

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Luther Jackson Middle School

Regular Meeting No. 3

September 4, 2008

1. **CLOSED MEETING**

Vice Chairman Smith convened the Board in public session at 7:45 p.m. with a quorum of members present:

Elizabeth T. Bradsher (Springfield)	Phillip A. Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence; arr. 7:55)
Brad Center (Lee)	James L. Raney (At Large)
Stuart D. Gibson (Hunter Mill)	Kathy L. Smith (Sully)
Martina A. Hone (At Large; ABSENT)	Daniel G. Storck (Mt. Vernon; arr. 7:55)
Kaye Kory (Mason; arr. 7:55)	Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)	Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Mr. Gibson moved, and Mr. Moon seconded, that the Board go into closed session to discuss and consider the performance and appointment of a specific public employee pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1). The motion **passed 8-0**: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Moon, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Mrs. Kory, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, and Mr. Storck were not present for the vote; Ms. Hone was absent.

2. **MEETING OPENING**

[NOTE: EACH AGENDA ITEM IS AVAILABLE ON MP3 AUDIO FILES AT <http://www.boarddocs.com/vsba/Fairfax/Board.nsf/Public?OpenFrameSet>]

2.01 Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence/National Anthem

Chairman Storck convened the meeting at 8:10 p.m. with a quorum of Board members present. Also present were Division Superintendent Jack D. Dale; Deputy Superintendent Richard Moniuszko; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board Pamela Goddard; Deputy Executive Assistant and Deputy Clerk of the Board Pat Charbonneau; and certain other members of staff. Student Representative to the School Board Arvin Ahmadi was present.

Chairman Storck thanked the members of the Spring Hill Elementary School Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of Ruth Donahue, for their performance of the national anthem.

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2.02 Certification of Closed Meeting Compliance (Exhibit A)

Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, that since the Fairfax County School Board convened a closed session meeting on September 4, 2008, pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, 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 Section 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, Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Hone was absent.

2.03 Confirmation of Action Taken in Closed Meeting

Mrs. Wilson moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, to appoint Kim P. Dockery as Assistant Superintendent for Special Services, effective September 15, 2008, and authorize the Chairman to execute a contract reflecting these actions. The motion **passed 11-0**: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Hone was absent.

Dr. Dale welcomed Ms. Dockery as a new member of the Leadership Team, and she thanked the School Board and Dr. Dale for this exciting opportunity.

2.04 Announcements (Exhibit B)

Mr. Ahmadi announced that National Hispanic American Heritage Month will be recognized September 15 - October 15.

2.05 Resolution Renaming Edsall Park (Exhibit C)

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Mr. Gibson moved, and Mrs. Kory seconded, to adopt a resolution naming the Edsall Park facility "The Plum Center for Lifelong Learning." The motion **passed 11-0**: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Hone was absent.

Mr. Gibson highlighted Mr. Plum's extensive career in Fairfax County Public Schools while he also served as a delegate to the Virginia Assembly. Mr. Gibson invited Mr. Plum's family and friends to join Board members for photographs, and Mr. Plum made brief remarks.

3. PRESENTATIONS TO SCHOOL BOARD

3.01 Opening of Schools Report (Exhibit D)

Dr. Dale presented a report on the opening of the 2008-2009 school year with a PowerPoint presentation. School Board members expressed appreciation for the successful school year opening and praised staff for the renovations completed at various schools.

3.02 Citizen Participation (Exhibit E)

Seven speakers addressed the Board in the time reserved for public comment. Ms. Mireles, Mr. Quigley, and Mr. Macpherson addressed Agenda Item No. 4.03 Fall 2008 Scope of Boundary Studies; Ms. Otersen and Mr. Grasso addressed Gatehouse Administration Center II; Ms. Menapace addressed the FCCPTA Report Survey on Later Start Times; and Ms. Chanow addressed class size.

3.03 eCart Update – (Exhibit F)

Dr. Richard Moniuszko, deputy superintendent, introduced Peter Noonan, assistant superintendent for instructional services, for an update on eCART (Electronic Curriculum Assessment Resource Tool), which was piloted in 30 schools during the 2007-2008 school year. Using a PowerPoint presentation, video, and actual demonstration, Mr. Noonan highlighted the elements of eCART that provided teachers web-based access to instructional materials, assessment, tools, and resources; he noted that eCART had been expanded system wide with summer training of implementation teams for turn-around training at their schools.

