

## APPROVED MINUTES

### BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 5:47 p.m. at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Miss Francesca Cirincione, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymiski, Mr. John Hayden, III, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, and Ms. Joy Shillman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Mr. Sasiadek reminded Board members of upcoming functions for May and June 2004.

Mr. Sasiadek announced MABE's Summer Leadership Conference would be held in June. Board members interested in attending are to contact Ms. Stiffler.

Dr. Hayman entered the room at 5:50 p.m.

Mr. Sasiadek also announced CUBE's Issue Seminar to take place June 25-27 in Baltimore, Maryland.

Mr. Walker entered the room at 5:54 p.m.

Mr. Charles Herndon, Acting Director, Office of Communications, provided an update to the Board on the Randallstown High School shooting that occurred on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Herndon noted that an informational meeting has been scheduled for parents of children attending Randallstown High School for Wednesday, May 19, 2004.

Ms. Murray entered the room at 6:05 p.m.

Mr. Arnold complimented staff for their quick response to the incident.

Ms. Jung asked what the SRO's work day is relating to school functions. Mr. Herndon responded SRO's are not required to be at the school after school hours. He noted that the schedule for SRO's at Randallstown High School has been modified to address concerns.

Ms. Ettinger noted the importance of ensuring camera equipment is operational throughout the school system. Mr. Herndon responded that interior and exterior cameras installed last spring at Randallstown High School are state of the art.

Dr. Hayman expressed concern over the confusion for the informational meeting date. Mr. Herndon responded that a press release was issue this afternoon.

Dr. Hairston commended the police department, fire department, and critical response team for their diligence in handling the situation.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES (cont)

At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Hayden moved the Board go into closed session to discuss personnel matters and to conduct matters related to the negotiations pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1) and (a)(9). The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Mr. Randy Grimsley, Executive Director of Human Resources, reviewed with Board members personnel matters to be considered this evening.

Mr. Grimsley and Mr. Dan Capozzi, Manager of Human Resources, reviewed with Board members matters relating to negotiations with the bargaining units.

Dr. Hayman left the room at 6:50 p.m.

At 6:51 p.m., Mr. Kennedy moved the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was second by Ms. Murray and approved by the Board. The Board hosted members of the Baltimore County Student Council Executive Board for dinner.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 7:49 p.m. at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Miss Francesca Cirincione, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzynski, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, Ms. Joy Shillman, and Mr. James Walker. 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 Kyle Broderick, student at Franklin High School, and a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

Mr. Sasiadek welcomed Dr. Nancy Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools.

Dr. Hairston noted one adjustment to the agenda for this evening's meeting. Under section VII, New Business, Dr. Hairston added item F, Resolution on High School Assessments (HSA).

MINUTES

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Open and Closed Minutes of March 23, 2004. Mr. Sasiadek declared the minutes approved as presented on the website.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston noted the Student Council Association of Perry Hall High School was awarded the Felix Simon Award for Leadership and Services by the Maryland Association of Student Councils at the State Convention held in Ocean City, Maryland in April. This was the first time that a Baltimore County school has achieved this prestigious award.

Dr. Hairston announced that Baltimore County Public Schools has been named one of the Best 100 Communities for Music Education in America for 2004. This prestigious honor is based on the curricular offerings, student enrollment in music, enrichment programs, and community involvement in music education in the school system. Dr. Hairston commended Ms. Christine Johns, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction and Ms. Jamie Tucker, Music Coordinator, for this outstanding accomplishment.

Dr. Hairston also reported that Miss Shawtair Thompson, Dundalk High School and Sollers Point Technical School senior, has been selected to receive the Women of Tomorrow Award by the Maryland Commission for Women, the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland, and the American Association of University Women. Miss Thomas received this award based on her outstanding performance and service to the community.

Dr. Hairston remarked that the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation Team supported BCPS with a donation of softball and baseball equipment. He thanked the Foundation for its generous donation in support of education.

Other recent activities attended by the Superintendent include TABCO Awards and Retirement Program, Career & Technology Awards Program, and the Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce Award of Excellence Program.

