

TENTATIVE MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, July 9, 2002

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 5:13 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Sarah D. Bormel, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzynski, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, Mr. James R. Sasiadek, and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, J. Robert Haines, Deputy Superintendent of Business Services, and staff members were present.

Board members were asked to respond to Mrs. Zepp about an upcoming event.

Newly-appointed student Board member Sarah Bormel was introduced to her colleagues.

At 5:14, Mr. Sasiadek moved the Board go into closed session to discuss personnel matters and to consult with counsel regarding a proposed settlement, litigation, and legal advice pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1), (a)(7), and (a)(8). The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Mr. Grimsley reviewed the appointments, transfers, and rehired retirees on tonight's agenda.

Mr. Hayden entered the room at 5:21 p.m.

Board members received legal advice regarding a federal initiative.

Ms. Saffran-Brinks discussed with the Board a proposed settlement. After discussion, Ms. Saffran-Brinks was advised how to proceed.

Ms. Saffran-Brinks briefed the Board on pending litigation.

Ms. Saffran-Brinks also reviewed with the Board a matter dealing with potential litigation.

At 7:05 p.m., Mr. Kennedy moved to adjourn the closed session for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hayman and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 8:00 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Sarah D. Bormel, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzynski, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, Mr. James R.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES (Cont.)

Sasiadek, and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, J. Robert Haines, Deputy Superintendent of Business Services; 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. Sarah D. Bormel, newly-appointed student member of the Board of Education, and a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

MINUTES

Hearing no additions or corrections to the open and closed session minutes of May 28, 2002, and the Report of the Board of Education Work Session, June 10, 2002, 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.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS, 2002-03

Mr. Arnold asked Mr. Haines to preside during the election of the President of the Board of Education of Baltimore County. Mr. Haines asked for nominations for the office of President. Ms. Ettinger nominated Mr. Arnold. Mr. Walker seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, Mr. Haines closed the nominations for the office of President. The motion to elect Mr. Arnold was passed by unanimous consent.

Mr. Arnold assumed the chair and requested nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board of Education. Dr. Hayman nominated Mr. Sasiadek. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Grzymiski. There being no further nominations, Mr. Arnold closed the nominations for the office of Vice President. The motion to elect Mr. Sasiadek as Vice President of the Board of Education was passed by unanimous consent.

Dr. Hayman recommended the Board consider rotating the Presidency and Vice Presidency. He stated by rotating the offices of President and Vice President, the politics would be removed and would also give other Board members an opportunity to share the leadership role. Ms. Saffran-Brinks will advise the Board as to the procedures that need to be taken in order to make this change.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

The staff members whose appointments were approved at the June 11, 2002, meeting were recognized by Mr. Randall Grimsley, Executive Director of Human Resources.

Mr. Arnold introduced new student Board member, Ms. Sarah D. Bormel, to the audience. He noted that he and Ms. Bormel were sworn in earlier in the day.

OLD BUSINESS

Revisions to Policy 3111

Mr. Hayden moved to amend the proposed revision by deleting the last sentence in the first paragraph of the policy. Mr. Sasiadek seconded the motion. Ms. Ettinger suggested changing Mr. Hayden's motion to delete the word "significant" from the last sentence. Mr. Hayden agreed to the friendly amendment after hearing Dr. Hayman's comments in support of Ms. Ettinger's amendment. Dr. Hayman suggested replacing the word "significant" with "any."

The amendment to delete the word "significant" and add "any" from the last sentence of the first paragraph was unanimously approved.

Ms. Ettinger moved to approve the revisions to Policy 3111, as amended. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hayman and unanimously approved by the Board.

Revisions to Policy 3112

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Grzymiski, the Board approved the proposed revisions to Policy 3112 – Budget: Operating Budget.

Revisions to Policy 3113

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the proposed revisions to Policy 3113 – Budget: Transfers and Supplements.

Revisions to Policy 5550

Mr. Hayden moved to amend item J under Category II to read "Harassment for any reason," stating the intent of the proposed amendment would make the language more inclusive, not less. Ms. Ettinger seconded the motion. Mr. Kennedy stated that all administrators, teachers, and students need to fully understand that harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.

The motion to amend item J under Category II was unanimously approved.

Mr. Hayden moved to approve the policy as amended. Mr. Walker seconded the motion.

Policy 5550 (Cont.)

Mr. Kennedy moved to amend the wording of the description of Category II offenses back to the original wording, “normally would,” stating that the original wording sends a stronger message than “may.” Mr. Sasiadek expressed his view that the proposed wording should remain. Ms. Ettinger seconded the motion. The motion failed by a vote of 4-6. Ms. Ettinger, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Bormel, and Mr. Grzynski voted in support of the motion.