Comments and questions included: FCPS was the only school system in the country with such an extensive and overarching system; the system would be continuously expanded with additional materials; the model was aligned with student achievement goals, indicators, and benchmarks so that timely intervention could be provided to less successful students; request for information on how the criteria that eCART addressed in closing the achievement gap were aligned with the three criteria of content, pedagogy, and relationships that were identified by the

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Academic Leadership Group (ALG); and the question about ownership of the program components, with the response that FCPS owned or had perpetual leases on all elements.

3.04 Student Representative Matters

Mr. Ahmadi encouraged students to contact him as their voice on the School Board.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- 4.01 Resolution** – Adopt a joint School Board and Board of Supervisors resolution to undertake a detailed review of county lines of business and school programs to identify opportunities for streamlining, consolidations, and eliminations (SB; presented as new business 7/24/08; Exhibit G)

Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner moved, and Mr. Center seconded, to adopt a joint School Board and Board of Supervisors resolution to undertake a detailed review of county lines of business and school programs to identify opportunities for streamlining; consolidations, and eliminations.

[Clerk's note: the following is the actual resolution the Board was considering]

A JOINT RESOLUTION TO UNDERTAKE A DETAILED REVIEW OF COUNTY LINES OF BUSINESS AND SCHOOL PROGRAMS TO IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR STREAMLINING, CONSOLIDATIONS, AND ELIMINATIONS

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board have a history of working cooperatively together on budget and financial issues; and,

WHEREAS, the FY 2010 budget will present significant challenges for Fairfax County and Fairfax County Public Schools, with a combined total deficit projected of over \$430 million as a result of unprecedented declines in the residential real estate market ; and,

WHEREAS, the projected imbalance in the FY 2010 budget and minimal revenue growth in FY 2011 and FY 2012 will require further elimination, modification, reorganization, and/or reduction of County and School programs beyond those achieved for FY 2009, as well as other sustainable strategies to align County and School spending to available resources; and,

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board are proud of the nationally and internationally recognized high-caliber services and educational programming provided by their respective organizations

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and firmly believe that Fairfax County residents receive an excellent return on the investment of their tax dollars;

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board to preserve the high quality of life for Fairfax County residents and the outstanding educational opportunities for its students and to ensure that services are provided in the most effective, efficient, affordable, and customer friendly manner possible; and now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board will undertake a detailed review of County Lines of Business and School programs to identify multi-year opportunities for cost reduction and savings to address the projected deficits that include program delivery options and possible service consolidations and eliminations and,

RESOLVED FURTHER, both Boards will engage in a dialogue with the public and employees to secure suggestions and comments regarding the budget opportunities and alternatives for adjustment throughout the development of the FY 2010 budget; and,

RESOLVED FURTHER, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board will review current joint and shared service functions and examine opportunities for further collaboration and consolidation for efficiencies; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board are committed to sustaining our quality of life, managing the expectations of County residents and recognizing the economic realities of the foreseeable future; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, the Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board recognize that each must meet its proportionate share of the deficit reductions that will be required in FY 2010.

Discussion and comments included: the resolution codified the process agreed upon by the School Board and Board of Supervisors at their July 14, 2008, joint meeting; it was beneficial for the School Board and the Board of Supervisors to hear citizens' budget comments, concerns, and priorities at the scheduled community meetings; and the resolution included language that appeared to commit the Board to a proportionate share of the shortfall.

The motion to adopt a joint School Board and Board of Supervisors resolution to undertake a detailed review of county lines of business and school programs to identify opportunities for streamlining; consolidations, and eliminations **passed 11-0**: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-

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Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Hone was absent.

