

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Burkholder Administrative Center

Work Session No. 42/Resource Management and Evaluation

February 13, 2006

MEETING OPENING

42.02 Call to Order and Announcements

Resource Management and Evaluation Committee Chairman Janie Strauss convened the public session at 1:08 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine Belter (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee arr 1:15 p.m.)
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill)
Steve Hunt (At Large)
Kaye Kory (Mason, absent)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)

Phil Niedzielski-Echner (Providence)
Janet Oleszek (At Large)
Kathy Smith (Sully)
Dan Storck (Mount Vernon)
Jane Strauss (Dranesville)
Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Executive Assistant Pam Goddard; Administrative Assistant Patricia Stickley; Assistant Superintendent for Accountability Patrick Murphy; Director of Program Evaluation Recardo Sockwell; Program Evaluation Specialist Zhicheng Zhang; Principal of TJHSST Elizabeth Lodal and certain other individuals. Student Representative to the School Board Samantha Kunkel was absent.

DISCUSSION

42.03 TJHSST Revised Admissions Impact Studies(Exhibit A)

- A brief historical background was given regarding the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST) Blue Ribbon Commission and the change in admission procedures;
- the study focuses on two areas—supply and demand and whether the change in admission procedures had made a difference in the class demographics;
- a survey was given to area students and the results were: 81% wanted to stay with friends, 37% considered racial/ethnic “comfort zones”, 67% cited stress levels at the school, and 63% feared being academically overwhelmed;
- note that neighboring Fauquier County was preparing to open their own governor’s school; Loudoun County was trying to enhance one of the bio-technical schools;
- comment that there was some interest in tracking graduates of TJSST to see if they had pursued science and technology in college or in a career; and
- recommendation from the principal of TJHSST to conduct a survey with current students to see how comfortable they felt and what level of openness the school had.

ADJOURNMENT

42.04 The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.