

**Lynchburg City School Board
Regular Meeting
April 14, 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
Charles B. White
Angelica M. Walker, Student Representative, Heritage High School
Jamison R. Spinner, Student Representative, E. C. Glass High School

**BOARD
MEMBERS
ABSENT:**

None

**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
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. Public Comments
- B-1. Student Recognition
- C. Consent Agenda
- D. Student Representative Comments
- E-1. Capital Improvement Plan: E. C. Glass High School
- F-1. GEAR-UP Grant: 2014-2021
- F-2. LCS-One: Update
- F-3. Lynchburg City School Board Policy Updates
- F-4. Department of Curriculum and Instruction: Reorganization
- F-5. Capital Improvement Plan: Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation
- G. Superintendent's Comments
- H. Board Comments
- I-1. Notice of Closed Meeting
- I-2. Certification of Closed Meeting
- J. Informational Items
- K. 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 rise and recite *The Pledge of Allegiance*.

Upon MOTION by Mr. Webb, SECONDED by Ms. Poore, the school board added item C-3. Personnel Report, replaced item E-1. Capital Improvement Plan: E. C. Glass High School with a revised agenda report, replaced item F-5. Capital

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Improvement Plan: Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation with a revised agenda report, removed item F-6. Capital Improvement Plan: Sandusky Elementary School, and added item I. Closed Meeting

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

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-1. Student Recognition

Heritage High School student artwork was on display in February at the Opera on the James during their fundraising gala. Students provided the decorations for the fundraiser in the form of 4' x 6' panels illustrating the course of the Opera on the James' 10-year history.

School board members viewed a short slideshow during this presentation that included the artwork done by the students. Students in attendance were presented certificates by the school board.

C. Consent Agenda

Upon MOTION by Dr. Coleman, SECONDED by Ms. Poore, the school board approved the school board meeting minutes of March 17, 2015 (Regular Meeting); a request for religious exemption; and the personnel report for the period March 17 – April 14, 2015.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF APRIL 14, 2015, EXHIBIT "A," FOR A COPY OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS.)

D. Student Representative Comments

Miss Angelica M. Walker, student representative for Heritage High School, and Mr. Jamison R. Spinner, student representative for E. C. Glass High School, shared comments about the events and activities occurring at their schools.

E-1. Capital Improvement Plan: E. C. Glass High School

The capital improvement plan includes \$615,000 in construction funding for upgrades to the E. C. Glass High School auditorium and stage. This project was divided into two bid packages and three alternates. The bid packages were rigging and electrical/sound. The alternates were an orchestra pit cover, moving the line sets, and a video system. The City of Lynchburg Office of Procurement and Purchasing has received bids on the project (listed below).

Only one bid from Moore's Electrical/Mechanical was received for the electrical and sound scope of the project. Three bids were received for the rigging scope of the project. The total price for all components, rigging, electrical, and sound, exceeded the budget of the project by \$156,518.

After meeting with the theater department at E.C. Glass High School, the overall scope of the project was prioritized. The rigging and line set spacing are the first priority.

The school administration recommends Janson Industries for the rigging package based on their low bid of \$177,518. The administration also recommends Janson Industries for alternate #2 (moving existing line sets) for an additional amount of \$9,881.

The school administration began a value engineering discussion with Moore's Electrical/Mechanical to determine the remaining components of the project that could be accomplished based on the priority. The Administration recommends Moore's Electrical/Mechanical be awarded a contract in the amount of \$469,600 to accomplish the following: theatrical

lighting upgrades, sound system upgrades, and house light upgrades in the front half of the auditorium, with emergency light circuit additions under the balcony and in the rear of the balcony.

