

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, March 22, 2005

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 5:37 p.m. at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Mr. Luis E. Borunda, Mr. Nicholas P. Camp, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymiski, Ms. Frances A.S. Harris, Dr. Warren Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, and Ms. Joy Shillman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

President Sasiadek reminded Board members of community functions scheduled for March and April as well as Board of Education events.

Mr. Sasiadek welcomed Dr. Carl Smith and Kitty Blumsack from Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE). Board members completed the Key Work Survey for MABE.

At 5:59 p.m., Mr. Kennedy moved the Board go into closed session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1). The motion was seconded by Mr. Janssen and unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Dr. Donald Peccia, Executive Director of Human Resources, reviewed appointments to be considered this evening with Board members.

At 6:17 p.m., Mr. Janssen moved the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Ms. Shillman and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:39 p.m. at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Mr. Luis E. Borunda, Mr. Nicholas P. Camp, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymiski, Ms. Frances A.S. Harris, Mr. John Hayden, III, Dr. Warren Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, and Ms. Joy Shillman. 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 Kerry Church, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

MINUTES

Mr. Camp requested a correction of gender in the Board of Education Open and Closed Minutes of February 22, 2005, Mr. Sasiadek declared the minutes approved as corrected on the website.

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

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Mr. Mike German, Baltimore County Student Council President, reported on BCSC general assembly on March 10th and discussed plans for the upcoming high school summit.

Mr. Michael Moore, Chair of the Central Area Educational Advisory Council, announced its meeting on April 14th hosting a panel discussion on gifted and talented programs.

Mr. Walter Hayes, Chair of the Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council, reported on the discussion of Cognos at its last meeting and additional history field trips. He expressed concern over the enforcement of liability insurance when utilizing school facilities.

Mr. Stephen Crum, a Southeast Area Educational Advisory Council representative, reported on various new projects countywide including a new 1,800 housing unit in the southeast area.

Mr. Michael Franklin, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, announced the M-PAC (Maryland Parent Advisory Council) public forum to be held on March 24 at New Town High School.

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, Chair of the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee, commended Dr. Hairston for his move forward on outlining mandates for special education achievements.

Mr. Ronald Watson, a representative of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, reported on its meeting, which included the quality of county and State education programs, *No Child Left Behind Act*, and *Blueprint for Progress*.

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, reflected on the Minnesota community school tragedy. Ms. Bost also announced the celebration of National Teacher Day and TABCO's Retirement and Recognition dinner on May 3, 2005.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston shared a news clip from the BCSC general assembly meeting in March to Board members.

At the Statewide Black Saga Competition, Dr. Hairston recognized the following elementary schools that placed first, second, and third: Deep Creek, Cromwell Valley, and Battle Grove Elementary Schools, respectively. In the middle school division, teams from Loch Raven and Franklin placed in the top ten.

Other activities attended by Dr. Hairston were the Model United Nations Conference at Towson University, where 80 BCPS students worked through a model representation of the United Nations focusing on genocide; Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) workshop at the College of Notre Dame; Reading Makes Cents kick-off at Perry Hall Middle School; Blue Ribbon Ceremony in Annapolis honoring Sparks Elementary School and the other 2005 award winners; and the Essex-Middle River-White Marsh Chamber of Commerce breakfast where students participated on a panel responding to various issues.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director of Human Resources, recognized the administrative appointments approved at the March 8, 2005 Board meeting as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Mr. Kenneth Dickson (Effective March 9, 2005)	Assistant Director, Special and Gifted Education Services Norfolk Public Schools	Coordinator of Gifted and Talented Education and Magnet Programs Department of Special Programs, PreK-12
Ms. Kelly J. Erdman (Effective March 9, 2005)	Teacher/Social Studies Loch Raven High School	Assistant Principal Towson High School
Mr. Andrew D. Last (Effective March 9, 2005)	Teacher/Spanish Hereford High School	Assistant Principal Dulaney High School
Mr. John S. Palmer (Effective March 9, 2005)	Teacher/Technology Integration New Town Elementary School	Assistant Principal Franklin Elementary School
Mr. Brian G. Stoll (Effective March 9, 2005)	Teacher/Resource Department of Special Programs, PreK-12	Supervisor, Magnet Schools Department of Special Programs, PreK-12

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Recognition of March as Professional Social Work Month** – On motion of Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Board adopted a resolution proclaiming March 2005 as National Social Work Month.
- B. **Reported on Proposed Board Meeting Schedule, 2005-2006** – Mr. Sasiadek reviewed the proposed Board meeting dates for the upcoming year with Board members. Ms. Sasiadek noted that the Board will vote on the proposed schedule at the April 12, 2005 Board meeting.
- C. **Report on Proposed Changes to Policy 3125** – Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Executive Director of Fiscal Services, reviewed with the Board the proposed changes to Policy 3125. She noted the changes aligning policy and rule are consistent with business practices.

Mr. Sasiadek stated these changes were presented to the Budget & Audit and Policy Adhoc committees.

- D. **Report on Proposed Changes to Policy 4004** – Mr. Dale Rauenzahn, Executive Director of Student Support Services, provided an overview of the proposed changes to the Board. This policy was revised by a committee of interagency partners and applies to employees and groups not seen as employees such as substitutes, volunteers, student teachers, and student interns. He also noted the policy was expanded to include neglect and inappropriate behavior, which includes verbal abuse.

With regards to Rule 4004, Mr. Hayden expressed concern over the length of steps and numerous reports that need to occur. He suggested that the rule be reviewed, consider truncating the process, and look at other jurisdictions with regard to the process.

In regards to a question from Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Rauenzahn responded the process cannot be shortened due to the need to investigate with interagency partners. Mr. Rauenzahn noted the process described in the policy and rule is a legal process that BCPS must go through with the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the police department. Mr. Rauenzahn stated there are only three reports required and that these reports are repeated throughout the text of Rule 4004.

With regards to Policy 4004, Mr. Kennedy asked how the school system addresses the conduct of a contractor. Mr. Rauenzahn responded since the contractor is not a direct employee, this issue would be handled by the police department. The school system must report any issues with non-employees verbally to the police department within 24 hours and in writing within 48 hours of the incident.

REPORTS (cont)

Ms. Shillman asked for clarification on parental involvement.

Ms. Johnson shared an article that references the underreporting of child abuse including lack of data. Ms. Johnson inquired about the process when a child suspects abuse and to whom can they turn for assistance. Mr. Rauenzahn responded the Executive Directors of Schools and the Department of Human Resources move rapidly by looking into the incident and determining what precautions can be taken immediately. Mr. Rauenzahn noted the school system's ability to investigate is limited because of the policy and DSS investigations. He stated students can seek help through social workers and guidance counselors at every school and through community workers.

Dr. Hayman was troubled over the reporting process and hopes the necessary paperwork and time in terms of responding could be reduced. Mr. Rauenzahn stated there are major changes in the process which reflect the law and the practice of the school system to ensure students are safe. Dr. Hayman stated the school system has a responsibility to discuss issues with its partners and improve the process.

With regards to Ms. Shillman's question, Mr. Rauenzahn responded that by law the school system is required to train every employee on the process of reporting abuse.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

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

CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Mr. Kennedy, recommended approval of items 1 through 12 (Exhibit J). Mr. Janssen separated item 2 and 3 for further discussion.

Dr. Hayman asked how the two schools being recommended for window blind replacement on the list. Mr. Sines responded there was insufficient funding to include all renovation components under the original Perks Reuter report. Therefore, schools were identified based on age of building and State matching funds. Dr. Hayman requested a priority list of schools scheduled for window and blind replacement.

Ms. Shillman requested clarification on the process for determining which schools receive State funding.

CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

With regards to item 2, Mr. Janssen asked how the services were funded last year. Ms. Phyllis Bailey, Executive Director of Special Programs, PreK-12, responded the trial period has ended and the process is now being formalized.

With regards to item 3, Mr. Janssen inquired about the fairly small cost. Mr. Gay responded this contract establishes spending authority from the Board should stage curtains need replacing or cleaning.

The Board approved items 1 through 12.

1. Contract: Benchmark Assessment Program and Related Services
2. Multi-media Web-based Instructional Materials
3. Stage Curtains – Provide, Clean, Repair, and Install Stage Curtains & Systems, Track, Scrim & Parts and Materials-Hardware
4. Title I – Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore City and the Board of Education of Baltimore County
5. Water Treatment for Critical Equipment
6. Window and Blind Replacement at Halstead Academy
7. Interior Lighting Upgrade at Loch Raven Academy
8. Fire Alarm System Upgrade at McCormick Elementary School
9. Window and Blind Replacement at Pot Spring Elementary School
10. Window and Blind Replacement at Powhatan Elementary School
11. Various Construction Packages at Windsor Mill Middle School
12. Contract Modification: Systemic Renovations at Stemmers Run Middle School

LEGISLATION UPDATE

On motion of Mr. Grzymiski, seconded by Mr. Janssen, the Board voted to support SB 834 – Pilot Program to Study and Improve Screening Practices for Autism Spectrum Disorders (Cross file of 579).

On motion of Mr. Grzymiski, seconded by Mr. Janssen, the Board voted to support SB 939 – Education – State Aid for Public Elementary and Secondary Education – Trigger Provision – Repeal (Cross file of 560).

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Rule 4004 – PERSONNEL: General - Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect of a Student by an Employee of the Baltimore County Public Schools
- B. Revised Rule 5140 – STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance
- C. Revised Rule 6114 – INSTRUCTION: Elementary and Secondary – Schedules: Severe Weather
- D. Revised Rule 8132 – INTERNAL BOARD POLICIES: Organization – Control and Communications

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Sasiadek made the following announcements:

- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing on the proposed boundaries for Woodholme Elementary School on Wednesday, March 23, 2005 at Pikesville High School beginning at approximately 7:00 p.m. Sign-up for the public to comment begins at 6:00 p.m. Each speaker would be allotted three minutes to present their topic to the Board.
- Schools and offices will be closed for Spring Break from March 25 – April 1, 2005. Schools and offices will reopen on Monday, April 4, 2005.
- The Northwest Area Educational Advisory Council will meet on Thursday, April 7, 2005 at Randallstown Elementary School.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2005, 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 Board will host the Area Educational Advisory Council for dinner on April 12, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Muhammad Jameel asked the Board to consider approving two Muslim holidays on the school calendar.

Ms. Almira Contractor requested the Board add two Muslim holidays to the school calendar.

Mr. Qutub Syed requested that the Board add two Muslim holidays to the school calendar.

Mr. Saif Syed, a student, stated the school system needs to be proactive and asked the Board to add the two Muslim holidays to the school calendar.

Dr. Bash Pharoan expressed concern over the calendar committee members. He believes the calendar committee is the responsibility of parents and students first, teachers second, and school administrators third.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:49 p.m., Mr. Arnold moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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