

APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in open session at 5:03 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. Earnest E. Hines, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., and Ms. Joy Shillman. 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 April and May.

Board member, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, entered the room at 5:08 p.m.

Ms. Murphy reviewed the *2008 CUBE Annual Award for Urban School Board Excellence* application process and the nominations for the Charles W. Willis award.

Mr. Hines 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), (a)(7), and (a)(9) and upon motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:12 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:12 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Mr. Earnest E. Hines, 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, Ms. Rita Fromm, Chief of Staff; Dr. Robert Tomback, Assistant Superintendent, Northeast Area; Dr. Manuel Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Southwest Area; Mr. Stephen Bender, Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent, Southeast Area; Mr. Lyle Patzkowsky, Assistant Superintendent, Central Area; Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Governmental Relations; Mr. Daniel Capozzi, Staff Relations Manager; Margaret-Ann Howie, Esq., General Counsel; P. Tyson Bennett, Esq., Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

Mr. Capozzi discussed with Board member the status of collective bargaining negotiations.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Mr. Capozzi exited the room at 5:31 p.m.

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

Dr. Peccia exited the room at 5:54 p.m.

Mr. Bennett provided legal advice to the Board regarding hearing officer's opinion to be considered on the evening's agenda.

At 6:02 p.m., Mr. Pallozzi moved the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Ms. Johnson 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 JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Mr. Earnest E. Hines, 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. Linda Popp, Art Coordinator, 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 Minutes of March 11, 2008, 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

Ms. Kathleen Hynes, a representative of the Advisory Committee for Alternative Programs, introduce Ryan Olson, a student at Dulaney High School, who shared with Board members his positive experience with the home and hospital program.

Mr. Clifford Collins, Chair of the Northwest Area Education Advisory Council, reported on testimony received at its capital pre-budget hearing held on April 15, 2008. Testimony focused on tennis courts, outdoor track restoration issues, air conditioning, and the need for additional parking.

Ms. Maggie Kennedy, Chair of the Baltimore County Education Coalition, introduced Ms. Laura Mullen, who reiterated that a compliant had been filed with the Office of Civil Rights concerning an Individuals Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) issue.

Ms. Susan Katz, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, asked the Board to reconsider funding for sound enhancement systems. Ms. Katz announced that its next general meeting would be held on Thursday, April 24, 2008, at Loch Raven High School.

Ms. Kelli Nelson, a representative of the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee, announced that the special education community forum would be held on Monday, April 28, 2008. Ms. Nelson introduced Ms. Katlin Whitlen, a senior at Catonsville High School, who read her award-winning essay on autism.

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, stated that teachers are disheartened that there is no COLA allocated in the FY 09 operating budget. She requested salary increases for all teachers.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston introduced Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, who explained to Board members where BCPS is in the budget process. Ms. Burnopp stated that the goal of this budget was to preserve positions to support students and protect programs for children to ensure that all materials were available for their success. Included in the County Executive's proposed operating budget are:

- Maintaining 161 existing positions for instructional, therapeutic, health care, and special education
- Adding 15.2 new positions for the opening of Vincent Farm Elementary School
- Two (2) additional positions for the new Kenwood High School addition
- Thirteen (13) additional positions for Crossroads Center
- Supporting 100-Book Challenge, AVID, and College Gateway Partnership at CCBC
- An additional \$6.5 million for textbooks and related training
- Including \$12.5 million for longevity and step increases
- Ensuring that the employee contribution for health, dental, and vision will need not be increased.
- Increasing Maintenance of Effort (MOE) by 5.7%.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (cont)

Ms. Burnopp noted that with this proposed operating budget, BCPS will be positioned to work towards a system-wide salary enhancement for FY 2010.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Mr. Hayden, the Board approved the following resolutions:

National Art Education Association

WHEREAS, *Coordinator Linda Popp and teachers Cecilia Terlizzi of Sudbrook Magnet Middle School and Robert Miller of the George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology are regarded as exemplary visual arts educators; and*

