

MINUTES

February 3, 1986

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Education Committee met on Monday, February 3, 1986 at 8:00 p.m. in the Supervisor's Conference Room of the County Administration Building.

Present: Ann B. Kavanagh, Chairman  
Betty W. Tatum  
Andrew R. Bird, III  
Steve W. Stockman

Also Present: Frank Raflo

School Board Present: Warren Braham  
John Brown  
Leonard Warner

Also Present: Robert Butt

In Re: Call to Order

Mrs. Kavanagh called the meeting to order.

IN Re: Revenue Projections for FY 86-87

Mr. Butt briefed the Committee regarding estimates of School revenues. He indicated that funds from the State could decrease, however, this is very preliminary information. He also discussed the Governor's budget and the JLARC Study on School funding.

In Re: Timetable on Proposed School Construction Project

Mr. Butt indicated that in light of recent Board action to not provide funding at this time for Architectural and Engineering Services, the time table for the proposed school construction has been amended. The three elementary schools in Leesburg and Eastern Loudoun will be ready for an August, 1989 opening rather than August, 1988. The Eastern Loudoun Middle School will open in January, 1990 rather than August, 1989. The Eastern Loudoun High School will open January, 1991 rather than August, 1990. He told the Board members that if you try and push the schedule you get less than you want.

Mr. Stockman raised concerns regarding the time table. It was his feeling that an RFP could be let now and some architects may be willing to proceed, and may even use some plans that require little modification.

Mrs. Kavanagh asked how the School Board would handle the overload of students until the schools are ready.

Mr. Butt said the School Board has not considered the issue, however, an adjustment in school hours could be one way of handling the problem. He feels confident that the schools will run efficiently and the students will be provided with an excellent educational opportunity.

Mr. Stockman asked what happens if the bond issue is not successful.

Mr. Butt stated that the School Board has a statutory requirement to educate the children and the Board has to provide the facilities to do that.

Mr. Bird said if there is any change in the economy, the County could experience a downswing in its growth projections.

Mrs. Tatum moved that the Education Committee recommend that the full Board rescind its past action and appropriate \$1.6 million to permit the School Board to hire an architect and engineer to proceed with the school design drawings in the current timeframe.

Mr. Bird raised a concern that this could create a negative impression amongst the voters and may jeopardize the passage of the bond issue.

Mrs. Kavanagh felt there is a natural proclivity to support schools and education.

At the request of Mr. Bird, Mr. Raflo discussed what he felt the chances of passing a bond issue were. He raised a concern that in November the voters would be feeling the effect of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Bill.

Mr. Stockman asked the school board if the Board approved an A & E if they could guarantee they would use the plans prepared even if the bond issue did not pass.

Mr. Braham, Mr. Brown and Mr. Butt each said they would guarantee using the plans.

Mr. Stockman said he could not support the motion.

Mrs. Tatum withdrew her motion.

There was discussion that at some point in the future the Committee should decide how best to sell the bond issue with the public.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.



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Philip A. Bolen  
County Administrator

MINUTES

June 23, 1986

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Education Committee was held on Monday, June 23, 1986 at 7:30 p.m. in the Reception Room of the County Administration Building, 18 North King Street, Leesburg, VA.

Present: Ann B. Kavanagh, Chairman  
Betty W. Tatum  
Andrew R. Bird, III  
Absent: Steve W. Stockman

Present from the School Board: Warren Braham,  
John Brown  
Bonnie Epling  
Ned Kiley

In Re: Head Start

Mrs. Kavanagh said the Committee needs to decide whether to recommend Board support for the Head Start Program to be operated by Fairfax County for FY 86-87 and secondly, whether to recommend Board Support to have Loudoun County operate Head Start in FY 87-88.

Sandra Lowe, Head Start Coordinator in Fairfax reviewed the results of the past year's Head Start Program which was provided through Fairfax County to 21 Loudoun youngsters. She said for FY 86-87 Fairfax is willing to continue the program, however, they would like Loudoun to provide a staff position such as a parent involvement coordinator. They feel this would strengthen the County's commitment to take the program over next year.

