Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: _____G._____   **Date:** __February 19, 2009___

Topic: Report from the Board of Education's 2008-2009 Student Advisory Committee

Presenters: Mrs. Isis M. Castro and Mrs. Eleanor B. Saslaw, Members of the Board of Education and
                  Sponsors of the Student Advisory Committee

Origin:

_X_   Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

____   Board review required by
        ____   State or federal law or regulation
        ____   Board of Education regulation
        ____   Other: _____

___   Action requested at this meeting

___   Action requested at future meeting:

Previous Review/Action:

_X_   No previous board review/action

___   Previous review/action
        date:
        action:

Background Information: Members of the 2008-2009 Student Advisory Committee were selected
from more than 125 nominations received in November 2008 from public middle and high schools
across the state. Each public middle school and high school was eligible to nominate one student for
consideration. Statewide student organizations were also invited to submit nominees. The nominees
completed an application packet that included letters of recommendation and essays.

Representatives of the Board of Education reviewed all applications and selected the new members
according to Board of Education policy. 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, one high school student is selected from each of the Department of Education's eight
Superintendents' Study Group regions, and four middle school students are selected at-large (see
attached membership list).

Summary of Major Elements: During the first meeting in December 2008, the members of the Student Advisory Committee discussed a broad range of issues and concerns for students in the public schools across the state. From this discussion, the committee members selected three topics for in-depth study and divided into small work groups focused on the three topics.

At the committee's second meeting on February 18, 2009, the members will continue their discussions and formulate preliminary findings.

At the February 19th meeting, the Board of Education will hear a report and a summary of the topics selected for in-depth study. Mrs. Castro and Mrs. Saslaw, the committee's sponsors, will present the report. The student members will be present at the April 2009 meeting to give the committee's final report and recommendations.

Superintendent's Recommendation: N/A

Impact on Resources: Department of Education funds are used to support the work of the Student Advisory Committee by reimbursing for travel and other expenses related to the committee's meetings.

Timetable for Further Review/Action: Members of the Student Advisory Committee will present the final report and recommendations at the April 29-30 meeting. Following receipt of the final report and recommendations, the Board of Education will set a timetable for follow-up actions and discussions.

Members of the 2008-2009 Student Advisory Committee

Johnathan (Drake) Bishop
Nottoway High School
Crewe, VA
Region 8
Grade 11

Meghan Bryan
Eagle Ridge Middle School
Ashburn, VA
Region 4
Grade 8

Tara Coleman
Council High School
Council, VA
Region 7
Grade 11

Calvin Hunt
Millbrook High School
Winchester, VA
Region 4
Grade 12

Kevin Kabaria
Richlands Middle School
Richlands, VA
Region 7
Grade 8

David Krawczyk
William Fleming High School
Roanoke, VA
Region 6
Grade 12

Abigail (Abby) Moul
Bruton High School
Williamsburg, VA
Region 2
Grade 12

Londeka (Nqobile) Mthethwa
Prospect Heights Middle School
Orange, VA
Region 4
Grade 8

Kelly Robeson
North Stafford High School
Stafford, VA
Region 3
Grade 12

Jose Soto
Bayside Middle School
Virginia Beach, VA
Region 2
Grade 8

Kiyoko Timmons
Richmond Community High School
Richmond, VA
Region 1
Grade 12

Madison Wilson
Harrisonburg High School
Harrisonburg, VA
Region 5
Grade 9