input.

Upon MOTION by Dr. Coleman, SECONDED by Mr. Webb, the school board approved the submission of a planning grant proposal to the Virginia Department of Education for the purpose of studying the impact of the program at William Marvin Bass Elementary School and/or other schools in the district.

Yes Votes: Ms. Hoss, Dr. Coleman, Dr. Nilles, Ms. Poore, Ms. Snyder, Ms. Waller, Mr. Webb, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

**G. Superintendent's Comments**

Dr. Brabrand reported that enrollment is up 63 students from this same time last year.

SOL test scores will be officially released on September 16, 2014, and a complete report will be given to the school board on that date.

Dr. Brabrand invited everyone to participate in the "Get Downtown" activity that will occur on September 12, 2014, from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**H. Board Comments**

Dr. Coleman commended the student representatives for presentations this evening.

Mr. Webb met with school bus drivers and thanked them for their hard works. He also made many visits to schools on the first day.

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Ms. Waller reported that she had visited many of the schools and it was great to see the excitement of the teachers and the students.

Ms. Hoss thanked everyone who worked to get the school year off to a great start.

**I. Informational Items**

Next School Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 16, 2014, 5:00 p.m., Board Room, School Administration Building

**J. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

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Mary Ann Hoss, Vice Chairman

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Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk

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