

## MINUTES

### Fairfax County School Board

### Luther Jackson Middle School

Regular Meeting No. 10

December 16, 2004

#### 1. **CLOSED MEETING**

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-0015

Chairman Kathy Smith convened the Board in public session at 5:48 p.m. with a quorum of members present. Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner moved, and Mr. Hunt seconded, that the Board go into closed session: 1) to discuss the appointment and salary of a specific public employee pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1); and 2) to discuss and consider disciplinary matters concerning students pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(2). The motion passed 10-0, with Mrs. Belter, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voting "aye".

#### 2. **MEETING OPENING**

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-0035

##### 2.01 **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence/National Anthem— Liberty Middle School**

Chairman Smith convened the meeting at 6:17 p.m. with a quorum of Board members present:

Catherine A. Belter (Springfield)	Phillip A. Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
Brad Center (Lee)	Janet S. Oleszek (At Large; arr. 5:55)
Stuart D. Gibson (Hunter Mill)	Kathy L. Smith (Sully)
Stephen M. Hunt (At Large)	Daniel G. Storck (Mt. Vernon)
Kaye Kory (Mason; arr. 6:10)	Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)	Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack D. Dale, Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board Pamela Goddard; Deputy Executive Assistant and Deputy Clerk of the Board Norma J. Bailey; and certain other members of staff.

Students from Liberty Middle School sang the National Anthem under the direction of Nancy Hayes; they were accompanied by the Liberty Middle School Flute Ensemble under the direction of Sharon Jeanes.

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### 2.02 Recognition of Principal of the Year (Exhibit A)

Dr. Dale thanked the FCPS Education Foundation for their support of schools, and for having sponsored the reception; and he introduced President and CEO Jim Rosebush. Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Ann Monday presented the Nancy F. Sprague Leadership Award to Westlawn Elementary School principal Kim Dockery; and photographs were taken. Various members of the Leadership Team recognized those who had been nominated for the FCPS Principal of the Year award and *The Washington Post* Distinguished Educational Leadership Award: Anita Blain of Timberlane Elementary; Stephanie Daugherty of Columbia Elementary; Susan Garrison of Lorton Station Elementary; Juanita Harris of Westgate Elementary; Janice Lloyd of Falls Church High; Marcy Mager of Rose Hill Elementary; and Carol Robinson of Twain Middle. Finalists Otha Davis of Walt Whitman Middle and Brian Hull of Colin Powell Elementary were recognized; and Ms. Monday introduced FCPS 2005 Principal of the Year Audra Sydnor.

Mrs. Belter offered the following resolution:

#### RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION FOR AUDRA SYDNOR

**WHEREAS**, Audra Sydnor, principal of Liberty Middle School, is an inspiring educational leader and an outstanding school administrator who exemplifies instructional leadership through her understanding of best practices and the benefits of long-range planning; and

**WHEREAS**, Liberty Middle School teachers cite Ms. Sydnor's respect for their profession, her recognition of the demanding nature of teaching, her high expectations for teachers, and her focus on student achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, fellow principals elected Ms. Sydnor president of the Middle Schools Principals Association and benefited from her "vision and her masterful communication skills"; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Sydnor tackled the difficult task of opening a new school and constructed a "faculty that is eclectic, diverse, talented, and caring" and when her staff members have differing opinions, she reminds them that they "can disagree but can't be disagreeable"; and

**WHEREAS**, Audra Sydnor cares deeply about all children, works diligently to meet their needs, and has a moral compass that leads her through challenges and provides direction as she gently guides teachers, supports colleagues, inspires students, and reassures parents;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the School Board of Fairfax County, Virginia, honors Audra Sydnor as the 2004-2005 Fairfax County Public Schools

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Principal of the Year and the recipient of *The Washington Post* Distinguished Educational Leadership Award. The Board expresses its appreciation to Ms. Sydnor for her leadership and bestows on her its highest commendation for having achieved these distinctions.

Mrs. Belter moved, and the balance of the Board seconded, to adopt the Resolution Naming Audra Sydnor FCPS 2005 Principal of the Year. The motion passed unanimously.

After photographs were taken, Ms. Sydnor made brief remarks.

The meeting was then recessed for ten minutes.

### **2.03 Certification of Closed Meeting Compliance (Exhibit B)**

Mr. Gibson moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, that since the Fairfax County School Board convened a closed session meeting on December 16, 2004, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and since Section 2.1-344(D) of the Code of Virginia required a certification by the School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law, the Fairfax County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, 1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered. The motion passed unanimously.

