

MINUTES

Fairfax County School Board

Luther Jackson Middle School

Regular Meeting No. 8

November 15, 2010

1. **CLOSED MEETING**

Mr. Center moved, and Mrs. Reed 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) protect the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(4) of the Code of Virginia. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Smith convened the closed meeting at 6:11 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 – Mantua Elementary School Singers

Chairman Smith convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Elizabeth T. Bradsher (Springfield)
Brad Center (Lee)
Sandra S. Evans (Mason)
Stuart D. Gibson (Hunter Mill)
Martina A. Hone (At Large)
Ilryong Moon (At Large)

James L. Raney (At Large)
Patricia S. Reed (Providence)
Kathy L. Smith (Sully)
Daniel G. Storck (Mt. Vernon)
Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
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 Assistant and Deputy Clerk of the Board Yvette Rhodes; and certain other members of staff. Student Representative Keegan Cotton was not present.

Chairman Smith thanked the members of the Mantua Elementary School Singers under the direction of Mary Frances Dini for their performance of the national anthem.

FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Regular Meeting No. 8

2

November 15, 2010

2.02 Certification of Closed Meeting Compliance (Exhibit A)

Mr. Center moved, and Mrs. Strauss 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 November 15, 2010, 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 unanimously.

2.03 Announcements (Exhibit B)

Chairman Smith announced that Student Representative Keegan Cotton would not be attending tonight's meeting. Ms. Evans recognized the week of November 14 - 20, 2010, as American Education Week and Geography Awareness Week.

3. PRESENTATIONS TO SCHOOL BOARD

3.01 Student Achievement Goal 1.1.1. English Language Arts (Exhibit C)

Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services Peter Noonan, along with Language Arts Coordinator Pat Fege, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation and a video that highlighted collaborative teamwork at Rose Hill Elementary School to increase student writing skills as evidence of progress being made toward this goal; the percent of grade 6 students scoring at or above pass proficient in reading increased in all subgroups; over 95 percent of all grade 12 students scored at or above pass proficient on grade 11 reading and writing Standards of Learning (SOL) tests; there were focused efforts to address decreases in the percent of grade 6 students scoring at or above pass proficient on grade 5 writing tests; under a state mandate, beginning in Spring 2013 all SOL tests were required to be taken online, which would present a challenge for the school system to prepare students; the commitment to best practices, collaboration, and coaching had increased fluency for all students.

Discussion and comments included the following: writing results for the grade 6 cohort of students were a "look back" to their scores in grade 5; concern about making policy decisions based on these dated SOL test results; need to explore ways to measure knowledge and ability in 21st century communications skills;

FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Regular Meeting No. 8

3

November 15, 2010

while gains had been made, the achievement gap still existed; request for additional Virginia Grade Level Alternative Assessment (VGLA) data by subgroups; efforts were underway to promote writing across curriculum, including combined writing in-services and other core content staff development; declines in writing scores had occurred across Virginia and request for FCPS data compared to the rest of the state; some middle school students experienced problems with reading because of "concept load," which was the difficulty learning new text background knowledge and vocabulary; Board would consider retreat topic on closing the "opportunity gap"; and this report was scheduled for Board approval on December 2.

3.02 Citizen Participation (Exhibit D)

Three speakers addressed the Board in the time reserved for public comment. Arthur Purves and Michael Hairston addressed Agenda Item No. 6.01, FY 2011 Midyear Review, and Virginia Fitz Shea addressed Agenda Item No. 4.02, Revised Operational Expectations.

3.03 Student Representative Matters

There were no Student Representative matters.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- 4.01 Student Achievement Goals 1.1.4. Social Studies and 1.4. Understand the interrelationship and interdependence of the countries and cultures of the world** - Accept the monitoring report on the current progress toward attaining Student Achievement Goals 1.1.4. Social Studies and 1.4. Understand the interrelationship and interdependence of the countries and cultures of the world (IS; new business on 11/4/10; Exhibit E)

Mr. Center moved, and Ms. Hone seconded, to accept the monitoring report on the current progress toward attaining Student Achievement Goals 1.1.4. Social Studies and 1.4. Understand the interrelationship and interdependence of the countries and cultures of the world.