Dr. Hairston noted his attendance at the Baltimore County Student Council Annual Bull Roast on Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

COMMENTS BY DR. NANCY GRASMICK

Dr. Hairston welcomed Dr. Nancy Grasmick, State Superintendent of Schools, to this evening's meeting. Joining Dr. Grasmick was Dr. Gary Health, Technical Expert with the Maryland State Department of Education. Dr. Grasmick commended this Board for their goals including overcoming student achievement gaps. She provided background information on the proposed high school assessment (HSA) graduation requirements. Dr. Grasmick announced the public hearing on May 25, 2004 from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the State Department of Education.

Dr. Grasmick announced she would be meeting with the College Board President, Gaston Caperton and Governor Ehrlich to improve participation and performance in the Advanced Placement (AP) testing program. She noted achievement acceleration by minorities in advance placement classes was 41% in one year. Students are achieving 3, 4, and 5 on advanced placement. Dr. Grasmick stated the school system needs to see students articulate in high school and be enabled to move forward onto higher education. She noted the technical documentation for the HSA is available on the MSDE website. Dr. Grasmick also remarked that the State Board has adopted a resolution to convene a task force to examine comparable alternative assessment and report out by September 2007. The State Board has projected the linkage to occur for the first students in 2009. She noted that the State Board would reexamine the data in 2008. At the conclusion of the report, Dr. Grasmick commented that the State received \$326 million this year for public education with a projected \$390 million next year.

Mr. Walker asked for clarification on closing the achievement gap. Dr. Grasmick responded the referencing of advanced placement classes, examinations and passage of those examinations. She noted the focus on African-American students and overcoming the achievement gap. Mr. Walker expressed the concern of parents regarding the HSA. He stated the assumption of parents is minority students would be placed farther behind. Dr. Grasmick responded intervention opportunities must be offered to students to improve their performance. She noted that students' work must be examined; a student's work reveals how the student has processed instruction. Regarding the alternate assessment, Dr. Grasmick responded the alternate assessment is primarily for special education.

Mr. Grzymiski asked about the status of other states in the HSA requirement process. Dr. Grasmick responded the State of Massachusetts has linked the HSA to the diploma and found in the first round that a number of students did not pass. She noted that once students took the test seriously and interventions were put in place, the number diminished tremendously.

Mr. Hayden stated that during the first round of assessment testing, less than half of the students and less than a quarter of African-American students passed the assessment tests. He noted the value of the assessment program would provide direction in areas that need to be addressed. Mr. Hayden raised the concern that the assessments are focused on four subject areas. The concern is around a tier of students that are not college bound. Students are provided course work in 21 areas yet are focusing on four areas. Mr. Hayden asked whether the State Board has considered more than four subject areas to require students to broaden into other areas. Dr. Grasmick responded the goal would be to increase the standard as well as increase the number of

COMMENTS BY DR. NANCY GRASMICK (cont)

assessments. She noted that the State will begin with four subject areas for the assessment at the high school level to maintain competence for the high school diploma.

Mr. Kennedy inquired about reliability and validity of the assessment tests. Dr. Heath responded that the first piece is to ensure that the test measures the content. He noted that an outside vendor would look at core learning goals and tests, then verify whether the tests validate the contents. Dr. Heath commented on the amount of data available to back up validity and reliability. Mr. Kennedy asked about item analysis. Dr. Heath responded the analysis is available and published on the MSDE website. He also noted the MSDE is looking at formative tools that are aligned with summative tools to produce specific item analysis or data. Dr. Heath noted that sub scores for this year have been published. In regards to the availability of the formative tool, Dr. Heath responded the data could be available as early as the fall of 2004.

Mr. Sasiadek inquired about the timelines for the release of the technical manual. Dr. Heath responded the technical manual is accessible on the website at [www.marylandpublicschools.org](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org) and click on "Division."

Ms. Ettinger asked for clarification on linkage should the State Board approve the assessments in 2008 for seniors in 2009. Dr. Grasmick responded the assessment would affect current 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Ms. Ettinger inquired about the availability of the formative tool in 2004 for all four subject areas. Dr. Heath responded that test forms have been released for 2000 through 2003. The issue is placing the information into a management tool by a vendor for school systems to review the data. Dr. Grasmick stated the tools would be in place for grades 3 to 8 and high school level so that teachers would benefit from the data as early as possible. In regards to a comparable alternative assessment, Dr. Grasmick responded the State Board adopted a resolution and will report out in 2007.