Warren Braham spoke in opposition to the program. He said by Code the School Board is charged with educating a certain age group. He feels the number of children served is very limited. With the budgetary and space constraints, he can't support the program.

Mrs. Tatum said she is very supportive. In the long run the program is cost effective and statistically it has proven to keep people employed and off of welfare.

Mrs. Epling felt the problem is not the value of the program but rather who would have the responsibility for operating it. She said the County and the School could run the program effectively and cooperatively.

In response to a question from Mrs. Kavanagh, Sandy Lowe said Fairfax would pay for substitute teachers, however, they needed a list of at least 8-10 substitutes.

Mrs. Tatum moved that the Education Committee recommend Board support for the Head Start Program in School year 1987/88 to be operated by Loudoun County in cooperation with the School Board.

Mrs. Kavanagh said if the motion receives full Board support a copy would be sent to School Board requesting like support. Then the Education Committee would meet later to discuss how the program would be implemented.

Mr. Bird explained he would oppose the motion because of budget constraints. The intent of the program is well placed, however, the effect would be to stretch the County beyond the limits. The County should do things that are basic to education.

In response to a question from John Brown, Florentine Miller said a majority of the children served are from Leesburg and are bused to Meadowland because that is where the space is available.

Ned Kiley asked what the cost to the County would be to run the program.

Ms. Miller said with no grant funding about \$75,000 which would provide a teacher, aide, transportation costs, supplies and educational materials.

Mr. Butt said he feels it would be closer to \$100,000.

Voting on the notion was 2-1-1 with Mrs. Kavanagh and Mrs. Tatum voting yes; Mr. Bird voting no; and Mr. Stockman absent.

Mrs. Kavanagh said there needs to be a motion to operate this years program.

Mr. Bird said since monies are budgeted and if Fairfax wants to operate it he will support it.

Mr. Braham indicated there are no monies budgeted for a parent involvement coordinator.

After discussion, it was decided Youth Services would handle that role with current staff.

Mrs. Tatum moved to recommend full Board support for Fairfax to operate a Loudoun County Head Start Program and ratify the amended Fairfax County/Loudoun County Head Start Agreement.

This motion passed 3-0-1 with Mr. Stockman absent.

Mrs. Kavanagh asked that Ms. Miller and Mr. Butt each prepare budget figures for a subsequent meeting.

In Re: Bond Referendum Update

Mr. Brown said there is a Committee working to support the bond issue. Currently they are gathering background information and they will gear up for action in late summer.

The Committee members all agreed to offer assistance.

Mrs. Kavanagh said this would be on the agenda in late August.

Mr. Bolen passed out information regarding timetables that must be followed should the bond issue pass.

In Re: Old Sterling Annex (Rt. 28/625 Interchange)

Jim Keene, Assistant County Administrator, provided the background on how the widening of Rt. 28, the Intergate rezoning request and the interchange proposed for Rt. 28/625 effect the future of the Sterling Annex.

Following much discussion it was decided that County staff would offer to brief the School Board on the options and alternatives at its July 8th meeting if invited.

In Re: Policy Discussion on School Sites and Proffers

Ed Finnegan, County Attorney, indicated that he was asked by the Board to look into having all properties deeded to the County. There are conflicting policies on this and most recently it became an issue in CountrySide. He outlined four reasons why it would be beneficial to have the County accept all deeds.

- The County, by Code, is presumed to have clear title which eliminates the necessity for clear title search and certification.
- A concern for a dormant reversionary clause whereby if land is donated to the School Board for a School site and is not used the prior owner can ask that the land revert back. If the County accepts it for governmental use audit is never used as a School site, it broadens the County's options this reducing the threat of a dormant reversionary clause.
- A concern for the School Board being able to exchange property without notifying the elected body.
- A concern for uses of the County as it relates to prior to, subsequent to or instead of.

If this were changed, he would envision that the schools would have the same role as they do now in selecting sites.

Mr. Butt said the School staff is not prepared to argue the legal aspects. He felt if the School Board holds title it keeps the Board out of having to decide where schools will be built and keeps the process non-political.

Gordon Fletcher reviewed his concerns for the land not being deeded directly to the School Board. He didn't agree with the concerns raised by Mr. Finnegan. In fact he felt the School staff needs to be very involved in order to assure proper placement and also public access for walk-in programs.

