

**Lynchburg City School Board
Regular Meeting
April 13, 2010**

**BOARD
MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

Mary Ann H. Barker, Chairman
Thomas H. Webb, Vice Chairman
Keith R. Anderson
Regina T. Dolan-Sewell
Darin L. Gerdes
Ingrid M. Hamlett
Trenay L. Tweedy
Charles B. White
Joshua K. Graham, Student Representative, E. C. Glass High School
Robert W. Jones, Student Representative, Heritage High School

**BOARD
MEMBERS
ABSENT:**

Albert L. Billingsly

**ADMINISTRATION
PRESENT:**

Paul McKendrick, Superintendent
Stephen C. Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Edward R. Witt, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Administration
Beverly A. Padgett, Chief Financial Officer
William A. Coleman, Jr., Director of Secondary Education
Leigh F. Farmer, Public Information Officer
Steven L. Gatzke, Director of Facilities and Transportation
Michael K. Rudder, Director of Elementary Education
Billie Kay Wingfield, Director of Personnel
Pamela D. Smith-Turner, Assistant Director of Personnel
Wendie L. Sullivan, Recording Secretary/Clerk

**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. Consent Agenda
- D. Student Representative Comments
- E-1. School Operating Budget: 2010-11
- F-1. Administrative Regulation 6-8: School Day
- F-2. Administrative Regulation 6-18: Instruction
- F-3. School Board Policy 7-24: Student Course Load
- G. Superintendent's Comments
- H. Board Comments
- I. Informational Items
- J. Adjournment

The Lynchburg City School Board met for its regular meeting at 5:35 p.m. in the Board Room at the School Administration Building. Mrs. Barker opened the meeting and requested that those in attendance stand and recite *The Pledge of Allegiance*.

A-1. Notice of Closed Meeting

Upon MOTION by Dr. Gerdes, SECONDED by Ms. Hamlett, the school board convened a closed meeting at 5:35 p.m. pursuant to the Code of Virginia §2.2-3711 (A) (1) to discuss employee assignments.

Yes Votes: Mrs. Barker, Mr. Webb, Rev. Anderson, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Dr. Gerdes, Ms. Hamlett, Mrs. Tweedy, Mr. White

No Votes: None

**Lynchburg City School Board – Regular Meeting
April 13, 2010
Page Two**

Abstentions: None

A-2. Certification of Closed Meeting

Upon MOTION by Dr. Gerdes, SECONDED by Mr. Webb, the school board reconvened in open session at 6:09 p.m.

Yes Votes: Mrs. Barker, Mr. Webb, Rev. Anderson, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Dr. Gerdes, Ms. Hamlett, Mrs. Tweedy, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

Upon MOTION by Ms. Hamlett, SECONDED by Rev. Anderson, 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: Mrs. Barker, Mr. Billingsly, Rev. Anderson, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Dr. Gerdes, Ms. Hamlett, Mrs. Tweedy, Mr. White

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.

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

C. Consent Agenda

Upon MOTION by Dr. Dolan-Sewell, SECONDED by Rev. Anderson, the school board approved the school board meeting minutes for February 25, 2010 (Study Session); March 2, 2010 (Regular Meeting); March 9, 2010 (Special Meeting); March 16, 2010 (Regular Meeting); March 18, 2010 (Study Session); March 23, 2010 (Special Meeting); and April 1, 2010 (Student Discipline Committee Meeting); the personnel report for the period March 16 – April 13, 2010; and the employees reduced in force as discussed during closed meeting.

Yes Votes: Mrs. Barker, Mr. Webb, Rev. Anderson, Dr. Dolan-Sewell, Dr. Gerdes, Ms. Hamlett, Mrs. Tweedy, Mr. White

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2010, EXHIBIT "A," FOR A COPY OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS.)

D. Student Representative Comments

Mr. Joshua K. Graham, student representative for E. C. Glass High School, and Mr. Robert W. Jones, student representative for Heritage High School, provided information about events and activities occurring at their schools.

E-1. School Operating Budget: 2010-11

At the March 23, 2010, school board meeting, the Lynchburg City School Board approved the 2010-11 budget with the understanding that the employee benefit section may change, depending on information received concerning charging employees for Virginia Retirement System (VRS). The budget presented included requiring employees to pay seven percent of their health insurance benefit. The school board requested that the school administration inquire about transferring a portion of member contributions to employees for VRS retirement instead of health insurance.