WHEREAS, *Arts education, an integral part of the Baltimore County Public Schools curriculum, supports students in developing the self-discipline, self-esteem, teamwork, higher-level thinking skills, and creativity required to participate effectively in today's society and economy; and*

WHEREAS, *In honor of their accomplishments and leadership, the National Art Education Association has honored Ms. Popp as its 2008 Eastern Region Art Educator of the Year, Ms. Terlizzi as its National Junior Art Honor Society Sponsor of the Year, and has recognized Mr. Miller with a 2008 Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design /National Art Education Association Creative Educator scholarship award; and*

WHEREAS, *In presenting high honors to educators from Baltimore County Public Schools, the National Art Education Association affirms the school system's overall excellence in this subject area; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Board of Education, herewith assembled in regular session on the twenty second day of April, in the year two thousand and eight, expresses to Linda Popp, Cecilia Terlizzi, and Robert Miller, on behalf of the citizens of this county, our deepest appreciation and gratitude for their service; and be it further*

RESOLVED, *That the Board herewith extends its best wishes for their good health, happiness, and continued success.*

Teacher Excellence Awards

WHEREAS, *Teachers Ruth Akers of Catonsville Middle School and Angela MacCubbin of Eastern Technical High School were honored with national awards during the International Technology Education Association's 70th Annual Conference; and*

WHEREAS, *At this conference, Ms. Akers was one of only 39 educators to receive a Teacher Excellence Award, one of the highest honors given to technology education classroom teachers; and*

WHEREAS, *Ms. MacCubbin was one of only 11 educators to receive a Donald Maley Spirit of Excellence Outstanding Graduate Student Citation Award, recognizing the quality of her graduate level scholarship and leadership potential; and*

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS (cont)

- WHEREAS, These educators, both of whom bring real-life experience into the classroom, exemplify the strength of our technology education program and our commitment to preparing students for success in an increasingly technological world; now, therefore, be it*
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Education, herewith assembled in regular session on the twenty second day of April, in the year two thousand and eight, expresses to Ruth Akers and Angela MacCubbin, on behalf of the citizens of this county, our deepest appreciation and gratitude for their service; and be it further*
- RESOLVED, That the Board herewith extends its best wishes for their good health, happiness, and continued success.*

Tachau Teacher of the Year Award

- WHEREAS, Bruce Lesh, social studies department chair and Advanced Placement government teacher at Franklin High School, was honored with the Tachau Teacher of the Year Award by the Organization of American Historians; and*
- WHEREAS, In receiving the Tachau Award, one of approximately 20 annual national awards presented by the Organization of American Historians, Bruce Lesh brings recognition to the quality of history instruction in Baltimore County Public Schools – instruction that inspires our students to research, analyze, and understand; and*
- WHEREAS, In addition to his work at Franklin, Lesh is the: co-founder of the Center for History Education at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; vice-chair of the National Council for History Education; founder and director of the Maryland Council for History Education; and past president of the Maryland Council for the Social Studies; now, therefore, be it*
- RESOLVED, That the Board of Education, herewith assembled in regular session on the twenty second day of April, in the year two thousand and eight, expresses to Bruce Lesh, on behalf of the citizens of this county, our deepest appreciation and gratitude for his service; and be it further*
- RESOLVED, That the Board herewith extends its best wishes for his good health, happiness, and continued success.*

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Governmental Relations, recognized the administrative appointments made at the April 8, 2008 Board meeting:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>NICOLE K. NORRIS</u> (Effective July 1, 2008)	Assistant Principal Catonsville Middle School	Principal Lansdowne Middle School

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed Board Meeting Schedule, 2008-2009

Mr. Janssen moved that the Board approve the Proposed Board Meeting Schedule for 2008-2009 (Exhibit B). The motion was seconded by Mr. Pallozzi and approved by the Board.

