

// A special joint meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg and Lynchburg City School Board was held on the 1st day of November, 2016, at 5:30 P.M. in the Media Center at Heritage High School, Joan Foster, President, presiding. Mayor Foster gave the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Members were present:

Present: Dolan, Helgeson, Nelson, Perrow, Tweedy, Wilder, Foster

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Absent:

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// Mayor Foster and School Board Chair Dr. Michael Nilles welcomed everyone to the Lynchburg City School Board and City Council joint meeting.

// Dr. Scott Brabrand, School Superintendent provided an update on the Lynchburg City Schools Comprehensive Plan. Dr. Brabrand stated his goal, Every Child, By Name and By Need, To Graduation. Dr. Brabrand stated that the Lynchburg City School Comprehensive Plan consists of the following categories:

- Graduation
- Course Enrollment
- Achievement
- Student Engagement
- Student Attendance
- Behavior & Suspension
- Culture

He stated the overall graduation rate this year increased by 2%, which in the previous year was flat. There was a positive growth in African American Students graduating from 72% to 77%. Dr. Brabrand went on to say that the new Empowerment Academy that opened this year should result in an increase in our graduation rate. Discussion followed the presentation, Vice Mayor Tweedy suggested that a community-wide task force on education be implemented. Extra time was allotted for council members and school board members to ask questions about the data that was shared by Dr. Brabrand.

// Empowerment Academy Director Ms. Kacey Crabbe provided a presentation about the Empowerment Academy, the students who attend the Academy, and the staff that provide support through education, counseling, and other services as required by the students. In her presentation detailed information was given on the Demographics, Placement Criteria, Programing and Program Design.

// City Manager Bonnie Svrcek and School Superintendent Dr. Scott Braband provided a City/School Collaboration Update. Ms. Svrcek shared information about the collaborative efforts of the City and Schools with emphasis on the recent collaboration on health benefits. Ms. Svrcek stated that she meets bimonthly with the School Superintendent to discuss opportunities for collaboration from an organization perspective and they continue to strengthen their working relationship. Ms. Svrcek shared information about a three-part plan that will have an impact on poverty in the community which also includes collaboration with the school division.

// Council and School Board members agreed to find a time for another joint meeting to continue discussing education and poverty and the importance of continued communication between City Council and Schools.

// The meeting was adjourned a 8:30 P.M.

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Clerk of Council