Ms. Ettinger noted a State Board resolution #99-1 that referenced the linkage between the availability of funding for intervention and linkage of the diploma to testing. She asked how much money the State Department and LEA's received that year. Dr. Grasmick responded it was probably less than \$30 million. Ms. Ettinger asked what has been made available in the intervening years between 1999 and 2003-2004 school years. She stated that had school systems received monies in 1999, students would be well prepared to take the assessment tests. Dr. Grasmick responded that the *Bridge to Excellence* legislation provided the additional funding beginning in 2003-2004. She stated there have been increases in public education since 1999.

Ms. Ettinger inquired about drop-out and drop-out prevention. She raised the concern that students would have difficulty in passing these assessment tests and receiving a diploma. Dr. Grasmick responded that Thornton money would be used for interventions. She noted that individual student profiles and data would provide the necessary information to put interventions in place.

COMMENTS BY DR. NANCY GRASMICK (cont)

Mr. Arnold asked how often the assessment tests would change going forward. Dr. Grasmick responded the tests would be calibrated against the curriculum. Any shift in the curriculum would require a re-alignment of the tests.

Mr. Sasiadek thanked Dr. Grasmick and Dr. Heath for coming this evening.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT OF MARCH 23, 2004

Mr. Grimsley recognized Ms. Hope C. Baier, whose appointment to Assistant Principal at Seventh District Elementary School was approved at the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

**Report on Proposed 2005-2006 School Calendar (First Reading)** – Dr. George Poff, Assistant to the Superintendent, Governmental Relations, reviewed the process behind the development of the school calendar. Dr. Poff commented that the official calendar as noted in Exhibit B and the School Information Calendar (also known as the “refrigerator calendar”) are different. He noted the official calendar addresses dates when schools are opened or closed. The informational calendar deals with a broad and comprehensive range of information, such as advisory council meetings and various religious holidays. Dr. Poff stated the official calendar meets the legal requirements of both days and hours and instructional time and reflects school closings. BCPS builds its school calendar with seven inclement weather days added to the schedule. When these days are not needed for inclement weather, up to five days are deducted from the school calendar.

Dr. Poff stated that the observances of high-holy days are noted in the School Information Calendar. He indicated that students would be informed through social studies instruction of the rich and various cultures and practices observed by their many schoolmates in Baltimore County.

Finally, Dr. Poff stated that Superintendent’s Rule 5120 reflects to the word COMAR regulations of observance of religious holidays as lawful and excusable absence for those students.

In response to a question by Mr. Walker, Dr. Poff responded there are three full staff professional development days for teachers.

Mr. Kennedy inquired about kindergarten closure times for teachers to meet with parents. Dr. Poff responded these are two days and they are indicated on the calendar.

REPORTS (cont)

Ms. Murray noted that the Muslim community had attended previous Board meetings to recognize two Muslim holidays. She inquired as to whether the policy has been communicated to the schools in addressing this issue. Dr. Poff responded that adherence to Rule 5120, which speaks to lawful absence coding, notes that a legal absence is indeed the observance of a religious holiday. He noted that the school system needs to ensure this rule is being routinely administered across all schools in Baltimore County.

Ms. Ettinger asked whether lawful and excusable absences count against perfect attendance. Dr. Poff responded his office is looking into the process to see if the phrase "perfect attendance" exists in policy. He commented that "perfect attendance" appears to be more practice than policy. Ms. Ettinger inquired whether action would need to be taken on this issue at the State level. Dr. Poff responded there has been dialogue with the State Department noting the State is willing to discuss this issue further.

Ms. Jung noted two religious terms used on the official calendar. She asked if holidays can be incorporated onto this calendar without reference to religions. Dr. Poff responded the calendar could state "schools closed." He stated the same standard was utilized as in previous Board calendars, which were based upon the fact that the absence rate was high among student population. Ms. Jung requested the calendar committee consider removing the two religious terms on the calendar.

Mr. Sasiadek voiced his concern about the number of times BCPS does not have a full week of school.

