

APPROVED MINUTES – 2/7/12

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, January 10, 2012

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in closed session at 5:15 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esquire, Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, and Mr. Logan McNaney. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Mr. Schmidt reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in January and February.

Board member, Mr. Michael H. Bowler, entered the room at 5:17 p.m.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Articles, §§10-508(a)(1), (a)(7), and (a)(9) and upon motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:18 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:18 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esquire, Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, and Mr. Logan McNaney. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: Dr. Renee A. Foose, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Michele O. Prumo, Chief of Staff; Dr. Roger L. Plunkett, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Karen Blannard, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Ms. Patricia Lawton, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Ms. Verletta White, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Dr. Edward Newsome, Jr., Assistant Superintendent, Middle Schools; Ms. Abbey Campbell, Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent, High Schools; Dr. Donald A. Peccia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources; Mr. George M. Duque, Staff Relations Manager; Margaret-Ann F. Howie, Esquire, General Counsel; Andrew W. Nussbaum, Esquire, Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

Mr. McNaney exited the room at 5:18 p.m.

Mr. Duque provided Board members with an update on negotiations with various collective bargaining units.

Mr. McNaney re-entered the room at 6:19 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES (cont)

Dr. Peccia reviewed with Board members personnel matters to be considered on the evening's agenda.

Ms. Howie provided legal advice to the Board regarding the charter school agreement.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Moniodis, the Board adjourned its closed session at 6:31 p.m. for a brief dinner.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:09 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esquire, Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, and Mr. Logan McNaney. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Miss Olivia Keithley, a student at Hereford High School, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Open and Closed Minutes of December 6, 2011, Mr. Schmidt declared the minutes approved as presented on the Web site.

Mr. Schmidt informed the audience of the sessions in which Board members had participated earlier in the afternoon.

SELECTION OF SPEAKERS

After collecting completed sign-up cards, Mr. Schmidt announced the names of persons who would be speaking during the public comment portion of the meeting as well as the order in which the persons would be called.

Mr. Schmidt stated that public comment is one of the opportunities provided to hear the views and receive the advice of community members. The members of the Board appreciate hearing from interested citizens and will take their comments into consideration, even though it is not the Board's practice to take action at this time on issues which are raised. When appropriate, the Board will refer concerns to the superintendent for follow-up by his staff.

While the Board encourages public input on policy, programs, and practices within the purview of this Board and this school system, this is not the proper avenue to address specific student or employee matters, or to comment on matters that do not relate to public education in Baltimore County. The Board encourages everyone to utilize existing avenues of redress for complaints. Inappropriate personal remarks or other behavior that disrupts or interferes with the conduct of this meeting are out of order.

Mr. Schmidt also asked speakers to observe the timer, which lets the speaker know when time is up. He asked speakers to conclude their remarks when they see his/her time is up.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Miss Olivia Keithley, Baltimore County Student Council President and member of the Superintendent's Student Council Advisory Group, reported on its general assembly meeting of December 14, 2011, where students participated in various activities including the role of the guidance department. On January 4, the Student Advisory Board held its reunion. Alumni discussed how BCPS helped them become successful in college or in the work force.

Mr. John Redmond, Vice President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, thanked the Board for attending the Association's legislative breakfast on January 7, 2012. He asked the Board to use the information from the breakfast to form future policies.

P. J. Shafer, Esquire, Chair of the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC), reported on its January meeting about the common core state curriculum. He announced that Ms. Elisa Hartman was elected as the new vice chair of SECAC. Mr. Shafer stated that the Committee welcomes the opportunity to participate in the superintendent search process. He also invited the Board to attend its March 12, 2012, meeting.

Ms. Nancy Ostrow, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, reported on the Council's recent and upcoming activities. She stated that the Council will continue to encourage all local PTAs to attend the public hearing on the proposed FY2013 operating budget scheduled for January 17, 2012, at Ridge Ruxton School. Ms. Ostrow stated that the Council awaits the upcoming public forums and stakeholder sessions with Hazard, Young, Attea, & Associates. She announced that the Council's next general meeting will be held on January 26, 2012, at Loch Raven High school.

Ms. Jessica Paffenbarger, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented (G/T) Education, stated that one of the goals of the G/T program is to "provide staff development for all personnel who work with students in gifted and Talented Education programs including administrators, teachers, and school counselors." Ms. Paffenbarger encouraged the school system to provide additional G/T training for educators.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS (cont)

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, Coordinator of the Area Education Advisory Councils, announced that the joint council meeting for January 26, 2012, has been cancelled. She stated that the councils are scheduled to meet with the search firm and will provide input regarding the characteristics of a new superintendent. Ms. Shriver stated that the public may not be fully aware that it can speak at the Board's work session. Though no one from the public signed up to speak at the last work session, she stated that it is important for the public to have the opportunity to speak at work sessions.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Bash Pharoan stated that discrimination is a "disease." He noted that in the December 6 minutes that the words "COMAR holidays" were placed in quotation marks. Dr. Pharoan stated that he only asks for equality. He asked the Board to limit the school calendar to "COMAR holidays" unless the Board chooses to recognize the Islamic holidays.

