

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Luther Jackson Middle School

Work Session No. 28/Forum on Board Topics

November 14, 2006

MEETING OPENING

28.01 Call to Order

Chairman Ilryong Moon convened the meeting at 5:35 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine A. Belter (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee)
Stuart D. Gibson (Hunter Mill)
Stephen M. Hunt (At Large)
Kaye Kory (Mason)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)

Phillip A. Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
Janet S. Oleszek (At Large)
Kathy L. Smith (Sully)
Daniel G. Storck (Mt. Vernon)
Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were the Division Superintendent Jack D. Dale, Deputy Superintendent Richard Moniuszko; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board Pamela Goddard; Deputy Clerk of the Board Pat Charbonneau; and certain other members of staff. The Student Representative to the Board Jessica Miller was also present.

DISCUSSION

28.02 Forum Topics

Teacher Work Day (Moon)

- Board members had recently attended a town meeting sponsored by Fairfax Education Association (FEA) that focused on the teacher work day;
- comment that within the framework of strategic governance, the operational expectations for Human Resources included a relationship with all the employee organizations;
- the Superintendent had recommended forming a focus group of principals and teachers to problem-solve some of the issues, including teacher retention and time management;
- the issues were within the Superintendent's purview about how the work day was set up for the different levels (elementary, middle, and high);
- consensus that it was important for teachers to be treated as professionals; and
- Superintendent to initiate a climate survey of all teachers to get a quantitative sense of what challenges were involved; once the survey was completed staff would review the results.

Boundary Town Hall Process (Center)

- Request for staff to provide some alternative boundary process formats used in other school districts that the Board might consider;
- Board members were anxious to respond to constituents' views and therefore were interjected into the process prematurely;

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- comment that staff listened to the public's feedback during the boundary meetings and were considering alternate solutions, although the perception was that the process was not working correctly; and
- the process needed to be transparent; consensus to have a full boundary process discussion with possible alternatives in February or March 2007.

Adjourned 6:30 p.m.