

BOARD *Briefs*

Meeting Summary

June 3, 2009

The School Board Approved:

- September 8, 2009 as International Literacy Day.
- September 17, 2009 as Citizenship Day and September 17–23 as Constitution Week.
- The application to extend the grant and accept the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act funds for FY 09–10.
- The carryover of FY 09 encumbrances, to increase the FY 10 fund budgets to the appropriate amounts and forward documents to the Board of County Supervisors.
- The minutes of the School Board meeting for May 20, 2009.
- Confirmation of the candidate selected for the position of Deputy Clerk to the School Board.
- The submission of a grant to expand Head Start services to economically disadvantaged four-year-old children in Prince William County Public Schools. Continuation of the expanded grant program beyond 2011 would be contingent on the availability of federal funding.
- The appointment/reappointment of individuals to the Safe Schools Advisory Council.
- The participation in the 2009 Virginia School Boards Association’s Green Schools Challenge.

Citizens’ Time

Citizens addressed the School Board on the 11th high school attendance

boundaries and the new proposed policy on smoking.

Presentation

Ms. Martina Boone, chairperson of the Safe Schools Advisory Council, and Mr. Andy Jacks, vice chairperson, presented a progress report to the School Board. The School Board commended the council on its positive and progressive year.

Draft Article for Smoke Free Environment, Policy 403

Mr. Keith Johnson, associate superintendent for Human Resources, reviewed the proposed revisions for a Smoke Free Environment, Policy 403, first reading. The second reading of this policy is currently scheduled for June 17 and, if approved, would have a targeted implementation date of July 1.

The intent of the proposed revisions is to provide a positive, healthy model of behavior that is consistent with the Division’s policies for students. These changes would also be consistent with other school divisions in Northern Virginia. As a support for employees, a series of smoking cessation classes would be offered for those who choose to attend.

As part of the discussion, the Board asked staff to explore additional options to the recommended changes. Board members also expressed the desire to review the proposed

regulations more closely before moving forward.

Superintendent’s Time

Dr. Steven L. Walts, Superintendent of Schools, made the following announcements:

- Dr. Benita Stephens, principal of Potomac Middle School, has been named as the Outstanding Middle School Principal of Virginia. She was selected for this award by the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals.
- The Prince William County Public Schools Office of Media Production Services will receive the Beacon Award for the distance learning project, “MonarchLIVE,” from the American Recreation Coalition. Congratulations to Mr. Ben Swecker, Mr. Richard Shahan, and their great team for producing a program that is truly outstanding.
- Battlefield High School senior Amber Smith won first place in Virginia in the InvestWrite Competition. Her essay also placed fourth in the United States.
- Katy Chmura, a senior in the Center for Fine and Performing Arts Specialty Program at Woodbridge High School, is the only student in the Prince William County School Division to be nominated for a 2009 National Capital Area CAPPIE Award.
- Ms. Donna Fagerholm, principal of Sinclair Elementary School, and Ms. Susan Porter, principal of



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Potomac View Elementary School, were honored by the Boys and Girls Club of Manassas. These outstanding principals were presented with The Betty Covington Educator of the Year Award.

- School Board Member Betty Covington of the Dumfries District was honored by Dumfries Elementary School and received an award commemorating her service and dedication to the community and her career as an educator.

Closed Sessions start at 6 p.m. and are followed by public meetings that start at 7 p.m. Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held in the School Board Meeting Room at 14715 Bristow Road, Manassas. Citizens who wish to address the School Board under Citizens' Time may notify the Board Clerk in writing, by phone, or by electronic mail prior to noon on the day of the meeting. Citizens may also sign up to speak prior to 6:55 p.m. on the evening of the meeting.

June 17.....Public

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2008-09 School Board Meetings



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