

APPROVED MINUTES – 01/13/09

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in open session at 5:30 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Earnest E. Hines, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. H. Edward Parker, and Miss Annette Karanja. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1) and (a)(9) and upon motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Hines, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:39 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:39 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Earnest E. Hines, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. H. Edward Parker, and Miss Annette Karanja. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: Ms. Rita Fromm, Chief of Staff; Dr. Patricia Abernethy, Chief Academic Officer; Mr. William Lawrence, Assistant Superintendent, Northwest 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; Mr. Daniel Capozzi, Staff Relations Manager; Anjanette Dixon, Esq., Associate General Counsel; Edward Novak, Esq., Associate General Counsel; Judy Bresler, Esq., Attorney; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

Miss Karanja exited the room at 5:39 p.m.

Mr. Capozzi updated Board members on negotiations with collective bargaining units.

Mr. Capozzi exited the room at 5:55 p.m.

Miss Karanja entered the room at 5:55 p.m.

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

At 5:57 p.m., Mr. Parker moved the Board adjourn its closed session for a brief dinner. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coleman and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 6:30 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Earnest E. Hines, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. H. Edward Parker, and Miss Annette Karanja. 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 Ryan Schemltz and Jack Kahle, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

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

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Ms. Murphy announced that the BCPS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is published annually after completion of the annual audit of the Board's financial statements. The fiscal year 2008 CAFR includes the artwork of students from various schools for the 2007-2008 school year. Ms. Murphy recognized and thanked the students by presenting each student with a U.S. Savings Bond. The students were:

- Kyle Berman – Fort Garrison Elementary School
- Amanda Borsa – Norwood Elementary School
- Caroline Spiccioli – Lutherville Laboratory
- Katie Thor Straten – Catonsville Elementary School
- Julie Tran – Harford Hills Elementary School

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on exhibits A and A1 (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes).

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Report on NSBA Technology and Leadership (T+L²) Conference** – Mr. Hines shared with Board members roundtable discussions and workshops he and Ms. O’Hare attended in October. The T+L² Conference, hosted by the National School Boards Association’s (NSBA) Education Technology Department, is recognized as the premier national event for decision-makers who choose and use technology in schools.

Speak Up 2008, a national online research project, gives parents, teachers, and students the opportunity to share their viewpoints about key educational issues. Mr. Hines shared a few results from the survey noting that:

- Thirty percent (30%) of Kindergarten through Grade 3 students have cell phones.
- Sixty percent (60%) of all students own or have access to a cell phone.
- Students who regularly play games on a cell phone score five to seven points higher on core courses.
- Seventy percent (70%) of all students want their own laptop as their number one device.
- From 2000 to 2008, Internet usage is up 900% in Africa and Asia.
- Online learning is up 24%.
- Students desire more virtual learning opportunities supplemented with field trips.

Mr. Janssen asked if there was any discussion on virtual academies. Mr. Hines responded in the affirmative. The discussions revolved around fewer instructors and more virtual learning capabilities so that students can learn at their own pace.

- B. **Report on NSBA Councils of Urban Boards of Education (CUBE) Conference** – Ms. Johnson reported on the annual CUBE conference noting this year’s theme focused on equipping urban schools with 21st century skills. Various work sessions held included workforce opportunities for youth, fostering healthy and successful students, and strategies for addressing the dramatic dropout rate faced by urban schools. Ms. Johnson noted subset sessions such as challenges youth face when they are unprepared for the workforce, lack of skills in education limits ability to earn a decent wage, and continuing to improve what is offered students in the classroom. Ms. Johnson stated that additional reports and publications are available online at <http://www.nsba.org/CUBE>.

REPORTS (cont)

