

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, June 13, 2006

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 5:30 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 A. Hayden, III, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, 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.

Mr. Grzymiski reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in June and July.

Mr. Arnold 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. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:32 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:32 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, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, 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. 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 to Board members an update on the negotiations with specific collective bargaining units.

Mr. Capozzi exited the room at 5:35 p.m.

Dr. Arrington reviewed with Board members personnel matters to be considered on the evening's agenda.

At 5:55 p.m., Mr. Janssen moved that the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pallozzi and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:30 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, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, 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 Gabrielle Wyatt, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

MINUTES

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Board of Education Open and Closed Minutes of April 25, 2006; Open and Closed Session Minutes of May 9, 2006; and the Report of the Public Hearing for May 24, 2006, Mr. Grzymiski declared the minutes approved as presented on the website.

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

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Ms. Meg O'Hare, Coordinator of the Area Educational Advisory Councils, reported on the council's membership in each of the five areas of the county. Ms. O'Hare noted that revisions to Board Policy 1230 are being review by the council chairpersons.

Mr. Stephen Crum, a Southeast Area Educational Advisory Council representative, reported that Ms. Sandra Skordalos will be the chairperson for the 2006-07 school year. As a member of the calendar committee, Mr. Crum expressed concern about closing schools on Rosh Hashanah.

Mr. Stephen Crum, as Chair of the Career & Technology Education Advisory Council, stated that although career and technology education is mandated by COMAR at the elementary and high school levels, it is not required at the middle school level.

Ms. Maggie Kennedy, Chair of the Baltimore County Education Coalition, announced its next meeting on June 29 with guest speaker, Dr. Hairston. Points of discussion will include Title I reductions, transportation and fuel costs, meeting student needs and achievement, and program acquisition.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS (cont)

Ms. Karen Yarn, Chair of the Citizens' Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented Education, stated she is looking forward to reading the Gifted and Talented Status Report.

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, a Minority Achievement Advisory Group representative, thanked BCPS for collaborating with the Liberty-Randallstown Community Coalition on the community fair and essay contest. .

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, Chair of the Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee, reported on its June 5 meeting, announcing that Ms. Jan Thomas will chair the committee during the 2006-2007 school year. Ms. Shriver asked whether the school system's middle and high school curriculum are aligned with the Voluntary State Curriculum.

Mr. Michael Franklin, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, thanked the Board for its partnership with the council over the last four years. Mr. Franklin introduced the new PTA president, Ms. Susan Katz, and Ms. Nancy Ostrow, first vice-president.

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, expressed concern about staffing reduction in Title I schools. In regard to the Woodlawn Middle School restructuring plan, Ms. Bost stated that some of the items identified in tonight's document have not been conveyed to the staff remaining at the school.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston informed the Board and public that as of 2:45 p.m. today, all 800-plus buses were now in the bus lots, signifying the end of another school year. He extended his appreciation to all BCPS employees for contributing to another successful year.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Board adopted a resolution honoring Gabrielle Wyatt for her service as student member of the Board for 2005-2006. She was presented with the resolution and a gift from her Board colleagues.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director of Teacher Personnel, recognized the administrative appointments made at the May 23, 2006 Board meeting:

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS (cont)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>ALLEN D. BROWN</u> (Effective July 1, 2006)	Teacher/Special Education Pikesville High School	Assistant Principal Pikesville High School
<u>JOANNE R. CHAPLINE</u> (Effective July 1, 2006)	Teacher/Special Education White Oak School	Assistant Principal White Oak School
<u>RICHARD M. CORNER</u> (Effective July 1, 2006)	Teacher/Library Science Media Bear Creek Elementary School	Assistant Principal Patapsco High School
<u>STARR DIMPFEL</u> (Effective July 1, 2006)	Teacher/Resource Lansdowne High School	Assistant Principal Woodlawn High School
<u>RENEE A. JENKINS</u> (Effective July 1, 2006)	Teacher/Classroom Wellwood International School	Assistant Principal Cedarmere Elementary School
<u>AMY M. MALINOWSKI</u> (Effective July 1, 2006)	Teacher/Classroom Lutherville Laboratory	Assistant Principal Halstead Academy
<u>CHARLYNE G. MAUL</u> (Effective July 1, 2006)	Teacher/Mathematics Lansdowne Middle School	Assistant Principal Woodlawn Middle School
<u>TINA R. MORRONI</u> (Effective July 1, 2006)	Teacher/Social Studies Catonsville Middle School	Assistant Principal Catonsville Middle School
<u>LAURIE W. RIJO DE LA ROSA</u> (Effective July 1, 2006)	Teacher/Spanish Franklin Middle School	Assistant Principal Franklin Middle School
<u>TRYALAH V. SHIPMAN</u> (Effective July 1, 2006)	Teacher/Social Studies Old Court Middle School	Assistant Principal Randallstown High School

