

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

### **REPORT OF THE WORK SESSION ON THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2009 CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS**

Wednesday, September 19, 2007  
Greenwood

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 7:00 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following board members were present: Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., and Ms. Joy Shillman. In addition, J. Robert Haines, Esq., Deputy Superintendent, and staff members were present.

Ms. Murphy stated the purpose of the work session and thanked staff for its work in preparing the information presented at the meeting.

Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the project priority order and provided background information on the capital budget process. She noted that the board will take action at its October 2 meeting on the state capital request. However, projects involving county funds will be discussed in December and action taken at a January board meeting. The staff recommends requesting \$94 million in state funding. She noted that items 36 and 37, George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology, are combined for a total of \$26 million, and for the first time, ten high schools have been placed on the priority list under the limited renovation program.

Mr. Parker asked if the money from the county matches state funding dollar for dollar. Ms. Burnopp responded it will vary from project to project.

Mr. Sines reviewed with board members the breakdown of the FY09 proposed state capital budget request noting that this is a living, working document. Feasibility studies are underway for Loch Raven High School, Dogwood Elementary School, Cedarmere Elementary School, and Mays Chapel Special Education School. Mr. Sines stated that in FY09, BCPS has nine high schools slated for funding at the state level and one high school slated for funding at the county level. Since BCPS has adopted the limited renovation program, the school system believes it is feasible to "blaze through" the first ten high schools once the monies are approved by the funding authorities.

Ms. Shillman asked whether the high schools are higher on the priority list. Mr. Sines responded that BCPS is asking the state for planning approval to get design teams in place and begin construction when funding becomes available. The capital budget request shows that nine high schools will be considered as part of the limited renovation program. For Woodlawn High School, the school system is asking for a partial renovation on the auditorium and gym.

Ms. Shillman inquired about Dundalk High School. Mr. Sines responded BCPS is asking for planning authority. Ms. Burnopp noted that there are two requests to the state: planning and funding.

Ms. Shillman asked whether Hereford High School needs more than Dundalk High School. Mr. Sines responded that the priority list has been created based on the age of the school building. Mr. Sines noted that the school system is trying to accomplish the renovation of all 25 high schools. The goal is to look at the infrastructure of the high schools and establish a baseline. He stated that if the

school system engages in an assessment of need and age, which some LEAs have done, BCPS would need three more years of planning, and millions of dollars would be spent in feasibility studies.

Mr. Haines commented that limited renovations allow BCPS to have a more comprehensive program without renovating the entire building and giving the school system the ability to return to the state at a future date for additional funding.

Ms. Johnson asked where air conditioning fits in with the limited renovation program. Mr. Sines responded that feasibility studies incorporate the study of air conditioning. He noted that if the study shows that air conditioning is not financially feasible, then a decision will need to be made at that time. Ms. Johnson asked that once the infrastructure is in place, where items, such as the Milford Mill Academy band room, would be placed on the list. Mr. Sines responded those types of items would be taken into consideration when the feasibility study is conducted through interviews with school personnel.

Mr. Janssen asked if the school system has a document listing the conditions of HVAC and boilers in the school buildings. Mr. Sines responded that a new combined database with information from maintenance and engineering is being generated relative to HVAC and boilers. Mr. Janssen stated that while he supports air conditioning in schools, it bears a heavy price tag.

Ms. Shillman asked if BCPS can return to the state and request funding for the air conditioning at Dumbarton Middle School since the school had a completed renovation but air conditioning was not affordable. Mr. Sines responded he would need to check on that and get back with the Board. Ms. Shillman asked if it is possible to place window air conditioners in each classroom. Mr. Sines responded window air conditioners are not feasible. It would destroy window systems and cripple the school system's operating budget.

Ms. Johnson asked if there were non-traditional methods that could be explored regarding air conditioning. Mr. Sines responded that Vincent Farm Elementary School will have a geothermal heat pump system, which is state-of-the-art, environmentally friendly, and controls the environment year round. This and other state-of-the-art controls will be concerned as practical in the future.

### ADJOURNMENT

The work session adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joe A. Hairston  
Secretary-Treasurer