

MINUTES
Fairfax County School Board
Luther Jackson Middle School

Work Session No. 42/**Forum on Board Topics**

March 31, 2005

MEETING OPENING

42.01 Call to Order

Chairman Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner convened the Forum in public session at 5:35 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine Belter (Springfield)	Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
Brad Center (Lee)	Janet Oleszek (At Large; arr. 5:36 p.m.)
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill)	Kathy Smith (Sully)
Stephen Hunt (At Large)	Daniel Storck (Mount Vernon; arr. 5:37 p.m.)
Kaye Kory (Mason)	Jane Strauss (Dranesville)
Ilryong Moon (At Large; arr. 5:47 p.m)	Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were student representative to the School Board Ian Hurdle; Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Clerk of the Board Pam Goddard; Deputy Clerk Norma Bailey; and certain other individuals.

DISCUSSION

42.02 Forum Topics

Communication

Sharing Constituent E-Mails and Letters (Smith)

- Request that copies of the Virginia School Boards Association's model code of ethics be provided to School Board members;
- consensus not to forward e-mails from constituents to anyone without permission; options would be to cut and paste with no identifying information, or to ask permission from the sender first; and
- consensus to allow district Board members the first option to respond to e-mails from members of the community which indicate the writer's district and, if an at-large Board member responds, that a copy would be sent to the district Board member.

School Board Reports (Committees and Board Member Announcements)
(Niedzielski-Eichner)

- Consensus to reinstate a "Board Matters" portion of School Board business meetings under "Board Member Announcements," with a two-minute time limit in place for each Board member.

Individual School Board Member Web Pages

- After discussion, consensus not to initiate individual web pages for School Board members due to inability to dedicate staff to constantly update pages.

Elementary Art Instruction Time (Strauss)

- This issue had been resolved by staff.

School Board Retreats (Purpose, Format, and Timing) (Kory)

- Consensus that the School Board Chairman would team with the Superintendent to craft a statement of purpose for retreats;
- the retreat traditionally held in January/February to discuss strategic targets would no longer be held on a weekend, but would be a designated all-day work session during the work week; and
- the June School Board retreat would have a visionary goal and purpose.

Boundary Process Recommendations (Center)

- Consensus to schedule this issue for discussion at a future work session.

Facilities Impact of Full-Day Kindergarten (Smith and Wilson)

- Consensus to schedule this issue for discussion at a future work session.

Pupil Placements in Overcrowded Schools (Wilson)

- Request for written report from staff on why pupil placements were approved for schools that were severely overcrowded.

Electronic Responses to Requests for Information by Board Members (Hunt)

- Request to have responses from staff sent to Board members electronically instead of by hard copy and, when appropriate, in a brief form; and
- consensus for information requested by Board members during work sessions to be restated by the Superintendent at the end of each session for clarification.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.