March 31, 2020 – Special School Board Meeting

LOUDOUN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
4:00 p.m. – Virtual Meeting
Presiding: Brenda Sheridan, Chair

While the present state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia persists, and the Loudoun County School Board determines it is necessary to operate under the modified procedures described in the School Board Resolution passed on March 20, 2020, the public may access School Board meetings by viewing the live-streamed video via the LCPS website or by watching recorded meetings at a later time. Recordings are posted to the School Board Meeting Agenda & Documents page of the LCPS website. Loudoun County School Board meetings are also broadcast live on Comcast channel 18 and Verizon FIOS channel 43.

ACTION
The School Board approved:
… a resolution to effectuate temporary modifications to public meeting and public hearing practices and procedures to address continuity of operations associated with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic.
… the contract award for the construction of Hovatter Elementary School (ES-29) to Howard Shockey and Sons, Inc., in the amount of $32,169,545.
… the contract award for the construction of Elaine E. Thompson Elementary School (ES-23) to Howard Shockey and Sons, Inc., in the amount of $34,294,633.
… the contract award for CMar Construction Services (GMP1), Equipment Early Release Package for Tuscarora High School Entry Modifications to Gilbane Building Company, in the amount of $1,137,287.
… a motion directing LCPS to implement specific continuity-of-education efforts for students, including mailing work packets to K-2 students; providing home delivery with instructions to students who otherwise have not received Chromebooks; mailing copies of LCPS updates pertaining to distance learning to families who qualify for free and reduced meals or who have an EL student; and requiring reports to the School Board regarding the number of students who are connecting via online distance-based learning, packets, and those who are still not connected.

INFORMATION
Business and Financial Services: Superintendent Dr. Eric Williams and Assistant Superintendent for Business and Financial Services Sharon Willoughby outlined Compensation Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Williams and Willoughby also provided an update related to the Board of Supervisors’ FY21 Budget Appropriation.
Department of Instruction: Superintendent Dr. Eric Williams and Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Dr. Ashley Ellis presented a Distance Learning Plan and plans concerning Spring Break.
COVID-19 Update on LCPS Continued Response: Superintendent Dr. Eric Williams; Director of Communications & Community Engagement Rob Doolittle; Assistant Superintendent for Support Services Kevin Lewis; Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services Dr. Asia Jones; Assistant Superintendent for Digital Innovation Vince Scheivert; Assistant Superintendent for Business and Financial Services Sharon Willoughby; Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Talent Development Dr. Scott Ziegler; and Loudoun County Department of Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend provided an update on how COVID-19 is affecting the school division and the community at-large.

DELEGATIONS
Written comments were submitted to the School Board online. Diana Jeffries expressed concern about graduation and prom. Robyn Howlin, Russell Murphy, Penny Henon, Bart Gray, Kristen Skura and Lela Heick wrote about the need for grades. Michael Anthony addressed curriculum concerns. Cheryl Chirillo, Cindy Amurao, Krista Preble and Meredith Scarrow expressed concerns about graduation. Heather Snyder, Trish Henry, Edward Byrne, Paula Byrne, Macy Geiger, Christina St. Clair, Sarah DeWees, Josh Shields, Rose Rindone, Kirsten Shields, Seryl Gusman and Adrian Berkey wrote in favor of maintaining spring break. Michelle Plunkett and Matthew Owens wrote about the need for captioning on videos. J. Osborne wrote about bandwidth concerns. Hunt McMahon wrote about concerns with AP exams. Tania Kline and Katherine Warren wrote about the need for teachers to create instructional videos. Michael Hughes asked whether students would be allowed to repeat an academic year. Hugh Hughes asked whether students would be allowed to repeat an academic year. Russell Murphy, Penny Henon, Bart Gray, Kristen Skura and Lela Heick wrote about the need for grades. Michael Anthony addressed curriculum concerns. Cheryl Chirillo, Cindy Amurao, Krista Preble and Meredith Scarrow expressed concerns about graduation. Heather Snyder, Trish Henry, Edward Byrne, Paula Byrne, Macy Geiger, Christina St. Clair, Sarah DeWees, Josh Shields, Rose Rindone, Kirsten Shields, Seryl Gusman and Adrian Berkey wrote in favor of maintaining spring break. Michelle Plunkett and Matthew Owens wrote about the need for captioning on videos. J. Osborne wrote about bandwidth concerns. Hunt McMahon wrote about concerns with AP exams. Tania Kline and Katherine Warren wrote about the need for teachers to create instructional videos. Michael Hughes asked whether students would be allowed to repeat an academic year. Jeff Brown expressed a special education concern. Carla Baechle put forth concerns about attendance zones and curriculum for Hovatter Elementary. Beth Fowler wrote about the needs of special education students in relation to distance learning. Lynne Gianfros wrote that spring break should be cancelled. Irene O’Connell wrote about problems accessing links in Google Classroom. Annette Church and Kerry Mutschelknaus expressed a concern with students with an IEP and distance learning. Elizabeth Bres-Webber and Erin Bucci wrote concerning pay for parent liaisons. Heather Malam expressed a concern about the involuntary transfer process.