**Lynchburg City School Board – Regular Meeting
April 13, 2010
Page Three**

The Virginia Retirement System forwarded the following information to the school administration. House Bill (HB) 1189 was passed by the Virginia General Assembly on March 14, 2010. This bill requires employers to charge new employees (July 1, 2010) five percent of the VRS retirement. The school board will have the option to pass a resolution to pick up this five percent or a portion of the five percent. This bill was passed as a “law” and becomes permanent.

HB 30 (Budget Bill) also was passed by the General Assembly on March 14, 2010. This bill allows employers to pass from one to five percent of the VRS retirement cost to existing employees. This bill was passed as a “budget bill” and can change from year to year unless the General Assembly decides to make it a “law.”

During the meeting, Ms. Padgett shared an article from the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* indicating that Governor McDonnell will strike language in the adopted state budget that would allow local governments to shift a portion of the retirement expense for teachers, sheriff’s deputies, police officers and other public employees. Therefore, the school administration is unable to have employees pay a portion of the VRS contribution rather than health insurance.

F-1. Administrative Regulation 6-8: School Day

On March 23, 2010, the school board approved the Lynchburg City Schools academic calendar for 2010-11. The approved calendar included the removal of the optional first period bus runs and the reduction in student instructional days from 180 to 172.

In order to account for the fewer number of instructional days, additional instructional time is recommended at each level. Administrative Regulation 6-8: School Day has been modified to reflect these changes.

This item will be considered as a consent agenda item at the meeting on April 20, 2010.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2010, EXHIBIT “B,” FOR A COPY OF ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION 6-8: SCHOOL DAY.)

F-2. Administrative Regulation 6-18: Instruction

Given that a listing of curriculum guides would need frequent revision to stay up to date, and given that there is no requirement to maintain such a listing in policy or regulation, the school administration recommends the deletion of Administrative Regulation 6-18: Instruction.

This item will be considered as a consent agenda item at the meeting on April 20, 2010.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2010, EXHIBIT “C,” FOR A COPY OF ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION 6-18: INSTRUCTION.)

F-3. School Board Policy 7-24: Student Course Load

On March 23, 2010, the school board approved the Lynchburg City Schools academic calendar for 2010-11. The approved academic calendar includes the following changes:

- 1) the replacement of the optional first-period with a seven-period high school day
- 2) the removal of the current high school exam structure
- 3) the addition of study halls and repeat courses in high school
- 4) the addition of a senior early dismissal option
- 5) the addition of elementary early dismissal days at the end of each six weeks
- 6) the removal of seven work and professional development days
- 7) the lengthening of the winter break
- 8) a spring break the week prior to Easter
- 9) an earlier last day of instruction, May 27, 2011
- 10) graduation in the afternoon on Sunday, May 29, 2011

Given the addition of a senior early dismissal option (item four) the school administration recommends revisions to School Board Policy 7-24: Student Course Load.

This item will be considered as a consent agenda item at the meeting on April 20, 2010.

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2010, EXHIBIT “D,” FOR A COPY OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICY 7-24: STUDENT COURSE LOAD.)

G. Superintendent’s Comments

Dr. McKendrick thanked all the members of the community who spoke at the Lynchburg City Council’s public budget hearing on April 6, 2010, on behalf of the Lynchburg City Schools.

Lynchburg City School Board – Regular Meeting
April 13, 2010
Page Four

Westover Dairy, a partner of Thomas C. Miller Elementary School for Innovation, donated \$600 to the school on Monday.

H. Board Comments

Mrs. Barker announced that the school board and the school administration will meet with the staff at Hutcherson Early Learning Center on April 19, 2010, at 3:30 p.m.

Mr. Webb commended staff for the planning and organization of the Parent Academy event scheduled for April 22, 2010.

Mr. White congratulated Bobby Johnson on his acceptance at the College of William and Mary.

Rev. Anderson announced that the Finance Committee will meet on April 22, 2010, at noon at the School Administration Building.

Mrs. Tweedy requested information about how 12-month employees would be affected by the school calendar for 2010-11. Dr. McKendrick explained that employee compensation will not be negatively affected by the calendar and the number of days that the school division will be closed for students and staff.

Rev. Anderson commended the administrative staff and faculty for being patient during the budget process. He also extended his prayers to those families who will be affected by the employee reductions.

I. Informational Items

Next School Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 20, 2010, 5:30 p.m., Board Room, School Administration Building.

M. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Mary Ann H. Barker, Chairman

Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk

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