MINUTES
Tuesday, August 21, 2018, 5:30 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Brenda Sheridan and Beth Huck
Staff and Other Participants: Michael Richards, Karen Dawson, Stephen DeVita, Robert Wertz, Gwen Kennedy, Johnna Cossabon, Ron Jordan

I. Approval of Minutes. The Committee reviewed minutes for the meeting held on June 5, 2018. The minutes were approved 2-0-0-1 (Hornberger absent) with no revisions or additions.

II. Public Comment. None.

III. Legislative.

1. County of Loudoun Proposal Item: Legislation Regarding Vehicles Issued LCPS Parking Permits. The Chair led a discussion as follows:
   - Dr. Richards introduced County staff Robert Wertz and Gwen Kennedy.
   - This item was brought back from the previous Committee meeting. The County approached LCPS staff with a proposal to consider the possibility of sharing data regarding student parking permits that would enhance the County’s ability to collect personal property taxes.
   - The General Assembly recently passed a law that would reverse the parent role to having to opt-in to directory information as opposed to the past practice of opting-out.
   - Mr. Wertz reiterated that the Board of Supervisors voted to eliminate the “Project Fairness” program in conjunction with the Sheriff’s office and discontinue vehicle decals effective July 1, 2018, and tasked its staff to bring forward an enforcement plan for personal property taxes.
   - Division Counsel stated that there are several options that could be considered:
     - Option 1: Properly worded verbiage which would include vehicle owner and address on the Student Driving Permit Application and obtaining the parent or adult student’s signature as approval for the release of information to the County. This information should be noted in the student’s academic file that a disclosure was made;
     - Option 2: Enact a policy or regulation directing the high school to not issue a parking permit until proof has been provided that the vehicle has been registered through the Commissioner of Revenue’s office;
     - Option 3: Not to cooperate with the County’s Commissioner of Revenue’s Office; or
     - Option 4: Support legislation.
   - Mr. Wertz stated that the public has access through FOIA the taxpayer’s name, mailing address, and cumulative assessment which is known as the “Personal Property Book.” Citizenship status is not tracked for personal property tax purposes.
   - It appears that there is not a standard process amongst the high schools for issuing student parking permits. Each high school has their own unique process.
   - Since it is unclear how this information would be provided to the County and how work-intensive Options 1 and 2 above would be, the Committee suggested polling the high school leaders tasked with issuing student parking permits for their opinion on the subject.
• Staff suggested that since the Department of Digital Innovation oversees student and privacy information, Mr. Scheivert should also be brought into this conversation.
• Discussion on the question of addressing this issue administratively or legislatively.

**ACTION:** None, the Committee would like the input of high school leadership and the discussion will continue when there is a better understanding of the issue.

2. **Gearing up for the General Assembly’s 2019 Legislative Session.** Ron Jordan and Johnna Cossaboon of Advantus Strategies (Legislative Consultants “LC”) joined the discussion on preliminary matters for the 2019 Legislative Program.
   • Staff introduced to the Committee a draft LCPS Event Schedule for 2018-2019 Legislative Program and discussed potential conflicts with the timeline.
   • Staff provided the Committee with the VSBA Legislative Advocacy Conference brochure which will be held on September 20, 2018. Dr. Richards is registered for the conference and invited the Committee to also attend.
   • The Legislative Breakfast with the Loudoun delegation is typically held the first Friday in December which is December 7th. With this date being so late, there was discussion on whether to move the breakfast to an earlier date. The challenge with the legislators is that they have an early December deadline to pre-file bills. Options discussed:
     o Look at earlier dates where the entire Board Room can be booked;
     o Possibly hold the breakfast on a Saturday; or
     o Schedule the event for December 7th, once the Legislative Program is set, talk to individual legislators prior to the breakfast about carrying certain positions best suited for them. At the breakfast, the legislators would already be aligned with certain positions.
   • Discussion on the 2018 Legislative Program and current status of each position. See attached 2019 Legislative Program – Staff Working Document for LC’s comments on last year’s positions.
   • The Committee requested that Mr. DeVita provide clarification on the new law related to the employment of school board family members § 2.2-3119. Who does it apply to and what are the restrictions?
   • The LC provided a synopsis of the current General Assembly status focusing mainly on the dynamics between the two houses and the budget.
   • The Committee has requested that the LC track any new special education legislation in light of the newly formed Ad Hoc Committee on Special Education.

