

Budget Update

February 1, 2008



Building the Future...
Child by Child
FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Introduction

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is a nationwide model for academic excellence. It remains a world-class school system because it constantly reevaluates what it does as a school system and finds ways to better accomplish its mission. As a result of community input and as a part of its strategic governance initiative, the School Board adopted beliefs, vision, and mission statements and student achievement goals to prepare FCPS students for the 21st century workforce.

This Week's Topic: FCPS' Beliefs Are Reflected in FY 2009 Proposed Budget

FCPS believes in its students. Full-day kindergarten will be expanded to serve an additional 21 schools, foreign language in the elementary schools (FLES) will be expanded, and the student information system (SASI) will be replaced over three years. Membership growth will be addressed to cover an increase of 2,330 general education students and 219 special education students.

FCPS believes in its teachers. The school system knows that effective teachers are essential to student success, so FCPS hires the best and the brightest. The proposed budget includes a 3 percent market scale adjustment for all employees, final pickup of 0.5 percent of Virginia Retirement System (VRS) employee retirement contributions, and health insurance and retirement rate increases.

FCPS believes in its public education system, and FCPS believes in its community. Fairfax County students achieve at high levels across a broad spectrum of pursuits, and FCPS measures academic progress to ensure that all students graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary for college or employment. FCPS is accountable to the community to provide educational excellence while being fiscally responsible.

Our teachers, our public education system, our students, and our community must work together to be truly a world-class school system that inspires, enables, and empowers students to meet high academic standards, lead ethical lives, and demonstrate responsible citizenship.

More information about the School Board's strategic governance initiative including the beliefs, vision, and mission statements and student achievement goals can be found at <http://www.fcps.edu/schlbd/sg/index.htm>.

The School Board has scheduled a work session on the FY 2009 budget for Monday, February 11. Members of the public may comment on budget priorities at School Board public hearings on February 6, May 14, and, if needed, May 15, 2008, at Jackson Middle School. The School Board is scheduled to adopt the FY 2009 advertised budget at its February 14, 2008, meeting and will present it to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, April 1.

Fairfax
County
Public
Schools



Fairfax County, Virginia
www.fcps.edu

Next Week's Topic: Where the Money Comes From: FY 2009 Proposed Revenue Sources

For current budget information: www.fcps.edu/fs

To ask a question, e-mail: budinfo@fcps.edu or call 571-423-3600

To comment on budget priorities: www.fcps.edu, Budget Question of the Week