RECOGNITION OF ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Alpheus Arrington recognized the Education Advisory Council appointment made at the May 23, 2006 Board meeting:

- Ms. Jill Schuchart, Student Member Northeast Area

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed 2007-2008 Calendar

Mr. Pallozzi moved to approve the proposed 2007-2008 school calendar as presented in Exhibit B. Mr. Hayden seconded the motion.

Proposed 2007-2008 Calendar (cont)

Mr. Hayden commented on the calendar and Muslim holidays not being included. He indicated that the issue has already been taken to the Maryland State Board of Education and the State Board determined that there must be a secular purpose for designating a school holiday such as “economizing educational resources.” ADC Baltimore v. Baltimore County Board of Education, Opinion No. 05-01.

The 4th Circuit case of Koenick v. Felton was referenced by Mr. Hayden highlighting key points from the decision.

Mr. Hayden explained that schools have been collecting daily attendance for the past two years. Prior to that attendance data was collected quarterly. For the 2004-2005 school year he indicated that the holiday of Eid-al-Fitr fell on a Sunday therefore data on the day before and after would not be helpful. For the holiday of Eid-al-Adha attendance preceding the day before the holiday was 2,391 below the holiday itself. He indicated that may be explained by the fact that school openings on this day were delayed by 2 hours.

For the 2005-2006 school year the first Eid holiday occurred on November 3, 2005. The population was a total of 642 lower than on the previous day. The second Eid holiday occurred in January of 2006. There was no statistically significant difference in the population on the day before or day of the holiday. There was an 856 population increase the day following the holiday.

The average number of students out from Baltimore County on any particular day of the school year was 5,885.

Mr. Hayden stated that the justification to close schools cannot be based on the religious nature of the holiday and must be based on the “practicalities of school attendance.” This language was quoted from the Maryland State Board of Education case.

Mr. Hayden closed by saying that the population issue may require looking at again with a view toward closing schools on some of the days, but that has not occurred at this point in time.

The Board approved the proposed 2007-2008 school calendar (9-favor; 0-abstained; 0-opposed).

Mr. Grzyski noted that a Board Ad Hoc committee, chaired by former Board member, Mr. Luis Borunda, convened earlier in the year to study the calendar issues. The committee’s recommendations have been presented to the Superintendent. Mr. Grzyski commented that most of the issues were administrative in nature and trusts that the Superintendent and staff be able to implement them.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Blueprint for Progress Update** – Dr. Hairston provided the background of the *Blueprint for Progress*. He noted the *Blueprint for Progress*, which is aligned with the Bridge to Excellence and serves as the framework for the Master Plan, sets forth a number of performance goals and specific performance indicators for each goal. Dr. Hairston stated the revisions this year are based on information received from the Maryland State Department of Education. He noted that all updated and revisions focus on intensifying the school system's efforts to improve student achievement and to reduce performance gaps, particularly in secondary schools with emphasis on reading, writing, and mathematics.
- B. **Master Plan Update** – Dr. Hairston highlighted updates to the Master Plan, which include increased attention to preparing students to be successful on the High School Assessments (HSA) through:
- Providing professional development for elementary and middle school teachers in the core content concepts that under-gird students' success on the HSA.
 - Incorporating reading and writing instructional strategies across the curriculum and across grade levels.
 - Implementing accelerated English/reading/language arts instruction for students in grades 7, 8, and 9 who are experiencing a 1-2 year delay in skills development.
 - Implementing the *Algebraic Thinking* mathematics curriculum in grades 6 and 7 to prepare students for success in Algebra I.
 - Developing and implement short-cycle and benchmark assessments to provide data that teachers, school administrators, and staff will use to monitor students' progress.
 - Embedding AVID and strategies of similar and higher rigor within all programs of study.

In addition, Dr. Hairston noted that Goal 6, *Engage parents/guardians, business, and community members in the educational process*, has been greatly enhanced.

