

**Lynchburg City School Board  
Regular Meeting  
November 2, 2010**

**BOARD  
MEMBERS  
PRESENT:**

Mary Ann H. Barker, Chairman  
Thomas H. Webb, Vice Chairman  
Albert L. Billingsly  
Keith R. Anderson  
Regina T. Dolan-Sewell  
Troy L. McHenry  
Trenay L. Tweedy  
J. Marie Waller  
Charles B. White

**BOARD  
MEMBERS  
ABSENT:**

None

**ADMINISTRATION  
PRESENT:**

Paul McKendrick, Superintendent  
William A. Coleman, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction  
Edward R. Witt, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Administration  
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  
Billie Kay Wingfield, Director of Personnel  
Wendie L. Sullivan, Recording Secretary/Clerk

**MEDIA  
PRESENT:**

Jesse Pounds, *The News & Advance*

**Agenda  
Items:**

- A-1. Public Comments
- B-1. iPod Demonstration
- B-2. American Education Week: November 15-19, 2010
- C. Consent Agenda
- D. Student Representative Comments
- E-1. Heritage High School: Scholarship Donation
- F-1. Partners In Education: Board of Directors
- F-2. Legislative Positions: 2010-11
- F-3. School Operating Budget: Calendar 2010-11
- 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 5:45 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*.

Upon MOTION by Mr. Webb, SECONDED by Mr. Billingsly, the school board added item C-4. Personnel Report to the school board meeting agenda.

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

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-1. iPod Demonstration**

The Lynchburg City Schools, Roanoke City Schools, New Vistas School, and Roanoke Catholic School applied for and received the competitive grant, Enhancing Education Through Technology, which is offered through Title II, Part D. Funding from the grant enabled the Lynchburg City Schools to purchase more than 1,000 iPod Touch personal computing devices. These devices are used by students in grades kindergarten through twelve to increase achievement in English and math and to give students hands-on experiences with small personal technology devices. Evaluation of the program will be conducted by an outside company chosen by the Virginia Department of Education.

During this presentation, Mr. Douglas L. Wickham, network administrator, provided the school board with a demonstration of how teachers use the iPod Touch in the classroom.

**B-2. American Education Week: November 15-19, 2010**

The National Education Foundation Association's 89<sup>th</sup> Annual American Education Week (AEW) spotlights the importance of providing every child in the United States with a quality education from kindergarten through college and the need for everyone to do his or her part in making public schools great. This year, AEW will be celebrated November 15-19, 2010. The weeklong celebration spotlights the different people who are critical in building great public schools for the nation's K-12 students. Celebration days include:

- November 15, 2010: Open House Day
- November 16, 2010: Parents Day
- November 17, 2010: Education Support Professionals Day
- November 18, 2010: Educator for a Day
- November 19, 2010: Substitute Educators Day

The year's theme, "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility," reflects the National Education Association's calling upon America to provide students with quality schools so that they can grow, prosper, and achieve in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**C. Consent Agenda**

Upon MOTION by Mr. Billingsly, SECONDED by Mr. Webb, the school board approved the school board meeting minutes of October 5, 2010 (Regular Meeting); October 6-7, 2010 (School Board Retreat); and October 14, 2010 (Joint Session); Administrative Regulation 5-3.2: Grievances and Grievance Procedures: Procedure for Compliance – Classified Employees; a request for religious exemption; and the personnel report for the period October 19 – November 2, 2010.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 2010, EXHIBIT "A," FOR A COPY OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS.)

**D. Student Representative Comments**

Miss Natasha N. Chowdry, student representative for Heritage High School, and Mr. R. Addison Spinner, representative for E. C. Glass High School, shared comments about the events and activities occurring at their schools.

**E-1. Heritage High School: Scholarship Donation**

The law firm of Marler Clark, a Seattle, Washington-based firm, recently notified Heritage High School (HHS) that the law firm had decided to donate \$25,000 to the school. Marler Clark, which often acts on behalf of victims of foodborne illnesses, represented clients in the litigation against the Peanut Corporation of America (PCA), whose headquarters is in Lynchburg. PCA was suspected of contributing to illnesses nationwide due to suspected incidences of botulism. In making the contribution to HHS, a Marler Clark spokesperson stated that the firm often makes contributions to an agency or an institution that is located in the city where the corporation or institution that it is challenging is headquartered.

HHS' staff and administration have indicated that the school will use the funds to provide scholarships for graduating seniors pursuing a career in science. The scholarship will be in the amount of \$500 and come from the interest that accrues to the \$25,000.