To adequately fund this project, \$34,633 will need to be transferred from the Facilities Condition Assessment project and \$7,366 transferred from the Reserve for Facilities Maintenance Needs contingency fund, for a total of \$41,999.

| BIDDER | Moore's Electrical/ Mechanical | Janson Industries | Secoa |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| BASE BID A | \$243,000 | \$177,518 | \$178,953 |
| BASE BID B | \$594,000 | No Bid | No Bid |
| Alternate #1: New Pit Cover | \$67,200 | \$36,588 | \$54,968 |
| Alternate #2: Moving Existing Line Sets | \$15,800 | \$9,881 | \$12,826 |
| Alternate #3: Video System | \$22,600 | No Bid | No Bid |

Upon MOTION by Mr. Webb, SECONDED by Ms. Poore, the school board authorized the school administration to enter into a contract with Moore's Electrical/Mechanical in the amount of \$469,600 for theatrical lighting upgrades, sound system upgrades, and house light upgrades in the front half of the auditorium with emergency light circuit additions under the balcony and in the rear of the balcony and with Janson Industries in the amount of \$177,518 for Base Bid A and \$9,881 for Alternate #2: Moving Existing Line Sets and authorized the transfer of \$34,633 from the Facilities Condition Assessment project and \$7,366 from the Reserve for Facilities Maintenance Needs contingency fund to fund the E. C. Glass High School Auditorium and State Upgrades.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

F-1. GEAR-UP Grant: 2014-2021

Virginia is one of 10 states awarded federal funds through the GEAR UP 2014 grant competition. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) applied for and will administer the grant in the Commonwealth. The total award was \$22.4 million during the 2014-2021 (seven-year performance period) with \$3.4 million for 2014-15. The grant will serve nearly 6,000 students across the Commonwealth. All three of our middle schools were among 27 schools included in the grant. Ms. Laura L. Hamilton, director of the Lynchburg Beacon of Hope, and Mr. Wray, provided an overview of the program to school board members.

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR-UP) is a federal grant program designed to help increase the number of students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. Grant funding will support seventh grade students in 29 middle schools in 16 school divisions through their first year of college. GEAR-UP goals are to improve academic performance and college preparation of students; increase the number students who take advanced courses; increase the knowledge of college and financial aid for students and families; improve college readiness rates, and increase overall college enrollment. Among the services provided, students will receive college tours, have access to summer academic academies, receive tutoring and mentoring services, scholarships, and FASA completion assistance.

In June 2014, LCS committed to partner with SHEV as the GEAR-UP Virginia (GUV) grantee for Linkhorne Middle School, Sandusky Middle School, and Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation. Implementation of the program was to begin in February 2015; however, because the new project director was not in place until March 2015, the plan was revised so that all of the original activities would be available to students. Some of those activities include receiving "Golden Tickets" which are release forms to be signed by parents; College Knowledge Nights; professional development for middle school faculty, and a kick-off dinner at a local college for parents.

F-2. LCS-One: Update

Lynchburg City Schools is in the process of implementing a one-to-one program called LCS-One. LCS-One is a four-year plan to provide students in grades four through twelve with a Chromebook. The school division is in phase one of this two-year project. During the first year of phase one, all ninth grade students at both high schools received Chromebooks. All ninth grade students and faculty recently participated in a survey to evaluate the impact the one-to-one has had in the four months students have had devices. Next year will begin the second year of phase one. During this final stage of phase one, all high school students will receive a Chromebook. The school administration guided the school board through an online activity using Chromebooks, reviewed survey responses, and had teachers and staff relate information about the use of Chromebooks in the classroom.

F-3. Lynchburg City School Board Policy Updates

A highlight of membership with the Virginia School Boards Association (VSBA) is the regular policy updates reviewed by legal counsel that reflect the latest changes in state and federal laws and regulations. A few policies are revised for editorial reasons or to correct technical errors. Listed below are several new policy revisions from the VSBA February 2015 update. All policies appeared as attachments to the agenda report.

