

REASONABLE INTERPRETATION OF SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET/PROGRAM REVIEW CRITERIA

Values of the criteria to ensure quality academic programs:

- A. Adhere to state/federal mandates **(MUST)**
Explore withdrawing from optional state and federal programs if expenditures exceed revenue or programs are not consistent with SB goals while adhering to legal mandates.
- B. Ensure safe and secure environment **(10)**
Allocate sufficient resources to ensure students and staff can work and learn in a safe and secure environment including the continuous review and practice of emergency procedures.
- C. Ensure quality academic programs (Goal 1) **(10)**
Maintain Achievement Goal 1 as the most important of the three goals with the reasonable interpretation approved by the SB. Within this goal, the core disciplines (Goal 1.1 – rated 10) are followed by fine & practical arts and technology (Goal 1.3 and 1.5 – rated 8.5); countries and cultures of the world (Goal 1.4 – rated 8); and two languages (Goal 1.2 – rated 7).
- D. Ensure program and operational efficiency and effectiveness **(9)**
Utilize internal program evaluation reports, comparisons to APQC Best in Class school districts, student achievement results for specific programs, Monitoring Reports for Operational Expectations and SAGs, expenditure data over five year span, and professional expertise from other school districts to measure efficiency and effectiveness of programs.
- E. Maintain competitive salary/benefits **(9)**
Promote employee morale and productivity by maintaining a quality work force through a supportive environment, competitive salary and benefits as defined in the OEs for HR. For this review, fewer employees, who are well treated and supported, are preferable than more employees with little support, less competitive compensation and other detractors.
- F. Maintain support for effective classroom teaching and learning **(9)**
Focus on classroom teaching and student learning as the primary mission of FCPS. Teachers are most effective when:
- Instructional expectations are clear
 - Quality curriculum materials are available
 - Ongoing training and development is provided
- Provide support to teachers working with colleagues to analyze instruction, student performance and intervention strategies.
- G. Emphasize K-3 (early investment) **(8)**
Ensure early investment in basic academic skills and essential life skills so that our students have a solid foundation to reach their full potential.
- H. Support Goal 2 **(7)**
Goal 2 has a reasonable interpretation approved by the SB.

10/31/08 - For Background

Revisions made at 10/6/08 PRC and Budget Work Sessions

- I. Provide resources for students not meeting academic expectations **(7)**
Deploy necessary resources to analyze student needs (academic, social, or emotional) and to develop and implement interventions when children are performing below expected student achievement goal levels.
- J. Support lifelong learning **(6)**
Continue to provide a rich offering of academic and extracurricular activities and experiences that will benefit students of all ages.
- K. Support Goal 3 **(6)**
Goal 3 has a reasonable interpretation approved by the SB.
- L. Minimize negative impact on families **(6)**
Provide world class educational opportunities that do not place undue burdens on students or their families.
- M. Foster relationships with community **(4)**
Provide staff-supported opportunities for Fairfax County residents to interact and connect with FCPS—partnerships, mentoring, attendance at school events, community use of facilities, etc.