### **2.04 Announcements (Exhibit C)**

Chairman Smith announced that Student Representative Ian Hurdle was performing in a concert at Centreville High School that evening and would, therefore, not be in attendance.

Mrs. Kory announced that FCPS would be recognizing National Mentoring Month through January 2005.

## **3. PRESENTATIONS TO SCHOOL BOARD**

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-2035

### **3.01 Citizen Participation (Exhibit D)**

Five speakers addressed the Board in the time reserved for public comment.

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### 4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-2784

- 4.01. **Minutes** – Approve minutes of December 2, 2004, regular School Board meeting (SB; Exhibit E)
- 4.02. **Award of Contract** – Award the contract for renovation of Navy Elementary School to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute the contract on behalf of the School Board (FTS; Exhibit F)
- 4.03. **District Advisory Council for Compensation Education, Title I** – Confirm the elected members of the Title I District Advisory Council, as listed in the agenda item (IS; Exhibit G)
- 4.04. **FECEP/Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Committee** – Confirm the elected members of the Fairfax County Public Schools Family and Early Childhood Education (FECEP)/Head Start/Early Head Start (EHS) Policy Committee, as listed in the agenda item (IS; Exhibit H)
- 4.05. **Monthly Report of Separations** – Confirm separations for the period beginning November 1, 2004, and ending November 30, 2004 (HR; Exhibit I)

Chairman Smith stated that, without objection, the five items on the consent agenda would be adopted. Hearing no objection, the consent agenda **passed unanimously.**

### 5. **OTHER ACTION ITEMS**

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-2838

- 5.01. **Central Office Building** – That the School Board approve the lease and financing documents for the central office building (FTS; Exhibit J)

Mrs. Wilson moved, and Mr. Moon seconded, that the School Board approve the lease and financing plan, including the form of the attached resolution, for the central administration complex and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, with the counsel of the School Board attorney, to negotiate and execute on behalf of the School Board such agreements and related documents as are necessary and advisable in order to consummate the lease and financing plan for the central administration complex as described in the agenda item.

On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Wilson thanked the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for its approval of the plan, which was financially sound; and she said the public would be informed of its progress as the Board moved through the process of consolidating offices into one central building.

The motion **passed unanimously.**

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- 5.02 Additional Appointments** – That the School Board appoint individuals to serve on committees as listed in the agenda item (SB; Exhibit K)

Mr. Gibson moved, and Mrs. Kory seconded, that the Board appoint individuals to serve on committees as listed in the agenda item. The motion **passed unanimously.**

- 5.03 Confirmation of Action Taken in Closed Meeting**

Mrs. Strauss moved, and Mr. Gibson seconded, to expel a student for chronic disruption of the educational process. The motion **passed unanimously.**

Mr. Center moved, and Mr. Gibson seconded, to expel a student for abduction and malicious wounding of another student. The motion **passed unanimously.**

Mr. Hunt moved, and Mr. Gibson seconded, to expel a student for chronic disruption of the educational process. The motion **passed unanimously.**

Having served on a three-member committee chaired by Mrs. Oleszek, Mrs. Wilson moved, and Mrs. Smith seconded, to expel two students for assaulting other students and for taking part in gang-related activities. The motion **passed unanimously.**

Having served on a three-member committee chaired by Mrs. Kory, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner moved, and Mr. Hunt seconded, to expel a student for participating in a mob assault. The motion **passed unanimously.**

Having served on a three-member committee chaired by Mrs. Kory, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner moved, and Mr. Hunt seconded, to expel a student for violation of the conditions of a probationary placement. The motion **passed unanimously.**

Having served on a three-member committee chaired by Mrs. Kory, Mr. Hunt moved, and Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner seconded, to expel a student for use and distribution of an illegal substance on school property. The motion **passed unanimously.**

Mrs. Strauss moved, and Mrs. Oleszek seconded, to appoint Brad Draeger as Deputy Superintendent, effective November 1, 2004, and authorize the Chairman to execute a new contract. The motion **passed unanimously.**

- 5.04 Pending Action Item** – FY 2006-2010 Capital Improvement Program (Action 1/27/05) – Recommendation to approve the FY 2006-2010 Capital Improvement Program (FTS; Exhibit L)

There was no discussion of this item.