Mr. Kennedy commented on the offense “Assault and battery on a staff member” listed under Category III. He stated that in many cases, this policy is not enforced as the Board wants. He also noted that some federal regulations hinder us from enforcing this policy. Mr. Kennedy expressed concern that some of the federal laws may hamper our efforts to keep our schools safe. He suggested that Board and staff develop guidelines/recommendations describing the situation and explaining exactly what schools can and can’t do, what teachers can do, and how they can be protected. Mr. Kennedy also suggested working with the State and National School Board Associations to try and bring about changes in federal laws. Mr. Sasiadek agreed with Mr. Kennedy’s comments. Mr. Walker noted that any changes in laws would not take place immediately. Ms. Ettinger shared her view that it is the Board’s responsibility to enforce its own policy as appropriate and that communication with staff should take place about how federal laws may impact the enforcement of that policy. She also agreed that lobbying should take place at the appropriate levels.

Mr. Arnold noted that the National School Boards Association has distributed a survey dealing with this issue and urged staff to provide a response to NSBA’s request along with communicating with the Maryland Association of Boards of Education about this issue. Dr. Hayman suggested the policy should reflect the limitations of enforcement.

On motion of Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the proposed revisions to Policy 5550 – Disruptive Behavior – as amended.

A severe thunderstorm in the area caused a power outage. Mr. Arnold announced the emergency light system would only provide light for approximately an hour.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits K, L, L-1, M, N, N-1, and O. (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.)

YEAR-END BUDGET APPROPRIATION TRANSFER

On motion of Mr. Sasiadek, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Board approved a year-end budget appropriation transfer in the amount of \$5,851,248.

OLD BUSINESS (Cont.)

Special Education Staffing Plan (Cont.)

Mr. Boone reviewed with Board members the time line for consideration of the Special Education Staffing Plan this school year.

Ms. Ettinger stated because the school system operates within fiscal constraints, the Board needs to understand and verbalize the rationale behind the recommendations and the basis for the numbers so it is able to make an effective case to the fiscal authorities.

With respect to funding, Mr. Walker stated that the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was never properly funded. Our legislators need to be lobbied with regard to federal mandates with little or no funding attached.

On motion of Dr. Hayman, seconded by Mr. Grzymiski, the Board approved the Special Education Staffing Plan 2001-03.

CONTRACT AWARDS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved items 1-12.

1. Assistive Technology Software
2. Child Care Centers – Lease Agreement
3. Contract – Interest in Property
4. Contracted Services: Fingerprinting and Background Investigative Services – Three-Year Bid
5. Contracted Services: Programmer – Second One-Year Extension
6. Equipment Contract: Technology Education Furniture and Equipment – Two-and-One-Half Year Bid
7. Food Service: Equipment
8. Music: School Instrument Repair Services
9. Paper: Computer
10. Printing: Continuous Forms
11. Curriculum: Elementary Math Kits

CONTRACT AWARDS (Cont.)

12. Library Services: Security System

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee, represented by Mr. Kennedy, recommended approval of items 1-22. The Board approved these recommendations. Mr. Hayden abstained from discussion and voting on item 10.

1. ADA Ramps – Maiden Choice School
2. Window Replacement – Ridge Ruxton Center
3. Systemic Renovations – White Oak School
4. Hazardous Material Abatement – Winand Elementary School
5. Locker Replacement – Middle River Middle School
6. Fee Acceptance – Design and Construction Administration Services for Reroofing Project – Hereford Middle School
7. Fee Acceptance – Design and Construction Administration Services for Reroofing Project – Lansdowne Middle School
8. Fee Acceptance – Design and Construction Administration Services for Reroofing Project – Overlea High School
9. Fee Acceptance – Design and Construction Administration Services for Reroofing Project – Perry Hall Elementary School
10. Fee Acceptance – Construction Inspection Services – Various Elementary Schools
11. Fee Acceptance – Roofing Inspection Services – Various Schools
12. Change Order – Design Services for New Addition – Woodlawn High School
13. Change Order – Systemic Renovations – Battle Monument School
14. Change Order – Science Room Renovations – Dulaney High School
15. Change Order – Window Replacement – Norwood Elementary School

BUILDING COMMITTEE (Cont.)

16. Change Order – Science Room Renovations – Woodlawn High School
17. Change Order – Major Maintenance Renovation Project – Cromwell Valley Elementary Regional Magnet School
18. Change Order – Major Maintenance Renovation Project – McCormick Elementary School
19. Change Order – Major Maintenance Renovation Project – Milbrook Elementary School
20. Change Order – Major Maintenance Renovation Project – Powhatan Elementary School
21. Change Order – Major Maintenance Renovation Project - Woodbridge Elementary School

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Rule 3611 – Tuition Fees
- B. Field Trips and Foreign Travel.

Mr. Arnold announced there would be no public comment this evening because of the power outage and that those persons signed up to address the Board would be given first opportunity to do so at the next meeting.

As a result of the power outage, Mr. Walker moved to adjourn the open session at 9:07 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sasiadek and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Robert Haines
Deputy Superintendent
Business Services