Mr. Bird said he feels the elected body should be the recipient and appropriator of all the things coming in and going out of the County.

Mrs. Epling said it is an issue of control. She feels the Board could be pressured by the public to use school sites for other uses. The School Board has its total vision on educational needs.

Following discussion, Mrs. Kavanagh suggested this topic be carried over to the next meeting.

The next meeting will include Head Start discussion, School site proffers discussion and accomodating Elementary School populations.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.



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Philip A. Bolen  
County Administrator

MINUTES  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
OCTOBER 21, 1986

A meeting of the Education Committee was held on Tuesday, October 21st at 4:00 p.m. in the Reception Room of the County Administration Building, 18 North King Street, Leesburg, Virginia.

Present: Ann B. Kavanagh, Chairman  
Betty W. Tatum  
Steve W. Stockman  
Andrew R. Bird

Present From Schools: Betty Poehlman  
Bonnie Epling

IN RE: Head Start

Mrs. Kavanagh explained that the School Board passed a resolution requesting the Board to ask Fairfax County to operate the Head Start program for FY 87-88. In the meantime the School Board will develop a 4-year old at-risk program as a pilot program starting in FY 88-89.

In response to a question from Mr. Stockman regarding recouping costs through fees, Mr. Butt responded that at-risk children are usually from families that don't have extra money.

Mrs. Poehlman explained the State may have monies available for pilot programs. Loudoun could be involved in writing legislation in case the 4-year old program is mandated.

Mrs. Kavanagh raised a concern about the year's gap in the event Fairfax decides to not serve Loudoun's children.

Mrs. Epling indicated that she felt certain the School Board would then run the program in Loudoun.

Mrs. Poehlman said it was important to use the resources to develop Loudoun's independent 4-year old at-risk program.

The consensus of the Committee was the School Board will contact the Fairfax School Board requesting them to include Loudoun in its FY 87-88 Head Start Program.

IN RE: Update on Rt. 625 Interchange Needs

Mrs. Kavanagh provided the background on the request as it relates to the Rt. 28 design and the Intergate rezoning request.

Jim Keene, Assistant County Administrator, said Intergate has been trying to accommodate a design option that would render the site acquisition a moot point.

IN RE: Bond Referendum

Mrs. Poehlman and Mrs. Epling relayed some of the experiences they have been having since going on the speaking circuit for the bond referendum.

Discussion then ensued amongst the Committee regarding the pros and cons of the bond issue.

IN RE: Optimum Size of a High School

Mrs. Kavanagh said a few parents have asked her why the County does not build a high school that would qualify for Triple A status.

Mrs. Poehlman indicated they studied this question and decided to reaffirm the former School Board's decision to have High Schools in the 1500 student range.

Discussion then ensued regarding design versus use capacity.

Mrs. Poehlman said she would forward the optimum size study to the Board.

IN RE: Dedication of County Property

Mr. Bolen distributed copies of a School Board resolution dealing with this issue. Essentially the School Board wants to retain title to any property proffered for school use.

He stated some Board members asked staff to analyze conforming Board policy to have all land dedicated to the governing body, ie, the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Bird said as the governing body they are charged with the duty of levying taxes and disbursing funds. Proffers are public resources. He feels the Board should accept dedication of all property and release the property on an as-needed basis.

He felt the understanding would be that a school site would remain a school site until an agreement is made by the Board and School Board that it is no longer needed.

Mr. Stockman had a different feeling in that the land would remain a School site until the Board felt differently.

Mrs. Poehlman said giving up unneeded property is not a problem. The School Board, for example, recognizes that the Rt. 625 site or Mercer Park are used by the County now and if requested the School Board would transfer the properties.



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Due to time constraints, Mrs. Kavanagh cut off debate and said the matter would be continued at the next Committee meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip A. Bolen", written over a horizontal line.

Philip A. Bolen  
County Administrator

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MARCH 23, 1987

A meeting of the Education Committee was held on Monday, March 23, 1987 in the Reception Room of the County Administration Building, 18 North King Street, Leesburg, Virginia.

