

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 5:45 p.m. at Greenwood. President Thomas G. Grzymiski and the following Board members were present: Mr. Luis E. Borunda, Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. JoAnn C. Murphy, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Ms. Joy Shillman, and Miss Gabrielle Wyatt. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

President Grzymiski reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in April and May.

Dr. Hairston informed the Board that he will share a task force with Carroll County Public Schools and the State health officer to look at immunization of all students.

Mr. Arnold entered the room at 5:50 p.m.

Mr. Hayden discussed with Board members nominations to the Maryland Association of Boards of Education's Board of Directors for the 2006-2007 school year. Mr. Hayden encouraged continued representation from Baltimore County on MABE's Board of Directors.

Mr. Janssen moved that the student member be permitted to participate in closed session collective bargaining discussions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pallozzi and unanimously approved by the Board.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1) and (a)(9) and upon motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:56 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:56 p.m. at Greenwood. President Thomas G. Grzymiski and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Mr. Luis E. Borunda, Ms. Frances A.S. Harris, Mr. John Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. JoAnn C. Murphy, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Ms. Joy Shillman, and Miss Gabrielle Wyatt. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: J. Robert Haines, Esq., Deputy Superintendent, Business Services; Ms. Rita Fromm, Chief of Staff; Margaret-Ann Howie, Esq., Legal Counsel to the Superintendent; Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Government Relations; Ms. Kendra Johnson, Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent, Central Area; Mr. William Lawrence, Assistant Superintendent, Northeast Area; Dr. H. Scott Gehring, Assistant Superintendent, Northwest Area; Ms. Jean E. Satterfield, Assistant Superintendent, Southeast Area; Dr. Manuel B. Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Southwest Area; Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director, Teacher Personnel; Mr. Daniel Capozzi, Staff Relations Manager; P. Tyson Bennett, Esq., Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES (cont)

Mr. Capozzi provided Board members with an update on the negotiations with specific collective bargaining units.

Mr. Capozzi exited the room at 6:05 p.m.

Dr. Peccia reviewed with Board members personnel matters to be considered on the agenda.

Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, and Mr. Michael Sines, Executive Director of Physical Facilities, entered the room at 6:08 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Arnold moved the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Ms. Harris and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:33 p.m. at Greenwood. President Thomas G. Grzyski and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Mr. Luis E. Borunda, Ms. Frances A.S. Harris, Mr. John Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. JoAnn C. Murphy, Mr. Joseph J. Palozzi, Ms. Joy Shillman, and Miss Gabrielle Wyatt. 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 Scott Carbone, a student from Chesapeake High School, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

Dr. Hairston noted one addition to the agenda for this evening. Under "New Business," the Board added Exhibit I-1, Consideration of the FY 2006 Capital Budget Supplemental Appropriation.

MINUTES

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Open and Closed Session Minutes of February 28, 2006, Mr. Grzyski declared the minutes approved as presented on the website.

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

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Ms. Jennifer Oswald, Baltimore County Student Council President and Superintendent's Student Council Advisory Group, reported that Dr. Hairston had attended the last BCSC general assembly meeting. Topics covered were globalization, high school assessments, and the role of the Superintendent.

Ms. Meg O'Hare, Coordinator of the Area Educational Advisory Councils, stated that the school system needs to ensure the curriculum is standardized and taught throughout all secondary schools. She announced that each area advisory council will be holding its capital pre-budget hearings in the month of April.

Mr. Stephen Crum, a Southeast Area Educational Advisory Council representative, stated the county school system should adopt the same policy for testing on religious holidays as the State Department of Education.

Ms. Maggie Kennedy, Chair of the Baltimore County Education Coalition, thanked Mr. Robert Berkshire and Ms. Susan Hahn for representing the coalition on the calendar committee.

Dr. Ella White-Campbell, Chair of the Minority Achievement Advisory Group, reported on the group's last meeting regarding *Stocks: Investing in Our Future*.

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, Chair of the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee, announced the special education staffing hearings will be held on April 4 at Essex Elementary, Dogwood Elementary, and Lutherville Laboratory Schools beginning at 7:00 p.m.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. Charles Geiger, Senior Vice President of Wachovia Bank, presented a contribution to Mr. Hayden for the "Kids Helping Hopkins" program. Ms. Patrice Brylske, Acting Director of Child Life for Johns Hopkins Children's Center, and Ms. Anita Rozenel, teacher at Hernwood Elementary School accompanies Mr. Geiger.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston reported that he and the student Board member, Miss Gabrielle Wyatt, had visited Woodlawn High School and Lansdowne High School. They have now visited a total of twelve schools.

Dr. Hairston noted that approximately 100 educators attended the Regional Manufacturing Institute Conference held at Towson University. Teachers can make a connection between what is happening in the classroom today and help students for tomorrow.

Dr. Hairston also announced that Baltimore County has been selected as the national East Coast training site for AVID directors and coordinators.

RECOGNITION OF ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Government Relations, recognized the advisory council appointment made at the March 14, 2006 Board meeting:

- Ms. Debra Levitt Northwest Area Educational Advisory Council

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed Boundaries for Windsor Mill Middle School

Mr. Janssen moved approval of the Boundary Committee's recommendation, Scenario C, for Windsor Mill Middle School (Exhibit B). The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnold and approved by the Board.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- Report on Proposed Board Meeting Schedule for 2006-2007** – Mr. Grzynski reviewed the proposed Board meeting dates for the upcoming year with Board members. Mr. Grzynski noted that the Board will vote on the proposed schedule at the April 25, 2006 Board meeting.
- Report on Secondary Reading/English Language Arts Instruction** – Ms. Kathleen McMahon, Acting Assistant Superintendent, presented to the Board the proposed framework, which outlines the secondary reading and English/language arts instructional program. This framework will be implemented during the 2006-2007 school year and ensures that all students in grade 6 receive reading instruction and that students in grades 6 through 12 receive language arts/English instruction, which focuses on grammar, mechanics, usage, and composing.