Regarding Goal 6, Mr. Grzymiski asked why the percentages were removed from this revision. Dr. Christine Johns, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, responded this request came specifically from parents and the steering committee. She also stated one of challenges is finding measurable indicators that result in hard data.

REPORTS (cont)

C. **Report on Gifted and Talented** – Through a PowerPoint™ presentation, Ms. Phyllis Bailey, Executive Director of Special Programs, PreK-12, reviewed the status of the Gifted and Talented (G/T) program in grades 3-5, middle, and high schools. She reviewed Policy and Rule 6135 adopted in 2003 with three overarching themes: equity, excellence, and accountability. Ms. Bailey noted the data presented reflect a five-year trend and are organized in five sections:

- G/T Education Student Enrollment
 - Elementary enrollment increased by 6.8%
 - Middle school enrollment remained constant
 - High school enrollment increased 4.1%
- G/T Education Student Achievement
- Program Implementation
- Professional Development
- Patterns, Trends, and Recommendations

Dr. Kim Whitehead, Assistant Superintendent, Central Area, provided a snapshot of continuing support between the area assistant superintendents and the gifted and talented office.

Ms. Wyatt inquired about the following patterns: female GT participation higher than male participation; African Americans' GT participation in high schools decreased; and Southwest and Southeast GT participation lower than other regions. Ms. Wyatt also asked why GT participation has decreased over the years. Ms. Bailey responded the gender gap has been a pattern for some years; however, the gap narrows at the middle school level, but increases at the high school level. With regard to geographic areas, Ms. Bailey stated that there has been an increase in enrollment in all areas. Ms. Bailey also noted that the GT office meets with the area assistant superintendents to identify focus support schools to address these specific issues.

Ms. Wyatt asked whether the school system can increase the GT program by making standards and honors courses more rigorous. Dr. Hairston responded that in order to increase rigor at the middle school level, BCPS needs to continually map the process at the lower level to help all students prepare and pass the High School Assessments.

Ms. Murphy inquired about the SAT participation rate. Dr. Hairston responded that 54% of BCPS seniors participate in the SAT exam.

D. **Report on Renaming Woodlawn High School Auditorium** – Dr. Manuel Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Southwest Area, recommended that Woodlawn High School auditorium be renamed to the **“Woodlawn Community Education and Development Association (WCEDA), Inc. Community Auditorium.”** This is the first reading.

Ms. Shillman asked whether the funds for the auditorium had been donated by WCEDA, Inc. Dr. Rodriguez responded this group has applied for, and received a federal grant to renovate the auditorium.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Hayden, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits F, G, H, I, J, K, L, and M. (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.)

NEGOTIATIONS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the negotiated Master Agreement with American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO (AFSCME) as presented in Exhibit N.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the negotiated Master Agreement with Baltimore (County Instructional) Assistants and Clerical Employees, Inc. (BACE) as presented in Exhibit N-1.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the negotiated Master Agreement with CASE as presented in Exhibit N-2.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the negotiated Master Agreement with Professional Staff Nurses' Association (PSNA/SEUI) as presented in Exhibit N-3.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Ms. Shillman, recommended approval of items 1-4, 6-25 (Exhibit O). Ms. Shillman pulled item 5 from voting this evening. Mr. Arnold abstained from voting on item 3, Ms. Shillman abstained from voting on item 14, and Mr. Hayden abstained from voting on item 24.

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. 2-228-03 Contract Extension: Counseling Services for Intensity V Program
2. PCR-245-06 Contract Extension: Web Filtering Software
3. JMI-613-06 Contract Modification: Direct Digital Control Preventive Maintenance Program
4. PCR-208-06 Contract Modification: Employee Benefits Consulting Service
6. JNI-749-06 Classroom Sound Enhancement System
7. JNI-754-06 Family Studies Instructional Modules
8. JNI-746-06 Musical Instruments – Purchase
9. PCR-245-06 Natural Gas
10. JNI-748-06 Nursing Services for Wellness Centers
11. MBU-506-06 Painting