Comments that the presentation had been both excellent and an example of the extraordinary work accomplished by FCPS.

The motion to accept the monitoring report on the current progress toward attaining Student Achievement Goals 1.1.4. Social Studies and 1.4. Understand the interrelationship and interdependence of the countries and cultures of the world passed unanimously.

FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Regular Meeting No. 8

4

November 15, 2010

- 4.02 Revised Operational Expectations** - Approve revisions to the Operational Expectations, as detailed in the agenda item (SB; work session held 10/18/10, presented as new business 11/4/10, work session held 11/8/10; Exhibit F)

Mr. Center moved, and Ms. Bradsher seconded, to approve revisions to the Operational Expectations, as detailed in the agenda item.

Mr. Center provided background information on the Strategic Governance initiative that the School Board had begun in 2006; the Board had adopted Operational Expectations (OEs) for the major functional areas of the school system; the Governance Committee had undertaken a year-long review of the OE monitoring report format and had worked with staff, the Board, and the community to recommend changes that focused on effectiveness and efficiency measures and customer satisfaction; the Board had approved a new monitoring report format in July 2010 and the Governance Committee had reviewed all OEs to clarify the Board's values and ensure that there was alignment with the new monitoring report format; the Strategic Governance Manual would be updated with the approved OEs.

Ms. Evans moved, and Mr. Center seconded, to amend the main motion by adding the words "healthful" and "nondiscriminatory" after the word "safe" in the Learning Environment Operational Expectation, resulting in the following statement: "The Superintendent shall establish and maintain a learning environment that is safe, healthful, nondiscriminatory, respectful, and conducive to effective learning."

Comments included: words "healthful" and "nondiscriminatory" had been in the OEs since 2006, and should remain; a healthful environment promoted a student's well being; confirmation that the inclusion of the word "healthful" was not intended to direct the Superintendent to change the bell schedule.

The motion to amend the main motion by adding the words "healthful" and "nondiscriminatory" after the word "safe" in the Learning Environment Operational Expectation, resulting in the following statement: "The Superintendent shall establish and maintain a learning environment that is safe, healthful, nondiscriminatory, respectful, and conducive to effective learning." **passed unanimously.**

Dr. Raney moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, to amend the main motion by revising Global Operational Expectation 1.B. as follows: (a) substituting "maintain" for "instill" and (b) deleting "from all business units" and "possible", resulting in the following statement: "The Superintendent will maintain a system of continuous improvement that ensures excellent customer service in the most efficient, effective manner." The motion **passed unanimously.**

FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Regular Meeting No. 8

5

November 15, 2010

Dr. Raney moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, to amend the main motion by adding the following language to Global Operational Expectation 1.B.: “The Superintendent will track, measure, and evaluate FCPS effectiveness in realizing student achievement and improving business processes, including both benefits and costs, in a timely manner.”

Comments included: the amendment would maintain the current strength of the OE for the audit and accountability function in FCPS, but would not add new audit functions; additional data was not necessary for the Board’s decision-making; the proposed changes to the OEs were to make them more transparent for the public, and the accountability function was implicit in all of the OEs.

The motion to amend the main motion by adding the following language to Global Operational Expectation 1.B.: “The Superintendent will track, measure, and evaluate FCPS effectiveness in realizing student achievement and improving business processes, including both benefits and costs, in a timely manner.”
passed 9-3: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Ms. Evans, Ms. Hone, Mr. Moon, Dr. Raney, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted “aye”; Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Reed, and Mrs. Smith voted “nay.”

Dr. Raney moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, to amend the main motion by adding the following two bullets to the Financial Management Operational Expectation: “B.2.d. Conducting a regular fiscal and performance audit of business functions, and B.2.e. Providing public access to audit results.”

Discussion included: this amendment would reinforce the audit function; concern that this amendment was unnecessary in light of the work of the Board’s Audit Committee; audit reports were already available to the public.

