

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Burkholder Administrative Center

Work Session No. 20/Instruction, Special Services & Youth Development

Nov. 7, 2005

MEETING OPENING

20.01 Call to Order and Announcements

Instruction, Special Services & Youth Development Committee Chairman Kathy Smith convened the meeting in public session at 11:06 a.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine Belter (Springfield; ABSENT)	Phil Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
Brad Center (Lee; ABSENT)	Janet S. Oleszek (At Large)
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill)	Kathy Smith (Sully)
Stephen M. Hunt (At Large)	Daniel G. Storck (Mount Vernon)
Kaye Kory (Mason)	Jane Strauss (Dranesville; ABSENT)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)	Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Clerk of the School Board Pam Goddard; Administrative Assistant Dianna DiPasquale; Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Ann Monday; Gifted and Talented Coordinator Carol Horn; Co-Chair of Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee Lynn Dysart; and certain other individuals. Student representative to the School Board Samantha Kunkel was present.

DISCUSSION

20.02 Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee (GTAC) Annual Report (Exhibit A)

- Question about the difference between gifted and highly gifted and whether a program could be devised to meet the needs of the highly gifted; response that staff was coming up with a definition as some parents were concerned that students at the higher end may not have all the opportunities they need to excel;
- student participation in the Gifted and Talented (GT) program had increased from 6% to 12%, and the Committee had not seen any erosion of student performance since opening the door to additional students;
- question about opportunity for equal access to math with reference to Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate programs; response that Black and Hispanic students were not doing very well in either program;
- request that in the future the Committee present the Board with the pros and cons of the issues instead of only their conclusions;

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- discussion about comparisons in maths and sciences and college credits; suggestion that Committee members meet with the Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities and begin a dialogue between the joint committees; affirmative response;
- suggestion that differences between school-based GT centers and center-based programs be clarified for parents;
- discussion about middle school honors math and the need to inform parents at the elementary level about accelerated math in elementary school; important to get information to parents as early as possible; and
- question about more discussion at a future work session about growth and assessment of Young Scholars and other GT programs; affirmative response.

20.02 Family Life Education Curriculum Advisory Committee (FLECAC) Update (Exhibit B)

- New video, *Sex Smart for Teens: Abstinence*, was recommended for use in the 10th grade Family Life Education curriculum; video would replace the pamphlets that were previously used and could be shown in segments;
- both recommended videos, *Sex Smart for Teens: Abstinence*, and *Living with Addiction: A Family Disease*, would be available for public review for a few weeks prior to School Board approval in December.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.