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

12. MBU-512-06 Printing – Student Handbooks
13. RGA-194-06 Science Weekly Magazine
14. MBU-510-06 Stage Curtains
15. PCR-212-06 Contract Modification: Additional Design Services – Deer Park Middle Magnet School
16. MWE-827-06 Contract Modification: Additional Design Services – Pine Grove Middle School
17. MBU-509-06 Window and Blind Replacement – Baltimore Highlands Elementary School
18. MWE-819-06 Parking Lot Addition – Chapel Hill Elementary School
19. JNI-755-06 Renovations, Tennis/Basketball Courts – Various Schools (205483/42655)
20. JNI-756-06 Renovations, Tennis/Basketball Courts – Various Schools (205483/42656)
21. JNI-757-06 Fencing Services (204362/41937)
22. MWE-824-06 Renovations – Holabird Middle School
23. MWE-820-06 Parking Lot and Driveway Addition – Lansdowne Elementary School
24. JNI-711-06 Systemic Renovations – Southwest Academy
25. MWE-829-06 Systemic Renovations – Woodlawn Middle School

BUDGET APPROPRIATION TRANSFER

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Hayden, the Board approved the FY2007 capital budget appropriation transfer of \$864,595, as presented in Exhibit P.

WOODLAWN MIDDLE SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING PLAN

As part of the Alternative Governance Process for Restructuring, Dr. Rodriguez shared with Board members the two-year School Improvement Plan for final submission to the Maryland State Board of Education at its next Board meeting on June 27 or 28. Dr. Rodriguez summarized the plan which addresses:

- *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) and Title I requirements,
- Woodlawn Middle School's profile including reading and mathematics interventions,
- School needs in order of priority, and
- Instructional program and strategies.

WOODLAWN MIDDLE SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING PLAN (cont)

Mr. Hayden asked at what point the Board would receive a progress report on the plan. Dr. Rodriguez responded that a status report would be provided on a monthly basis.

On motion of Ms. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the Woodlawn Middle School Improvement Plan for final submission to the Maryland State Board of Education, as presented in Exhibit Q (8-approved; 0-opposed; 0-abstained). Ms. Shillman did not vote on this item.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

Mr. Michael Goodhues, Acting Chief Information Officer, stated this joint project establishes a secondary site at the Professional Development Center in an area that is currently unoccupied. He noted that while BCPS will share the site with Baltimore County Government, BCPS will maintain its own dedicated area as well as its own equipment and software. The back-up center will allow BCPS to keep mission-critical applications and networks available in the event of a disaster at the Timonium computer center. Mr. Goodhues stated that this joint venture is designed to be less than \$1 million in cost for both BCPS and Baltimore County Government, which should pay for itself in approximately one year.

Ms. Shillman asked what percentage of the funds BCPS would have to pay towards this partnership. Mr. Goodhues responded BCPS would fund approximately \$300,000 for this project, which is in the budget.

Ms. Shillman exited the room at 9:01 p.m.

Mr. Arnold inquired as whether the school system's information would be secure from county accessibility. Mr. Goodhues stated that all BCPS information will remain secure.

On motion of Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the partnership with Baltimore County Government to establish a backup site for its Data Center, as presented in Exhibit R (8-approved; 0-opposed; 0-abstained). Ms. Shillman did not vote on this item.

Ms. Shillman re-entered the room at 9:05 p.m.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Superintendent's Rule 3611—Tuition Fees: Non-Resident
- B. Financial Report for the Months Ending April 30, 2005 and 2006

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Grzyski made the following announcements:

- The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be held on Tuesday, July 11, 2006, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:30 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 CHANGES TO POLICY 4118

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CHANGES TO POLICY 4266

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON POLICY 5470

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Hadear Abdou asked the Board to consider adding the Muslim holidays to the school calendar.

Ms. Dalia Mahmoud asked the Board to reconsider adding the Muslim holidays in the future.

Ms. Cherry Abdou asked the Board to consider her request for adding the Muslim holidays to the school calendar.

Ms. Dimah Mahmoud stated that Muslim children deserve to be given their holidays.

Ms. Sadaf Alam stated she hopes the Board would place the Muslim holidays on the school calendar.

Ms. Ayah Mahmoud stated people fear most about what they do not know.

Mr. Talaal Pharoan asked the Board to consider adding one or two Muslim holidays to the school calendar.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (cont)

Ms. Kanwal Rehman requested the Board treat Muslims equally by adding the Muslim holidays to the school calendar.

Mr. Muhammad Jameel disagreed with statistics provided earlier by Mr. Hayden. He asked the Board to add the Muslim holidays to the school calendar.

Dr. Bash Pharoan stated the statistics presented by Mr. Hayden were not objective.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 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

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