

TENTATIVE MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Monday, January 14, 2002

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 4:37 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Maria R. Cirincione, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymiski, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, and Mr. James R. Sasiadek. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, was also present.

Mr. Hayden entered the room at 4:38 p.m.

Mr. Arnold reminded Board members to contact Mrs. Zepp regarding their attendance at a national conference.

Mr. Sasiadek moved approval of allowing participation of the student board member in collective bargaining discussions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and approved by the Board.

At 4:39 p.m., Mr. Sasiadek moved the Board go into closed session to discuss personnel matters and discuss matters relative to negotiations pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1) and (a)(9). The motion was seconded by Mr. Grzymiski and unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Mr. Grimsley and Board members discussed the appointments on tonight's agenda. The Board decided to amend this evening's appointment exhibit and consider the recommendation at this weekend's retreat when more information will be available.

Mr. Grimsley reported on the status of negotiations with two of the employee groups.

Mr. Arnold brought to the Board's attention a matter involving potential litigation.

At 5:50 p.m., Mr. Kennedy moved to adjourn the closed session for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sasiadek and approved by the Board.

The Board hosted the Citizens Advisory Committee for Special Education for dinner.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:43 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Maria R. Cirincione, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymiski, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, and Mr.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES (Cont.)

James Sasiadek. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools; staff members; members of various civic, employee, and community organizations were present as was the media.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Ms. Lora Williams, President of American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Local 434, and a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

Mr. Arnold extended the Board's appreciation to Ms. Williams and her colleagues for safely transporting students to school last Wednesday when unexpected freezing rain fell in the area.

MINUTES

Hearing no corrections or additions to the open and closed minutes of November 20, 2001, and December 4, 2001, Mr. Arnold declared the minutes approved as presented.

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

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. Arnold presented a Commission from Governor Glendening to newly-appointed Board member Janese Murray.

Mr. Arnold thanked the school nurses for providing dessert at tonight's dinner.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston announced the selection of Carol Costante, Specialist in the Office of Health Services, as the National School Nurse Administrator of the Year by the National Association of School Nurses.

Dr. Hairston also announced that Bonnie Block, Child Care Liaison in the Department of Student Support Services, has been informed that two stories she wrote will be included in the upcoming book, "Chicken Soup for the Teacher's Soul." The book is scheduled to be released in April.

Finally, Dr. Hairston informed the audience that Carol Adams, Art teacher at Ridgely Middle School, has been selected by the National Art Education Association to receive the

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Cont.)

national Junior Art Honor Society Sponsor of the Year Award. The award will be presented at the national convention in March 2002.

RECOGNITION BY BALTIMORE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES

The Baltimore County Association of School Nurses (BCASN) recognized the support of the Board of Education of Baltimore County. In a resolution read by Association President Marilyn Healy and presented to Board President Donald Arnold, the BCASN dedicated January 23, 2002, National School Nurse Day, to the Baltimore County Board of Education. Ms. Becky Ferguson, Treasurer of BCASN, was also present for the presentation.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT

Mr. Randall Grimsley recognized Mr. Philip Byers, whose appointment to Assistant Principal at Arbutus Elementary School, was approved at the December 18th Board meeting.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

Report on Parent Support Services-Through a Power PointTM presentation, Mrs. Marchione provided an overview of the Parent Support Services Program. The program's components and standards were reviewed.

Mr. Kennedy noted the need in some schools for promoting a more welcoming environment for parents.

- B. Superintendent's Proposed Operating Budget - Fiscal Year 2003 Dr. Hairston recognized the successful and effective relationship between the Superintendent and County Executive. He noted that between FY96-FY02, Baltimore County Public Schools has enjoyed a budget growth of 42%.

The total general fund request for FY03 is \$806,283,994. Dr. Hairston noted the proposed budget was designed to sustain existing programs and services. Some highlights of the proposed budget include:

- All-day kindergarten classes at Edmondson Heights and Victory Villa Elementary Schools,
- Expansion of the prekindergarten program to Chadwick and Winand Elementary Schools,
- A disaster recovery plan for essential BCPS data,

REPORTS (Cont.)

