

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board Gatehouse Administration Center I

Work Session No. 23/Linkage

September 12, 2008

23.01 Call to Order and Announcements

Committee Chairman Center convened the meeting at 4:09 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Elizabeth T. Bradsher (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee)

Martina A. Hone (At Large)
Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)

Also present Deputy Executive Assistant and Deputy Clerk Pat Charbonneau and Assistant Superintendent for Communications and Community Outreach Barbara Hunter.

23.02 Discussion

Update on the Student Governance Initiative from Student Representative (Exhibit A)

- Student Representative Arvin Ahmadi was unable to attend the meeting; and
- discussion of the student government project was deferred to the next Linkage Committee meeting.

Plans for Community Leadership Council (CLC) Breakfast Meeting

- CLC members were to be contacted with proposed breakfast dates of October 17 or October 24 ;
- discussion topic, Student Achievement Goal 3, Responsibility to the Community would be presented by Cluster II Assistant Superintendent Phyllis Pajardo to frame the morning's discussion on how to engage the community to help students excel in this area; and
- Department of Communications and Community Outreach (DCCO) would provide questions to facilitate the discussion.

Effectiveness of Communications with the Public

- Consensus to recommend to the Governance Committee that the Linkage Committee chair be the designated liaison with the DCCO to apprise them of significant Board issues and to be apprised of community issues that would need to be addressed with Mrs. Strauss drafting the recommendation;

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- Barbara Hunter, Dr. Dale's representative to the Fairfax County Council of PTAs, would provide feedback and requests for information from the Council to the Board; and
- contact would be made on behalf of the Superintendent with the Fairfax County Federation of Civic Associations to request that a school system liaison attend their meetings for information purposes.

Communications during Election Periods

- Consensus to defer discussion to the next Linkage Committee meeting.

Open Discussion

- Update on communication with the community on the purchase of Gatehouse Administration Center II;
- discussion of parent advocacy groups such as Fairgrade, their perception of Board responsiveness, and methods to link with parents who were not active in parent advocacy groups;
- report from Barbara Hunter on the FCCPTA meeting and the Linkage Committee's request for additional information on FCCPTA's goals; and
- Linkage Committee members to each provide three ideas on how to improve linkage to the community.

The meeting adjourned at 5:36 p.m.