- C. **Board of Education Policies** – Mr. H. Edward Parker, a representative of the Board’s 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 Changes to Policy 2000 – ADMINISTRATION: Administrative and Supervisory Personnel
 - Proposed Changes to Policy 2111 – ADMINISTRATION: Superintendent of Schools
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2112 – ADMINISTRATION: Deputy Superintendent
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2113 – ADMINISTRATION: Associate Superintendent
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2114 – ADMINISTRATION: Assistant Superintendent
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2120 – ADMINISTRATION: Directors, Coordinators, and Supervisors
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2131 – ADMINISTRATION: Assistant to Superintendent
 - Proposed Changes to Policy 2132 – ADMINISTRATION: Consultant
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2134 – ADMINISTRATION: Office of Research
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2211 – ADMINISTRATION: Principal
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2212 – ADMINISTRATION: Assistant Principal
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2221 – ADMINISTRATION: Elementary School Administrative Assistant
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2222 – ADMINISTRATION: Principal’s Administrative Staff: Department Chair
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 2230 – ADMINISTRATION: Helping Teacher
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 4157 – PERSONNEL: Professional-Vacations
 - Proposed Changes to Policy 5110 – STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance-Admission
 - Proposed Changes to Policy 5120 – STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance-Attendance and Excuses
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 5160 – STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance-Transfers
 - Proposed Changes to Policy 5450 – STUDENTS: Services to Students-Accident Insurance (renumber to 3151)

REPORTS (cont)

- D. **FY2007 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Single Audit Report** - Mr. Rodger Janssen, Chair of the Budget and Audit Committee, presented the fiscal year 2008 financial and single audit report and the management letter to the Board. He noted that the auditing firm of Clifton and Gunderson had reviewed all the reports and findings in detail with the Budget and Audit Committee members and staff. Mr. Janssen stated that the Board received an “unqualified opinion” on the CAFR, which is the greatest level of assurance that an auditor can give to indicate that the financial statements of an organization are not materially misstated.

Although the Single Audit Report contained two findings, Mr. Janssen stated that staff has already developed and/or implemented corrective action to address the findings. Mr. Janssen noted that BCPS has achieved the status of a “low risk auditee” for fiscal year 2009. Staff will provide updates at future Budget and Audit Committee meetings to report progress made in addressing the findings, and any unresolved concerns will be reported to the full Board.

- E. **Update on Performance Goals** – Ms. Jean Satterfield, Assistant Superintendent for the Southeast Area, shared with Board members the area assistant superintendents’ role in performance goals. The daily work of the area offices is to manage and support all schools to ensure student achievement and success. Ms. Satterfield reviewed activities and tasks the area offices are involved in throughout the year.

Mr. Lyle Patzkowsky, Central Area Assistant Superintendent, reviewed the organizational planning phase, school improvement plans (SIP), and staff development, all of which occurs between August and October.

Mr. William Lawrence, Northwest Area Assistant Superintendent, reviewed program development, which includes school visits, principals’ meetings, school organization, and ongoing professional development. Weekly readiness meetings are held in July in preparation for the opening of schools in August.

Dr. Manuel Rodriguez, Southeast Area Assistant Superintendent, focused on information related to restructured schools. Three important points noted were:

- *Blueprint for Progress* is the framework for BCPS; continuous improvement efforts utilizing the service model and alignment.
- All students can and will achieve regardless of ethnicity, zip code, gender, socio-economic status.
- Restructuring plans have elements in place that have systemically been used across the school system (i.e. highly qualified teachers, master schedules, principals’ cabinets, short-cycle assessments, and benchmarking).

REPORTS (cont)

Area Assistant Superintendents reviewed their respective MSA data for elementary, middle, and high schools. All areas experienced percentage point gains in mathematics and reading.

In terms of middle and high schools, Ms. Johnson asked which school showed the most significant gain. Mr. Lawrence responded that all middle and high schools made gains; however, Deer Park Middle Magnet School and Milford Mill Academy made significant gains. Mr. Lawrence also noted that Milford Mill Academy made AYP and has been removed from the State's school improvement list. Ms. Johnson asked whether performance plans vary by school. Mr. Lawrence responded that the school improvement plans (SIP) are web-based using a standard template. The SIP is driven by data unique to the individual school.

Mr. Hines asked if there is anything the Board can do in addition to visiting schools. Ms. Satterfield responded that the Board can support PTA functions, approve capital and operating budgets, and listening to stakeholders and the public.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Financial Report for months ending September 30, 2007 and 2008.
- B. September 30, 2008 Enrollments, Projections, and Capacities Report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Murphy made the following announcements:

- The Central Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Thursday, November 20, 2008, at Pot Spring Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will host a dinner meeting with the Baltimore County Executive and Baltimore County Council on Tuesday, November 25, 2008, at approximately 6:00 p.m. The dinner will be held in the Administrative Building on the Greenwood Campus.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next business meeting on Tuesday, December 2, 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. The open session will reconvene at approximately 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome to all open sessions.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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