Ms. Beverly Hammer thanked the Board for the planning and additional funds for Stoneleigh Elementary School.

Ms. Mary Ellen Pease urged the Board to attend a local screening of the film, *Race To Nowhere*, on Thursday, January 12, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at the McDonough School, Horn Theatre in Owings Mills.

Miss June Keating, a fifth grade student at Stoneleigh Elementary School, stated that the school should be solar powered. She stated that having solar power would save money and electricity. Miss Keating asked the Board to consider reusable trays in the cafeteria and allow students to grow and maintain a roof garden. She asked that the contractors not release chemicals on the ground during the renovation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston announced that – for the eighth consecutive year – the Baltimore County Public Schools' Department of Fiscal Services has been awarded the Meritorious Budget Award from the Association of School Business Officials International. This award, for the preparation and issuance of our FY 2012 document, is designed to help school systems build a solid foundation in the skills of developing, analyzing, and presenting a budget.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (cont)

The Department of Fiscal Services has also – again for the eighth consecutive year – been awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. This award, for our FY 2012 budget document, reflects the commitment of our staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting, and their pioneering efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America. Dr. Hairston congratulated Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officers, and Mr. George Sarris, Director of Budget and Reporting, and the entire Fiscal Services team for their excellence, and to all who work to support success in our schools.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Schmidt stated that the Board is continually questioned about many areas of our educational system. These questions come from public testimony, direct inquiries to Board members, public hearings on capital and operating budgets, and area advisory councils. Some are specific to individual schools, while others involve the entire system. Mr. Schmidt reported on the following topics:

Issue: Superintendent's Search

As the public is aware, the Board has initiated its search for a new superintendent for Baltimore County Public Schools. A very important early step in this process is to identify the characteristics of a new superintendent. The Board appreciates the public's willingness to assist us with this task and has scheduled community forums and meetings so that stakeholder groups, advisory councils, deans of higher education, business partnerships, and associations may meet with a representative from Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates during the week of January 16, 2012. Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates will present their findings to the Board and public at the February 7, 2012, Board meeting. To date, over 1,300 survey responses have been received. The Board hopes that individuals will continue to complete the online survey, which is on the school system's website, by January 27, 2012 (<http://www.bcps.org/supsearch.htm>). The Board sincerely appreciates Dr. Hairston and his continued support and dedication to Baltimore County. The Board has expressed to the superintendent its desire to maintain the current organization to ensure a smooth, stable, and seamless transition.

Earlier today, the County Executive announced the county's legislative initiatives for the upcoming session. The Board is pleased to explore new initiatives as long as they are in the best interest of the students of Baltimore County.

OLD BUSINESS

Board of Education Policies

The Board Policy Committee, represented by Mr. Coleman, recommended approval of eleven policies. This is the third reading.

On motion of Ms. Roddy, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the following proposed policies:

- Proposed Changes to Policy 3150 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Risk Management-Board Insurance Program
- Proposed Changes to Policy 3220 (renumbered to Policy 3620) – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Purchasing Services-Inventories
- Proposed Changes to Policy 3310 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Food Services-Food and Nutrition Services
- Proposed Changes to Policy 3330 –NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Food Services-Food Service Finance
- Proposed Changes to Policy 3510 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Physical Plant Services-Operations
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 3530.1 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Fiscal Services-Reward Program/School-Related Crimes
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 3610 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Fees, Gifts and Property Disposition-Tuition Fees

Proposed FY2013 State and County Capital Budget

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board approved the FY2013 State and County Capital Budget state request of \$22,906,000 and county request of \$15,488,000 as presented in exhibit I (favor-10). Mr. McNaney did not vote on this item.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Ms. Roddy, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on exhibits J, K, L, M, and N (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes). Ms. Bright Gordon opposed exhibit M.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Mr. Parker, recommended approval of items 1-25 (exhibit O).

