

APPROVED MINUTES (7/8/08)

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in open session at 4:48 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., 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 May and June.

At 4:36 p.m., Ms. O'Hare moved the Board adjourn closed session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Parker and approved by the Board.

ADMINISTRATION FUNCTION

Dr. Hairston shared with Board members information concerning the FY09 capital budget.

At 4:48 p.m., Mr. Pallozzi moved that the student member be permitted to participate in closed session collective bargaining discussions. The motion was seconded by Ms. Harris and unanimously approved by the Board.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1), (a)(7), and (a)(8) and upon motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Ms. Harris, the Board commenced its closed session at 4:49 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 4:49 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, 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; 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; Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources; Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director, Human Resources; Mr. Daniel Capozzi, Staff Relations Manager; Margaret-Ann Howie, Esq., General Counsel; Edward Novak, Esq., Assistant General Counsel; P. Tyson Bennett, Esq., Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES (cont)

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

Mr. Capozzi exited the room at 5:08 p.m.

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 5:27 p.m.

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

At 5:30 p.m., Ms. O'Hare moved the Board adjourn its closed session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Parker and approved by the Board.

ADMINISTRATION FUNCTION

Ms. Murphy reviewed with Board members the proposed changes to the Board's meeting configuration and scheduling.

At 6:13 p.m., Mr. Pallozzi moved the Board adjourn from its administrative function session for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Ms. O'Hare and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:35 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 Sara Sparks, a student at Connections Academy, 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 April 22, 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. Vicky Ciulla, a representative of the Advisory Committee for Alternative Programs, introduced Ms. Karen Lombardi and her son, Ryan Hill, who shared with Board members their positive experiences with the Crossroads Center.

Ms. Suzanne DeMallie, a representative of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, was disheartened that sound enhancement was not placed in the FY09 operating budget.

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, shared with Board members some positives regarding the elementary report card. Ms. Bost also proposed improvements to the elementary report card, which include reducing the number of indicators and adding effort grades for every quarter and at least an achievement grade each semester.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston stated this year's countywide Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fair held at Randallstown High School was the largest STEM fair ever. Various activities, demonstrations, and presentations were held throughout the day followed by an awards ceremony.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Board adopted a Resolution honoring the Office of Budget and Reporting for receiving the Meritorious Budget Award for the current fiscal year from the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Governmental Relations, recognized the administrative appointments made at the May 6, 2008 Board meeting:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>MELISSA E. DIDONATO</u> (Effective July 1, 2008)	Teacher/Resource Office of Special Education	Specialist, Public Placement Office of Special Education

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS (cont)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>NICOL A. ELLIOTT</u> (Effective July 1, 2008)	Teacher/Resource Office of Special Education	Specialist, Child Find and Pre-School Office of Special Education
<u>MILDRED B. GUILD</u> (Effective July 1, 2008)	Teacher/Resource Department of Humanities Language Arts	Assistant Principal Lansdowne Elementary School
<u>DOUGLAS H. HANDY</u> (Effective July 1, 2008)	Education Program Specialist I Maryland State Department of Education Programs	Supervisor, Technology Education & Manufacturing/ Engineering/Technology
<u>KYRIA L. JOSEPH</u> (Effective July 1, 2008)	Teacher/Mathematics Woodlawn Middle School	Assistant Principal Woodlawn Middle School
<u>KELLY A. LEHTO</u> (Effective July 1, 2008)	Teacher/Classroom Wellwood International School	Assistant Principal Padonia International Elementary School
<u>MELISSA L. POWERS</u> (Effective July 1, 2008)	Teacher/Classroom Franklin Elementary School	Assistant Principal Harford Hills Elementary School
<u>STACEY A. RATHER</u> (Effective July 1, 2008)	Teacher/Social Studies Woodlawn Middle School	Assistant Principal Woodlawn Middle School
<u>CAROLYN K. WOLF</u> (Effective July 1, 2008)	Assistant Principal Padonia International Elementary School	Principal Padonia International Elementary School

OLD BUSINESS

Board of Education Policies

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

OLD BUSINESS (cont)

Board of Education Policies

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

- 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

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 these policies. This is the first reading.
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 4212 – PERSONNEL: Classified-Creation and Abolition of Positions
 - Proposed Changes to Policy 6212 – INSTRUCTION: Purpose of the Evening High School Program
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 7130 – NEW CONSTRUCTION: Planning-Relationships with the Public
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 7140 – NEW CONSTRUCTION: Planning-Relationships with Other Governmental and Education units
- B. **Report on Proposed Scoreboard at Lansdowne High School** – Dr. Manuel Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Southwest Area, shared with Board members that the scoreboard is being erected with a donation from Lansdowne High Student Council and Lansdowne High School Class of 2007. The installation will be done by Daktronics. This is the first reading.

