

## MINUTES

### Fairfax County School Board

### Burkholder Administrative Center

Work Session No. 35/Instruction, Special Services & Youth Development Feb. 14, 2005

#### MEETING OPENING

##### **35.01 Call to Order and Announcements**

Instruction Committee Chairman Catherine A. Belter convened the meeting in public session at 1:53p.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine Belter (Springfield)	Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
Brad Center (Lee)	Janet S. Oleszek (At Large)
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill)	Kathy Smith (Sully)
Stephen M. Hunt (At Large)	Daniel G. Storck (Mount Vernon)
Kaye Kory (Mason; Absent)	Jane Strauss (Dranesville)
Ilyong Moon (At Large)	Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack D. Dale; Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the School Board Pam Goddard; Administrative Assistant Sherry Price; Assistant Superintendent of Educational Accountability Michael Glascoe; Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Ann Monday; Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee members Sylvia Washington, Burnette Scarboro, Luis Fierro, Joseph Merenda; and certain other individuals. Student Representative to the School Board Ian Hurdle was absent.

#### DISCUSSION

##### **35.02 Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee (MSAOC) Annual Report (Exhibit A)**

- Focus of committee was centered on entire educational process;
- question on compacted math; response that compacted math was an accelerated enrichment program offered in Gifted and Talented centers, that was moving into elementary schools;
- question about self-selection for accelerated program; response that most elementary schools used flexible grouping and matched instruction;
- suggestion to present parent handbook to assist when students were identified to advance; recommended schools would be encouraged and incentives provided for potentially gifted students who signed up for those courses;
- minority achievement was a long way from where it should be compared to other jurisdictions; SOL should not be sole measurement to achievement;
- question of how to measure school climate and its success; response that Headstart had demonstrated a rich contribution to 3-4 year olds;

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- question whether it was more cost effective to outsource translation services and the effective cost;
- question of difference in positive race relations and appearance of racial harmony; response that international night was an idea of racial harmony necessary throughout the school.

### **35.03 K-8 Reading Programs** (Exhibit B)

- suggestion that guided reading in the upper grades was a new course with the real emphasis on upper grades;
- question of setting up database and methodology for teachers and principals to access information; staff to survey schools for materials that could be accessed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:31p.m.