- REPORTS (Cont.)\$8.6 million for increments and longevities,
- \$15.2 million to maintain existing levels of benefits and insurance for employees, and
- \$4.3 million for non-public placements.

Mr. Arnold announced that on January 22nd at 7:00 p.m., the Board would conduct its public hearing on the proposed budget at the Ridge Ruxton School. The snow date will be January 28th. He also announced the date of the Board's work session on the proposed budget - January 30th at 7 p.m. at Greenwood. The snow date will be January 31st at 7:30 p.m.

- C. Report on the Proposed County Capital Budget Request - Fiscal Year 2003-Mr. Haines noted the proposed budget request for \$30,132,000 reflects real funding realities. He also stated the budget must meet State and County requirements.

In describing the revenues to fund the request, Mr. Haines pointed out there currently exists \$26,805,000, in capital funds, issued by the County for FY02-03. Baltimore County Public Schools will also compete with other jurisdictions for money available from the Federal School Renovation Program, which is a grant program. Thirdly, there is also money available from the reallocation of capital funds in the amount of \$1,773,000.

Mr. Kennedy urged staff to communicate with the PTA's and administrators whose school renovations will be delayed or are not included in the proposal. He asked that they be assured the school system is doing the best it can.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Ettinger, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits D-1, E, F, G, and H. (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.)

CONTRACT AWARDS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sasiadek, the Board approved items 1 and

1. Contracted Services: Boiler Cleaning - Increase of Award
2. Outward Bound Program: Chase Elementary School

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee, represented by Mr. Kennedy, recommended approval of items 1-4 and 9-11. The Board approved these recommendations. Items 5-8 were withdrawn.

1. Networking/Electrical Update - Dumbarton Middle School
2. Traffic Signal Installation - New Town High School
3. New Gas and Electric Service - New Town High School
4. Science Classroom Renovations - Sollers Point/Southeastern Technical High School
9. Request to Negotiate - Consultant Design Services - Proposed Windsor Mill Middle School
10. Change Order - Running Track Replacement - Catonsville High School
11. Increase Contingency Authorizations for Major Maintenance Renovation Projects - Various Schools

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Arnold made the following announcements:

On Wednesday, January 16, 2002, the Southwest Area Educational Advisory Council will meet at Lansdowne High School at 7:30 p.m.

- D Schools and offices will be closed Monday, January 21, 2002, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, birthday.

On Tuesday, January 22, 2002, the Board will conduct its public hearing on the proposed operating budget at 7:00 p.m. at the Ridge Ruxton School. The snow date will be Monday, January 28, 2002. The Board's work session on the proposed operating budget will be held on Wednesday, January 30, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. at Greenwood. The snow date will be January 31st at 7:30 p.m.

Also on Tuesday, January 22, 2002, the Southeast Area Educational Advisory Council will meet at Berkshire Elementary School at 7:30 p.m.

- Y On Wednesday, January 23, 2002, the Northwest Area Educational Advisory Council will meet at Timber Grove Elementary School at 7:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Cont.)

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be held on Tuesday, January 29, 2002, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at 5:15 p.m. After the Board adjourns to meet in closed session, followed by a brief dinner recess, the open meeting will reconvene at 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome at all open sessions.

Mr. Arnold reminded the audience to refrain from discussing personnel matters or any other matters that might come before the Board in the way of an appeal.

Ms. Jung noted the extraordinary spirit displayed by the staff, students, and families of Middlesex and Battle Grove Elementary Schools in welcoming Hawthorne Elementary School students and staff a few months ago. She stated that a number of central office administrative and supervisory staff substituted in classrooms while the Hawthorne teachers moved back into their building, preparing their classrooms for the students' return.