Mr. Walker asked if the "refrigerator" calendar includes the Muslim holidays. Dr. Poff responded affirmatively. Mr. Walker inquired about the recognition of Muslim holidays. Dr. Poff responded the dialogue began with recognition of two Muslim holidays. The recognition then changed to requesting these two holidays be observed and added to the school calendar. He stated the calendar committee recommended to the Superintendent not adding the holidays at this time in order to meet the number of days and hours required by the state.

Mr. Sasiadek announced that public comment on the calendar would take place on May 25<sup>th</sup>, with a Board vote on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

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

### NEGOTIATIONS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the negotiated master agreement with CASE as presented on Exhibit G.

### CONTRACT AWARDS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved items 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 and 15 (Exhibit H). Mr. Kennedy separated items 1 and 6. Ms. Shillman separated items 7, 10, and 11.

2. Computer Assisted Real Time (CART)
3. Contracted Services—MD K-12 Digital Library Project – Purchasing Consortium
4. Contracted Services—Food Service Kitchen Equipment Maintenance
5. Contracted Services—*Maryland Students Online Consortium* (MSOC) – Purchasing Consortium
8. Food Service—Produce
9. Gizmos, Internet Library of Science and Mathematics Activities
  
12. Scholastic *ReadingLine Vocabulary Kit* Curriculum Materials
13. Supply Contract—Various Airedale HVAC Repair and Replacement Parts
14. Supply of Electrical Energy (Advanced Authorization)
15. Toro Infield Pro Model 2020 Groomer

#### Item 1

Mr. Kennedy asked who selects the substituted position. Mr. Johnnie Jackson, Personnel Officer, responded a teacher can identify a specific person for a job assignment by using PIN numbers that are assigned to each substitute.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved item 1.

1. Automated Substitute Teacher Notification System

#### Item 6

Dr. Krempel explained this item is an extension of an existing contract for the intercom systems used in various schools. This state-of-the-art audio system would be used to communicate to every classroom in every school.

In regards to a question from Mr. Hayden, Dr. Krempel responded installation would take place in stages over a five-year period replacing existing units.

Ms. Jung requested a copy of the priority list for replacement of intercom systems in various schools.

CONTRACTS (cont)

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Murray, the Board approved item 6.

6. Equipment Contract—Intercom/Telephone Systems

Item 7

Ms. Shillman asked whether the 4% shipping charge was correct with Mr. Nichols responding affirmatively. On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Shillman, the Board approved item 7.

7. *Fast Track* Intervention Materials for Designated Elementary Schools

Item 10

Ms. Shillman inquired whether parents would receive a report for their child. Dr. Jerry Dalton, Director of Accountability, Research, and Testing, responded the *No Child Left Behind Act* mandates that parents be notified of their child's progress on an annual basis. Due to the increasing amount of student testing and the number of man-hours it would take to distribute the report, it is more efficient to use an automated system.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Murray, the Board approved item 10.

10. Maryland State Assessment Home Report Distribution

Item 11

Ms. Shillman asked if the printing was for new student handbooks. Dr. Jean Satterfield, Executive Director of Student Support Services, responded every year parents and students must be apprised of their rights and our responsibility as a school system.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Murray, the Board approved item 11.

11. Printing—Student Handbooks

### BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee, represented by Mr. Kennedy, recommended approval of items 1-6 (Exhibits I through N). The Board approved these recommendations. Mr. Arnold abstained from voting on item 5 (Exhibit M).

1. Award of Contract – Window Replacement at Riverview Elementary School
2. Award of Contract – Drywall Package at Woodholme Elementary School
3. Award of Contract – Lighting Upgrades at Franklin Elementary, Old Court Middle, and Randallstown High Schools
4. Award of Contract – Parking Lot Lighting at Battle Grove Elementary and Dumbarton Middle Schools
5. Fee Acceptance – Construction Management Services at Windsor Mill Middle School
6. Declare Property Surplus – Farmland Tenant House

### BUDGET APPROPRIATION TRANSFER

On motion of Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Board approved a Budget Appropriation Transfer in the amount of \$5,095,000.

### RESOLUTION ON HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

On motion of Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Ettinger, the Board voted to adopt the High School Assessments resolution.

