

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Luther Jackson Middle School

Regular Meeting No. 9

December 3, 2009

1. **CLOSED MEETING**

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

Chairman Smith convened the closed meeting at 5:35 p.m.

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 – Woodburn Elementary School Chorus

Chairman Smith convened the meeting at 7:06 p.m. with the following members present:

Elizabeth T. Bradsher (Springfield)	James L. Raney (At Large; arr. 5:36)
Brad Center (Lee)	Patricia S. Reed (Providence; arr. 5:36)
Stuart D. Gibson (Hunter Mill)	Kathy L. Smith (Sully)
Martina A. Hone (At Large)	Daniel G. Storck (Mt. Vernon; arr. 5:36)
Kaye Kory (Mason; ABSENT)	Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville; arr. 5:36)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)	Tessie Wilson (Braddock)

Also present were Division Superintendent Jack D. Dale; Deputy Superintendent Richard Moniuszko; Executive Assistant and Clerk of the Board Pamela Goddard; Deputy Executive Assistants and Deputy Clerks of the Board Pat Charbonneau and Yvette Rhodes; and certain other members of staff. Student Representative Shawn Ghuman was absent.

Chairman Smith thanked the members of the Woodburn Elementary Chorus under the direction of Carrie Ragona for their performance of the national anthem.

2.02 Certification of Closed Meeting Compliance (Exhibit A)

Mrs. Wilson moved, and Ms. Bradsher seconded, that in order to comply with Section 2.2-3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia, it is necessary for the Board to

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certify that since the Fairfax County School Board convened a closed meeting on December 3, 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 foregoing also shall be deemed to include the certification of each School Board member who served on a student disciplinary committee that those closed committee meetings are lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Section 2.2-3711(A)(2) of the Code of Virginia, and that only student disciplinary matters were heard, discussed, or considered in those closed committee meetings. The motion **passed 11-0**: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Ms. Hone, Mr. Moon, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Mrs. Kory was absent.

2.03 Announcements (Exhibit B)

Chairman Smith announced that Mrs. Kory and Mr. Ghuman were absent tonight, and that Agenda Item No. 6.03, Strategic Governance Manual, had been added for new business because of a recent change in the Virginia Administrative Code related to the committee membership. Vice Chairman Wilson announced that Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day was on December 6, 2009, and National Inclusive Schools Week was December 7-11, 2009.

3. PRESENTATIONS TO SCHOOL BOARD

3.01 Citizen Participation (Exhibit C)

No speakers addressed the Board in the time reserved for public comment.

3.02 Student Achievement Goal 1.1.2. Math, 1.1.3. Science, and 1.5. Technology - Recommendation to accept the monitoring report on the current progress toward attaining Student Achievement Goal 1.1.2. Mathematics, 1.1.3. Science, and 1.5. Technology (IS; action scheduled 12/17/09; Exhibit D)

Peter Noonan, assistant superintendent for Instructional Services, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation and a video that highlighted the current progress in math, science, and technology; he noted that 6th and 8th grade math achievement had improved, and Algebra access and achievement had improved in all subgroups for those students who completed Algebra I by the end of 8th grade.

Discussion included the following: acknowledgement of the impressive gains in math; question how teachers intervened if a student was struggling or performed significantly lower on the SOL tests, and the response that eCart assessments enabled the teachers to identify intervention strategies early and staff developed training, curriculum, modifications, and resources for teachers to assist those students; new revised math Standards of Learning (SOL) tests were scheduled

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for field testing in 2010-2011 and full implementation in 2011-2012; concern expressed about the costs for professional development to retrain teachers on the new standards, and the response that staff was preparing for the transition; question about the gap between pass proficient and pass advanced in science, and response that it was difficult to find sufficient time in the elementary school day for a constructive science experience, and many students did not have background knowledge and needed extra support for concepts in science; request for information comparing FCPS with other school districts in Virginia and the nation in certain content areas; request for future presentations to include the years of the baseline data.

3.03 Student Representative Matters

There were no student representative matters.

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.01 Student Achievement Goal 1.1.1. English Language Arts - Accept the monitoring report on the current progress toward attaining Student Achievement Goal 1.1.1. English Language Arts (IS; presented as new business 11/16/09; Exhibit E)

Mr. Center moved, and Ms. Bradsher seconded, to accept the monitoring report on the current progress toward attaining Student Achievement Goal 1.1.1. English Language Arts.

Consensus that in order to assist the public in understanding what each monitoring report represented, a more detailed explanation would be provided prior to the Board's approval of each goal monitoring report; request for the Governance Committee to discuss the possibility of separating the data with VGLA and SOL results in future reports, which could necessitate changing an indicator.

The motion to accept the monitoring report on the current progress toward attaining Student Achievement Goal 1.1.1. English Language Arts **passed 11-0**: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Ms. Hone, Mr. Moon, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Mrs. Kory was absent.

4.02 2010-2011 School Calendars - Approve the 2010-2011 Standard School Calendar and Modified Elementary School Calendar, as detailed in the agenda item (HR; work session held 11/09/09; presented as new business 11/16/09; Exhibit F)

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Mrs. Wilson moved, and Mr. Moon seconded, to approve the 2010-2011 Standard School Calendar and Modified Elementary School Calendar, as detailed in the agenda item.

Ms. Bradsher moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, to divide the motion so that we vote separately on each of the school calendars.