- BBE Unexpired Term Fulfillment
- BBFA School Board Members Conflict of Interest
- BCF Advisory Committees to the School Board
- BDA Regular School Board Meetings
- CBA Qualifications and Duties for the Superintendent
- CBB Appointment and Term of the Division Superintendent
- KK School Visitors

This item will be placed on consent agenda for approval at the next school board meeting

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF APRIL 14, 2015, EXHIBIT “B,” FOR A COPY OF THE REVISED POLICIES.)

F-4. Department of Curriculum and Instruction: Reorganization

Dr. McClain provided a rationale for modifying the current department of curriculum and instruction to create a more responsive and supportive organization for the work of our schools. He noted that the changes would minimize the opportunity for things to go undone, reduce duplication of responsibilities among staff, and create resources in areas of immediate need.

The changes will create a more vertical alignment for prek-12 instruction and clarify the roles and offices for teachers, administrators, and parents. Dr. McClain also plans to coordinate professional development opportunities. Schools will benefit from these changes through increased support of after school activities for students, English Language Learners, and differentiated instruction for students with special needs or those who are gifted.

The new name for the department of curriculum and instruction will be the department for student learning and success. Offices within the department will be teaching and learning; exceptional learners; student engagement, equity, opportunity, and support; school improvement and grants; and data, assessment, and accountability. There should be no additional funding for the positions required for this reorganization. The new organization will begin July 1, 2015.

F-5. Capital Improvement Plan: Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation

The capital improvement plan includes \$400,000 in construction funding for replacement of the Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation central building roof. The City of Lynchburg Office of Procurement and Purchasing has received bids on the project.

A total of four bids for the Dunbar roof replacement project was received. The school administration recommends W. A. Lynch Roofing Co. based on their base bid of \$447,814 which was the lowest bid. All bids received are listed below.

| BIDDER | AAR of North Carolina, Inc. | North Am Roofing | Roofing Solutions | W. A. Lynch Roofing Co. |
|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| BASE BID | \$645,400 | \$543,818 | \$491,179 | \$447,814 |
| ALTERNATE | \$30,520 | \$18,124 | \$19,750 | \$15,000 |

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

G. Superintendent's Comments

Dr. Brabrand announced that this is the first week of the fourth quarter, and we're gearing up for the end of the school year process. We had a spring convocation this year with keynote speaker, Chad Starks, who provided a talk on the school to prison pipeline. We are looking at what we can do to teach good behavior and not punish bad behavior.

The Greater Lynchburg Community Trust and Wells Fargo Foundation announced that the Lynchburg City Schools Education Foundation, Inc., was selected as the recipient of this year's \$5,000 Youth Philanthropy Award. The awards are selected by a committee of 22 high school seniors representing 11 public high schools located in the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell, and the city of Lynchburg. This committee, along with adult advisors, met on several occasions and conducted site visits on many of the agencies requesting grants.

Lumos Networks donated \$4,800 to Robert S. Payne Elementary School so that the fourth and fifth grade base school students can visit Jamestown. This generous donation allows students to experience in person what they are learning in Virginia studies. We are grateful to Lumos Networks for providing this opportunity for our students.

H. Board Comments

Ms. Waller invited those in attendance to the Senior Art Show at E. C. Glass High School on April 26, 2015, at 2:00 p.m.

Dr. Coleman extended his congratulations to Mr. Roy Roberson and the work he has done with the E. C. Glass High School boys' basketball team.

Mr. Webb provided comments about the events and activities in which he has participated during the past two weeks.

I-1. Notice of Closed Meeting

Upon MOTION by Dr. Coleman, SECONDED by Mr. White, the school board convened a closed meeting at 7:50 p.m. pursuant to the Code of Virginia §2.2-3711 (A) (7) to discuss a student discipline matter.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

I-2. Certification of Closed Meeting

Upon MOTION by Dr. Coleman, SECONDED by Ms. Poore, the school board reconvened in open session at 8:50 p.m.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

J. Informational Items

Next School Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 28, 2015, 5:30 p.m., Board Room, School Administration Building

K. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 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.)