MINUTES
Fairfax County School Board
Gatehouse Administration Center

Work Session/All-Day
July 15, 2019

1.01 Call to Order and Announcements

Meeting Managers Pay Hynes and Dalia Palchik convened the meeting at 10:42 a.m. with the following Board members present:

Karen Corbett Sanders (Mount Vernon)  Megan O. McLaughlin (Braddock)
Tamara Derenak Kaufax (Lee)           Ilryong Moon (At Large)
Sandra S. Evans (Mason; arr: 10:49)   Dalia Palchik (Providence)
Patricia M. Hynes (Hunter Mill)       Elizabeth L. Schultz (Springfield; arr: 10:44)
Karen Keys-Gamarra (At Large; arr: 10:43)  Jane K. Strauss (Dranesville)
Ryan L. McElveen (At Large)          Tom Wilson (Sully; arr: 11:43)

Also present were Deputy Superintendent Frances Ivey; Clerk of the Board Ilene Muhlberg; Deputy Executive Assistants and Deputy Clerks of the Board Anne Benedicto and Beverly Madeja; Executive Administrative Assistant Barb Gibbs, Angela Petro; Lisa Madeja; and Melanie Turpin; Chief Equity Officer Francisco Duran; Executive Director, Office of Professional Learning and Family Engagement (OPLFE) Kathleen Walts, Family Partnerships Specialist, OPLFE Shannon Anderson; Manager, Parent Resource Center, OPLFE Mary Beth Harrison Cunningham; Family and Student Ombudsman Armando Peri; Principal, Hutchison Elementary School Ray Lonnett; Principal, Stone Middle School Amielia Mitchell; Principal, Marshall High School Jeff Litz; Associate Principal, Hayfield Secondary School Alfonso Smith; Assistant Superintendent, Department of Financial Services Leigh Burden; Chief Operating Officer Marty Smith; Director, Office of Budget Services Alice Wigington; Executive Director, Office of Communication and Community Relations John Torre; Division Counsel John Foster; Auditor General Ester Ko, Deputy Auditor General Theresa Weatherman; and certain other individuals. The Student Representative to the School Board Kimberly Boateng was absent.

DISCUSSION

1.02 Family Engagement Survey Report and Proposed Draft Policy ( Exhibit A)

- Board discussed results of the Family Engagement Survey and how schools can use the data to make improvements to school culture and the community as a whole;
- Discussion was had regarding importance of clear goals centered around student success and a caring culture;
- Board discussed need to capture as many voices as possible to ensure that everyone has a voice in the census;
- Consensus reached on the following next steps:
  - How can we better reach out to communities that had only 2-3% contributing to survey?
  - A plan for reaching those communities that may be less inclined to engage in the survey addressing specific cultural perspectives
  - What is the plan to reach out to the regions with lower response?
o How can we address feelings of some families of having educational objectives “done to” instead of “done with” as partners in the process?
o Provide a quantification and location of parent engagement classes (like the chart provided of Hutchison classes) at schools throughout the system and school specific.
o Add School Board Member newsletters to ensure a collaborative communications plan for next survey
o Consultant to provide deeper thematic analysis and global recommendations, along with report on survey comments/responses to open ended questions
o Consider working with focus group of parents to construct the survey questions
o Need recommendations on where we can improve and what kind of recommendations can we provide to staff?

2.02 Budget (Exhibit B)

• Staff presented FY19 Year End Budget Review, highlighting total funding available and providing recommendations for FY20 expenditure adjustments;
• Board discussed various identified needs including the Edison STEM Lab, funding for future staffing priorities, new educational programs, and major facility maintenance;
• Board provided feedback on format of budget document and transparency efforts;
• Consensus reached on the following next steps:
  o Provide more detail on $60 million department critical needs carryover
  o In future BB, include detail about department critical needs and schools project carryover in items 10 a.1-5 of FY2019 Final Budget Review document
  o Provide breakdown on sub-items 4-8 under beginning balance, including which items remain as sole source contracts?
  o Itemize amounts for speech language pathologists
  o Provide in BB, specifics about how we complement work proposed with Trades for Tomorrow with trade unions to allow for meaningful work experience for our students
  o Include Next Steps from prior meetings in presentations to tie them together
  o Why was less money spent from summer school sub-fund?

3.02 Renaming Policy (Exhibit C)

• The Board discussed possible modifications to the school naming/renaming policy in an effort to ensure an inclusive, respectful learning environment as outlined in our adopted One Fairfax Policy;
• Discussion of criteria by which FCPS can name or rename schools, with focus on schools that are named after Confederate soldiers or named after individuals with Confederate ties;
• Further discussion of current schools that are being considered for a name change;
• Consensus reached on the following next steps:
  o Guidance from counsel regarding Dillon rule and statute authorizing School Board, with respect to how School Board members are given assignments; Look at other combinations to initiate the name change action other than one magisterial district member and one at-large member
  o Locate and share with the School Board any superintendent memoranda to the Board from the late 1950s and early 1960s regarding the naming and renaming of Stuart and Lee High Schools
  o Determine if any members of the School Board, FCPS Leadership Team or Lee High School SPTA involved in the Lee High School renaming process are alive and willing to share their recollections of the process
  o Superintendent to include in the regulation some language about staff helping to execute a name change
  o What did BOS/Park Authority do to execute the renaming of the Lee District rec center and Justice Park?
  o Provide more detail regarding public comment and public hearings would entail
  o Governance Committee to delete the phrase “compelling need” in policy and incorporate as part of policy review (under IV, guidelines, consider: “to ensure an inclusive, respectful learning environment as outlined in our adopted One Fairfax Policy”
  o Clarify the authority of the Board in item C. “…School Board member(s) will coordinate the suggestions from the community and forward those suggestions after review to the School Board…”
  o Regulation will lay out all of the steps in the process including the decision by the Board to change the name
  o Superintendent to recommend changes to regulation to full Board by end of July, including a detailed description of public engagement processes to be followed
  o Determine where community engagement begins
  o Superintendent and staff review what took place with JHS naming process, identify areas of improvement and bring recommendations back to the Board, those revisions should be included in policy 8170.

4.02 FY20 Audit Annual Plan and FY19 Audit Year-End (Exhibit D)

• Staff reviewed the FY19 annual audit report that had been provided to the Board previously and presented the FY20 Risk Assessment and Audit Plan;
• Staff provided clarification on the risk assessment regarding collection methods and categorization of data, audit corrective actions still outstanding;
• Board requested more detail about corrective actions still outstanding, the need to look at reputational risk, and more information on the security audit;
• There were no next steps.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.