

# MINUTES

## Fairfax County School Board

### Luther Jackson Middle School

Regular Meeting No. 8

November 15, 2005

#### 1. **CLOSED MEETING**

**1.01** Chairman Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner convened the Board in public session at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum of members present. Mr. Gibson moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, that the Board go into closed session: to discuss and consider disciplinary matters concerning students pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(2). The motion passed 11-0, with Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mrs. Oleszek, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voting "aye"; and with Mrs. Belter absent.

#### 2. **MEETING OPENING**

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-0012

##### **2.01 Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence**

Chairman Niedzielski-Eichner convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine A. Belter (Springfield; ABSENT)	Phillip A. Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
Brad Center (Lee)	Janet S. Oleszek (At Large)
Stuart D. Gibson (Hunter Mill; dep. 8:25)	Kathy L. Smith (Sully)
Stephen M. Hunt (At Large)	Daniel G. Storck (Mt. Vernon)
Kaye Kory (Mason)	Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
Illyong Moon (At Large)	Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

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

##### **2.02 Certification of Closed Meeting Compliance (Exhibit A)**

Mr. Gibson moved, and Mrs. Wilson seconded, that since the Fairfax County School Board convened a closed session meeting on November 15, 2005, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and since Section 2.1-344(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the School Board that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law, the Fairfax County School Board hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, 1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting, and (2) only such public business

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matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered. The motion passed 11-0, with Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mrs. Oleszek, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voting "aye"; and with Mrs. Belter absent.

### **2.03 Announcements**

Chairman Niedzielski-Eichner announced that the agenda item on high school course offerings would be removed from the consent agenda and become an action item; and that Mrs. Belter would not be in attendance.

### **3. PRESENTATIONS TO SCHOOL BOARD**

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-0099

#### **3.01 Spotlight on Learning – Robinson Secondary School Marching Band (Exhibit B)**

Dr. Dale introduced Robinson Secondary School Band Director Denny Stokes. Mr. Stokes introduced Robinson Secondary School Principal Dan Meier and Assistant Principal Sheila McNiff, Music Specialist Stan Schoonover, and several students from the marching band. Mr. Stokes made a presentation on the educational impact of the marching band.

Comments included the following: that by virtue of having been a member of the marching band, her son had learned teamwork and skills to prepare for the future (Oleszek); that he appreciated the sacrifices of students who were band members; the question whether the 45 and 90 marching style was expected to return to marching bands (Gibson); the response that various step styles were used in some performances (Stokes); that few school divisions had music programs that were as fine as those in FCPS (Strauss); that Robinson secondary school was one of only three or four schools nationwide that had received two Sudler flags (Wilson); that students learned many valuable skills through participation in band programs (Smith); an expression of thanks to the participants (Niedzielski-Eichner).

#### **3.02 Citizen Participation (Exhibit C)**

Three speakers addressed the Board in the time reserved for public comment. Norma Jean Young and Sam Young addressed Agenda Item No. 4.06, Pending Action, Award of Contract for the Renovation of South Lakes High School; and Phyllis Payne addressed Start Later for Excellence in Education Proposal (SLEEP).

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### 4. ACTION ITEMS

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-0774

- 4.01 Award of Contract** - Award a contract to The Aspen Group International, Inc., to provide consultation, facilitation, and expert services in support of the design and implementation of a strategic planning and governing approach; that the contract, in the amount of \$72,000, be effective upon approval by the School Board and authorized for 12 months through November 2006 (SB; Exhibit D)

Mr. Gibson moved, and Mrs. Smith seconded, that the Board award a contract to the Aspen Group International, Inc., to provide consultation, facilitation, and expert services in support of the design and implementation of a strategic planning and governing approach; that the contract, in the amount of \$72,000, be effective upon approval by the School Board and authorized for 12 months through November 2006.

Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner said that the Board sought to improve the performance of the leadership of the school division, in terms of both academic programming and the management of non-academic operations; that the Board had been engaged in setting strategic goals and strengthening accountability systems for FCPS; that the community would be engaged in a dialogue about its expectations and hopes for its public school system; that the Aspen Group had extensive experience working with school boards across the nation in facilitating governance considerations.

Mr. Gibson said that it would be helpful to have input from objective consultants.

The motion that the Board award a contract to the Aspen Group International, Inc., to provide consultation, facilitation, and expert services in support of the design and implementation of a strategic planning and governing approach; that the contract, in the amount of \$72,000, be effective upon approval by the School Board and authorized for 12 months through November 2006 **passed 11-0**, with Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mrs. Oleszek, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voting "aye"; and with Mrs. Belter absent.

- 4.02 Additional Appointments** - Appoint individuals to serve on committees as listed in the agenda item (SB; Exhibit E)

Mrs. Strauss moved, and Mrs. Smith seconded, that the Board appoint individuals to serve on committees as listed in the Agenda Item. The motion **passed 11-0**, with Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mrs. Oleszek, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voting "aye"; and with Mrs. Belter absent.

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- 4.03 High School Course Offerings** - Approve changes to the list of high school course offerings for the 2006-2007 school year, as recommended by the High School Course Review Committee, and as detailed in the agenda item (IS; Exhibit F)

Mrs. Smith moved, and Mrs. Kory seconded, that the Board approve changes to the list of high school course offerings for the 2006-2007 school year, as recommended by the High School Course Review Committee, and as detailed in the agenda item.

Discussion included the following: that she was very pleased with the level of classes proposed; that she was concerned that the transportation system would not be able to keep up with the demand for enrollment in academy-based classes; that she understood that the classes cost approximately \$100,000 and that the funding was provided by the Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee (CTEAC) budget, much of which was received from Perkins grants; the question whether the courses had been designed to utilize grant funds, or whether community members had first expressed interest that such courses be provided (Wilson); the response that most of the courses had been recommended by the Superintendent's Business and Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC) to support the needs of the community; that budgeted funds and Perkins grant funds had both been used to develop curricula (Director, Office of Professional Technical Studies Diane Pruner); that it was critical that course offerings designed for CTEAC were based on what was appropriate in the workplace; that course offerings should support the long term vision of the school division (Strauss); that the FCPS transportation system was severely stressed (Kory, Strauss); that the Board should be prepared to keep its promises to students (Kory, Wilson); the question whether the impact on the transportation system was included in course development (Storck); the response that the consultant hired to evaluate the transportation system indicated that the system could not possibly be made more efficient, and that additional expectations could not be accommodated; that students lost instructional time commuting between base and academy schools; that staff members would present some recommendations to the Board in conjunction with the recommendations of the consultant; that the Board might have to consider not providing all bus service for academy classes, developing regionalized academies, or allowing pupil placement at academy sites; and that courses would be offered based on student enrollment (Dale).

The motion that the Board approve changes to the list of high school course offerings for the 2006-2007 school year, as recommended by the High School Course Review Committee, and as detailed in the agenda item **passed 11-0**, with Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mrs. Oleszek, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voting "aye"; and with Mrs. Belter absent.

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### **4.04 Confirmation of Action Taken in Closed Meeting**

Mrs. Strauss moved, and Mr. Center seconded, to expel a student for violating a probationary school assignment. The motion passed 11-0, with Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mrs. Oleszek, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voting "aye"; and with Mrs. Belter absent.

