

# Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: \_\_\_\_\_ A. \_\_\_\_\_

Date: April 20-21, 2005

**Topic:** Report and Recommendations from the Board of Education's 2004-2005 Student Advisory Committee

**Presenter:** Mrs. Isis Castro and Mrs. Eleanor Saslaw, Members of the Board of Education and Sponsors of the Student Advisory Committee

**Origin:**

Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

Board review required by  
 State or federal law or regulation  
 Board of Education regulation  
 Other: Board of Education by-laws

Action requested at this meeting  Action requested at future meeting: to be determined

**Previous Review/Action:**

No previous board review/action

Previous review/action  
date: February 25, 2005  
action: Board of Education received preliminary report of the Student Advisory Committee

**Background Information:** Members of the 2004-2005 Student Advisory Committee were selected from more than 100 nominations received in October 2004 from the public middle and high schools across the state. Each school was eligible to nominate one student for consideration. The nominees then had to complete an application packet that included letters of recommendation and essays. Representatives of the Board of Education reviewed all applications and selected the 12 students to be named to the committee. The new members were notified in November 2004.

The membership of the Student Advisory Committee is set forth in Article X of the Board of Education's bylaws. Of the 12 members of the Student Advisory Committee, eight high school students were selected to represent the Department of Education's eight Superintendents' Study Group regions, and four middle school students were selected at-large (see attached membership list).

**Summary of Major Elements:** The 2004-2005 Student Advisory Committee met on December 15, 2004, to begin its work of studying and formulating recommendations on topics of concern and interest to the students in the public schools in Virginia. The committee members identified three priority topics for study and divided the membership into three study groups, as follows:

- Group 1: Testing and Safety/Discipline;
- Group 2: Education Success Across the State and Curriculum Diversity with a Focus in the Arts; and
- Group 3: Student Psychological Health/Violence and Need-Based Funding.

Following the first meeting, the members researched their topics and reported their findings at the second meeting, which was held on February 22, 2005. A preliminary report on the topics was given to the Board of Education on February 23, 2005.

The 2004-2005 Student Advisory Committee's last meeting is scheduled for April 19-20, 2005. At this meeting, the Student Advisory Committee will formulate its specific recommendations regarding each of the three topics and report its findings and recommendations to the Board of Education.

**Superintendent's Recommendation:** N/A

**Impact on Resources:** N/A

**Timetable for Further Review/Action:** The timetable for further review of the students' recommendations is to be determined by the Board of Education.

## **Members of the 2004-2005 Student Advisory Committee**

Ashley Beaudin  
James Wood High School  
Frederick County

Patricia Castillo  
Denbigh High School  
Newport News City

Liz Chassey  
Prince Edward Middle School  
Prince Edward County

Jonté Craighead  
The Gereau Center  
Franklin County

Ginny Fuller  
Monacan High School  
Chesterfield County

Richard Ingebresten  
Battlefield Middle School  
Spotsylvania County

Lori Lippman  
Albert Hill Middle School  
Richmond City

Katie Logan  
Luray High School  
Page County

Katelyn Mendoza  
Monticello High School  
Albemarle County

Molly Rubin  
Kempsville High School  
Virginia Beach City

Jessica Schatz  
Courtland High School  
Spotsylvania County

Thomas Webb  
Graham High School  
Tazewell County