- 4.02 Establishment of the Program Review Committee** – Establish the Program Review Committee ("the Committee") to work with the Superintendent to design a program review process that ensures a thorough review of the cost effectiveness of each program and operation under his direction; the PRC will also monitor the implementation of the program review; keep the full School Board appropriately informed, and recommend if a program should be reviewed by the School Board; and; further move that Brad Center, Ilryong Moon, Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner, James Raney, Kathy Smith, Jane Strauss, and Tessie Wilson be appointed the members of the Committee, with the Budget Liaison designated as the committee chairman(SB; presented as new business 7/24/08; Exhibit H)

Mr. Moon moved, and Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner seconded, to establish the Program Review Committee to work with the Superintendent to design a program review process that ensures a thorough review of the cost effectiveness of each program and operation under his direction; the PRC will also monitor the implementation of the program review; keep the full School Board appropriately informed, and recommend if a program should be reviewed by the School Board; and; further move that Brad Center, Ilryong Moon, Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner, James Raney, Kathy Smith, Jane Strauss, and Tessie Wilson be appointed the members of the Committee, with the Budget Liaison designated as the committee chairman.

Comments included: the Program Review Committee (PRC) would review FCPS programs as they related to the student achievement goals; the work session on September 8 would focus on the Board's priorities among the three academic goals and identification of the most significant criteria and values relative to funding the FCPS programs; PRC meeting dates were published on the School Board calendar and meetings were open to all Board members and to the public.

The motion to establish the Program Review Committee to work with the Superintendent to design a program review process that ensures a thorough review of the cost effectiveness of each program and operation under his direction; the PRC will also monitor the implementation of the program review; keep the full School Board appropriately informed, and recommend if a program should be reviewed by the School Board; and; further move that Brad Center, Ilryong Moon, Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner, James Raney, Kathy Smith, Jane Strauss, and Tessie Wilson be appointed the members of the Committee, with the Budget Liaison designated as the committee chairman **passed 11-0**: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Hone was absent.

- 4.03 Fall 2008 Scope of Boundary Studies** – 1) Adopt the following criteria for the purpose of selecting schools to be included in the boundary studies for the new elementary schools at the Coppermine and Laurel Hill sites: help balance

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enrollment; accommodate projected enrollment; have geographic proximity; provide socio-economic and ESOL balance; adhere to core capacity; respect man-made and natural barriers; accommodate current enrollment; reduce boundary lines; minimize split neighborhoods; minimize split feeder assignments; maximize program stability; and minimize additional capital/operating costs; further move that the Board shall make the final designation of schools to be included in the boundary study, considering not only these criteria, but also any other factors that will contribute to the improved operational efficiency and instructional effectiveness of the school system, pursuant to Policy 8130, Local School Boundaries, Program Assignments and School Closings; 2) direct the Superintendent to conduct a study of Floris, Herndon, Hutchison, McNair, and Oak Hill Elementary Schools and develop preliminary boundary options for populating the new elementary school at the Coppermine site, pursuant to Policy 8130, Local School Boundaries, Program Assignments and School Closings; and 3) direct the Superintendent to conduct a study of Gunston, Halley, Lorton Station, Newington Forest, and Silverbrook Elementary Schools and develop preliminary boundary options for populating the new elementary school at the Laurel Hill site pursuant to Policy 8130, Local School Boundaries, Program Assignments and School Closings (FTS; work session held 7/14/08; presented as new business 7/24/08; Exhibit I)

Mrs. Smith moved, and Mr. Gibson seconded, to adopt the following criteria for the purpose of selecting schools to be included in the boundary studies for the new elementary schools at the Coppermine and Laurel Hill sites: help balance enrollment; accommodate projected enrollment; have geographic proximity; provide socio-economic and ESOL balance; adhere to core capacity; respect man-made and natural barriers; accommodate current enrollment; reduce boundary lines; minimize split neighborhoods; minimize split feeder assignments; maximize program stability; and minimize additional capital/operating costs; further move that the Board shall make the final designation of schools to be included in the boundary study, considering not only these criteria, but also any other factors that will contribute to the improved operational efficiency and instructional effectiveness of the school system, pursuant to Policy 8130, Local School Boundaries, Program Assignments and School Closings.

Comments included: establishment and publication of the criteria to be used in the boundary studies provided clarity and transparency for affected parents, and scenarios would be provided at the boundary town hall meetings.