The motion to amend the main motion by adding the following two bullets to the Financial Management Operational Expectation: “B.2.d. Conducting a regular fiscal and performance audit of business functions, and B.2.e. Providing public access to audit results” **passed 10-2:** Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Ms. Evans, Ms. Hone, Mr. Moon, Dr. Raney, Mrs. Reed, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted “aye”; Mr. Gibson and Mrs. Smith voted “nay.”

Dr. Raney moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, to amend the main motion by adding the words “Food and Nutrition Services” to the title of the Budget and Financial Management Operational Expectation, resulting in the title of “Budget, Financial Management, and Food and Nutrition Services.” The motion **passed unanimously.**

Discussion on the main motion, as amended, included: this action would improve the ability of the Board to monitor the operations of the school system; the Board’s values, as reflected in the revised OEs and the new monitoring report format, would yield important information that was useful for the Board’s

FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Regular Meeting No. 8

6

November 15, 2010

decision-making; the Superintendent would present reasonable interpretations and measures for the Board's approval over the next several months; the Board would periodically review its value statements; concern expressed that the amendment process had been inflexible in allowing for suggested changes from the community; response that the review process had lasted over several months and there had been input from the community; any proposed changes to the OEs could be presented at the December 2010 work session; Strategic Governance supported systematic reporting on student achievement and the operations of the school system.

The motion to approve revisions to the Operational Expectations, as detailed in the agenda item, and as amended: (1) by adding the words "healthful" and "nondiscriminatory" after the word "safe" in the Learning Environment Operational Expectation, resulting in the following statement: "The Superintendent shall establish and maintain a learning environment that is safe, healthful, nondiscriminatory, respectful, and conducive to effective learning."; (2) by revising Global Operational Expectation 1.B. as follows: (a) substituting "maintain" for "instill" and (b) deleting "from all business units" and "possible" resulting in the following statement: "The Superintendent will maintain a system of continuous improvement that ensures excellent customer service in the most efficient, effective manner."; (3) by adding the following language to Global Operational Expectation 1.B.: "The Superintendent will track, measure, and evaluate FCPS effectiveness in realizing student achievement and improving business processes, including both benefits and costs, in a timely manner."; (4) by adding the following two bullets to the Financial Management Operational Expectation: "B.2.d. Conducting a regular fiscal and performance audit of business functions, and B.2.e. Providing public access to audit results."; and (5) by adding the words "Food and Nutrition Services" to the title of the Budget and Financial Management Operational Expectation, resulting in the title of Budget, Financial Management, and Food and Nutrition Services, **passed 11-1**: Ms. Bradsher, Mr. Center, Ms. Evans, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Moon, Dr. Raney, Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Storck, Mrs. Strauss, and Mrs. Wilson voted "aye"; Ms. Hone voted "nay."

4.03 Confirmation of Action Taken in Closed Meeting

Mrs. Strauss moved, and Mr. Center seconded, to expel a student for conviction of certain crimes in the community. The motion **passed unanimously**.

Ms. Hone moved, and Mrs. Wilson seconded, to expel a student for possession of illegal drugs with intent to distribute alcohol, a weapon, and drug paraphernalia at school. The motion **passed unanimously**.

Mr. Gibson moved, and Mrs. Wilson seconded, to deny the school assignment appeal of a student who was convicted of certain crimes in the community and

FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Regular Meeting No. 8

7

November 15, 2010

confirm the disciplinary decision of the Division Superintendent. The motion passed unanimously.

Having served as chairman of a three-member committee, along with Mrs. Strauss and Ms. Hone, Dr. Raney moved, and Mrs. Strauss seconded, to expel a student for violation of the probationary conditions of a school assignment. The motion passed unanimously.