Because funds are available, Mr. Hayden moved for immediate approval of the proposed scoreboard at Lansdowne High School. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pallozzi.

REPORTS (cont)

Mr. Janssen asked whether the school system would maintain the scoreboard. Mr. Sines responded that the school system would incur the maintenance expenses.

The Board approved the proposed scoreboard at Lansdowne High School.

- C. **Report on New Elementary Report Card** – Ms. Yvonne Barhight, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Department of Humanities, and Ms. Jean Wilson, Principal on Assignment, Department of Humanities, shared with Board members that the new report card is distinct for each of the elementary grades. When compared to the current report card, the specificity and increased number of content area expectations at each grade level provide families with a clear understanding of the essential skills and concepts taught in each discipline. The elementary report cards are aligned to the Articulated Instruction Module (AIM), Baltimore County Public Schools' (BCPS) scope and sequence documents, the Voluntary State Curriculum (VSC), and to local and state assessments. Ms. Wilson noted that the report cards will be electronic so that parents/guardians and teachers may access them from school or home. Ms. Wilson also stated that twenty (20) schools will pilot the report card during the 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Janssen asked how long the school system has been out of alignment with the national and state curriculum. Ms. Wilson responded that one of the changes that occurred was when the school system moved from the MSPAP to the MSAs. There was new wording in the VSC. Mr. Janssen asked why the school system decided not to give health its own curriculum and a separate grade. Ms. Wilson responded there is a fully developed health curriculum for Grades 1-5. The current report card has an effort and achievement grade for health.

Ms. O'Hare asked whether this report card keeps students that cannot write legibly on the honor roll. Ms. Barhight responded that handwriting is part of the VSC.

- D. **Crossroads Center Update** – Mr. Dale Rauenzahn, Acting Assistant Superintendent of STEM, introduced Dr. Robert Tomback, Assistant Superintendent, Northeast Area, and Ms. Donna Vlachos, Principal, Crossroads Center, who provided an update on the center. A recent positive feature that was broadcasted on Fox 45 was played for the Board.

Ms. Vlachos focused on student achievement, safe and orderly environment, and effective use of resources. Overall, gains in reading averaged 1.2 years' growth, while mathematics gains averaged 0.8 months' growth. Considering that these students were delayed by at least two to five years in reading and two to six years in mathematics, these gains are very significant. Ms. Vlachos stated that students have been able to build relationships in a small community. Students can grow significantly because of relations built among students and teachers. BCPS'

REPORTS (cont)

affiliation with the University of Maryland will provide the school system with an external evaluation and review of the Crossroads Center program with surveys of teachers, students, and families to be completed in late May 2008. At this time, the administration at Crossroads Center is focusing on transition activities and preparing students to return to their comprehensive schools next school year.

Mr. Hayden stated that the report reflects 8/10's of a month's gain. Ms. Vlachos noted that the report should read "an eight-months gain." Mr. Hayden commented that 40% of the teaching staff is first-year teachers. Mr. Hayden asked whether first-year teachers were more enthusiastic for the chore. Ms. Vlachos responded that it is a combination of the programs and the relationship between the students and faculty.

Mr. Janssen asked if there was a school resource officer (SRO) at the center with Ms. Vlachos responding affirmatively. Mr. Janssen inquired about the transition from the center to the students' comprehensive schools. Ms. Vlachos responded the transition is multi-faceted. The Crossroads Center connects with the home school in January followed by meetings with parents and social workers to discuss the transition process. Then, worksheets are completed on each student in May and June. Administrators from the student's home school returns to the Crossroads Center to review the student's progress and ensure that the student continues making progress when returning to the comprehensive school.

Mr. Pallozzi asked how many teachers were requesting transfers. Ms. Vlachos responded eight out of 46 staff members have requested transfers.

Ms. Johnson asked what would be the challenges for a student leaving the center and going back to his/her home school. Ms. Vlachos responded that going back to the home school is the student's biggest challenge; however, the center's goal is to support the student academically and emotionally.

Principal Walter Mills, Middle River Middle School, and Principal Thomas Shouldice, Dundalk Middle School, shared with Board members the positive effects that the Crossroads Center has had on each of their respective schools.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

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

HEARING EXAMINER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

On a motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Ms. O'Hare, the Board approved that the hearing examiner's opinion in case #06-37/#07-06 be affirmed (favor-8; opposed-0). Ms. Flynn, Mr. Hayden, Mr. Palozzi, and student member, Miss Dittman, did not vote.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Ms. Shillman, recommended approval of items 1-25 (Exhibit S).

