

MINUTES
Fairfax County School Board
Burkholder Administrative Center

Work Session No. 59/**Legislation, Policy, and Future Issues**

June 13, 2005

MEETING OPENING

59.01 Call to Order and Announcements

Legislation, Policy, and Future Issues Chairman Stuart Gibson convened the Board in public session at 4:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Catherine Belter (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee; absent)
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill)
Stephen Hunt (At Large)
Kaye Kory (Mason)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)

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

Also present were Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board Pam Goddard; Management Technician Diane Sullivan; Division Counsel Anne Murphy; Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Ann Monday; Director of Elementary Instruction Mary Ann Ryan; Coordinator of Integrated Curriculum Projects, Technology and Elementary ESOL Mike Cunningham; and certain other individuals. Student Representative to the School Board Ian Hurdle was absent.

DISCUSSION

59.02 Policy XXXX, Focus School Initiative and Implementation (K-12) (Exhibit A)

- Focus school initiative must have community support; concern that high achieving schools would not be able to develop a particular focus school initiative for the enhancement of student experience in that school; response that high achieving schools could develop a particular focus beyond academic achievement;
- suggestion to invite the parent-teacher association (PTA) to submit, not require, a letter of recommendation;
- question how to limit the expenditure for each focus school that would become standard each year; response that each September staff could have a timeline for focus proposals in order to know what schools were in the budget cycle;
- question what was the average cost for a focus school; response was \$170,000 per school; total per year would be \$3 million; \$2.3 million for 14 elementary schools and \$684, 000 for four middle schools;
- concern how funding focus schools would impact other programs; response that school would not be allowed to have another program if funding was not available;
- suggestion to have sunset provision of five years at which time the school would have to resubmit their program for renewal and approval;
- staff to re-create how present focus schools became focus schools and provide that information to the School Board;

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- suggestion to address existing focus schools in the policy; and
- staff to prepare a menu of options that addressed concerns of School Board members to be discussed at a future work session in July.

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59.03 Policy 1818, School Board Conference (Exhibit B)

59.04 Policy 2611, Procedures for Hearing and Appeals to School Board (Exhibit C)

- Committee chairman Stuart Gibson said both policies would be scheduled for a future work session because time constraints had not allowed discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.