

# MINUTES

## Fairfax County School Board Burkholder Administrative Center

Work Session No. 49/**Legislation, Policy Review and Future Issues**

May 2, 2005

### **MEETING OPENING**

#### **49.01 Call to Order**

Legislation, Policy Review and Future Issues Committee Chairman Stuart D. Gibson convened the meeting in public session at 12:10 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine Belter (Springfield arr 12:25)  
Brad Center (Lee arr 12:35)  
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill)  
Stephen M. Hunt (At Large)  
Kaye Kory (Mason absent)  
Ilryong Moon (At Large arr 1:10)

Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)  
Janet S. Oleszek (At Large)  
Kathy Smith (Sully arr 12:50)  
Daniel G. Storck (Mount Vernon arr 12:16)  
Jane Strauss (Dranesville arr 12:25)  
Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Deputy Clerk Linda Sabo; Administrative Assistant Darlene Chamberlain; Director of Government Relations Michael Molloy; and certain other individuals. Student Representative to the School Board Ian Hurdle was absent.

### **DISCUSSION**

The following points were made:

#### **49.02 2006 Virginia School Boards Association Recommendations (Exhibit A)**

- Presentation about upcoming legislation, staff recommendations, recommended language for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) positions, report on *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) initiatives, and comparison of past and current General Assembly positions with regard to education;
- retirement and election of new legislators would have an effect on the vote on education issues; other legislative issues would include standards of accreditation, teacher licensure, NCLB, educational funding in the budget from local property taxes and updating of the Local Composite Index (LCI), Standards of Quality (SOQ) rebenchmarking, policy issues, and the state retirement system;
- question on the Stanford English Language Proficiency (SELP) test, whether there were other possible tests, and times to administer Limited English Proficiency (LEP) assessments; response that FCPS and other localities were looking for alternative tests and that a proposal to lock in a test, with favorable support from surrounding localities, has been presented to the Virginia School Board Association (VSBA);

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- recommendations on the NCLB law to include adding language requesting the reverse of the order of sanctions for failing to meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), adding language to support the use of the growth model to measure student achievement supporting the Federal Department of Education in a request for waivers for kindergarten students;
- comment on opposition to caps on property taxes and heavy reliance on car tax; question if language could be added indicating revenue growth at the same rate as population growth; response that more explicit language could be added;
- question about the time frame for updating the LCI; response that all would be updated but there was not a definite time frame;
- question whether a recent court case in Montgomery County, Virginia, placing the burden of proof for special education on the school system, would set a precedent; affirmative response and comment that FCPS would file an amicus brief if the case goes forward; and
- suggestion to rejoin the Virginia School Board Associations (VSBA) legal assistance fund in order to file appeals jointly with other school districts in the future.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.