Board of Education Policies

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

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the following proposed policies:

- Proposed Changes to Policy 4006 – PERSONNEL: General-Telecommunications Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 6115.1 – INSTRUCTION: Patriotic Exercises (renumbered to Policy 6116)
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 6141.1 – INSTRUCTION: Curriculum-Experimental Programs
- Proposed Changes to Policy 6166 – INSTRUCTION: Telecommunications Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Board of Education Policies** – Ms. Frances Harris, Chairperson of the Board Policy Committee, stated that the Board of Education's Policy Committee met to consider the policies presented this evening, and that the committee is recommending approval of amendments to these policies. This is the first reading.
- Proposed Changes to Policy 1210 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Community Involvement-Relationship with Parent-Teacher Association
 - Proposed Changes to Policy 1270 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Parent/Guardian and Family Involvement
 - Proposed Changes to Policy 1300 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Use of School Facilities
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 4140 – PERSONNEL: Profession-Compensation and Related Employee Benefits

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits K, L, M, N, and O (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes).

HEARING EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

On a motion of Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved that the hearing examiner's opinion in case #07-42 be affirmed (favor-10; opposed-0). Miss Dittman did not vote on this item.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Ms. Shillman, recommended approval of items 1-7 (Exhibit P).

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. eCatalog Contracts
 - a. Art Photography Supplies
 - b. Art Supplies
 - c. Audio-visual Equipment
 - d. Audio visual Supplies
 - e. Elementary Media
 - f. Family Studies
 - g. First Aid Supplies
 - h. Instructional Materials for Technology Education
 - i. Instrumental Music Supplies
 - j. Interscholastic Athletics Supplies and Equipment
 - k. Interscholastic Football Supplies and Equipment
 - l. Math Supplies
 - m. Medications
 - n. Physical Education Supplies and Equipment
 - o. Science Supplies
 - p. Secondary Media
 - q. Special Education Media
 - r. Textbooks – Elementary School
 - s. Textbooks – High School
 - t. Textbooks – Middle School
 - u. Textbooks – Special Education
 - v. Unique Office Supplies
 - w. Vocal Music Supplies

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

2. Wood Floor Refinishing, Relining, and Repair for Gymnasiums, Stages, and Other Locations
3. Systemic Renovation – Deer Park Middle Magnet School
4. Additional Design Services – Woodlawn Middle School
5. Systemic Renovations – Woodlawn Middle School
6. Window, Blind, and Door Replacement – Johnnycake Elementary School
7. Roof Replacement – Old Court Middle School
8. Replacement of Gymnasium Floor – Western School of Technology

FY 2008 BUDGET APPROPRIATION TRANSFER

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the FY 2008 Budget Appropriation Transfer for a total transfer amount of \$5,400,000 (Exhibit Q). This includes:

- A transfer of \$4,265,000 in utility fee savings to be redirected to fund projected expenditures throughout the system.
- A transfer of \$300,000 in turnover savings to be redirected to fund projected diesel fuel expenditures.
- Reclassifying \$835,000 in AdvancePath capital expenditures for the AdvancePath program expenditures for textbooks and instructional costs.

CURRICULUM PROGRAMS

The Curriculum Committee, represented by Ms. Johnson, recommended approval of the curriculum programs, exhibit R, S, and T.

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Ms. Harris, the Board approved the Proposed Language Arts Pilot Program for Grades 6 and 7, as presented in exhibit R.

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the Proposed Language Arts Program, preK-12, as presented in exhibit S.