**4.05 Pending Action (action scheduled 12/01/05) - High School Literature Textbook Adoption** - Adopt high school literature basal texts for English grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, as recommended by the High School Literature Textbook Review Committee (IS; Exhibit G)

**4.06 Pending Action (action scheduled 12/01/05) - Middle School Science Textbook Adoption** - Adopt science textbooks for grades six, seven, and eight, as recommended by the Middle School Science Textbook Review Committee (IS; Exhibit H)

**4.07 Pending Action (action scheduled 12/01/05) - Award of Contract** - Award the contract for the renovation of South Lakes High School (FTS; Exhibit I)

**4.08 Pending Action (action scheduled 12/01/05) -2006 Legislative Program** - Approved the 2006 Legislation Program, as reviewed and discussed by the Legislation, Policy, and Future Issues Committee (S; Exhibit J)

## **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-1454

**5.01 Minutes** - Approve minutes of November 3, 2005, regular business meeting (SB; Exhibit K)

**5.02 Monthly Separation Report** - Confirm the separations as indicated below for the period beginning October 1, 2005, and ending October 31, 2005 (HR; Exhibit L)

**5.03 Easement** - Grant an easement at Devonshire Center to the Lee Graham Square Condominiums, for compensation in the amount of \$18,000 (FTS; Exhibit M)

**5.04 School Board Policy** - Adopt Policy 3310, Focus School Initiative and Implementation (K-12) (IS; Exhibit N)

**5.05 Amendment of Contract** - Amend the contract to Peck Peck and Associates, Inc., to provide for human resources consulting services provided by Linkage, Inc., in the amount of \$93,000 and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute the amendment on behalf of the School Board (HR; Exhibit O)

Chairman Niedzielski-Eichner stated that, without objection, the five items on the consent agenda would be adopted. Hearing no objection, the consent agenda

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passed 11-0, with Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mrs. Oleszek, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voting "aye"; and with Mrs. Belter absent.

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

#### TAPE REFERENCE:

- 6.01 2006-2007 School Calendars** - Recommendation to approve the 2006-2007 school calendars as detailed in the agenda item (HR; Exhibit P)

There was no discussion of this item.

- 6.02 Award of Contract** - Recommendation to award the contract for emergency power upgrades at Chantilly and Marshall High Schools, in support of the FY 2004 State Homeland Security Grant Program, to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder(s) and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute the contract on behalf of the School Board (FTS; Exhibit Q)

There was no discussion of this item.

- 6.03 Family Life Education Curriculum Advisory Committee Update** - Recommendation to approve the videotape, Sex Smart for Teens: Abstinence, for use in the 10th grade Personal and Community Health Unit; and the videotape, Living with Addiction: A Family Disease, for use in the 7th grade Drug Use Prevention: Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs Unit (IS; Exhibit R)

There was no discussion of this item.

- 6.04 FY 2006 Mid-Year Budget Review** - Recommendation to approve revenue and expenditure changes reflected in the FY 2006 Mid-Year Budget Review, as detailed in the agenda item (FS; Exhibit S)

Chief Financial Officer Deirdre McLaughlin reviewed the agenda item for the Board; she said that the budget for vehicle fuel and utility costs would have to be increased before the end of the fiscal year; that funds had been allocated for positions as coordinators for after school programs for middle school students; and that the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) funding had increased an average of approximately 20 percent over each of the preceding three years, but only increased five percent for the current fiscal year.

Discussion included the following: the question whether there were no adjustments for utility costs because FCPS budgeted on annual basis (Gibson); an affirmative response; that adjustments could be made more accurately in March (McLaughlin); the question how much more had been spent on utility costs through midyear than in previous years (Gibson); the response that she did not have detailed information available, but staff members estimated that an

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additional \$2 million would ultimately have to be added for utility costs (McLaughlin); the question whether the flexibility reserve was \$8 million (Gibson); an affirmative response (McLaughlin); the question why the compensation accounts were not being reduced since enrollment numbers were approximately 500 less than estimated (Gibson); the response that most of the teachers had been employed, and there were only 36 remaining in the reserve; that the budget provided for stable student enrollment; the question whether the Federal Government would reimburse FCPS for the cost of educating students who were the victims of Hurricane Katrina (Gibson); the response that FCPS was pursuing reimbursement (McLaughlin); that the reserve account had been established to provide for unexpected contingencies (Strauss); the question whether Title 1 funding had been received (Niedzielski-Eichner); and the response that the adjustments to the Title 1 awards were reflected on the grant pages (McLaughlin).