Ms. McMahon stated that students will be identified for placement in the acceleration program based on MSA data, performance on reading and writing assessments, and program placement tests. Ongoing progress monitoring assessments will be used to ensure that the instructional support plan is effectively increasing students' reading and writing achievement. The framework also includes professional development in the areas of reading and writing for secondary administrators, special educators, and reading, English/language arts, and for ELL teachers.

Mr. Borunda inquired about the technology element in the program. Ms. McMahon stated that she was not in a position at this time to give specifics since students are still being assessed; however, she noted that students as well as teachers use technology. Technology is needed to access data in a timely manner to quickly assess a student.

REPORTS (cont)

Mr. Borunda asked for clarification between helping a student versus accelerating a student. Ms. McMahon explained the acceleration process and the intent of the curriculum.

Mr. Arnold asked how the information concerning implementation of the core program is reported to the lower grade levels so that those schools can help students improve in reading and writing. Ms. McMahon explained that team members from elementary, middle, and high schools are involved in assisting and assessing students; that this is an opportunity to strengthen preK through grade 12.

Miss Wyatt asked how reading or writing tests are measured in other forms of verbal literacy. Ms. McMahon responded that the literature looks at reading and English/language arts; however, the voluntary state curriculum does include speaking. Ms. McMahon stated there is a need to broaden the public's understanding of literacy.

Dr. Hayman stated he was pleased to see that AVID strategies are being used throughout the school system. He expressed concern about the impact of staffing and increasing positions within the budget. Dr. Hayman also expressed concern over professional development—it is difficult to get people to understand the need to accelerate students who are behind because a student's culture believes the student to think remediation. He also stated that AVID strategies need to be strengthened from an expectation level.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

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

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Ms. Shillman, recommended approval of items 1-16 (Exhibit I).

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. 403(b) Provider
2. Automated External Defibrillators
3. Ellin Keene Reading Residency at Lansdowne Elementary
4. Resolution for Financing of Vehicles
5. Secondary Science Curriculum Textbooks
6. Language Placement Tests
7. Video Editing Server Upgrade

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

8. Contract Modification: Construction Management Services Contract for Windsor Mill Middle School
9. Contract Modification: Construction Contract 9-D (Flooring) for Woodholme Elementary School
10. Contract Modification: Construction Contract 10-C (Lockers) for Woodholme Elementary School
11. Design and Build Video Surveillance and Electronic Card Access Control Systems for Various Facilities
12. Kitchen Exhaust Hood Replacement for Dundalk Middle School, Parkville Middle School, and Golden Ring Middle School
13. Construction Contract: Kenwood High School Addition and Technology Wing Renovation
14. Chiller Replacement for Milbrook Elementary School
15. Design Build Services for Window and Exterior Door Replacement for Stemmers Run Middle School
16. BGE Contract for Utility Upgrade – Kenwood High School Addition and Technology Wing Renovation

BUDGET SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

On motion of Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Borunda, the Board approved the FY 2006 capital budget supplemental appropriation of \$4,727,000 for the partial renovation and construction of an addition at Kenwood High School.

LEGISLATION UPDATE

Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Government Relations, reviewed key pieces of legislation that affect the school system and are under consideration by the General Assembly.

On motion of Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Hayden, the Board voted to support SB 1019 – Employees' and Teachers' Pension Systems – Pension Benefit Enhancement. Mr. Janssen and Ms. Harris abstained from voting on this item. The motion passed (10-favor, 2-abstained).

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Office of Third Party Billing Annual Report 2004-2005

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Grzyski made the following announcements:

- The Southwest Area Educational Advisory Council will host its next meeting on Wednesday, April 5, 2006, at the Bridge Center beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- On Wednesday, April 5, 2006, the Board of Education's Spring Recognition Ceremony will be held at Cockeysville Middle School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Schools and offices will be closed for Spring Break from April 10 through April 17, 2006. Schools and offices will reopen on Tuesday, April 18, 2006.
- The Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council will host its next pre-budget capital hearing on Wednesday, April 19, 2006, at Pine Grove Middle School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2006, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:00 p.m. The Board will then adjourn to meet in closed session, which will be followed by a brief dinner recess. The open session will reconvene at approximately 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome at all open sessions.

Mr. Grzyski 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 ON PROPOSED POLICY 5250

No one signed up to speak on this policy.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Rick Huether expressed his concern about overcrowding at Chapel Hill Elementary School. He asked the Board to consider redistricting for this school.

Mr. P. J. Shafer, a representative of the Baltimore Chesapeake Chapter of the Autism Society, announced that April is Autism Month.

Ms. Elisa Hartman reviewed the development and partnership between Baltimore County Public Schools and the Baltimore Chesapeake Chapter of the Autism Society.

Ms. Paula Kraft expressed concern about the overcrowding of Chapel Hill Elementary School. She asked the Board to consider redistricting.

Mr. Talaal Pharoan stated there are many differences in the county and asked the Board to balance it out.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Dimah Mahmoud asked the Board to grant the two Muslim holidays on the school calendar.

Mr. Muhammad Jameel was disheartened that the Muslim community was not invited to participate on the calendar committee. He asked the Board to approve the two Muslim holidays on the school calendar.

Dr. Bash Pharoan asked for equal treatment with the Jewish holidays.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:25 p.m., Mr. Janssen moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pallozzi and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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