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. MWE-836-07 Contract Modification: Trash Can Liners
2. MBU-578-08 Beverages
3. MWE-807-08 Containerized Refuse and Recycling Collection Services
4. JNI-732-08 English 11 and English 12 Textbooks and Support Materials
5. MBU-566-08 Food Service Products
6. MWE-809-08 Geological Investigation and Soil Gas Remediation
7. MBU-576-08 Ice Cream
8. JNI-726-08 Kidspiration Software Upgrade
9. JNI-729-08 Literacy Management Grant to Evaluate the Technology Literacy of Maryland Teachers and Administrators
10. JNI-715-08 Physical Education Facilities and Equipment – Inspection, Maintenance, Repair, and Installation
11. MBU-577-08 Snacks
12. JNI-797-05 Title I – Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Commissioners of Baltimore City and the Board of Education of Baltimore County
13. JMI-651-05 Contract Modification: Additional Design Services – Pine Grove Middle School
14. MBU-593-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovation – Sparrows Point Middle/High School
15. JNI-716-08 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovation – Sparrows Point Middle/High School
16. PCR-219-08 Storm Drainage Pipe Replacement – Carroll Manor Elementary School
17. MWE-814-08 Drop Loop and Overlay – Charlesmont Elementary School
18. JNI-725-08 ADA Toilet Room Upgrade – Franklin Middle School

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

19. MWE-815-08 Parking Lot and Drop Loop Addition – Halethorpe Elementary School
20. MWE-818-08 Bus Loop and Parking Lot Improvements – Ridgely Middle School
21. PCR-217-08 Miscellaneous Renovations – Scotts Branch Elementary School
22. MBU-582-08 Window, Blind, and Door Replacement – Seneca Elementary School
23. MWE-816-08 Bus Loop and Parking Lot Pavement Replacement – Villa Cresta Elementary School
24. MWE-813-08 Final Cleaning – Vincent Farm Elementary School
25. MWE-817-08 Parking Lot Addition – White Oak School

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Lansdowne High School's Career Program with the Baltimore County Department of Public Works.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Superintendent's Rule 1210 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Community Involvement-Relationship with Parent-Teacher Association
- B. Revised Superintendent's Rule 1270 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Parent/Guardian and Family Involvement
- C. Revised Superintendent's Rule 1300 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Use of School Facilities

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Murphy made the following announcements:

- 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. Those individuals who are unable to address the Board during the public hearing are invited to write to the Board of Education.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

- The Central Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Thursday, May 22, 2008, at George Washington Carver Center for Arts & Technology beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Southeast Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Monday, June 9, 2008, beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 10, 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.

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 RE-ADOPTION OF POLICY 3113

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED RE-ADOPTION OF POLICY 3122

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED RE-ADOPTION OF POLICY 3123

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 3124

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 3131

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 6111

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 6161.2

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 6163.1

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 6174

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 6500

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED 2009-2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Mr. Muhammad Jameel recommended that at least one Board member attend the calendar committee meetings. He asked the Board to set aside one day on the school calendar for Muslim students.

Dr. Bash Pharoan asked the Board to approve the addition of one Islamic holiday on the school calendar. If not, Dr. Pharoan asked the Board to honor only the "COMAR" holidays.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE 2008-2009 SPECIAL EDUCATION STAFFING PLAN

Ms. Jasmine Shriver supports the proposed special education staffing plan as presented to the Board at its last meeting.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Bash Pharoan asked the Board to adopt curricular programs on the economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and Syria. Dr. Pharoan also asked the Board to recognize minorities equally.

Mr. Ralph Michel asked the Board for a budget appropriation transfer to continue the Baltimore County Virtual Instruction Program (BCVIP).

Ms. Sarah Sparks asked the Board to continue the BCVIP program.

Ms. Claire Ricci thanked the Board for its support in resolving the Towson elementary school overcrowding issue. She asked the Board to consider making Cromwell Elementary School a “regular” school instead of a magnet school.

Ms. Marge Smith stated that the Ruxton Ridge Community Association is concerned over the new elementary school to be located on the Ridge Ruxton School property. She believes that all options were not considered.

Ms. Yara Cheikh asked the Board to consider an attendance zone for Hampton Elementary School. She also requested air conditioning for Hampton Elementary, Stoneleigh Elementary, and Ridgely Middle Schools.

Ms. Foster Nichols believes that the new elementary school to be located on the Ridge Ruxton School property is not feasible and not the best solution.

Ms. Bonnie Wesselhoff asked the Board to generate a budget appropriate transfer to continuing funding of the BCVIP.

Ms. Victoria Airey asked the Board to contact the County Executive’s office and urge support of the BCVIP for 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Muhammad Jameel asked the Board to add one Muslim holiday to the school calendar.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

/bls