### 7. **SUPERINTENDENT MATTERS**

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-2307

#### 7.01 **Superintendent Matters**

Dr. Dale announced that Principal of the Year Steve Hockett would be recognized the following evening at *The Washington Post*. Dr. Dale reminded the community that schools would close two hours early on November 23; and he expressed his appreciation and thanks to FCPS employees for their service to the community.

### 8. **SCHOOL BOARD REPORTS**

TAPE REFERENCE: 1-2398

#### 8.01 **Committee Reports (Exhibit T)**

##### **Instructional Services and Youth Development; November 7; Kathy Smith, Chair**

Update from the Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee. Update from the Family Life Education Curriculum Advisory Committee; that proposed videos would be available to the community at the Sprague Technology Center from November 15-December 12, and would be broadcast on Channel 21; and that the Board would vote on the videos on December 15.

##### **Resource Management and Evaluation; November 7; Jane Strauss, Chair**

Presentation on the proposed 2006-2007 school calendars. Report on the Professional Teacher Leadership Workforce for Our Future.

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### **Facilities and Operations; November 7; Brad Center and Kaye Kory, Co-Chairs**

Update from transportation consultant; that the projected cost of opening schools between 7:50 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. would be approximately \$75 million. Discussion of methodology for developing the Capital Improvement Program.

#### **8.02 Board Member Announcements**

##### **Kaye Kory, Mason District**

The methodology by which enrollment projections were developed and the impact of those projections should be evaluated; that draft projections indicated that 33 percent of children in the Stuart pyramid were leaving; that the Board had to allocate resources to meet the needs of students; that it was incumbent on the Board to keep its promise to build a new school.

##### **Stuart Gibson, Hunter Mill District**

That the bid on South Lakes High School was \$12 million over budget, and the Board had to keep faith by renovating schools according to the established queue. Expression of thanks to Director of Government Relations Michael Molloy for the Legislative Breakfast held at Marshall High School on November 14.

##### **Janet Oleszek, At Large**

Encouragement to community members to continue to communicate their needs to the School Board. Expression of thanks to outgoing state PTA president Ramona Morrow; that Eileen Kugler was the keynote speaker at the state PTA convention held the previous weekend.

##### **Jane Strauss, Dranesville District**

Expression of thanks to the McLean American Legion Post and McLean High School for a wonderful Veterans Day celebration.

##### **Ilryong Moon, At Large**

Announcement that many Board members would participate in the Virginia School Boards Association convention in Williamsburg this coming week.

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### **Samantha Kunkel, Student Representative**

Expression of thanks to Oakton and Mosby Woods Elementary Schools for having invited her to speak with third and sixth grade students. The Student Advisory Council was working on developing an ideal high school for subsequent presentation to Dr. Dale.

### **Brad Center, Lee District**

Expression of thanks to the Clermont Elementary School PTA for having invited him to address their assemblage. Expression of thanks to Lisa Adler and the individuals involved in the Safe Youth Coalition for having organized a prevention conference at Lee High School to discuss prevention activities related to violence, gangs, alcohol, and drugs.

### **Tessie Wilson, Braddock District**

Announcement that the Sallie Mae Fund and the Fairfax Scholarship Fund would jointly sponsor a presentation on financing the cost of college at Stuart High School on December 3.

### **Stephen Hunt, at Large**

Congratulations to Flint Hill Elementary School for an extremely successful Veterans Day program. That boundary decisions had not been finalized, and public input was still being solicited.

### **Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner, Providence District**

Congratulations to Flint Hill Elementary School for an extremely successful Veterans Day program. Had been joined at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology by Mrs. Belter, Mr. Hunt, Secretary of Education Margaret Spelling, and the Deputy Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to listen in on a conversation between students and astronauts in the space station; and he congratulated principal Elizabeth Lodal for organizing this event.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

TAPE REFERENCE: 2-0170

**9.01** The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.