

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 4:34 p.m. at Greenwood. Vice-President Dr. Warren C. Hayman and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. JoAnn C. Murphy, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, and Ms. Joy Shillman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

The Board entertained oral argument in Hearing Examiner's Case #06-04. The oral argument was heard in closed session.

In addition to the above listed Board members, also in attendance were the Appellant; Dr. Christine M. Johns, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; J. Robert Haines, Esq., Deputy Superintendent of Business Services; Ms. Rita Fromm, Chief of Staff; Dr. Carol R. Batoff, Ombudsman; Anjanette L. Dixon, Esq., Attorney; Margaret-Ann F. Howie, Esq., Legal Counsel to the Superintendent; P. Tyson Bennett, Esq., Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education.

The proceedings of the hearing were recorded by a court reporter.

The hearing was concluded at 5:04 p.m.

Board members deliberated on the case.

At 5:44 p.m., Mr. Hayden moved the Board go into open session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Murphy and unanimously approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

President Thomas G. Grzynski reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in May and June.

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 Ms. Harris, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:50 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:50 p.m. at Greenwood. President Thomas G. Grzymiski and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, 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: Dr. Christine M. Johns, Deputy Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction; 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; Dr. Kim X. Whitehead, 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.

Mr. Capozzi provided Board members an update on the negotiations with AFSCME, BACE, CASE, PSNA, and TABCO collective bargaining units.

Mr. Capozzi exited the room at 5:56 p.m.

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

At 6:36 p.m., Mr. Hayden moved the Board go into open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Janssen and approved by the Board.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(7) upon motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Ms. Johnson, the Board commenced its closed session at 6:37 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Ms. Howie provided Board members an update on the status of pending federal and state litigation as well as its potential impact on system operations.

At 6:46 p.m., Mr. Pallozzi moved the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Mr. Janssen and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:47 p.m. at Greenwood. President Thomas G. Grzymiski and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, 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 Ms. 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 Kanwal Rehman, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Ms. Meg O'Hare, Coordinator of the Area Educational Advisory Councils, commented on literate students graduating from BCPS. She was glad to see the program called *Language! Rebuilding Literacy in American Schools* scheduled for approval tonight.

Ms. Jan Thomas, a representative of the Central Area Educational Advisory Council, reported on the council's capital pre-budget meeting. Issues included broken stalls and toilets in bathrooms, no locks on doors, air quality, relocatables, overcrowding, safety, social isolation from the community, windows and blinds, and air conditioning.

Ms. Jan Thomas, Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee representative, reported on its May 8 meeting regarding the web-based IEP. The committee would like to see two improvements to this system: quantify the progress report and coordinate the progress report with the 504 and SNT plans.

Mr. Ron Zimmerman, a Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council representative, reported on the council's April 19 meeting with Delegate John Cluster. Some concerns voiced at the meeting were HVAC renovation at Parkville High School and the proposed school bus depot near the new library in the Perry Hall area. He announced the next meeting will be held on June 22.

Mr. Stephen Crum, Chair of the Career & Technology Education Advisory Council, reported on the reception held May 3 where 142 students received awards for their accomplishments in the career and technology education.

Ms. Susan Katz, a PTA Council of Baltimore County representative, reported on the PTA Council's election of officers for 2006-2007 school year. Ms. Katz will be President-elect, Ms. Nancy Ostrow, first Vice President, and Mr. Jerold Judd, Vice President of Leadership-elect. Ms. Ostrow reported on the Internet safety meeting with parents held on May 8.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS (cont)

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, suggested it would be beneficial to print additional information on the 2007-2008 school calendar explaining Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) requirements of days and hours.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston introduced Ms. June Streckfus, Executive Director of the Maryland Business Roundtable for Education. She reviewed the program "Achievement Counts," which began in 1999. BCPS was the first county in Maryland to participate in this program. Ms. Streckfus noted that the Maryland Scholars' program, which was added this year, encourages students to take higher level course work. She reviewed the course completion results for Baltimore County for 2004 to 2005 in Algebra I, Algebra II, chemistry, physics, science, and first credit foreign language. Ms. Streckfus stated that BCPS is beginning to see increased results after only one year in the program.

RECOGNITION OF ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Government Relations, recognized the advisory council appointment made at the April 25, 2006 Board meeting:

- Ms. Jane Davis Central Area Educational Advisory Council

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Recognition of National Teacher Day** – On motion of Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Murphy, the Board adopted a resolution proclaiming May 9, 2006 as National Teacher Day.

WHEREAS, Teachers in the Baltimore County Public Schools faithfully execute their responsibilities and open our children's minds to ideas, knowledge, and new possibilities; and

WHEREAS, Teachers reach out to every child, regardless of ability, socio economic status, color, or creed; and

WHEREAS, Teachers, in partnership with the family and community, instill sound values in our nation's young people; and

WHEREAS, Teachers serve as role models for the "Precepts, Beliefs, and Values of the Baltimore County Public Schools;" and

- WHEREAS, Teachers renew American democracy by fostering informed citizenship; and
- WHEREAS, Teachers continue to influence us long after our school days are memories; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of Baltimore County respectfully recognizes the outstanding contribution of these dedicated people; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Education recognizes May 9, 2006, as National Teacher Day; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of Baltimore County does herewith extend its deep appreciation for their service, commitment, and dedication.