Mr. Hayden noted this resolution is aimed at measuring the performance of each school and not particular students at its early stages of implementation. He was delighted to hear Dr. Grasmick's comment that there is consideration of increasing the number of tests to be administered to students over a period of time. He would be anxious to hear how the State Board will develop the concept in the days and weeks ahead. Mr. Hayden suggested deleting the section referencing the technical manual since Dr. Grasmick noted the information has been released and accessible on the MSDE website. Mr. Sasiadek stated he would like to verify the information before removing this section from this resolution.

Mr. Hayden raised the concern that school systems will narrow the focus on the four core subject areas. He also voiced the concern that it appears constituent groups are not fully aware of what is happening. Mr. Hayden desires to have the State continue to explore this area and seek communication opportunities with constituent groups and other boards of education.

Mr. Kennedy stated Dr. Grasmick answered a number of his questions and he is comfortable with the process.

RESOLUTION ON HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (cont)

Ms. Ettinger stated forward movement has taken place in addressing some of the concerns that have been raised over the years. It is high stakes for school systems but higher stakes for students.

Mr. Grzynski stated he was delighted to see communication has been part of the resolution. He also noted there are parents who are unaware of the HSA and the requirements that will be imposed on their children.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Rule 6104 – INSTRUCTION: Field Trip and Foreign Travel
- B. Policy and Procedures for Interscholastic Athletics
- C. Manual of Procedures for Public Charter Schools in Baltimore County

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Sasiadek made the following announcements:

- On Thursday, May 13, 2004, the Board will hold its annual recognition program for National Merit Semifinalists and Ethic Award winners at Cockeysville Middle School at 7:00 p.m.
- The Southeast Area Educational Advisory Council will meet on Tuesday, May 18, 2004 at Chesapeake Terrace Elementary School at approximately 7:30 p.m.
- Maryland State Board of Education has announced that the public hearing on the proposed High School Graduation Requirements will be held on Tuesday, May 25, 2004 starting at 1:00 p.m. at the State Education Building, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be held on Tuesday, May 25, 2004, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:00 p.m. After the Board adjourns to meet in closed session, followed by a brief dinner recess, the open meeting will reconvene at approximately 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome at all open sessions.
- The Baltimore County Board of Education will meet for a public hearing to seek public input about FY2006 Capital Budget needs in Baltimore County Public Schools on Thursday, June 10, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the ESS Building. Sign-up for the public to comment will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Sasiadek reminded speakers to refrain from discussing any matters that might come before the board in the form of an appeal, as well as any personnel matters.

### STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Ms. Maggie Kennedy, Chair of the Baltimore County Education Coalition, applauded the resolution adopted by the Board this evening. She noted her thoughts and prayers are with the Randallstown High School community. Ms. Kennedy thanked Ms. Kelli Nelson for graciously leading the meeting with the County Council representatives. She noted that on March 29<sup>th</sup> the coalition members traveled to Annapolis to meet with the delegation in support of the retired/rehired program. Ms. Kennedy invited Mr. Tony Armiger to speak. Mr. Armiger, President of the Loch Raven High School PTSA, stated effective teachers need to be knowledgeable in their subject and click with their students. He noted that retired/rehired educators click with the students and are extremely knowledgeable. Mr. Armiger offered two proposals: 1) offer part-time positions to retired/rehired educators, or 2) hire full-time retired/rehired educators. The goal is to retain as many highly qualified educators within the system as possible.

Mr. Chris Castillo, Parliamentarian of the Baltimore County Student Councils (BCSC), thanked the Board for dinner this evening. He also thanked Dr. Hairston for swearing in BCSC's new officers at the recent bull roast. Chris shared some of the recognitions announced at the event. Mr. Castillo thanked the county advisors and principals for their continued support and dedication to BCSC.

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, a representative of the Citizens Advisory Committee for Special Education, commented that she was one of the two parents on the committee who assisted with the special education staffing plan. The main objective of this staffing plan was to make it as parent friendly as possible. Ms. Shriver thanked Ms. Christina Connelly from the Office of Special Education who was instrumental in the preparation of the plan. She noted that on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, three additional community meetings were held so parents could provide input on the plan. Most of the parents did not address the staffing plan with the exception of the 9 to 1 autism ratio. Ms. Shriver stated this staffing plan is the result of genuine and meaningful communication and collaboration between parents and the Office of Special Education.

