

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Luther Jackson Middle School

Work Session No. 39/ **Resource Management & Evaluation**

February 6, 2006

MEETING OPENING

39.01 Call to Order

Resource Management and Evaluation Committee Chairman Jane Strauss convened the meeting in public session at 7:03 p.m. with the following Board members present:

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

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack D. Dale; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board Pamela Goddard; Chief Financial Officer Deirdra McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities and Transportation Services Dean Tistadt; Assistant Superintendent of Special Services Alice Farling; Director Alternative Schools Teresa Zutter; and certain other members of staff. Student Representative to the Board Samantha Kunkel was absent.

DISCUSSION

39.02 FY 2007 Proposed Budget (Exhibit A)

- Discussion concerning comprehensive plan for alternative schools; need for expansion because of number of students involved;
- 7th and 8th graders would not spend time with high school students, as they would be physically separated in the building;
- Richard Milburn was no longer offering an instructional program in Fairfax County, so it was necessary to offer an alternative;
- program design would be centered around self-contained model that had been successful at the Juvenile Detention Center for 12 years; would include no more than 11 students with one teacher; possible gender separation would be considered;
- design would include four stages of progress geared to each quarter, and would be based on standard behavior modification techniques and moving students away from external motivators;
- middle school staffing formula was similar to elementary staffing model as it allocated resources by students eligible for free and reduced price meals and English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services; would increase 14.9

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positions, with 19 schools gaining between .1 and 2 positions, six schools remaining the same, and one school losing a position;

- middle school staffing formula was based on the students having seven periods and teachers teaching five periods; at elementary level it was purely pupil/teacher ratio; objective was to make staffing more equitable for all schools while staying as cost neutral as possible; principals would have flexibility to use resources;
- proposal for 11-month contract (218 days vs. 194 days) for teachers and instructional assistants in the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program for autistic students; goal would allow for year-round consistency in the program and additional training for staff;
- question why individuals with ABA certification from George Mason University who had no instructional assistant experience had to start at the bottom of the salary scale; staff to respond;
- question about costs spent on outside consultants for ABA program and whether or not there was in-house expertise that could be utilized instead; negative response; that outside consultants were needed initially but as internal capacity was built would need less outside consultants;
- discussion about this year's salary lapse vacancies and the state of the economy; Superintendent had recommended applying \$15 million of FY 2006 year end balance to FY 2007 beginning balance, thereby reducing the transfer increase request to the Board of Supervisors to 8.81%;
- instructional staff was almost fully staffed, but there were vacancies in trades, office personnel, and technicians;
- Superintendent had recommended an additional .25% COLA for all employees, which would result in a minimum COLA of 3.75%;
- full day kindergarten was included in the tier of budget requirements along with *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB), middle school staffing, and textbook adoption requirements;
- question about the status of the formative assessment program; response that it was a three-year program, and items included in the FY 2007 budget were part of that program; evaluation portion included developing a curriculum and assessment system to review achievement gains in SOL tests;
- confirmation that a report on the formative assessment program would be provided to the Board in the future;
- community summer school had indicated benefits for elementary students because of intervention and reading between K-1 and 1-2 grades; comment that costs should be acknowledged as part of NCLB costs;
- question what would it cost to implement full day kindergarten at every elementary school without adding facility costs or additional administrative costs; response that it would cost approximately \$20 million, and would serve approximately 4,000 students;
- discussion about proposed transportation consultant study that the Board was scheduled to vote on in the near future; three options were considered: lengthening the school day, lengthening the window, and doing both; and
- possibilities for consultant to consider included rolling bell schedules and sliding the bell schedules 20-30 minutes.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.