B. **Report on Transportation** – Mr. Don Dent, Executive Director of Planning and Support Operations, and Ms. Linda Fitchett, Director of Transportation, shared with Board members three transportation focus areas:

- Safety (buses, bus drivers, pre-certification, annual certification, and drive awards)
- Service (students and routes)
- Efficiency (program growth, locations, service exceptions, delivery of students on-time, and reducing on-board time)

The Office of Transportation's mission is to provide safe and efficient school transportation services in an environment that fosters positive social interaction and allows students to be successful learners. Ms. Fitchett noted that for the 2004-2005 school year there were 69,753 students transported daily, 793 routes, and 14,731,447 miles traveled.

Ms. Shillman asked what plans are in place to fill the northwest bus driver vacancies. Ms. Fitchett responded there will be three additional certified employees for driver training. Two of those trainers will be stationed in the northwest area for recruitment meetings and conduct training.

Mr. Hayden inquired about the fuel budget for 2006-2007. Ms. Fitchett stated that BCPS is locked into a fuel contract until August 2006. At that point and time, BCPS will know whether it can lock into a better price.

Mr. Grzyski inquired about contracted bus service and safety procedures for that service. Ms. Fitchett responded that out of 800 routes, 91 routes are privately contracted. She stated that contracted bus drivers must go through the school system's bus driver trainers to be certified and that contracted buses are inspected by BCPS mechanics.

Dr. Hayman stated that the school system needs to address the lack of supervision for students who are transported from various school sites to a magnet school.

REPORTS (cont)

- C. **Report on Proposed School Calendar for 2007-2008** – Ms. Kara Calder, Chief Communications Officer, stated the school calendar objective is for advancing student achievement and aligning activities to support teaching and learning. She noted that the proposed school calendar responds to the Board's calendar ad hoc committee expectations.

Mr. Grzynski asked Ms. Calder to review the three-reading process for the school calendar with Board members.

Mr. Arnold suggested adding a paragraph to the school calendar listing MSDE requirements of days and hours.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits C, E, F, G, H, and I. (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.) Mr. Janssen abstained from voting on Exhibit C. Dr. Hayman opposed all personnel exhibits (9-favor; 1-opposed; 1-abstained from Exhibit C only).

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Ms. Shillman, recommended approval of items 1-13 (Exhibit J). Mr. Arnold abstained from voting on item 4.

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. PCR-229-04 Early Intervention Services
2. JNI-750-06 Algebraic Thinking
3. RGA-190-06 Contractual Trainer for Scheduler's Training Course
4. JNI-736-06 Financing – School Buses and Trucks
5. RGA-189-06 *Language!*
6. PCR-274-05 Site Construction Package 2B – Windsor Mil Middle School
7. JNI-752-07 Roof Replacement – Bedford Elementary School
8. MBU-500-06 Upgrades to Kitchen Serving Lines – Golden Ring Middle School and Fullerton Elementary School
9. JNI-750-07 Roof Replacement – Hebbville Elementary School
10. JNI-751-07 Roof Replacement – Pine Grove Middle School
11. MBU-593-06 Systemic Renovations – Sparrows Point Middle/High School

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

12. PCR-236-06 Construction Package 1-C Final Cleaning – Windsor Mill Middle School
13. MWE-825-06 Construction Management Services – Vincent Farms Elementary School

FY2006 BUDGET APPROPRIATION TRANSFER (BAT)

On motion of Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Janssen, the Board approved a Budget Appropriate Transfer of \$8,500,000 as presented in Exhibit K.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised 2005-2006 School Calendar
- B. Financial Report for FY2006 as of March 31, 2006
- C. MSDE Financial Report

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Grzyski made the following announcements:

- The Southwest Area Educational Advisory Council will host its capital pre-budget meeting on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at Powhatan Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- There will be a joint Area Educational Advisory Council meeting on Thursday, May 18, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. on the Greenwood campus in the ESS Building.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be held on Tuesday, May 23, 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.
- The Baltimore County Board of Education will meet for a public hearing to seek public input about FY2008 Capital Budget needs in Baltimore County Public Schools on Wednesday, May 24, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. on the Greenwood campus in the ESS Building. Sign-up for the public to comment will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Grzynski 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 SPECIAL EDUCATION STAFFING PLAN

No one from the public signed up to speak about the plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CHANGES TO POLICY 3000

No one from the public signed up to speak on this policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CHANGES TO POLICY 5340

No one from the public signed up to speak on policy 5340.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ori Shahazz stated he will continue to serve Woodlawn High School.

Mr. Muhammad Jameel asked the Board not to ignore the voices of Muslim children and to place the Muslim holidays on the school calendar.

Ms. Kanwal Rehman asked the Board to grant the two Muslim holidays on the school calendar.

Dr. Bash Pharoan asked the Board to add one Muslim holiday on the school calendar since a Jewish holiday falls on a Saturday. He stated it would be more educational if the Muslim holidays were added to the school calendar.

Ms. Juliet Fisher inquired about allocation of sound enhancement system funds to specific schools.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:14 p.m., Mr. Arnold 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