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SCHOOL-BASED MANAGEMENT IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

by

Mary C. Smith
A Thesis
Submitted to the
Graduate Faculty
of
George Mason University
in Partial Fulfillment of
The Requirements for the Degree
of
Master of Arts
English

Committee:

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Fall Semester 1994
George Mason University
Fairfax, VA

School-Based Management in Prince William County

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts at George Mason University

By

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Bachelor of Arts
George Mason University, 1987

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DEDICATION

This is dedicated to my loving husband Paul, my two wonderful children Anne and Lauren, and my dog Wolfie.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank the many friends, relatives, and supporters who have made this happen. My loving husband, Paul, assisted me in my research. My daughters helped me with word processing and notes. Drs. Spock, McCoy, and the other members of my committee were of invaluable help. Finally, thanks go out to the Fenwick Library for providing a clean, quiet, and well-equipped repository in which to work.

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ABSTRACT

SCHOOL-BASED MANAGEMENT IN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

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George Mason University, 1994

Thesis Director: Dr. Ralph C. Baxter

This thesis describes the nationwide development of school-based management and chronicles its implementation in Prince William County (Virginia) Public Schools. School-based management - and its implementation in Prince William County - is discussed as a microcosmic example of one potential solution to the crisis in our nation's schools. Following a two-year pilot program in five schools, Prince William County Public Schools implemented school-based management divisionwide in the 1990-1991 school year. In the process of researching and writing this thesis, the author conducted a literature search and reviews internal documents and memoranda of Prince William County Public Schools. This thesis is slated to be a reference and resource for a graduate course on school-based management designed for building administrators and classroom teachers.

[Curriculum Vitae – CV is actually the last page of the dissertation or thesis]

CURRICULUM VITAE

Mary C. Smith graduated from Fairfax High School, Fairfax, Virginia, in 1983. She received her Bachelor of Arts from George Mason University in 1987. She was employed as a teacher in Fairfax County for two years and received her Master of Arts in English from George Mason University in 1987.