

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, January 8, 2008

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in open session at 4:37 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Donna Flynn, Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Miss Audrey Dittman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Ms. Murphy reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in January and February.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1), (a)(7), and (a)(8), and upon motion of Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board commenced its closed session at 4:39 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 4:39 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Donna Flynn, Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Miss Audrey Dittman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: J. Robert Haines, Esq., Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Sonia Diaz, Chief Academic Officer, Mr. William Lawrence, Assistant Superintendent, Northwest Area; Dr. Robert Tomback, Assistant Superintendent, Northeast Area; Dr. Manuel Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Southwest Area; Ms. Jean Satterfield, Assistant Superintendent, Southeast Area; Mr. Lyle Patzkowsky, Assistant Superintendent, Central Area; Margaret-Ann Howie, Esq., General Counsel; Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Governmental Relations; Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director, Personnel Staffing; P. Tyson Bennett, Esq., Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

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

Dr. Peccia and Dr. Arrington exited the room at 4:41 p.m.

Mr. Bennett provided legal advice to the Board regarding a hearing officer's opinion in a case to be considered this evening.

Mr. Bennett updated the Board on litigation involving a charter school application.

Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Pat Fannon, Comptroller, and Mr. Richard Gay, Purchasing Manager, entered the room at 4:46 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES (cont)

Ms. Howie provided an update to the Board on potential litigation with a former vendor.

Ms. Burnopp, Mr. Fannon, and Mr. Gay exited the room at 5:39 p.m.

Ms. Howie provided Board members legal advice with respect to VISA requirements of one of its employees.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Ms. O'Hare, the Board ended its closed session at 5:50 p.m. and commenced the meeting in administrative function.

Mr. Lawrence, Dr. Tomback, Dr. Rodriguez, Ms. Satterfield, and Mr. Patzkowsky exited the room at 5:50 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION

Board members discussed the budget formulation.

At 6:08 p.m., Mr. Janssen moved 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 7:34 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Donna Flynn, Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Miss Audrey Dittman. 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 Ms. Frances Parker, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Open and Closed Session Minutes of December 4, 2007, Ms. Murphy declared the minutes approved as presented on the Web site.

Ms. Murphy informed the audience of the sessions in which Board members had participated earlier in the afternoon.

SELECTION OF SPEAKERS

After collecting completed sign-up cards, Ms. Murphy announced the names of persons who would be speaking during the public comment portion of the meeting as well as the order in which the persons would be called.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Mr. Bud Staigerwald, Chair of the Southeast Area Education Advisory Council, thanked Board members and the Superintendent for their visit to Dundalk High School.

Ms. Lora Williams, President of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), requested salary improvements for the AFSCME pay scales. She also stressed that AFSCME wants to attract and retain employees and that the school system needs to consider raising the minimum wage to \$10 per hour. With respect to Policy 4000, Ms. Williams asked the Board to retain the following sentences, "The Board shall employ applicants and promote individuals who have the qualifications needed to perform successfully. The Board shall not employ or appoint a person who has lesser qualifications in preference to a person with better qualifications."

Ms. Maggie Kennedy, Chair of the Baltimore County Education Coalition, reflected on the difference between social change advocacy and traditional advocacy.

Ms. Gloria Collins, President of the Baltimore County Instructional Assistants & Clerical Employees, (BACE), urged the Board to recognize value, service, and dedication of BACE employees by adding wage increases to the operating budget.

Mr. Stephen Crum, Chair of the Career & Technology Education Advisory Council, announced the Career & Technology Education dinner on April 30, 2008. He also announced that CTE council is preparing to visit Chesapeake High School on April 3 to observe the STEM program.

Ms. Susan Katz, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, spoke about ideas that the Board could use in reaching out to parents and parent involvement. She also thanked the Board for dinner earlier that evening.

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, thanked Board members for attending TABCO's annual legislative breakfast. Ms. Bost reiterated the need to make salaries more competitive, reduce teacher workload, reduce class sizes, and retain teachers.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

There was no report by the Superintendent.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Mr. Janssen, the Board adopted a Resolution honoring the Department of Physical Facilities for winning the 2007 *Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools* National Excellence Award.

WHEREAS, *Inspired by an abiding commitment to students and staff, as described in the Blueprint for Progress, Baltimore County Public Schools endeavors to establish and maintain environments conducive to teaching and learning; and*

WHEREAS, *In 2005, the school system began an Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools program, led by a multi-departmental Environmental Action Team and focused, initially, on 40 school buildings; and*

WHEREAS, *This program included implementing a training program in cooperation with the American Lung Association of Maryland and conducting building walkthroughs as well as boosting preventive maintenance and cleaning, upgrading heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, and preventing water intrusion; and*

WHEREAS, *In honor of the success of this program, the United States Environmental Protection Agency presented Baltimore County Public Schools with a 2007 Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools National Excellence Award; and*

WHEREAS, *The National Excellence Award was presented to only three school districts nationwide in 2007, and it is one of EPA's highest indoor air quality awards, presented only to U.S. school districts that have demonstrated exceptional dedication and implemented exemplary programs; and*

WHEREAS, *This recognition for Baltimore County Public Schools brings attention to the strength of the school system's Office of Physical Facilities, its vision and its ability to collaborate with other departments and outside agencies; now, therefore, it be*

RESOLVED, *That the Board of Education, herewith assembled in regular session on the eighth day of January, in the year two thousand and eight, expresses gratitude and sincere appreciation to the Office of Physical Facilities and its partners for their vision and extraordinary efforts.*

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Governmental Relations, recognized the administrative appointments made at the December 18, 2007 Board meeting:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>LAURA LYNN BROWN</u> (Effective December 19, 2007)	Mentor/Teacher Dogwood ES	Assistant Principal Baltimore Highlands ES
<u>KAREN GIERON</u> (Effective December 19, 2007)	Resource Teacher Elementary Language Arts	Supervisor Elementary Language Arts

RECOGNITION OF ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Peccia recognized the reappointment Mr. Brian Bailey, who was reappointed to the Southwest Area Education Advisory Council at the December 18, 2007 Board meeting.

RECOGNITION OF ETHICS REVIEW PANEL APPOINTMENT

Dr. Peccia recognized the appointment of Sharon M. Pusin, M.D., Esquire, to the Ethics Review Panel.

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed FY2009-2014 State and County Capital Budget

On motion of Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the proposed FY2009-2014 State and County Capital Budget request, as presented in Exhibit B. Mr. Janssen and Ms. Shillman abstained from voting. Miss Dittman, student member, did not vote (favor-9; opposed-0; abstained-2).

Board of Education Policies

The Board Policy Committee, represented by Ms. Harris, recommended approval of six policies. This is the third reading.

The Board approved the following four policies:

- Proposed Re-adoption of Policy 2352 – ADMINISTRATION: Administrative Operations-Accidents/Medical Emergencies (exhibit C).
- Proposed Re-adoption of Policy 3112 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Fiscal Services-Budget: Operating Budget (exhibit E).
- Proposed Re-adoption of Policy 3121 - NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Fiscal Services-Accounting and Cash Management: Funds Management (exhibit F).
- Proposed Changes to Policy 5310 – STUDENTS: Activities-Awards of Achievement (exhibit H).

Re-adoption of Policy 3111

Mr. Hayden moved to amend the proposed re-adoption of Policy 3111 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Fiscal Services-Budget: Planning and Preparation with the deletion of the following sentence, “If any change in policy is necessary, the new policy shall be submitted to the Board [of Education] for approval.” The motion was seconded by Mr. Janssen and approved by the Board.

Changes to Policy 5160

Mr. Hayden moved to amend the proposed changes to Policy 5160 – STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance by changing “local Superintendent” to “Superintendent or Superintendent’s designee.” The motion was seconded by Ms. Harris and approved by the Board.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Superintendent’s Proposed Operating Budget, Fiscal Year 2009** – Dr. Hairston presented to the Board, for its consideration, the Proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2009. He noted that for the first time since the state of Maryland enacted its *Bridge to Excellence Plan*, also known as Thornton, revenues to local governments to support public education have been cut. Dr. Hairston stated that the proposed budget represents what BCPS needs to educate children and provide quality service for all of Baltimore County. Dr. Hairston reiterated the budget request for FY2009 continues to focus on the *Blueprint for Progress, Master Plan*, and *Bridge to Excellence*.

Dr. Hairston has proposed an operating budget with a projected 4.3 percent increase in operating costs, which contains

- Redirection of Title I funds to elementary schools in communities that must demonstrate a high level of improvement in student achievement.
- Reallocation of Title II funds to support PDK audit objectives.
- Restructuring for Woodlawn High School, Lansdowne Middle School, and Southwest Academy.
- Launching a pilot program for Kenwood High School to jump-start the education of future designers of simulation, virtual environment, and gaming software.
- Continuation of BCPS’ partnership with the Community College of Baltimore County.
- Improvement of student-to-staff ratios for summer school.
- Approximately \$12.5 million in funding for longevity and step increases with an additional \$1.3 million for lowest paid regular and part-time employees and \$8.9 million for ongoing support of the employee benefit programs.
- Strengthening the Department of Research, Accountability, and Assessment to meet the demands of *No Child Left Behind* and the *Blueprint for Progress*.
- Opening of Vincent Farm Elementary School, scheduled to open in August 2008.
- Maintaining current level of support for the Crossroads Center.
- Maintaining AVID program.
- Maintaining the virtual school learning concept that was piloted in FY2008.

REPORTS (cont)

Dr. Hairston shared with Board members the operating budget recommendations as they relate to Performance Goals 1 through 8.

