

## MINUTES

### Fairfax County School Board

#### Fairfax County School Administration Center

Work Session No. 49/**Facilities and Operations**

March 13, 2006

#### **MEETING OPENING**

##### **49.02 Call to Order and Announcements**

Facilities and Operations Committee Chairman Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner convened the meeting in public session at 2:45 p.m. with the following Board members present:

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

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger; Deputy Executive Assistant Linda Sabo; Administrative Assistants Darlene Chamberlain and Kathy Partlow; Assistant Superintendent for Facilities and Transportation Services Dean Tistadt; and certain other individuals. Student Representative to the Board Samantha Kunkle was absent.

#### **DISCUSSION**

##### **49.03 Enrollment Projection Scope of Work (Exhibit A)**

- Discussion about hiring a consultant to analyze and offer suggestions to improve the current practices used in projecting student enrollment;
- suggestion to contact commercial entities to determine the use of other methods to gather county demographic information;
- suggestion to create community committees no later than September or October and before the next boundary process and the need for a method for the community to ask questions of a consultant; response that a consultant would analyze staff's method for projecting enrollment numbers and how the projections related to staffing and the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), not to analyze boundary change effects on communities; comment that a distinction should be made between a public report and public input;
- comment that there were limitations in the ability to predict the future concerning numbers of students enrolling in the schools; question whether there was a better methodology to determine those numbers and what methodology was used by other school systems; response that the same type methodology was used by other school systems and that all school systems relied on local knowledge;

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- question whether the intent of hiring a consultant was to do an analysis school by school or by the entire division; response that the intent was to have a consultant look at the division by level;
- question why the data staff had previously generated was not sufficient; response that consultants would use the historical data prepared by staff and that staff would welcome suggestions on how to improve the process of how enrollment was projected;
- question about the cost to fix the overcrowding problem at South County; response that the cost would depend on whether a study of enrollment projection methodology would indicate a different boundary setting process and that a missing factor in projecting enrollment at South County High School was the return of Gifted and Talented (GT) students to their home school; response that South County was unusual since it was a new high school and that no additional high schools were to be built in the near future;
- question why staff's projections had only included the general student population and not special education and GT students; response that all populations were included in the final projections;
- comment on the support of data prepared by staff and question about the cost of hiring a consultant; response that the estimate for hiring a consultant to do the initial study should be between \$20,000 and \$40,000; and
- request for support to move forward with a study and/or public engagement; consensus to support the suggestion to release a Request for Proposal (RFP) for an analysis of the methodology used to project enrollment numbers.

### **49.04 Recommended Boundary Studies for 2006-07 and 2007-08 Update (Exhibit B)**

- Addressed School Board's current process for establishing boundaries and possible alternatives to existing process;
- one suggestion was to create a commission comprised of independent members who would use the Board's defined criteria to determine boundary adjustments; committee would take direction from the School Board but Board members would be removed from the day-to-day interaction with communities over boundary adjustments; concern expressed that affected communities would not be given due process through a commission process;
- agreement to schedule May 2006 work session to further discuss boundary process; Board members would forward any alternative proposals for consideration;
- discussed specific high school over-crowding at Chantilly, Centreville, Westfield, with potential excess capacity at South Lakes, Herndon, and Oakton; may consider whether to include Madison High School in any study based on extended commute for some students living north of Dulles Toll Road but districted to Madison;

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- discussed over-crowding at Lorton Station and Silverbrook Elementary Schools and under capacity at Halley Elementary; proposed solutions included transfer of Gifted and Talented Center from Lorton Station to Halley, expedited boundary review for these three schools, and administrative transfer through pupil placement;
- presentation of the proposed bell schedule for South County Secondary School to accommodate overcrowding;
- consensus of School Board Members to postpone discussion of the South County boundary study to April 2006 work session.

### **49.05 CLOSED MEETING**

Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner moved, and Mrs. Kory seconded, that the Board go into closed meeting to discuss and consider the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3). The motion passed 11-0, with Ms. Belter, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hunt, Ms. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Ms. Oleszek, Ms. Smith, Mr. Storck, Ms. Strauss and Ms. Wilson voting "aye"; and with Mr. Center not present for the vote.

### **49.06 CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING COMPLIANCE**

Mr. Gibson moved and Ms. Strauss seconded, that since the Fairfax County School Board convened a closed meeting on March 13, 2006, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and since Section 2.2-3712(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 that closed meeting, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered. The motion passed 11-0, with Ms. Belter, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hunt, Ms. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Ms. Oleszek, Ms. Smith, Mr. Storck, Ms. Strauss and Ms. Wilson voting "aye"; and with Mr. Center not present for the vote

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.