

APPROVED MINUTES – 4/21/09

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in closed session at 4:00 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, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, and Mr. David Uhlfelder. In addition, Ms. Rita Fromm, Chief of Staff, and staff members were present.

The Board entertained oral argument in Hearing Examiner's Case #08-25. The matter was heard in closed session.

In addition to the above listed Board members, the following persons were present for oral argument: the Appellant; Thomas S. Hood, Esquire, Hood & Scholnick, P.A.; Dr. Patricia E. Abernethy, Chief Academic Officer; Dr. Manuel B. Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Southwest Area; Anjanette Dixon, Esquire, Associate General Counsel; Andrew W. Nussbaum, Esquire, Legal Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education.

The proceedings of the hearing were recorded by a court reporter.

Board members deliberated on the case.

The deliberation was concluded at 5:18 p.m.

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Mr. Janssen, the Board adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in open session at 5:29 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. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Miss Annette Karanja. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of School, and staff members were present.

Ms. Murphy reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in March and April.

Mr. Janssen encouraged Board members to attend Hernwood's Annual "Hop for Hopkins" to be held on Friday, March 20, 2009, beginning at 7:10 p.m. at Hernwood Elementary School.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Articles, §§10-508(a)(1) and (a)(7) and upon motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:32 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:32 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, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Miss Annette Karanja. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: Dr. Patricia E. Abernethy, Chief Academic Officer; Ms. Rita Fromm, Chief of Staff; Dr. Jonathan Brown, Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction; 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; Edward J. Novak, Esquire, Associate General Counsel; Andrew W. Nussbaum, Esquire, 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.

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

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Mr. Hines, the Board adjourned its closed session at 5:34 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION

At 5:34 p.m., Board members discussed the following items:

- Hearing examiners' schedule.
- Self-evaluation process and timeline.
- Superintendent's mid-year evaluation.

At 6:40 p.m., the Board adjourned for a brief dinner recess.

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: Mr. James E. Coleman, 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, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder, 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 Mr. Chris Long, a student at Towson University, 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 February 10, 2009; the Report on the Board of Education Work Session of February 24, 2009; and the Report on the Board of Education Public Hearing of February 25, 2009, 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. Wendy Hernandez, a representative of the Advisory Committee for Alternative Programs, shared with Board members her daughter's tremendous experience with the Even Start Program.

Ms. Laura Mullen, Chair of the Central Area Educational Advisory Council, reported on the Council's February 26, 2009, meeting held at Riderwood Elementary School. Topics discussed were: additional crosswalks and signage around Dulaney High School, lack of air conditioning at Ridgely Middle School, and the elimination of Grade 10 Gifted and Talented (G/T) World History at Dulaney High School.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS (cont)

Mr. Clifford Collins, Chair of the Northwest Area Educational Advisory Council, reported on the council's February 19, 2009, meeting held at Old Court Middle School. The discussion focused on the school improvement planning process including how and why community participation are critical to improving student achievement.

Mr. Stephen Crum, Chair of the Career & Technology Education (CTE) Advisory Council, reported on the council's March 9, 2009, meeting where the biomedical science program "Project Lead the Way" was discussed. Mr. Crum announced the CTE business/industry site visit is scheduled for March 18, 2009.

Mr. Carl Bailey, Chair of the Diversity and Achievement Steering Committee (DASC), shared with Board members that, at the meeting with the County Executive, DASC urged the County Executive to fully support the Board's FY2010 proposed operating budget as submitted. Mr. Bailey announced that the Committee's next meeting would be held on March 12, 2009.

Ms. Nancy Ostrow, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, shared with Board members the council's upcoming activities. She noted that the Council urged the County Executive to fully support the Board's FY2010 proposed operating budget. Ms. Ostrow announced that the PTA's Reflection Ceremony will be held on Sunday, March 22, 2009, at New Town High School.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston shared with Board members his participation at the Blue Ribbon Schools Honors Dinner, honoring Seventh District Elementary School for its recent designation as a Maryland Blue Ribbon School.

Dr. Hairston noted his attendance in Annapolis three consecutive days to discuss high school assessments (HSA), school construction, and testing. He stated that Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) is conducting a thorough investigation on test questions and reviewing the curriculum manual to ensure full alignment.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, recognized the administrative appointments from the February 24, 2009, Board meeting.

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
<u>DEBRA BARBOUR</u> (Effective February 25, 2009)	Academic Director of Special Education Baltimore City Public School System	Coordinator Office of Special Education, Placement and Birth-to-Five

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS (cont)

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
<u>SANDRA D. WILKINS</u> (Effective February 25, 2009)	Assistant Principal Hebbsville Elementary School	Principal Hebbsville Elementary School
<u>LANCE R. WILLIAMS</u> (Effective February 25, 2009)	Assistant Principal Towson High School	Coordinator Office of Special Education ALT-MSA, and Related Services

RECOGNITION OF ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Peccia recognized the area education advisory council appointment from the February 10, 2009, Board meeting.

