

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Gatehouse Administration Center I

Work Session No. 57/**Budget**

January 28, 2008

57.01 Call to Order and Announcements

Meeting Manager Phil Niedzielski-Eichner convened the meeting at 7:01 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Elizabeth T. Bradsher (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee, Arr 7:12 p.m.)
Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill)
Martina A. Hone (At Large, Depart 8:53 p.m.)
Kaye Kory (Mason, Arr 7:15 p.m.)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)

Phil Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence)
James L. Raney (At Large)
Kathy Smith (Sully)
Dan Storck (Mount Vernon)
Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board Pam Goddard; Executive Administrative Assistant Andrea Shimer; Chief Operating Officer Dean Tisdadt; Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Kevin North; Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Peter Noonan; Chief Financial Officer Deirdra McLaughlin; Assistant Superintendent of Information Technology Maribeth Luftglass; Assistant Budget Director Kristen Michael; and certain other individuals. The Student Representative to the School Board James Rosenquist (arr 7:25 p.m.) was present.

DISCUSSION

57.02 FY 2009 Advertised Budget [Exhibit A]

The Superintendent presented a brief overview of the budget and then the Board discussed the following eight topics:

- Competiveness of salary/benefits relative to attracting and retaining high-quality personnel:
 - Comparison to Fairfax County Government
 - Setting of living wage for all employees
 - Currently retaining both 3% COLA and Step increase for FCPS employees
- Serving disadvantaged students in all schools:
 - Adjusting staffing formulas for preschool programs
 - Use of non-ratio instructional aide staffing
- Impact of budget cuts resulting from restructuring/streamlining/redesigning programs:
 - Special programs continued by use of alternative staffing
 - Summer school redesigned
 - TSSpecs for all elementary schools funded

- Case load for inclusive school resource teachers increased
- Student transportation reductions:
 - Hardships and safety aspects for parents/students if GT depot busing adopted
 - TJ depot busing impacted
 - Busing for administratively placed and level 4 GT students eliminated
- Options for FDK and FLES
 - Budget savings if full day kindergarten and foreign language in elementary schools delayed
- Effect of membership projections and class size mandates on budget:
 - High schools must be creative to offer enough classes for all students if class size was mandated
 - Elementary schools looking at the return of grade level combination classes
- Implications of budget decisions on special education programs:
 - Staffing decided by IEP/State Caps
 - Increased caseload for monitoring/itinerant teachers
- Other concerns:
 - Central office cuts
 - Fairfax County budget techniques

Board members asked for a staff response to a number of questions.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.