The motion to adopt the following criteria for the purpose of selecting schools to be included in the boundary studies for the new elementary schools at the Coppermine and Laurel Hill sites: help balance enrollment; accommodate projected enrollment; have geographic proximity; provide socio-economic and ESOL balance; adhere to core capacity; respect man-made and natural barriers; accommodate current enrollment; reduce boundary lines; minimize split neighborhoods; minimize split feeder assignments; maximize program stability; and minimize additional capital/operating costs; further move that the Board shall make the final designation

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of schools to be included in the boundary study, considering not only these criteria, but also any other factors that will contribute to the improved operational efficiency and instructional effectiveness of the school system, pursuant to Policy 8130, Local School Boundaries, Program Assignments and School Closings passed 11-0: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Hone was absent.

Mr. Gibson moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, to direct the Superintendent to conduct a study of Floris, Herndon, Hutchison, McNair, and Oak Hill Elementary Schools and develop preliminary boundary options for populating the new elementary school at the Coppermine site, pursuant to Policy 8130, Local School Boundaries, Program Assignments and School Closings.

Discussion and questions included: the question whether schools not listed in the scope would be considered for boundary adjustments if student enrollments in identified schools had changed, and the response that they would not, as advance identification of affected schools was necessary to be fair to parents; and the question whether this would be the final boundary adjustment prior to establishment of a regional comprehensive approach to boundaries, and the response that another boundary study could be necessary should Lacey Center be returned to an elementary school.

The motion to direct the Superintendent to conduct a study of Floris, Herndon, Hutchison, McNair, and Oak Hill Elementary Schools and develop preliminary boundary options for populating the new elementary school at the Coppermine site, pursuant to Policy 8130, Local School Boundaries, Program Assignments and School Closings passed 11-0: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Hone was absent.

Ms. Bradsher moved, and Mr. Center seconded, to direct the Superintendent to conduct a study of Gunston, Halley, Lorton Station, Newington Forest, and Silverbrook Elementary Schools and develop preliminary boundary options for populating the new elementary school at the Laurel Hill site pursuant to Policy 8130, Local School Boundaries, Program Assignments and School Closings. The motion passed 11-0: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Kory, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Hone was absent.

Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner made a request that the Superintendent provide a proposed timeline on the comprehensive regional plan concept.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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- 5.01 Minutes** – Approve the minutes of July 24, 2008 regular School Board meeting (SB; Exhibit J)
- 5.02 Additional Appointments** – Appoint individuals to serve on committees as listed in the agenda item (SB; Exhibit K)
- 5.03 Revisions to the Strategic Governance Manual** – Approve the proposed revisions to Section 2, Operational Expectations, Section 4, Annual Planning Cycle and Work Plan, and Board Committees, and Section 5, Meetings, of the Strategic Governance Manual, as detailed in the agenda item (SB; presented as new business 7/24/08; Exhibit L)

Chairman Storck stated that, without objection, the three items on the consent agenda would be adopted. Hearing no objection, the consent agenda **was adopted.**

6. NEW BUSINESS

- 6.01 Appointment of Agents** – Recommendation to appoint Douglas Campbell and Jerome Wilhelm as Agents and William Brady as Deputy Agents of the School Board to examine, approve, and order payment of financial obligations of the Board in the absence of the Agents (SB; Exhibit M)

There was no discussion of this item.

- 6.02 Award of Contract** – Recommendation to authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute a contract in the amount of \$10,651,117, over a five-year term for the provision of a student information system for FCPS with Edupoint Educational Systems (IT; action scheduled 9/18/08; Exhibit N)

Request that a breakdown of the cost to maintain the current student information system to be provided to Board members.

- 6.03 Award of Contract** – Recommendation to award the contract for architectural and engineering services for the design of South County Middle School to Ballou Justice Upton Architects, in the amount of \$2,555,000, and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute the contract on behalf of the School Board (FTS; action scheduled 9/18/08; Exhibit O)

Request was made to provide the Board with the amount of financial exposure in the event of cancellation of the contract.

7. SUPERINTENDENT MATTERS

There were no Superintendent matters.

8. REPORTS

August 14 and 25, 2008 – Program Review Committee - Phil Niedzielski-Eichner, Chairman

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Summary had been posted for discussion at September 8 work session.

August 19, 2008 – Linkage Committee - Brad Center, Chairman

Plans for Later Start Times Outreach; Plans for CLC for the upcoming year

9. BOARD MATTERS

The Board members made brief comments.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 p.m.

11. DEBRIEF

The Board debriefed tonight's meeting.