

Regional Opposition to LCI “unfreezing”

Acting on a request from the City of Richmond, the Board adopted a statement in **opposition to the proposal to “unfreeze” the Local Composite Index (LCI)** which determines state funding for public education. The statement read:

“We ask the General Assembly to retain the freeze on the Local Composite Index until an assessment is conducted regarding the equity of the formula and a plan is established to establish full state funding of the standards of quality.”

“[I]t is clear that our localities have reached a point where we cannot handle any more state budget cuts. As such, members of the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission -- Ashland, Charles City, Chesterfield, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent, Powhatan, and Richmond -- have united to request the legislature to support the freeze of the LCI until an assessment is conducted to determine the equity of the formula.

**- Delegate Jennifer McClellan
from Richmond Times-Dispatch Editorial**

The proposal being considered by the General Assembly would result in \$100 million of total reductions to the Richmond Region’s school divisions – \$17.5 million from the LCI changes in addition to the \$83 million of cuts included in the FY 2011 budget before the General Assembly. Communications Coordinator Chuck Gates relayed the statement to members of the Capital Region Caucus. News coverage of the RRPDC’s vote included a news article (“School funding change opposed,” February 12) and an opinion column by Delegate Jennifer McClellan (“Unfreezing Formula Would Chill Local School Systems,” February 14) in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*.