

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Gatehouse Administration Center I

Work Session No. 112/Human Resources & Special Services

May 29, 2008

112.01 Closed Meeting

Chairman Storck convened the meeting at 6:10 p.m. with a quorum of members present:

Elizabeth T. Bradsher (Springfield; arr 6:15)
Brad Center (Lee)
Stuart D. Gibson (Hunter Mill; ABSENT)
Martina A. Hone (At Large; arr 6:15)
Kaye Kory (Mason)
Illyong Moon (At Large)

Phillip A. Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence; arr 6:25)
James L. Raney (At Large)
Kathy L. Smith (Sully)
Daniel G. Storck (Mount Vernon; arr 6:12)
Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Mrs. Wilson moved, and Mr. Center seconded, that the Board go into closed meeting 1) to discuss and consider the performance of a specific public officer, as well as specific public employees, pursuant to VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1); and 2) to discuss and consider disciplinary matters concerning students pursuant to VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(2). The motion **passed 7-0**: Mr. Center, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Bradsher, Ms. Hone, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner and Mr. Storck were not present for the vote; Mr. Gibson was absent.

112.02 Call to Order and Announcements

Meeting Manager Kory convened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. with a quorum of Board members present. Also present were Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Superintendent Richard Moniuszko; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board Pam Goddard; Executive Administrative Assistant Deb Cain; Title I Coordinator Sue Fidelman; Title I Resource Teacher Debbie Swietlik; Hybla Valley Elementary School Title I Representative Beverly Copeland; Early Head Start (EHS)/Family and Early Childhood Education Program (FECEP)/Head Start (HS) Policy Committee Chairperson Karen Brown; FECEP/HS Coordinators Maura Burke and Debby Fulcher; School Health Advisory Committee Chairman Sandy Evans; Director, Food and Nutrition Services Penny McConnell; Fairfax County Health Department representative Patricia Trahan; Health and Home Instruction Specialist Elizabeth Donaldson; former School Health Advisory Committee Chairman Hope Warshaw; Youth Suicide and Depression Coordinator Susan Lydick with the Fairfax Partnership for Youth; Human Relations Advisory Committee Chair May Kheder; Director of Equity and Compliance Sherry Brathwaite; Equity and Compliance Specialist Alice O'Neill; and certain other individuals. The Student Representative to the School Board James Rosenquist was absent.

112.03 Certification of Closed Meeting Compliance (Exhibit A)

Mr. Center moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, that since the Fairfax County School Board convened a closed meeting on May 29, 2008, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act,

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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 the 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 foregoing also shall be deemed to include the certification of each member of this School Board who served on a student disciplinary committee, since the last certification, that the closed meetings of the student disciplinary committees on which the member served during that time period are lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by §2.2-3711(A)(2) of the Code of Virginia, as stated in the annual organizational meeting of the School Board held in January, and that only student disciplinary matters were heard, discussed or considered in the closed committee meeting or meetings attended by the member for that purpose. The motion **passed 11-0**: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Ms. Hone, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Mr. Gibson was absent.

112.04 Confirmation of Action Taken in Closed Meeting

Mrs. Strauss moved, and Mrs. Wilson seconded, to deny the student's request to overturn the long-term suspension decision imposed by the Superintendent's Hearing Office. The motion **passed 9-0-2**: Mr. Center, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Bradsher and Ms. Hone abstained; Mr. Gibson was absent.

DISCUSSION

112.05 Title I Annual Report (Exhibit B)

- Question whether there were challenges with parents who do not have access to computers and the internet; response that Title I schools had parent centers equipped with computers; many schools are purchasing computerized calling systems with multiple languages as an additional outreach to parents who did not have computers or cannot come to a parent center;
- main issue with establishing a parent center in a school was finding the space; will continue to encourage and provide support and resources to assist schools in opening or expanding parent centers;
- will continue to purchase dual-language books for distribution to families through the Partners in Print family literacy programs so that parents can share books with their children in either English or their home language.

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112.06 FECEP/Head Start Committee Annual Report (Exhibit C)

- Presented a personal narrative on the value of Head Start and the positive changes it made in the life of one family;
- there was a waiting list for Head Start programs due to a lack of funding at local, state and federal levels; the increase in this year's waiting list paralleled increase in student enrollment;
- best method to increase Head Start programs was to obtain additional funding at the state level.

112.07 School Health Advisory Committee Annual Report (Exhibit D)

- One recommendation was to consider the implementation of a Coordinated School Health (CSH) plan along the lines outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- serious concern regarding teen depression and youth suicide in Fairfax County; several county agencies would pilot a suicide prevention/depression awareness program at four county sites;
- student theft of food at school had risen to \$1.2 million a year; surveillance cameras in lunch lines were being considered.

112.08 Human Relations Advisory Committee Annual Report (Exhibit E)

- Committee divided into three groups – elementary, middle and high; it was determined that each set of students had a unique perspective on life skills and each level should address those skills in an age-appropriate manner;
- encouraged continued focus on what best practices work, such as a continued effort to get more parental involvement, relationships with foreign language newspapers, and translation services.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.