

MINUTES
Fairfax County School Board
Jackson Middle School

Work Session No. 38/**Forum on Board Topics**

March 10, 2005

MEETING OPENING

38.01 Call to Order

School Board Chairman Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner convened the forum in public session at 5 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine Belter (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee; arr. 5:28 p.m.)
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill)
Stephen Hunt (At Large; arr. 5:02 p.m.)
Kaye Kory (Mason)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)

Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
Janet Oleszek (At Large)
Kathy Smith (Sully)
Daniel Storck (Mount Vernon; arr. 5:34 p.m.)
Jane Strauss (Dranesville)
Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Student Representative to the Board Ian Hurdle; Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Clerk of the Board Pam Goddard; Deputy Clerk Linda Sabo; and certain other individuals.

DISCUSSION

38.02 Forum Topics

Focus Schools (Gibson)

- Consensus that parent involvement and buy-in of the focus schools concept was necessary;
- equity and balance throughout the County should be a factor; strategic approach would be needed to provide that balance;
- modified calendar school process should remain separate;
- in communities where parents might not be as involved, staff might bring program recommendation forward;
- policy must include an evaluation process of focus schools; and
- staff to develop a draft policy for Board review.

Program & Budget Analyst (Niedzielski-Eichner)

- Proposal to hire a program and budget analyst to help the Board effectively coordinate and integrate with the Superintendent's oversight offices;
- Superintendent to investigate a realignment of the Office of Internal Audit and the Department of Educational Accountability functions for increased financial transparency;
- focus on a culture of continuous quality improvement; and
- chairman to continue to work with Superintendent to develop a more detailed alternative proposal to address concerns.

Communication Priorities (Center and Storck)

- The Office of Community Relations would prepare a communication plan for high profile initiatives;
- communication plan would be shared with the School Board prior to implementation; and
- Board members would know their role in the communication plan and would have an opportunity to implement it.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.