

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board School Administration Center

Work Session No. 51/**Legislation, Policy, and Future Issues**

April 3, 2006

MEETING OPENING

51.02 Call to Order and Announcements

Legislation, Policy, and Future Issues Committee Chairman Stuart Gibson convened the meeting in public session at 11:03 a.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine Belter (Springfield)	Phil Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
Brad Center (Lee arr 11:55 a.m.)	Janet Oleszek (At Large)
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill)	Kathy Smith (Sully arr 11:08 a.m.)
Stephen Hunt (At Large arr 11:36 a.m.)	Dan Storck (Mount Vernon arr 11:20 a.m.)
Kaye Kory (Mason)	Jane Strauss (Dranesville)
Ilryong Moon (At Large arr 11:10 a.m.)	Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Executive Assistant Pat Charbonneau; Administrative Assistant Darlene Chamberlain; Division Counsel Anne Murphy; Chief Financial Officer Deirdra McLaughlin; Assistant Superintendent for Special Services Alice Farling; Director Office of Food and Nutrition Services Penny McConnell; Student Registration Coordinator Diana Jarrett; and certain other individuals. Student Representative to the Board Samantha Kunkle was absent.

DISCUSSION

51.03 Policy XXXX, Student Health and Wellness (Exhibit A)

- Areas of recommendations by the task force that was created to address compliance with new federal laws for new policy included four components: nutrition education, foods offered in the course of the school day, food environment, and physical activity;
- task force suggestion to implement recommendations on ala carte food items and focus only on student wellness during the school day;
- discussion about removing language about after-school activities and fund raisers; comment that task force did not focus on food and drinks offered outside of the school day (i.e. games, booster club activities); comment that profits from these events were split 50/50 with the school; agreement to revisit this issue at a later date;
- question whether water was available in vending machines; affirmative response; older water fountains frequently did not work and students would not use them; comment that principals decided whether students could carry bottled water;
- discussion about hand washing and lack of hot water at some schools; response that the issue was being addressed by the Facilities Department;

Fairfax County School Board

Work Session No. 51/Legislation, Policy, and Future Issues

April 3, 2006

2

- comment that bread items had been changed to whole wheat and that students accepted the change with no problem, although there was an increased price of bread due to the change;
- discussion and agreement to add language to the purpose of the policy to include more on what would be done to promote student wellness; and
- agreement to present reworded policy for new business at the April 27, 2006, School Board meeting, with action scheduled for May 11.

51.04 Policy 2202, Eligibility for Enrollment (Exhibit B)

- Staff recommendations on tuition and non-tuition paying enrollment of students; suggestion to require a student enrolled on a tuition-paying basis to be a child of a full-time employee rather than part-time employee; suggestion to expand parent or guardian options for a child to attend FCPS on a tuition paying basis;
- suggestion to pay tuition for children of employees as an employee benefit and request to see a cost analysis and what other localities were doing; request for the number of part-time employees requesting enrollment for children;
- comment that FCPS was out of step with surrounding localities and that families who lived in adjacent counties were unable to afford tuition; 38 students paid tuition last year;
- question about the number of requests for enrollment from neighboring counties; response that approximately two or three dozen requests were submitted and that the cost of tuition was a deterrent;
- question whether the current regulation on fraudulent enrollment was enforced; response that the regulation was more of a stop and desist deterrent which strengthened staff's position should they need to enforce the regulation;
- discussion about the definition of legal custody; comment that the Code of Virginia stated that only a court appointed adult had legal custody; comment that affidavits were available at schools if a child lived with someone other than the parent or guardian;
- question whether tuition costs for students in special programs were based on the cost of services; affirmative response; request to see a program pricing schedule;
- discussion about clearer definitions of hardship cases and unusual circumstances and suggestion to add a hardship clause for students enrolled on a non-tuition paying basis;
- suggestion to allow families to pick a school and to be enrolled on a tuition-paying basis if the school was not overcrowded; request to revisit the issue of placing a cap on tuition;

Fairfax County School Board

Work Session No. 51/**Legislation, Policy, and Future Issues**

April 3, 2006

3

- suggestion to change language about available space from within a school to within the pyramid since there was sometimes space in the elementary school, but none in the middle or high school; and
- consensus to adopt the policy as staff presented, monitor its effectiveness, and then discuss it further.

51.05 Policy XXX, Retaining Consultants (Exhibit C)

- Discussion about wording of the policy; suggestion to change the wording In Paragraph II., Part C., regarding the availability of sufficient staff members to wording that would refer to the inability of the school system to provide assistance within the time constraints of the School Board; discussion on making the policy language on fund availability stronger and determination to leave original language; and
- consensus to present the reworded policy for new business at the April 27, 2006, School Board meeting with action on May 11.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.