Having served as chairman of a three-member committee, along with Ms. Evans and Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Wilson moved, and Ms. Evans seconded, to expel a student for conviction of a certain crime in the community. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Moon moved, and Mrs. Reed seconded, to excuse from attendance at school certain students identified in closed meeting pursuant to Section 22.1-254(B)(1) of the Code of Virginia. The motion passed unanimously.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- 5.01 **Minutes** – Approve the minutes of November 4, 2010, regular School Board meeting (SB; Exhibit G)
- 5.02 **Monthly Separation Report** - That the School Board confirm the separations for the period beginning October 1, 2010, and ending October 31, 2010, as detailed in the agenda item (HR; Exhibit H)
- 5.03 **Conveyance of Digital Message Sign Easement at Woodburn Elementary School** - Accept compensation in the amount of \$5,046.00 for conveyance of the easement and authorize the Chief Operating Officer to execute on behalf of the School Board and deliver to the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Transportation, in exchange for such compensation, the deed and any necessary related documents, all as approved by the School Board counsel, to accomplish such conveyances, as detailed in the agenda item (FTS; presented as new business 11/4/10; Exhibit I)
- 5.04 **Award of Contract** - Award a contract for the Forte Support Center re-roofing project to R.D.Bean, Inc. in the amount of \$523,990, and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute the contract on behalf of the School Board (FTS; presented as new business 11/4/10; Exhibit J)
- 5.05 **Additional Appointments** - Appoint individuals to serve on committees as detailed in the agenda item (SB; Exhibit K)

Chairman Smith stated that, without objection, the five items on the consent agenda would be adopted. Hearing no objection, the consent agenda was adopted.

FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Regular Meeting No. 8

8

November 15, 2010

6. NEW BUSINESS

- 6.01 FY 2011 Midyear Review** - Recommendation to approve revenue and expenditure changes reflected in the FY 2011 Midyear Budget Review, as detailed in the agenda item (FS; action scheduled 12/2/10; Exhibit L)

Chief Financial Officer Susan Quinn provided a brief overview of the FY 2011 Midyear Budget Review.

Comments included: there had been Board consensus at the October 18, 2010, work session to defer until 2012 a request to the Board of Supervisors for appropriation of the estimated \$21.3 million provided by the Education Jobs Fund Program, so those funds could be used to enhance employee compensation in FY 2012; a request that the Chairman discuss the use of funding resulting from savings, such as the recent purchase of Global Positioning System (GPS) devices for buses; the Board of Supervisors had provided funding of \$1.3 million for specific program transitions associated with the Priority Schools Initiative, but the school system would lose approximately \$50 million in stimulus funding in FY 2012.

- 6.02 2011-12 School Calendars** - Recommendation to approve the 2011-2012 school calendar, as detailed in the agenda item (HR; work session held 11/8/10, action scheduled 12/2/10; Exhibit M)

There was no discussion of this item.

- 6.03 Sale of School Bonds** - Recommendation to approve and adopt the resolution, requesting that the Board of Supervisors issue and sell school bonds in the amount of \$130,000,000, on behalf of the Fairfax County Public Schools (FTS; action scheduled 12/2/10; Exhibit N)

There was no discussion of this item.

- 6.04 School Board Policy** - Recommendation to rescind Policy 1345, Modified School Calendar (IS; action scheduled 12/2/10; Exhibit O)

There was no discussion of this item.

- 6.05 Award of Contract** - Recommendation to authorize staff to negotiate a contract for the baseball field lighting project at Jackson Middle School with the top-ranked offeror and authorize the Division Superintendent, or his designee, to execute the contract on behalf of the School Board (FTS; action scheduled 12/2/10; Exhibit P)

There was no discussion of this item.

FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Regular Meeting No. 8

9

November 15, 2010

7. **SUPERINTENDENT MATTERS**

The Superintendent presented informational items.

8. **REPORTS** (Exhibit Q)

November 8, 2010 - Jane Strauss and Dan Storck, Meeting Managers

Budget - Tessie Wilson, Chairman

Human Resources

Governance - Brad Center, Chairman

Public Engagement - Dan Storck, Chairman

November 8, 2010

Comprehensive Planning Development Committee - Elizabeth Bradsher, Chairman

November 10, 2010

Governance - Brad Center, Chairman

November 15, 2010

Public Engagement - Dan Storck, Chairman

Forum on Board Topics - Kathy Smith, Chairman

9. **BOARD MATTERS**

The Board Members made brief comments.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

11. **DEBRIEF**

The Board debriefed tonight's meeting.