**F-1. Partners In Education: Board of Directors**

The Partners In Education board of directors is comprised of one representative each from the Lynchburg City School Board and from the Lynchburg Regional Chamber of Commerce board of directors along with community leaders who represent education, business, professional, and organizational sectors of the community. Each representative serves a term of three years and attends semi-annual meetings. Members are appointed jointly by the Lynchburg City School Board and the Lynchburg Regional Chamber of Commerce Board. Board members provide general leadership in the community for the partnership program and serve as policy makers under the overall jurisdiction of the school board and the chamber board.

The proposed membership for the Partners In Education board of directors appeared as an attachment to the agenda report.

Upon MOTION by Mr. Webb, SECONDED by Dr. Dolan-Sewell, the school board approved the membership of the Partners In Education board of directors for the 2010-11 school year.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 2010, EXHIBIT "B," FOR A COPY OF THE PARTNERS IN EDUCATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERSHIP.)

**F-2. Legislative Positions: 2010-11**

The Lynchburg City School Board reviewed and discussed its legislative positions for 2010-11 during its school board retreat, October 6-7, 2010. While the school board generally agreed with the topics and positions that they reviewed, the positions presented on the attachment to the agenda report, represent the school board's viewpoints and perspectives.

Upon MOTION by Dr. Dolan-Sewell, SECONDED by Mr. Webb, the school board approved the legislative positions for 2010-11.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 2010, EXHIBIT "C," FOR A COPY OF THE LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS FOR 2010-11.)

**F-3. School Operating Budget: Calendar 2010-11**

The school administration proposes a schedule for the activities that support the development of the 2011-2012 school division's operating budget. Usually the chief financial officer develops this calendar, using dates and information provided to him/her from the city manager's office, from the governor's office, and from the Virginia Department of Education. However, currently, the school division is operating without the services of the chief financial officer. This influences, in a small way, the reasons why the calendar does not include specific dates, but months, as to when the proposed activities will occur. The school administration will present another iteration once the finance officer is on board and can then provide more specific input.

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One should note that this proposed calendar includes a public forum in December as well as two forums after the winter break. This is a slight departure from previous calendars in that the school division usually scheduled forums after the winter break and typically after it had developed a great deal of the budget. The school administration thought that it might be beneficial if the public could provide input before the budget development starts. The school administration will propose a date for a public forum to occur at Linkhorne Middle School and poll the school board to confirm that date.

Upon MOTION by Mr. Billingsly, SECONDED by Mr. White, the school board approved the school operating budget calendar for 2010-11.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

(SEE SCHOOL BOARD DOCUMENT FILE, MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 2010, EXHIBIT "D," FOR A COPY OF THE SCHOOL OPERATING BUDGET CALENDAR FOR 2010-11.)

**G. Superintendent's Comments**

Dr. McKendrick congratulated Mr. Larry Hart, theater teacher at Heritage High School, for winning the Virginia Theatre Association's Educator of the Year award. Mr. Hart received the award during the recent annual conference in Reston, Virginia.

The school division will host its second Parent Academy on November 6, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. at Heritage High School.

**H. Board Comments**

The city will conduct two open forums to receive comments from the community regarding Heritage High School. The first forum will occur on December 2 at Heritage High School, and the second forum will occur on December 9 at Linkhorne Middle School. The forums will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Rev. Anderson announced that he and Mrs. Tweedy attended the first of the budget hearings being conducted by the city council. The hearing provided the community with an opportunity to talk about the budget process and for community members to provide information to council about what is important to them.

Mrs. Barker announced that the Superintendent's Evaluation Committee will meet on November 11, 2010, at 12:00 noon at the School Administration Building.

Mr. Webb provided information about the events and activities in which he participated during the past weeks. Of particular note were the budget meetings conducted by city council and the performance of *The Wedding Players* at Heritage High School.

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

Upon MOTION by Rev. Anderson, SECONDED by Mr. Webb, the school board convened a closed meeting at 6:50 p.m. pursuant to the Code of Virginia 2-2.3711 (A) (1) (7) to discuss specific personnel matters and to consult with staff about probable litigation because consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the litigating posture of the school board.

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

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

Upon MOTION by Mr. White, SECONDED by Mrs. Tweedy, the school board reconvened in open session at 8:25 p.m.

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

No Votes: None

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Abstentions: None

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

No Votes: None

Abstentions: None

**J. Informational Items**

Next School Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 16, 2010, 5:30 p.m., Board Room, School Administration Building

**K. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

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Mary Ann H. Barker, 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.)