

**Lynchburg City School Board  
Work Session  
January 17, 2017**

**BOARD  
MEMBERS  
PRESENT:**

Michael J. Nilles, Chairman  
Regina T. Dolan-Sewell, Vice Chairman  
Sharon Y. Carter  
James E. Coleman  
Charleta F. Mason  
Susan D. Morrison  
Derek L. Polley  
Katie K. Snyder

**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 Student Learning and Success  
Anthony E. Beckles, Sr., Chief Financial Officer  
LaTonya D. Brown, Director for Student Support, Behavior, and Alternative Education  
April M. Bruce, Director for Data, Assessment, and Accountability  
David A. Childress, Director for Information Technology  
Jason J. Ferguson, Director for Transportation  
Steven L. Gatzke, Director for Facilities and Maintenance  
Marie F. Gee, Director for Personnel  
Ethel E. Reeves, Director for Engagement, Equity, and Opportunity  
Michael K. Rudder, Director for School Improvement  
Wyllys D. VanDerwerker, Director for Exceptional Learners  
Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk/Recording Secretary

**MEDIA  
PRESENT:**

Josh Moody, *The News & Advance*

The Lynchburg City School Board met for a work session at 5:35 p.m. Dr. Nilles opened the meeting.

The school administration presented four different calendars for the school board's review. Option 1 was the original calendar presented to the school board in December. Option 2 removes the half days at the end of each quarter, the half days in October and March become full days for professional development, and winter break is reduced to nine days. Option 3 removes all half days, adds three days for professional development, and extends the school year by three days. Option 4 removes all half days, and otherwise, remains the same as Option 1.

School board members discussed the various options. The school administration noted that if the half days remain in the calendar, a new schedule that would provide meaningful instructional opportunities for students, such as having just two class periods during the half day rather than trying to schedule all of the classes during that time, would be implemented. The school board will consider this item for action at the January 24, 2017, school board meeting.

The school board discussed the original Tier 1 budget recommendation along with the deferrals and efficiencies identified by the school administration. There was also discussion about an additional coordinator for the Department of Engagement, Equity, and Opportunity.

Some school board members support the original Tier 1 recommendations with the exclusion of the 18 slots for the Central Virginia Governor's School for Science and Technology with the funding for those slots going towards resources associated with poverty and mental health. Other school board members support the additional slots and would like to consider additional compensation for employees.

Mr. Polley arrived at 6:33 p.m.

Discussion continued around the slots for the governor's, the position for the assistant director for personnel, increased compensation for employees, and the position for the Department of Engagement, Equity, and Opportunity.

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Mrs. Snyder proposed that she would be in favor of the Tier 1 recommendation without the Governor's School slots, the addition of the position for the Department of Engagement, Equity, and Opportunity, the addition of a one percent salary increase, and the deferrals identified by the school administration. Many of the school board members agreed with this proposal.

Mrs. Snyder left at 8:00 p.m.

The school board will consider the school operating budget at its meeting on January 24, 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

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Michael J. Nilles, Chairman

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Wendie L. Sullivan, Clerk