MINUTES
Fairfax County School Board
School Board Work Session
Tuesday, October 6, 2026
10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

1. World Language Discussion

Item 1.01: Call to Order and Announcements, Mateo Dunne and Ryan McElveen, Meeting Managers

Meeting Manager, Ryan McElveen, called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Robyn Lady (Chair and Dranesville)
Kyle McDaniel (Vice Chair and At-Large, **arr 5:50 pm; left at 8:11 pm**)
Ricardy Anderson (Mason, **arr 6:37 pm**)
Sandy Anderson (Springfield)
Tom Dannan (Braddock, **arr 5:13 pm; left at 8:25 pm**)
Seema Dixit (Sully)
Mateo Dunne (Mount Vernon, **left at 8:52 pm**)
Karl Frisch (Providence)
Ryan McElveen (At-Large)
Melanie Meren (Hunter Mill, left at **8:40 pm**)
Ilryong Moon (At-Large)
Marcia St. John-Cunning (Franconia)

Leadership Team present: Division Superintendent **Dr. Michelle Reid**; Interim Leadership Team **Frances Ivey;** Chief Equity Officer **Nardos King;** Chief Academic Officer **Dr. Sloan Presidio**; Chief Experience & Engagement Officer **Lisa Youngblood Hall;** and Chief Financial Officer **Leigh Burden**

School Board Office Present: Deputy Clerk to the School Board **Tiffany Sheppard;** Clerk to the School Board **Christinia Setlow**

Student Representative: Newt Shosteck is also present.

Item 1.02: World Language Programming

Staff Contact: Sloan Presidio, Chief Academic Officer

Other Staff Present: Catherine Stone, Senior Manager II, World Languages

Discussion Highlights: The World Language Discussion focused on expanding equitable student access across the division through establishing facilitated interdependent language labs, high schools to teach less commonly offered languages using online facilitators and live native-speaker coaching, expanding Online Campus offerings to include languages like German, Japanese, Latin, Russian, and Vietnamese, and broadening 7th-grade middle school access to high school credit-bearing courses at no additional budget cost. At the elementary level, staff outlined plans to expand Dual Language Immersion (DLI) across pyramids and re-evaluate the Foreign Language in Elementary Schools (FLES) 60-minute weekly model. Board Members discussed early language acquisition and geographic equity, budget constraints, decoupling FLES from STEAM integration, improving program assessments (such as the STAMP pilot), vertical

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articulation from elementary to high school, and addressing community demand for additional heritage and world languages such as Tamil, Uyghur, and Chinese.

The Board reached consensus to distribute an internal priority survey to members to rank proposed world language expansion and enhancement options, with synthesized results to be presented at a future work session. Additionally, staff was supported in conducting an updated community and family survey regarding language program interest

During the discussion, t**he Board took a brief** recess from 5:46 p.m. to 5:52 p.m.
This portion of the Work Session recessed at 7:28 p.m., the Board took a brief break and returned at 7:32 p.m.

2. Legislative Program Discussion

Item 2.01: Call to Order and Announcements, Dr. Ricardy Anderson and Ryan McElveen, Meeting Managers

Meeting Manager, Dr. Ricardy Anderson, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with the following Board members present:

Item 2.02: 2027 FCSB Legislative Program and Policy Discussion

Staff Contact: Michael Molloy, director, Government Relations

Other Staff Present: Dr. Frances Ivey, Interim Chief of Staff

Discussion Highlights: The Board Discussed shifting FCPS's advocacy strategy to year-round lobbying and building statewide coalitions with other school divisions around shared interests—most notably JLARC school funding formula reforms and state school accountability and assessment standards. Board members emphasized expanding outreach beyond the local Fairfax delegation to directly engage General Assembly committee members in Richmond. Key operational strategies proposed included establishing a weekly bill-tracking database, creating advocacy toolkits for board members and community partners, and utilizing "Take Your Legislator to School Month" data packets during legislative site visits. Specific policy areas highlighted included state support for pedestrian and traffic safety around schools, research and registration requirements for educational technology vendors, expanding state funding for Career and Technical Education (CTE), and updates on a state FOIA bill regarding meeting quorum thresholds for large multi-member boards.

Item 2.03: VSBA Positions Legislative Briefing

Discussion Highlights: Various Board members expressed their views regarding mandatory binding arbitration, requesting state funding for educational technology and Learning Management Systems like Canvas, and expanding state investment in Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. Members carefully analyzed proposed shifts toward a student-based

per-pupil funding formula aligned with JLARC recommendations, Additionally, a board member emphasized preserving FCPS's self-insured health benefits model, protecting student data confidentiality in teletherapy services, and ensuring regional CTE language does not compromise district capacity or enrollment control. Finally, rather than providing a consensus on the VSBA Legislative proposals, the Board discussed follow-ups on specific items to determine whether Dr. Anderson should request on behalf of the Board to pull individual proposals from the VSBA omnibus package or offer floor amendments during the VSBA Delegate Conference.

3. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

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Christina Setlow, Clerk of the Board Robyn Lady, Chair of the Board

Approved: November 12, 2026

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