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. Contract Modification: Field Trip Transportation Services
2. Contract Modification: Supplemental Education Services
3. Art Supplies
4. Cohort – Elementary Mathematics, Cohort V
5. Cohort – Instructional Leadership for Changing Populations Ph.D., Cohort III
6. Cohort – Kinesiology for Physical Education Teachers, Master of Science
7. Cohort – Reading Teacher Endorsement, Cohort III
8. Cohort – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Master of Arts – K-8, Cohort II
9. Custodial Restroom products
10. Economic and Residential Development Forecast for Baltimore County
11. Elevator Maintenance
12. Ethernet Switches and Local Area network (LAN) Equipment
13. Floor Tile
14. Professional Development – Nonpublic School Teachers and Administrators
15. Textbooks – Summer School
16. Textbooks – Summer School – Reading
17. Water Facility Inspection and Design Services
18. Wireless Communication and Equipment
19. Youth and Employment Training Program
20. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): Homeland Security Funds
21. Replacement of Sidewalk and Multi-use Court – Edmonson Heights Elementary School
22. Roof Replacement – Franklin Middle School
23. Verizon-MD – George Washington Carver Center for Arts & Technology School Replacement
24. Replacement of Sidewalks – Grange Elementary School
25. Roof Replacement – Middle River Middle School

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

A. **Superintendent's Proposed Operating Budget, Fiscal Year 2013** – Dr. Hairston presented to the Board, for its consideration, the Proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2013. He explained that the request reflects a slight increase in state funding based on increased enrollment and the inflation index and continued Baltimore County funding at the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) level. He noted that the priority was to preserve core programs and services, as outlined in the *Blueprint for Progress*. These core programs and services include:

- Quality of instruction
- Quality employees
 - No furloughs or layoffs
 - Step increments for eligible employees
 - Competitive employee benefits for eligible employees
- Student achievement
 - Continuation of an aggressive maintenance program
 - Continuation of full transportation programs
- Start-up costs are provided for the additions to Hampton and Stoneleigh Elementary School

Dr. Hairston also noted that, in light of revenue considerations and limitations, including no new programs, the general fund budget proposal will require increased resources of \$19.6 million over the FY12 operating budget. This request is primarily driven by increased projected enrollment of an additional 1,570 students and providing continuity for the employees who serve them. Strict measures are necessary to offset increased salary and benefits costs, the loss of federal stimulus revenues, and compliance with state and federal mandates.

Adjustments to the proposed budget include:

- Reducing the combined operating and capital budget by 2.7% over the current fiscal year due to reduced capital and grant funding;
- Reducing administrative, central office, and non-classroom-based positions by 46.0 FTE, for a total reduction of \$6.1 million;
- Adding 123.8 FTE teaching positions due to projected increases in student enrollment.
- Maintaining school budget at current levels, with some adjustments due to enrollment changes;

REPORTS (cont)

- Expanding gradebook, communications, and web site software for increased communication with parents in all schools;
- Expanding wireless Internet access to serve additional classrooms;
- Start-up costs for the additions to Hampton and Stoneleigh Elementary Schools.

Dr. Hairston announced that the proposed budget would be the topic of a special public hearing on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, at Ridge Ruxton School, and a Board work session at the school system's headquarters on Tuesday, January 24, 2012. He noted that the entire operating budget plan and the PowerPoint™ would be available on the BCPS Web site at www.bcps.org.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Superintendent's Rule 3150 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Risk Management-Board Insurance
- B. Revised Superintendent's Rule 3220 (renumbered to Rule 3620) – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Purchasing Services-Inventories
- C. Revised Superintendent's Rule 3310 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Food Services-Purpose
- D. Revised Superintendent's Rule 3330 –NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Food Services-Finance
- E. Deletion of Superintendent's Rule 3610 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Fees, Gifts and Property Disposition-Tuition Fees
- F. Revised Superintendent's Rule 4204 – PERSONNEL: Compensation, Benefits, and Retirement-Workers' Compensation
- G. Deletion of Superintendent's Rule 4209 – PERSONNEL: Compensation, Benefits, and Retirement-Salary Deduction
- H. Revised Superintendent's Rule 4501 – PERSONNEL: Temporary Employment: Temporary and Part-Time-Summer School Teachers
- I. Deletion of Superintendent's Rule 4504 – PERSONNEL: Temporary Employment: Temporary and Part-Time-Summer School Teachers

INFORMATION (cont)

- J. Deletion of Superintendent's Rule 4505 – PERSONNEL: Temporary Employment: Temporary and Part-Time-Guidelines for the Selection of Summer School Librarians

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Schmidt made the following announcements:

- Schools and offices will be closed on Monday, January 16, 2012, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. Schools and offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 17, 2012.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing to seek the community's input concerning the proposed fiscal year 2013 operating budget on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, at 7:00 p.m., at Ridge Ruxton School beginning at 7:00 p.m. Sign-up for those members of the public wishing to speak begins at 6:00 p.m. at Ridge Ruxton School on the day of the hearing. Each speaker will be allotted three minutes.
- The Board of Education will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, January 24, 2012, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:15 p.m. The Board will then adjourn to meet in closed session. The open session will reconvene at approximately 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome to all open sessions.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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