Ms. Jung shared a story about a Baltimore County high school teacher who developed Scrabble tournaments for his students so there would be creative learning taking place the day before Winter Break.

Ms. Jung expressed her pride in Baltimore County Public Schools for hiring a blind teacher, released by a neighboring jurisdiction, and a teacher who is quadriplegic and assisted by a service dog.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. JoLynn Chadwick, Chair of the Citizens' Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented Education, informed the Board that at the group's November meeting, representatives from local colleges and businesses met with middle school parents and students to discuss how colleges and employers evaluate students for admission or employment in today's world. She shared some of the feedback received.

Ms. Teresa LaMaster, Chair of the Citizens' Advisory Committee for Special Education, thanked the Board for hosting the Committee for dinner. She also thanked the nurses for providing dessert at tonight's dinner and congratulated them on School Nurse Day. Ms. LaMaster recognized the important role nurses play in the lives of children with disabilities. With respect to the Parent Support Services Program, she commended the Resource Center at White Oak for its assistance to parents. Ms. LaMaster urged the Board to inquire about the money allocated in the proposed operating budget for non-public placement and the number of students it serves. It is her opinion that money spent in this area may not be the most effective use of school system resources.

Ms. Maggie Kennedy, Coordinator of the Area Educational Advisory Councils, expressed the advisory councils' support for the proposed operating and capital budgets and

PUBLIC COMMENT (Cont.)

pledged to work with the Board and County authorities to achieve full funding. She thanked the Board and staff for an informative meeting involving all area councils, and she thanked school nurses for the support they give to students, parents, and staff every day. With respect to the new federal initiatives, Ms. Kennedy requested that the public be kept informed of the amounts of funding, how it will be distributed, and how it will impact Baltimore County Public Schools.

Ms. Meg O'Hare, Chair of the Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council, welcomed Ms. Murray to the Board. She stated the recent meeting with the Board was productive. Ms. O'Hare commended Sue Hahn for her work on the Parentmobile and getting parents involved in their children's education. She also noted that an advisory council member recently received her teaching degree and is now teaching at Red House Run Elementary School. Ms. O'Hare noted the excellent presentation given by Ms. Lichter and Ms. Donlon on the elementary reading series at the January meeting. Finally, Ms. O'Hare gave her perspective on the Middle School Task Force.

Ms. Paula Simon, President of the Council of Administrative and Supervisory Employees (CASE), informed the Board it would be receiving, in the near future, a summary of CASE's priorities. She also advised the Board that she would testify at next week's budget hearing on the issue of equity.

Ms. Laura Nossel, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, extended the Council's appreciation for the recent dinner and discussion with the Board. She stated that public money should be used for public education. Ms. Nossel stated that this past weekend, PTA executive members discussed the group's priorities, goals, and the direction the organization needs to take. This list will be forwarded to the Board upon completion. Ms. Nossel thanked Junior Achievement for hosting this work session. Finally, she questioned how the budget information would be disseminated to schools.

Mr. Mark Beytin, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, praised the Hawthorne Elementary School teachers for their *efforts* in the move back to their building. He also thanked the school system for its support and the substitutes who covered classrooms while teachers were packing. Dr. Hairston was thanked for visiting Hawthorne Elementary. Mr. Beytin spoke of TABCO's recent Martin Luther King, Jr. dinner and thanked Dr. and Mrs. Hairston for attending. He announced the results of the Perception Survey should be available before the end of the month. With regard to the proposed operating budget, Mr. Beytin shared his concern about the lack of monetary incentive for new teachers to return.

Ms. Donna Brigman, Special Education Liaison at Western School of Technology, asked the Board to fund the construction of two walls in the Special Education area of the school to provide a quieter learning experience for the students.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Cont.)

Ms. Joanne Armstrong, President of the School Library Media Association, asked the Board to fund the budget request for librarian positions for this school year in order to meet Maryland State Department of Education standards.

At 9:33 p.m., Mr. Kennedy moved to adjourn the open meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayden and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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