



**FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Daniel A. Domenech, Superintendent
Burkholder Administrative Center
10700 Page Avenue
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

September 28, 1999

Dear FCPS Government Teacher:

Government teachers in Fairfax County Public Schools do a great job teaching state and federal government, but materials for teaching about county government have been sparse—until now.

Welcome to

**“Closest to the People”
a study of local government in Fairfax County, Virginia**

This comprehensive series of lessons and resources will enhance your local government curriculum and contribute greatly to the civic literacy of Fairfax County’s youth.

Fairfax County government provides many of the services its citizens receive, and its courts handle most civil disputes and violations of the law. Our county government educates young people, provides police and fire protection to our citizens, regulates zoning and building construction, provides transportation and public health services, and maintains streets and highways. Citizens need to know the purpose, organization, and responsibilities of their closest level of government so they can take part in their governance and understand the ways it affects their lives every day.

County Executive Robert J. O’Neill, Jr., and his staff have worked with Fairfax County Public Schools curriculum specialists to provide this resource to Fairfax County government teachers. The county government has also provided most of the funding for this project. I know you will find it useful when planning your 1999-2000 curriculum and as you teach the standards, benchmarks, and indicators associated with local government in the Fairfax County Program of Studies. The materials are also available at www.co.fairfax.va.us/omb/fcpos/default.htm.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel A. Domenech".

Daniel A. Domenech, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools