

APPROVED MINUTES

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2007 CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Wednesday, May 25, 2005
Greenwood

Board President, Mr. James R. Sasiadek called the hearing to order at 7:02 p.m. In addition to Mr. Sasiadek, the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, 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, staff members, as well as media were present.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

1. Mr. Cubby F. Brown, Community College of Baltimore County Academic Adviser – Address testing levels. He stated that more students from the west side of the county are testing at remedial levels. Students need higher skills to move into college level science and math courses. He is asking BCPS align curriculum better to close gaps.

Dr. Hayman suggested that Mr. Brown forward his concerns in writing to the Office of Curriculum and Instruction.

2. Ms. Suzanne DeMallie – Requests the Board include in the budget allocation the purchase of classroom sound enhancement systems. She stated that BCPS needs to improve acoustics through the use of improved sound systems. Ms. DeMallie provided to the Board a copy of a letter from MSDE, which states MSDE believes good acoustics is critical for the success of a diverse student body. She noted the most reasonable way to address the acoustics issue is to purchase sound systems at \$1,000 per classroom plus \$200 installation.
3. Ms. Amanda Toombs – Requests the Board consider purchasing classroom sound enhancement systems. She stated her daughter was not doing well in school until she received preferential seating in second grade. Now her daughter is in third grade and preferential seating is not in place because her daughter does not have a diagnosed disability.
4. Mr. Kenn Macintosh, Special Education Liaison – Requests that the Board budget include classroom sound enhancement systems. Mr. Macintosh stated that studies have shown that background noises affect students with disabilities. He believes this is a simple cost affective way to reduce spending for special education.
5. Mr. Derek Maki, Athletic Director at Kenwood High School – Requests funding to renovate Kenwood High School's team rooms. Mr. Maki noted that other issues with the team rooms are: poor air quality, lockers are broken and too small, rooms need to be painted, rooms flood, and electrical systems are in bad condition.

6. Dominic Goodwyn, a student at Milford Mill Academy – Requests funding to increase the band room at Milford Mill Academy. He stated the band room is too small.
7. Candice Smith, a student at Milford Mill Academy – Requests additional space for the school's band room. She stated there is limited space for students and instruments.
8. Kiara Carter, a student at Milford Mill Academy – Requests additional space for school's band room. She stated that students are accomplishing a lot but need a bigger room. A larger space in need to practice, and instruments are at risk for damage.
9. Kori Bennett, a student at Milford Mill Academy – Requests a bigger band room for Milford Mill Academy. She believes if students work hard academically then they should receive a bigger band room. Instruments are being placed in areas where they could be damaged.
10. Robert Royster, a student at Milford Mill Academy – Requests the Board fund a new band storage area. He stated instruments are stored on the floor and can be easily damaged. Some instruments sitting in the band room on racks are getting knocked over or broken. Mr. Royster also stated there are not enough chairs for students to sit on.
11. Stephen Browne, a student at Milford Mill Academy – Asks for additional lockers in the band room for access to personal belongings and instruments for when the band practices. The band is growing and there are not enough lockers. They would like to have approximately 125 lockers in the new band room so they can have ongoing access to their instruments without finding a janitor.
12. Brittany Rose – a student at Milford Mill Academy – Requests a new band room for the school. Current band room is too small. The new room should be bigger and more able to accommodate the students, instruments, and practices.
13. Mr. Gough, Milford Mill Academy Band Instructor – Asks for a larger band room. If Milford Mill Academy could have a larger space, it would increase the quality and participation in the band.
14. Mr. Michael Franklin, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County – PTA is in support of a new high school in the central and/or northeast area and the ongoing maintenance program. Mr. Franklin encouraged the Board to continue consistent application of the maintenance program fairly among schools by following the Perks-Reuter program. He believes the quality work of some contractors needs to be closely monitored.
15. Mr. Kent Smith, Legislative Chairman of the Chapel Hill Elementary School PTA – Thanked the Board for its initial support for a new northeast elementary school. He stated Chapel Hill Elementary School is headed to be the number one most overcrowded school. Assemblies are split between classes and there are not enough resources for all the classes. Mr. Smith stated the PTA has not taken a formal position in regard to a new northeast high school, but suggests that the overcrowding at the

elementary schools is an indication of future overcrowding at the high schools. He asked the Board to move forward with the Vincent Farms land purchase and construction of a school.

16. Ms. Anita Bass, a member of the Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council – Supported Mr. Maki’s request for Kenwood High School locker needs. She stated the Booster Club has provided other support to the athletic program; however, lockers are needed to meet current standards. Ms. Bass noted the issue has been previously raised but nothing has come of it.

The hearing was concluded at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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