

# MINUTES

## Fairfax County School Board

### Gatehouse Administration Center I

Work Session No. 4/Update on TJHSST Admissions Process

July 14, 2008

#### 4.01 Call to Order and Announcements

Meeting Manager Moon convened the meeting at 11:32 a.m. with the following Board members present:

Elizabeth T. Bradsher (Springfield; ABSENT)  
Brad Center (Lee; ABSENT)  
Stuart D. Gibson (Hunter Mill; ABSENT;)  
Martina A. Hone (At Large)  
Kaye Kory (Mason; arr. 11:50)  
Ilryong Moon (At Large)

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

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack Dale; Deputy Superintendent Richard Moniuszko; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board Pam Goddard; Deputy Executive Assistants and Deputy Clerks of the Board Pat Charbonneau and Linda Sabo; Executive Administrative Assistant Deb Cain; Thomas Jefferson High School For Science and Technology Admissions Director Judy Howard; Assistant Superintendent Cluster III Cecelia Krill; and certain other individuals. The Student Representative to the School Board Arvin Ahmadi was absent.

#### DISCUSSION

#### 4.02 Update on TJHSST Admissions Process (Exhibit A)

- PowerPoint presentation and overview of the current freshman admissions selection process for Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST) was presented;
- staff presented changes to the Specialized High School Admissions Test (SHSAT) for the 2009/2010 school year; a new handbook about the test was available online and hard copies were also available;
- recommendations for other changes to the current admissions selection process for TJHSST were presented, including raising the minimum GPA from 2.67 to 3.00, raising the minimum percentage of number correct on the SHSAT, and an ongoing revision of the admissions process;
- discussion of the way in which Selection Committee members were chosen, teacher recommendations, students' resumes and the outreach process to middle schools;
- staff will provide the School Board with additional data on students' performance;
- no change to policy was recommended but proposed changes to the regulation will be made.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.