

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Gatehouse Administration Center I

Work Session No. 116/**Accountability, Instruction, and Special Services**

June 1, 2009

116.01 Closed Meeting (Exhibit A)

Vice Chairman Wilson convened the meeting at 5:12 p.m. with a quorum of members present:

Elizabeth T. Bradsher (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee; arr: 5:30)
Stuart D. Gibson (Hunter Mill; ABSENT)
Martina A. Hone (At Large)
Kaye Kory (Mason; ABSENT)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)

Phillip A. Niedzielski-Eichner (Providence; arr: 5:15)
James L. Raney (At Large)
Kathy L. Smith (Sully)
Daniel G. Storck (Mount Vernon; arr: 5:20)
Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

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

116.02 Call to Order and Announcements

Chairman Storck convened the meeting at 7:06 p.m. with a quorum of Board members present. Also present were Deputy Superintendent Richard Moniuszko; Deputy Executive Assistant and Deputy Clerk of the Board Linda Sabo; Executive Administrative Assistant Kathy Partlow; Chairman Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee Ralph Cooper; Vice Chairman Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee John Johnson; Co-Chairmen Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities (ACSD) Lisa Fagan and Jeff Nolan; Chairman Advanced Academic Programs Advisory Committee Cindy Waters; and certain other individuals. The Student Representative to the School Board Arvin Ahmadi was absent.

116.03 Certification of Closed Meeting Compliance (Exhibit B)

Mr. Center moved, and Mr. Moon seconded, that in order to comply with Section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia, it is necessary for the Board to certify that since the Fairfax County School Board convened a closed meeting on June 1, 2009, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board during the closed meeting. The motion **passed 10-0**: Ms. Bradsher; Mr. Center, Ms. Hone, Mr. Moon, Mr. Niedzielski-Eichner, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Mr. Gibson and Mrs. Kory were absent.

FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

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DISCUSSION

116.04 Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee 2009 Annual Report (Exhibit C)

- Committee's position was that closing the achievement gap must start from top level down; recommended the Board adopt "closing the achievement gap" as a specific sub goal within Goal 1 since policy and budget priorities were aligned with the goals; committee suggestion that staff develop a comprehensive plan and timeline for closing the achievement gap;
- the Advocacy Handbook continued to be successful, but funds were not available in the FY 2010 budget to publish the Handbook;
- committee concerned with reorganization and elimination of programs supporting minority students; staff responded that reorganization was structured to reduce overhead and streamline delivery, while continuing to serve the same number of students; and
- committee was asked whether it wanted a different measurement of progress; committee responded no, but wanted to see actual progress through increased minority participation in Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate, Advanced Academic programs, and higher test scores.

116.05 Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities Annual Report 2009 (Exhibit D)

- Committee recommended creation of a formal committee, supported by School Board approved regulations, to govern adoption of reading programs, supplemental reading materials, and resources for teaching reading to special education students from K-12;
- recommendation that Direct Instruction program be used for students with significant reading deficits; and
- recommended revision of Student Responsibilities & Rights (SR&R) to accommodate different cognitive levels of students with disabilities, with distribution of adapted versions countywide and increased training for school staff on appropriate implementation of SR&R for students with all levels of disabilities.

116.06 Advanced Academic Programs Advisory Committee Annual Report (Exhibit E)

- Committee studied and evaluated alternative methods of assessments that would best track the progress of students over a time period; recommended the use of assessments to promote student and parent understanding of individual progress with continued focus on vertical articulation of students;
- recommendation that FCPS continue strong support to Advanced Academic levels I through III in all schools;
- recommended continued support of Level IV services in both traditional centers and base schools; and
- acknowledging current economic climate, recommended continuation of transportation to Level IV centers and Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.