Ms. Meg O'Hare, Chair of the Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council, reminded Board members and the public about the first elementary science fair to be held May 21-22 at New Town High School. She thanked Dr. H.B. Lantz, Ms. Connie Flowers, and Mr. David Copenhaver for their outstanding work in preparation for the science fair. Ms. O'Hare stated every student would receive a clear plastic button with a microscope emblem on it and a package would be distributed to parents with the schedule of events. Ms. O'Hare also noted her recent attendance at the Essex, Middle River, White Marsh Chamber of Commerce breakfast.

Ms. Abby Beytin, Chair of the Northwest Area Educational Advisory Council, noted the recent advisory council meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup> with the topic being High School Assessments. She stated that Mr. Rex Shepard, Supervisor of Secondary Social Studies, provided a thorough, thoughtful presentation with many facts, figures, and information about the high school assessment program. Ms. Beytin mentioned that parents with elementary age children are not aware of the changes being proposed for their children's high school graduation requirements. She spoke of the need to disseminate information to the parents at the elementary level so they can be informed for the future.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS (cont)

Mr. Michael Franklin, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, noted that the PTA council hosted its annual celebration of the arts on April 29<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Board member Jung for her attendance at the celebration. Mr. Franklin announced the annual awards ceremony "A Night of Shining Stars" to be held on May 20<sup>th</sup>. In regards to the Randallstown incident, Mr. Franklin thanked Principal Thomas Evans and the emergency personnel in the county for their quick response to the school. He stated that the counselors were also a tremendous help to the students.

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, thanked the Board for their attendance at TABCO's reception last week. She noted that at the recent Retirement/Recognition Dinner, Ms. Ettinger was honored. Ms. Bost reviewed the many events that took place this past week honoring teachers. She stated that TABCO sends their thoughts and prayers to victims and families in the Randallstown community and is confident staff will do what it takes to handle the situation. Ms. Bost commended the faculty and students at Randallstown High School for showing the community the strength to go back to school. In closing, Ms. Bost congratulated Ms. Sharon Grimes for being named Teacher of the Year for 2004.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED SPECIAL EDUCATION STAFFING PLAN FOR  
2004-2005 (Second Reading)

No one signed up to speak on the proposed staffing plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Greg Franke, freshman at Loch Raven High School, expressed his concern over the sunset date for retired/rehired teachers. He noted the positive impact his Spanish teacher and principal have made at the school. Greg commented on the teacher's enthusiasm and love for teaching. As a member of the Future Educators of America club, Greg stated it is important that educators be given the opportunity to teach where and when they want to teach.

Mr. Tony Armiger, President of the Loch Raven High School PTSA, stated his intent is to offer support to the Board and offer the teachers full time instead of part time. Mr. Armiger expressed his concern that retired/rehired educators would transfer to other counties, whereby BCPS would suffer the loss of highly qualified teachers.

Mr. Preston Reeves, Senior Class President at Loch Raven High School, urged the Board to consider Mr. Armiger's proposal. He noted that Loch Raven High School would also lose the principal of Loch Raven High School as well as the department chairpersons in World Language and Science. Preston noted the principal has always provided a friendly, approachable atmosphere for students around the school.

PUBLIC COMMENT (cont)

Ms. Janice deConge, a parent of a student at Randallstown High School, spoke about the Randallstown High School incident that occurred on May 7<sup>th</sup>. She noted that students at the high school come from surrounding communities such as Pikesville and Owings Mills. Ms. deConge thanked Board member Walker for coming to the school on Monday for the parent meeting. Parents and families are hurting from this tragedy. Ms. deConge stated parents are asking for communication. She requests that cameras be fixed and a high security level be maintained until the end of the school year. Ms. deConge also commented on an injured student's remark that he was not being academically challenged in the school. Students need to be more academically challenged. She requested the Board to put resources where there is a need when preparing the budget.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:37 p.m., Mr. Arnold moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayden and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joe A. Hairston  
Secretary-Treasurer

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