**ACTION:** None – discussion item only.

IV. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.
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## I. 2018 Legislative Priority Positions

1.) Requests that the State direct the Virginia Board of Education to authorize School Divisions of Innovation (SDIs), with demonstrated capacity and interest, to enhance assessment and accountability of student learning by replacing select SOL exams at select schools (elementary and middle school science, Virginia Studies, and Civics and Economics) with locally scored and externally validated performance assessments.

   - **Staff Rec.**
     - Lead: Established the knowledge base among the legislators and a good foundation was laid. Barbara Favola carried the bill.
     - Keep: Bill was not passed.

2.) Requests that the General Assembly determine the financial impacts of legislation on local school districts and fully compensate school districts for state directed mandates. When the Commonwealth considers a program important enough to mandate, it should consider the mandate important enough to fund.

   - **Staff Rec.**
     - SW: This is more of a policy statement and not a request for legislation. We are constantly monitoring the situation.
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<td>3.) Supports legislation to grant local school boards control of their academic calendars, including the ability to set the date for the opening of the school year.</td>
<td>KH</td>
<td>A meeting has been set up for the middle/end of September with the tourism industry and hopefully can find some common ground. It was closer than ever before of being passed.</td>
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<td>4.) Supports changes to the Code of Virginia that would permit a school board to institute legal action or proceedings without obtaining the consent of the local governing body.</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>This predates elected school boards. Senator Black carried this bill. Bill did not pass. Recommend not pursuing.</td>
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<td>5.) Supports changes to the Code of Virginia that would permit a local school board to purchase real estate without the possibility of the property being subject to unrecorded equitable servitudes, easements, negative easements or any other undocumented encumbrances.</td>
<td>KL</td>
<td>Senator Black carried this bill. Bill did not pass. Recommend not pursuing.</td>
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<td>6.) Supports the continued use of the Cost of Competing factor in the reimbursement formula for Planning District Eight.</td>
<td>SW</td>
<td>Recommend to stay as a position statement</td>
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<td>7.) Supports the removal of positions directly related to instruction in the classroom from the SOQ Support Position Cap.</td>
<td>AE</td>
<td>Recommend to stay as a position statement</td>
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<td>8.) Supports legislation that allows local school boards to retain any unspent appropriations in a school board's operating budget from one fiscal year to the operating budget of the following fiscal year.</td>
<td>SW</td>
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<td>9.) Supports revision to legislation to allow longterm substitutes to fill absences for up to 125 days without a waiver to align with Virginia Retirement System's Virginia Local Disability Program (VLDP) and minimize disruptions to instruction.</td>
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<td>10.) Supports legislative changes that would either generally permit the hiring of school board’s immediate family members provided that the certification requirements of Section 2.2-3119 of the Code of Virginia are retained (member certifies no involvement in the hiring and Superintendent certifies decision based on merit and fitness by competitive rating of qualifications); or, add Planning District 8 (includes Loudoun, Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William and several cities and towns) to the six (6) Planning Districts for which a statutory exception currently exists.</td>
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<td>11.) Supports legislative changes to specifically permit school board members to participate in transactions (e.g. budget, benefits, personnel policies and related discussions) when school board’s immediate family members are employed by the school board and are in a group of three or more persons to be affected by the transaction and the required public disclosures required by subsection H of Section 2.2-3115 shall be fully satisfied by listing school board immediate family members employment in the annual financial disclosure form in Section 2.2-3117.</td>
<td>SD</td>
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