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### 6. NEW BUSINESS

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-3235

#### **6.01 Proposed 2005-2006 Program and Attendance Area Adjustments – Recommendation to approve proposed 2005-2006 program and attendance area adjustments, as detailed in the agenda item (FTS; Exhibit M)**

Director of Facilities Planning Services Gary Chevalier narrated a PowerPoint presentation that included a boundaries study identifying an area for the new South County secondary school and related adjustments to existing middle and high schools in that area; and he said that public hearings would be held on January 4 and 5, a work session was scheduled for January 10, and Board action was scheduled for January 27.

Discussion included the following: the request that racial demographics be provided to the Board for the areas impacted, and that staff provide further information on projected population growth and the timeline for building a new middle school in South County (Gibson); the request that staff clarify how the recommended change would impact Lane Elementary School (Center); the response that students who attended Lane Elementary but could walk to Edison High School would remain within the boundary for Edison, while the balance would attend Hayfield Secondary School (Chevalier); that he would like more input from members of the Virginia Hills community regarding the division of students (Center); the clarification that Hunt Valley Elementary School would become a split feeder at the middle school level; the request that staff members estimate the population of the new school if students in all grade levels in the attendance area were to attend the new school when it opened (Hunt); the response that it was estimated that if all students residing within the attendance area elected to attend the new school, it would open with 1,550 students (Chevalier); the request for clarification of the boundary change proposed for Hunt Valley Elementary School (Belter); the response that some Hunt Valley students would attend Irving Middle School and others would attend Lake Braddock Secondary School (Chevalier); the request that attendance projections be reevaluated (Oleszek); an affirmative response (Chevalier); the question whether staff members had evaluated the information provided by the South Hunt Valley Community (Storck); and the response that the data had been verified, and reflected that the estimates developed by staff members were accurate (Chevalier).

#### **6.02 Award of Contract – Recommendation to award the contract for the design of the tenant build-out of the central administration building upon completion of successful negotiations with selected architectural firms and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute contract documents on behalf of the School Board, in accordance with the process described in the agenda item (FTS; Exhibit N)**

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There was no discussion of this item.

### **6.03 School Calendars – Recommendation to approve the 2005-2006 school calendars (HR; Exhibit O)**

Discussion included the following: that the State Board of Education had determined that once unscheduled closings had occurred for five days, schools would only be required to make up every alternate day missed (Dale); the question why staff members were not recommending extending the daily schedule by a number of minutes to make up for emergency closings (Niedzielski-Eichner); and the response that the change in the state's requirement to make up for emergency closings would preclude the need to increase the length of the school day (Dale).

## **7. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

TAPE REFERENCE: 2-1386

### **7.01 Committee Reports**

#### **Instruction, Special Services & Youth Development; December 6; Cathy Belter, Chairman**

Presentation of annual reports by the Professional Technical Studies Advisory Committee and the Foundation for Applied Technical Education.

#### **Legislation, Policy & Future Issues; December 6; Stuart Gibson, Chairman**

Discussion of Policy 1375, Charity Drives, to permit charity fund raisers on an exception-only basis; and the Legislative Breakfast was held at Marshall High School on December 9.

#### **Resource Management & Evaluation; December 6; Jane Strauss, Chairman**

Discussion of recommendations from staff members and Human Relations Advisory Committee members, and results of survey conducted by the County Council of PTAs, on the 2005-2006 school calendar.

#### **Facilities & Operations; December 6; Ilryong Moon, Chairman**

Discussion of language related to school proffers developed by County and school system staff members.

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### **Board Forum; Kathy Smith, Chairman**

Discussions of modified school calendars policy; procedures related to responding to e-mails received by entire Board; health benefits for retired School Board members; sponsoring an annual college admissions program; and requests for staff updates on busing exceptions, AEDs, middle school after-school programs, autism programs, and community use stipends.

### **8. SUPERINTENDENT MATTERS**

TAPE REFERENCE: 2-1720

- 8.01** Dr. Dale recognized the 30 FCPS teachers who had recently earned National Board Certification. Dr. Dale extended his congratulations to Churchill Road Elementary School administrative assistant Janet Perez on having been named Education Office Professional of the Year by the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals. Dr. Dale extended his wishes to everyone for a happy holiday season.

### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

TAPE REFERENCE:

- 9.01** The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.