PRESENT: Ann B. Kavanagh, Chairman  
Betty W. Tatum  
Steve W. Stockman  
Andrew R. Bird, III

Betty Poehlman  
Bonnie Epling  
Robert E. Butt

ALSO PRESENT: Charles A. Bos

IN RE: HEADSTART PROGRAM

Mrs. Kavanagh informed the Committee that a letter had been sent from Mrs. Poehlman to the County Executive of Fairfax County, J. Hamilton Lambert requesting that Fairfax continue for one more year the current arrangement for the jointly operated Head Start Program. She indicated in her letter that the School Board has made a commitment to develop its own program for four-year-olds by the 1988-89 school year and needed the next eighteen months to plan and prepare for the opening.

Mr. Bolen indicated that he was asked by Mr. Butt to contact Mr. Lambert on behalf of the County to obtain a response to this request. A telephone message was left in the Administrator's Office on March 23rd that stated Loudoun County could be included in the Fairfax program for one additional year. A letter from Fairfax will be forthcoming.

Mr. Butt stated that the Commonwealth has invited Loudoun County to be included in discussions of at-risk programs for the future years. It seems there will be a timely phasing out of one program and phasing in the new program.

In response to Mr. Butt's comments Mrs. Tatum said it is then her understanding that there will be no gap in the programs.

Mr. Butt said it is his suggestion that Fairfax should be sent a note of thanks for the assistance they have provided the County in this endeavor.

Florentine Miller raised the issue that Fairfax may be requesting some additional funding commitments from Loudoun and the Committee may have to face that request in the future.

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Mrs. Poehlman suggested that the County wait for two weeks to receive a letter of commitment from Fairfax. If a letter has not been received by then, a letter will go out requesting a commitment under the signature of Betty Tatum and herself.

IN RE: CIP BUDGET - BUS GARAGE AND WAREHOUSE

Mr. Butt mentioned that the bus garage and warehouse situation is approaching a critical stage. He asked that the Education Committee be cognizant of the need and asked that they do whatever could be done to support the construction.

Discussion of this topic ensued.

Mrs. Kavanagh announced that this would be a topic of discussion on March 30th during the School Budget discussion.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.



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Philip A. Bolen, County Administrator

## Minutes

### Education Committee

May 11, 1987

The Education Committee met on Monday, May 11, 1987 at 8 p.m. in the Reception Room of the County Administration Building, 18 North King Street, Leesburg, VA.

PRESENT: Ann B. Kavanagh, Chairman  
Betty W. Tatum  
Steve W. Stockman  
Andrew R. Bird, III

ALSO PRESENT: Frank I. Lambert  
Charles A. Bos

PRESENT FROM SCHOOL BOARD: Betty Poehlman  
James Purks

#### IN RE: USE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY FOR COMMUNITY AND PARKS AND RECREATION PURPOSE

Jim Stup, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated for the record his staff has always had the utmost cooperation from School staff when they desired the use of school facilities. However, since the County is rapidly growing and since there are changes in personnel at the facilities, he would suggest a more formalized agreement on the use and development of school properties, rather than a verbal commitment and/or handshake with the individual school administrators.

Mr. Butt made a point that there is an adopted fee schedule, however, the personnel costs can vary depending on who is working and that individual's compensation rate.

Mr. Stup said two issues that are often raised is who has liability is someone is injured and who is responsible for repairs/maintenance of fields, tennis courts, etc.

Mr. Atwell said as owner of the property the School Board has the first level of liability. He agreed that a more definitive arrangement over the use of school facilities by Parks and Recreation is needed.

Mrs. Kavanagh asked that the School and County staffs work together on setting up the agreements.

Mr. Stup then spoke about the parks and recreation uses in scheduling the outdoor facilities at school sites. From April 1st through the summer, scheduling field use is handled by Parks and Recreation for elementary and middle schools. High school sites, due to their heavy use for school-sponsored athletics are not available until June 1st for Parks and Recreation uses.

He agrees that the primary use of the school facilities should be for educational purposes. He would suggest in the future the County focus its recreational development plans on elementary and middle school sites.

