I. **2017 Legislative Program.** The Chair led a discussion on the preparation of the 2017 Legislative Program as follows:

- Staff brought back a draft addressing committee questions/comments from the October 12th Special Committee meeting.
- At the last Special Committee meeting, Mrs. Sheridan requested staff to respond to questions regarding the accreditation process and on-time graduation rate when a student is only in attendance for a fraction of the school year.
- Director of High School Education, Nereida Gonzalez-Sales and Principal of Park View High School, Kirk Dolson were present to discuss the challenges of school accreditation as it relates to the Graduation Completion Index (GCI) when a student is only in attendance for a fraction of the school year. Discussions points were as follows:
  - The statute allows for students to remain in a public school up to the age of 22.
  - The high schools (especially in the eastern part of Loudoun) are seeing a multitude of older ELL students (ages 18-21) enrolling for the first time in public schools with very little transferrable credits anywhere from mid- to late into the school year. This is affecting the GCI which ultimately impacts a school’s accreditation status.
  - Recently a new alternative program has been established (Young Adult English Learner Program) to enable adult students (18-21) the option of attending this program instead of enrolling in the public school in order to help with this concern.
  - Division Counsel was asked to research whether English Language Learners (ELL) students were entitled to be enrolled up to age 22 (implicitly tuition-free) and whether or not a waiver could be obtained for a student with no realistic chance of completing high school by the age of 22.
  - Staff is requesting that the Committee consider a legislative position that would apply the same standards for a transfer student in connection with the requirements of passing state mandated assessments known as the “20th Instructional Hour Rule”.
  - The Committee agreed and drafted a new legislative position to be placed under Section IV and asked staff to fine tune it as necessary.
- Staff added a legislative position per Mr. Hornberger’s request to charge a fee for bus transportation when a student attends non-compulsory programs that are voluntary in nature (II.2). Discussion points were as follows:
  - Would a free and reduce lunch waiver be granted? If not, the School Board would be excluding economically disadvantaged students from attending these programs.
  - Right now the only option is that we either charge for transportation or we don’t charge for transportation. Flexibility is needed in the law to put the decision under School Board’s authority to enable the School Board to set up a system for those students who are economically disadvantaged.
  - Currently, when transportation is charged for an activity, money has been set aside by LCPS for free and reduced lunch students.
  - Mrs. Sheridan does not agree with this position and voted against it.
- Division Counsel discussed Proposals for Specific Legislation IV(2-6) which were deferred at the last Special L&P Committee meeting.
  - The Committee removed proposals IV(2-4) and kept proposals IV(5-6).
The VASS legislative program is late this year. Staff has been working directly with their Director and they are in support of our position on innovation. Dr. Williams is attending the VASS conference next week and will keep staff informed regarding their legislative program and in turn, staff will update the Committee prior to the School Board meeting.

**ACTION:** The Committee voted 3-0 to recommend 2017 Legislation Program as amended by the Committee to the full School Board for consideration at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

**2016 VSBA Legislative Positions.** The Chair opened discussions on the 2016 VSBA Legislative Positions Proposals:

- Staff brought back VSBA Legislative Positions with Staff Recommendations as follows:
  - VSBA Proposal 1 – Staff Recommendation: No. Staff feels there is not enough information within the body of the proposal for staff to recommend this item. The Committee requested that staff provide a detailed recommendation to Mrs. Sheridan prior to the VSBA Conference.
  - VSBA Proposal 2 – Staff Recommendation: Yes
  - VSBA Proposal 3 – Staff Recommendation: Yes
  - VSBA Proposal 4 – Staff Recommendation: Yes
  - VSBA Proposal 5 – Staff Recommendation: Yes

**ACTION:** The Committee voted 3-0 to recommend Staff Recommendations on the VSBA Legislative Positions Proposals which will determine the way Mrs. Sheridan votes at the VSBA conference to the full School Board for consideration at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

**II. Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:20