Dr. Hairston announced that on Tuesday, January 15, 2008, there will be a public hearing on the proposed operating budget at Ridge Ruxton School beginning at 7:00 p.m. A Board work session will be conducted on Tuesday, January 23, 2008, at Greenwood beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Hayden strongly suggested that Board members consider having a senior professional employee, qualified to support the Board in:

- Reviewing national trends.
- Reviewing and researching issues to be considered by the Board including supporting Board members' initiatives.
- Comparing the Board's performance externally.
- Reviewing background information on proposed professional hires.

Mr. Hayden noted this mechanism is in place in other large school systems in Maryland.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits J, K, L, M, and N (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 1-10 (Exhibit O). Item 3 and 4 were pulled from the agenda. Mr. Hayden abstained from voting on item 8.

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. JMI-611-08 Computer-assisted Real-time (CART) Services
2. JNI-714-08 Office Furniture and Equipment
5. PCR-297-08 Video, Digital, and Audio Networking
6. JNI-712-08 Memorandum of Understanding: Provide Health Services
7. RGA-196-06 Contract Modification: On-Call Construction Management Services – Holabird Middle School and Loch Raven Technical Academy
8. RGA-196-06 Contract Modification: On-Call Construction Management Services – Perry Hall Middle School and Lansdowne Middle School

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

9. PCR-294-98 Chiller Replacement – Sandalwood Elementary School
10. RGA-180-06 Request to Negotiate: Consultant Services –
Architectural/Engineering (A/E) Services-Modernization of Air
Distribution System for Perry Hall High School

HEARING EXAMINER’S RECOMMENDATIONS

On a motion of Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board voted that the hearing examiner’s opinion in case #07-26 be affirmed. Ms. Johnson opposed the opinion, and Mr. Janssen abstained from voting (favor-10; opposed-1; abstained-1).

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. FY08 Financial Report for months ending November 30, 2006 and 2007
- B. MSDE Bi-annual Financial Status Report for Period Ending November 30, 2007

Mr. Hayden asked whether the reference to curriculum and instruction cost was in the report. Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, responded BCPS is only required to report if the expenditure is not proportional throughout the year.

- C. Revised Superintendent’s Rule 2352 – ADMINISTRATION: Administrative Operations-Accidents/Medical Emergencies
 - Form A – Bodily Injury Report Form for Visitors/General Public
 - Form B – First Report for Workers’ Compensation
 - Form C – Student Accident Report Form
- D. Readopted Superintendent’s Rule 5160 – STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance-Transfers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Murphy made the following announcements:

- On Tuesday, January 15, 2008, the Baltimore County Board of Education will meet for a public hearing to seek the community’s input on the operating budget for FY2009. The meeting will take place at the Ridge Ruxton School at 7:00 p.m. Sign-up for the public to comment will begin at 6:00 p.m. at Ridge Ruxton School on the day of the hearing. Snow date for the public hearing is Wednesday, January 16, 2008.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

- The Central Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2008, at Warren Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Schools and offices will be closed on Monday, January 21, 2008, in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Schools will reopen for students and teachers on Tuesday, January 22, 2008.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 22, 2008, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 4:30 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 to all open sessions. The Board will host the officers of the Special Education Citizens Advisory Council on January 22, 2008, from 6:00 until 7:30 p.m.
- On Tuesday, January 23, 2008, the Baltimore County Board of Education will meet for a work session to discuss the FY2009 operating budget. The meeting will take place at the ESS Building at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Murphy stated that public comment is one of the opportunities provided to hear the views and receive the advice of community members. The members of the Board appreciate hearing from interested citizens and will take their comments into consideration, even though it is not the Board's practice to take action at this time on issues which are raised. When appropriate, the Board will refer concerns to the superintendent for follow-up by his staff.

While the Board encourages public input on policy, programs, and practices within the purview of this Board and this school system, this is not the proper avenue to address specific student or employee matters, or to comment on matters that do not relate to public education in Baltimore County. The Board encourages everyone to utilize existing avenues of redress for complaints. Inappropriate personal remarks or other behavior that disrupts or interferes with the conduct of this meeting are out of order.

Ms. Murphy also asked speakers to observe the light system, which lets the speaker know when time is up. She asked speakers to conclude their remarks when they see the red light.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 4000 AND POLICY 4220

Mr. David Basler commented that while he supports the need to streamline policies, BCPS needs to place a "common sense" emphasis in employing applicants and promoting individuals who have the qualifications needed to perform successfully instead of employing a person who has lesser qualifications.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Bash Pharoan stated that it may be time for BCPS and the Board to have tax-levying authority. He also commented that county residents should be able to apply for candidacy to the Board.

Mr. Muhammad Jameel supported the previous speaker's comments with respect to tax-levying authority. He also asked the Board to consider incorporating personal financial management courses for all students.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:36 p.m., Mr. Parker moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Murphy and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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