Mrs. Poehlman stated that School Policy indicates when the school facilities are not in use by the schools the second line purpose is for parks and recreational purposes. She said she can see the utility in planning for Recreational uses; however, she would hate to have recreational needs added as another criteria when school staff is evaluating proposed school sites. It is difficult now trying to meet the educational needs.

Jim Purks said it makes good sense to use a facility, paid for with tax dollars, for recreational purposes when it is not being used for education. In CountrySide, for example, it would be desirable to have a team approach in developing the site to meet both School and County needs.

Andy Bird indicated his agreement with Mr. Purks comments. He did feel the educational design was the first priority however; the dual usage for meeting rooms, ballfields, soccer fields, etc. should be considered at the design phase. In Eastern Loudoun there is a desperate need for indoor recreational facilities. The schools could be designed with this in mind in order to achieve optimum utilization.

Mrs. Poehlman said when the School Board began work on the CountrySide facility they asked the architect to provide community spaces. There was some confusion in the planning when the second set of drawings came in, the cost of the facility exceeded the \$5.1 million. The School Board was criticized for going beyond meeting the educational purposes. They did want to have the design accommodate some meeting uses, etc. (Copies of the two design options were distributed). The adult-size gym was ruled out because of the cost and because it was not needed or practical for an elementary school.

Mrs. Tatum shared here experiences of a study done in New England by the League of Women Voters where an area had routinely voted down bond issues for schools. The schools were not available for uses not directly educational. The school officials decided to change its policy to pen the usage of the facilities to the community. After that change in policy, school bond issues were successful. It was felt this was attributable to the general public usage, which allowed the use of the facilities for a broader base of citizens other than just those with children in school.

Mrs. Poehlman said she is impressed with the efforts NOVA is making on their needs assessment study.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of developing the CountrySide site with facilities the County would like to see for community purposes.

Mrs. Poehlman reiterated her desire for the project to be built within budget.

Mr. Stockman and Mr. Purks agreed in their confusion as to how the gym which had initially been included in the \$5.1 million estimate from their understanding is now going to cost an extra \$750,000.

Mrs. Kavanagh said the School Board is expressing its willingness to work with the County and a full size gym at a middle school site at Potomac Lakes might be more feasible.

Mr. Atwell said you can only put so much on a 15 acre site. If the County wants to put more on the site than the normal soccer fields and ball fields then there needs to be a policy change in increase the size of the sites that are proffered.

Mrs. Tatum agreed. She explained the problem of not having enough buffer and the school uses not being compatible in close proximity to residential uses such as at Park View High School.

Mr. Butt brought up the suggestion for a centralized sports complex to be used by several schools. He felt this could solve some of the problems in the Eastern end.

Mr. Stup said the suggestion is in the Service Plan and Potomac Lakes lends itself to such a facility.

Mrs. Tatum moved to recommend that the full Board direct staff to draft amendments to county plans that would increase the size of schools sites in order to accomodate educational and some recreational uses.

Mr. Stockman seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Following much discussion and several motions made and withdrawn regarding the CountrySide site, it was agreed that an option will be included in the construction bid to extend the activities room twelve feet in the front of the building to allow for the flexibility for use as a gym.

Flo Miller announced a June 1st public hearing on the Parks and Recreation Service Plan.

IN RE: JOINT HEALTH INSURANCE

Mr. Bird stated in light of the increasing costs of health insurance the Board was requesting the School Board to work with County staff to study the feasibility of entering into a joint health insurance program. This was to be done with the goal of sustaining current benefits.

Mr. Butt said the State is looking into offering one large health insurance contract State-wide for schools to participate in.

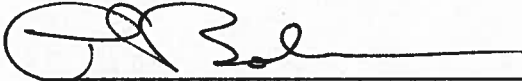
Mr. Bird felt if that was the best package available the School Board should pursue it but asked that the School/County option also be considered. He also suggested that the School Board look into self-funding options.

Mrs. Kavanagh asked that the two staffs work on the County/School option for consideration during the FY 88-89 budget deliberations.

There was general agreement.

Mr. Bird moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Mr. Stockman seconded the motion. Voting was 3-0-1, Mrs. Tatum absent.



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Philip A. Bolen  
County Administrator