

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Luther Jackson Middle School

Work Session No. 54/Forum on Board Topics

May 26, 2005

MEETING OPENING

54.01 Call to Order

Chairman Niedzielski-Eichner convened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine A. Belter (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee)
Stuart D. Gibson (Hunter Mill)
Stephen M. Hunt (At Large)
Kaye Kory (Mason; ABSENT)
Ilryong Moon (At Large, arr. 4:35)

Phillip A. Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
Janet S. Oleszek (At Large)
Kathy L. Smith (Sully)
Daniel G. Storck (Mt. Vernon)
Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were the Student Representative to the School Board Ian Hurdle; Division Superintendent Jack D. Dale; Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board Pamela Goddard; and certain other members of staff.

DISCUSSION

54.02 Forum Topics

Professional Technical Studies Advisory Committee (PTSAC) (Niedzielski-Eichner (Exhibit A)

- The PTSAC had recently sent a memo to the School Board regarding concerns the committee had with the Virginia Department of Education's Annual Performance Report for the Career and Technical Education program; and
- after review and discussion, it was the consensus of the School Board that the PTSAC report should be forwarded to the Department of Education with a cover letter from the Chairman of the School Board noting the School Board's support for the concerns expressed by the PTSAC.

Possibility of requiring parents to join students for driver's education course (Niedzielski-Eichner)

- Prince William County had recently instituted a requirement that parents, along with the student, attend a class as a prerequisite for the behind the wheel course;

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- concern that behind the wheel course could be taken privately and not just through FCPS, therefore how would such a requirement be enforced;
- Superintendent was preparing a memo to the School Board outlining current drivers education course requirements, certification, and statistics of how many students were involved;
- Board of Supervisors would be hosting a Youth Drivers' Summit on June 3, and Superintendent would be attending on behalf of FCPS;
- FCPS-sponsored behind the wheel was a 14-hour course that cost \$150; private companies provided a 16-hour course for \$250;
- consensus that although there was not support for a requirement that parents attend a course, staff could attend June 3 summit and provide feedback to the Board, in addition to memo from Superintendent with additional information on the program; and
- some high schools invited speakers to present to students on safe driving; Ford had recently distributed a graphic accident video that could be shown to students; INOVA funded "Reality Check" with a mock emergency situation that students from select schools could participate in.

ADJOURNMENT

9.01 The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.