

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Gatehouse Administration Center I

Work Session Nos. 86-88/
Accountability, Special Services, and Instruction

May 31, 2007

86.01 Call to Order and Announcements

Meeting manager Kathy Smith convened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Catherine A. Belter (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee)
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill; ABSENT)
Steve Hunt (At Large)
Kaye Kory (Mason; ABSENT)
Ilryong Moon (At Large; arr 7:07 p.m.)

Phil Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence; arr 7:15 p.m.)
Janet Oleszek (At Large)
Kathy Smith (Sully)
Dan Storck (Mount Vernon)
Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Superintendent Richard Moniuszko; Deputy Clerk Linda Sabo; Executive Administrative Assistant Yvette Rhodes; Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee Chairman Milton Young and Chairman Elect Ralph Cooper; Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities Co-Chairs Carmen Sanchez and Brenda Cross; and Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee Co-Chairs Cindy Waters and Claudia DeBose. The Student Representative to the School Board Jessica Miller was absent.

CLOSED MEETING MOTION

Mrs. Strauss moved, and Mr. Storck seconded, that the Board go into closed meeting on June 4, 2007, at 6 p.m. at the Gatehouse Administration Center to discuss and consider the performance of specific public employees pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1). The motion passed 8-0, with Mrs. Belter, Mr. Center, Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Oleszek, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voting "aye," with Mr. Moon and Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner not present for the vote, and with Mr. Gibson and Mrs. Kory absent.

DISCUSSION

86.02 Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee Annual Report (Exhibit A)

- More feedback from the Board on committee recommendations would be useful;
- consensus that staff should develop a comprehensive guide for parents which described Standards of Learning requirements; and
- need to identify root causes for high drop-out rates for minority students and intervention strategies.

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87.02 Advisory Committee for Students With Disabilities Annual Report (Exhibit B)

- Recommendation to change the composition of the Committee to allow for a representative from Fairfax County Therapeutic Recreation Services;
- need to ensure that student placements in secondary schools were not predetermined and were based on student needs; and
- recommendation to develop plans to make IEPs available for teachers at the beginning of the school year and for increasing access to the general curriculum for all students with disabilities.

88.02 Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee Annual Report (Exhibit C)

- Consensus that a recommended name change to “Advanced Academic Programs” would emphasize the academic focus of the program and label the program rather than the child;
- school-based local level IV services gave parents a worthwhile choice; question on the grade-level distribution of the 310 students currently receiving level IV services; response that students were in grades 3 through 6 and more data would be collected as the program advanced; and
- more information was needed on the number of students who would require level V services and concern expressed that such a service could result in increased isolation of students.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.