Chairman Smith asked if there was any objection to dividing the motion so that each calendar could be voted on separately; hearing no objection, Chairman Smith announced that the first motion for the Board's consideration was the 2010-2011 standard school calendar.

Discussion and comments included the following: the Code of Virginia required each school district to approve a school calendar, but the state did not permit FCPS to start school prior to Labor Day and required a minimum of 180 instructional days for students; in order to meet those requirements, the 2010-2011 school year would start on September 7, 2010, and end on June 21, 2011; concern expressed about the lack of flexibility from the state.

The motion to approve the 2010-2011 standard school calendar for **passed 8-3:** Mr. Center, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Moon, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Bradsher, Ms. Hone, and Mr. Storck voted "nay"; Mrs. Kory was absent.

Chairman Smith announced that the second motion would be to approve the 2010-2011 modified elementary school calendar.

Dr. Dale explained that the seven modified calendar elementary schools had been able to continue the calendar in FY 2010 because of funding from multiple sources including the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) and local funds. ARRA funds will not be available for Franconia Elementary School and it would be under renovation in FY 2011, so it would not offer the modified calendar after this current school year; he had asked the principals from the other six elementary schools to develop a phase-out plan since ARRA funding, including the allocation dedicated for Title I schools would not be available effective FY 2012; those principals had indicated that although the modified calendar had been successful in their schools, the needs-based staffing formula that applies to all schools would help with early start programs in core academic activities; when he presented his FY 2011 proposed budget to the Board in January 2010, he would not support using local funds for the modified calendar.

Discussion and comments included the following: concerns about the impact of eliminating the modified calendar that added 25 instructional days to the school year for remediation or enrichment for the students in those affected schools; it was essential for a decision to be made as soon as possible on the modified calendar so that principals and parents could plan for the school year; concerns

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that a vote tonight to approve the modified calendar would not guarantee a Board decision to fund the modified calendar later in the budget process, as there were many competing needs across the county's almost 200 schools.

Mr. Storck moved, and Ms. Bradsher seconded, to postpone the vote on the 2010-2011 modified elementary school calendar until the February 4, 2010, School Board meeting.

Discussion on the motion to postpone included: question whether a vote in February would allow sufficient time for those schools to make the necessary changes if the Board decided not to fund the modified calendar, and an affirmative response; concerns expressed about postponing the vote tonight and then ultimately not funding the program, because the Board would not know what funding decisions would be made by the Board of Supervisors and the General Assembly until late April.

The motion to postpone the vote on the 2010-2011 modified elementary school calendar until the February 4, 2010, School Board meeting **passed 6-5**: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Ms. Hone, Mrs. Reed, Mr. Storck, and Mrs. Strauss voted "aye"; Mr. Gibson, Mr. Moon, Mr. Raney, Mrs. Smith, and Mrs. Wilson voted "nay"; Mrs. Kory was absent.

4.03 Confirmation of Action Taken in Closed Meeting

Having served as a chairman of a three-member committee, along with Ms. Bradsher and Mrs. Strauss, Mrs. Smith moved, and Ms. Bradsher seconded, to expel four students—three for willful damage to school property and one for violation of the conditions of a probationary school assignment. The motion **passed unanimously**.

Having served as chairman of a three-member committee, along with Mrs. Strauss and Mrs. Wilson, Mr. Storck moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, to expel a student for threatening to physically assault school staff. The motion **passed unanimously**.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.01 Minutes – Approve the minutes of November 9, 2009, Operational Expectations and Governance work sessions, and the November 16, 2009, regular School Board meeting (SB; Exhibit G)

5.02 Award of Contract- Authorize staff to negotiate professional services contracts with selected firms for the architectural design of certain projects contained in the school bond referenda, and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to award the contracts on behalf of the School Board (FTS; presented as new business 11/16/09; ExhibitH)

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- 5.03 Additional Appointments-** Appoint individuals to serve on committees as detailed in the agenda item (SB; Exhibit I)

Chairman Smith 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 Award of Contract** - Recommendation to award the contract for the installation of a synthetic turf field at Westfield High School to General Sports Venue/Astroturf and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute the contract on behalf of the School Board and to enter into an Agreement with the Contributing Parties memorializing the rights and responsibilities of the parties to the Agreement and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute the Agreement on behalf of the School Board (FTS; action scheduled 12/17/09; Exhibit J)

Vice Chairman Wilson noted that no FCPS funds would be used for this contract.

- 6.02 Award of Contract** - Recommendation to award annual contracts for time and materials rates for facilities modifications to responsive and responsible bidders and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute the contracts on behalf of the School Board (FTS; action scheduled 12/17/09; Exhibit K)

There was no discussion of this item.

- 6.03 Strategic Governance Manual** - Recommendation to approve the proposed revision to Section 4, Board Committees (B. Legally Required Committees), page 38, of the Strategic Governance Manual, to include a teacher in the membership of the Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities, as detailed in the agenda item. (SB; action scheduled 12/17/09; Exhibit L)

There was no discussion of this item.

7. SUPERINTENDENT MATTERS

The Superintendent presented informational items.

8. REPORTS (Exhibit M)

November 23, 2009

Linkage Community Dialogue - Dan Storck, Chairman

November 24, 2009

Smart Savings Task Force - Dan Storck

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Linkage Committee - Dan Storck, Chairman

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Linkage Committee - Dan Storck, Chairman

9. BOARD MATTERS

The Board Members made brief comments.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

11. DEBRIEF

The Board debriefed tonight's meeting.