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the Proposed Social Studies Program, preK-12, as presented in exhibit T.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Superintendent's Rule 4006 – PERSONNEL: General-Telecommunications Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks
- B. Revised Superintendent's Rule 6115.1 – INSTRUCTION: Patriotic Exercises (renumbered to Policy 6116)
- C. Revised Superintendent's Rule 6166 – INSTRUCTION: Telecommunications Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks
- D. Revised 2007-2008 School Calendar
- E. Financial Report for months ending February 28, 2007 and 2008
- F. Appeal Procedures Handbook

During the presentation of the information item entitled "Appeal Procedures Handbook-Exhibit Z," Ms. Harris stated that staff strongly suggested creating this handbook to help individuals to understand the appeals process. Ms. Harris stated that because the PRC is not a standing Committee, the Committee cannot adopt this information. Ms. Harris recommended that the Board vote for approval of the handbook.

Mr. Hayden moved that the Board approve the Appeal Procedures Handbook. Ms. Shillman seconded the motion.

Mr. Hayden asked in how many languages this handbook could be available. Mr. Dale Rauenzahn, Acting Assistant Superintendent of STEM, responded the student handbook is available in English and four other languages. Mr. Hayden suggested that text in the English version note on the first page of the appeals handbook that the document is available in other languages.

The Board approved the Appeal Procedures Handbook.

With respect to item #1 under New Business, Contract Awards, Ms. Shillman noted that the estimated total award value currently states \$2,750,000. All 23 eCatalog contracts are for a two-year period; therefore the total award value should be \$5,500,000.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Murphy made the following announcements:

- Five community forums will be held on Monday, April 28, to gather public input regarding the preparation of the BCPS Special Education Staffing Plan for 2008-2009. These meetings will also serve as a forum for parents to share information about other special education topics. The first set of community forums were held on September 24, 2007. The meetings will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Charlesmont Elementary, Church Lane Elementary, Dogwood Elementary, Joppa View Elementary, and Ridge Ruxton Schools.
- On Thursday, May 1, 2008, the Board of Education will host its Merit and Ethics Award Ceremony at the Crowne Plaza beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2008, 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 to all open sessions.
- There will be a joint Area Education Advisory Council meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. on the Greenwood campus in the ESS Building.
- The Baltimore County Board of Education will hold a public hearing to seek input about BCPS' FY2010 Capital Budget needs on Wednesday, May 21, 2008, 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.

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 1260

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3410

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3530

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 6145.4

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 6145.7

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 6164.8

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Cathi Forbes expressed her concerns over the way BCPS is handling the feasibility studies. Ms. Forbes believes opening a new school in the Towson area would better help relieve the overcrowding.

Mr. Chris Parts asked the Board to reject placing an addition on Ridge Ruxton School. He asked the Board to consider the best urban school model to meet the needs of a dense population.

Ms. Bonnie Wesselhoff thanked the Board for offering the pilot Baltimore County Virtual Instruction Program (BCVIP). She shared with Board members how the program has been an asset to her family.

Ms. Yara Cheikh read a letter that was sent to the Superintendent from Dr. Issam Cheikh, Director of Diabetes and Endocrinology Center at Union Memorial Hospital, who is alarmed by the increase of diabetes and obesity in school-age students.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (cont)

Ms. Michelle Hart requested that the Board have a separate meeting to address the Board's policy issue regarding the delivery of special education services at public separate day schools.

Ms. Elisa Hartman provided an update on the partnership project between Baltimore Chesapeake Chapter of the Autism Society of America (BCC-ASA) and Baltimore County Public School's Office of Special Education.

Mr. Bill McClea stated that he believes the Towson overcrowding issue should have been addressed sooner.

Ms. Jennifer Arrogancia expressed her concerns that Rodgers Forge Elementary School is at 160% capacity and growing. She believes that Towson should have its own elementary school again.

Mr. Firmin Debrabander expressed his concern with the overcrowding in Towson schools. He urged the Board to consider reopening the former Towson Elementary School.

Ms. Claire Holmes shared her concern on the severe overcrowding at Rodgers Forge Elementary School. She urged the Board to continue to study a full and broad range of alternatives, both short- and long-term, to alleviate the overcrowding in the Towson area schools.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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