Ms. Jackie Brewster Southeast Area – new appointment

OLD BUSINESS

Board of Education Policies

The Board Policy Committee, represented by Ms. Harris, recommended approval of seven (7) policies. This is the third reading.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board approved the following proposed policies:

- Proposed Changes to Policy 1110 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Communications with the Public-Publications, Radio, Television, and Web sites
- Proposed Changes to Policy 2300 – ADMINISTRATION: Administrative Operations
- Proposed Changes to Policy 2310 – ADMINISTRATION: Administrative Operations-Organizational Units and Structural Relationships
- Proposed Changes to Policy 2320 – ADMINISTRATION: Administrative Operations-Line of Responsibility
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 2330 – ADMINISTRATION: Administrative Operations-Councils and Committees
- Proposed Changes to Policy 5320 – STUDENTS: Activities-Organizations

OLD BUSINESS (cont)

- Proposed Changes to Policy 8140 – INTERNAL BOARD POLICY: Operations – Formulation of Administrative Regulations

Proposed Boundary Change for Chesapeake Terrace/Edgemere Elementary Schools

Ms. O'Hare moved approval of the Boundary Committee's recommendation, Scenario 1, for Chesapeake Terrace/Edgemere Elementary Schools (exhibit I). The motion was seconded by Ms. Harris.

Mr. Uhlfelder stated the Board had received numerous letters from the community on the proposed boundary change and asked whether staff had any comments. Ms. Satterfield responded that:

- Chesapeake Terrace Elementary School is an open space school. In 2003, walls were constructed to provide more contained classrooms.
- All schools must comply with the school system's special transfer policies and rules.
- Board Policy 1280, Boundary Changes, was followed. However, whenever there are boundary changes, there could be an impact on any community.
- The same quality of curriculum and instruction exists in all southeast area schools.
- Meeting notices were posted at Chesapeake Terrace and Edgemere Elementary Schools, Sparrows Point Middle/High School, St. Luke's Catholic Church, and Food Lion, as well as announcements in the local newspapers.
- Current fourth graders, by definition of Policy 1280, can remain at Edgemere Elementary School for Grade 5.

The Board approved Scenario 1 (favor-11; opposed-0; abstained-0). Student representative, Miss Karanja, did not vote.

Following the vote, Dr. Hairston provided to Board members a draft Memorandum of Understanding for a proof of concept for use of virtual worlds in technology education at Chesapeake High School.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

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

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Mr. Pallozzi, recommended approval of items 1-16 (exhibit N). Ms. Johnson separated items 3 and 5 for further discussion.

The Board approved items 1, 2, 4, and 6 through 16.

1. JNI-729-09 Active Basic, Optional and Dependent Life, Personal Accident Insurance (AD&D), and Retiree Basic and Optional Life
2. RGA-957-09 K-8 Mathematics Cohort: Master of Arts in Education with a Concentration in Mathematics Instructional Leadership
4. PCR-233-09 Petroleum Solvent Parts Washers
6. JNI-730-09 Voluntary Whole Life with Long-term Care and Critical Illness with Cancer Insurance
7. MBU-572-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovations – Cockeyville Middle School
8. PCR-261-07 Contract Modification: Renovation – Sudbrook Magnet Middle School
9. JNI-701-09 Replacement of Windows, Blinds, and Doors – Bedford Elementary School
10. MBU-512-09 Installation of Generators at Greenwood Campus
11. RGA-125-09 Utility Service – Greenwood Campus
12. JNI-747-09 Roof Design and Contract Administration Services – Halstead Academy, Prettyboy Elementary School, Carney Elementary School, Pot Spring Elementary School, and Seventh District Elementary School
13. MWE-813-09 Replacement of Windows, Blinds, and Doors – Riderwood Elementary School
14. JMI-613-09 HVAC Renovation – Sandalwood Elementary School
15. JNI-739-09 Forest Conservation Easement Fee-in-Lieu – Dogwood Elementary School
16. RGA-124-09 Request for Right-of-Way Agreement at New Town High School

Items 3 and 5

Ms. Johnson asked how candidates are selected for these programs. Mr. George Newberry, Director of Science, PreK-12, responded that BCPS advertises the programs to teachers within the system. Teachers will then attend a meeting, held by the university, to discuss the cohort, requirements, and cost. Teachers will apply for the cohort through the university, and the university selects participants. Ms. Patricia Baltzley, Director of Mathematics, explained that the same process is followed for the mathematics cohort.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

The Board approved items 3 and 5.

3. RGA-958-09 Master of Arts in Education with Concentration in Secondary Inquiry-based Science Pedagogy
5. RGA-959-09 Secondary Mathematics Cohort: Master of Arts in Education with a Concentration in Secondary Mathematics

HEARING EXAMINERS' RECOMMENDATIONS

On a motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved that the hearing examiner's opinion in case #09-04 be affirmed (favor-11). Student representative, Miss Karanja, did not vote.

SCHOOL LEGISLATION

Edward J. Novak, Esquire, Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Policy Matters, reviewed with the Board proposed legislation currently under consideration by the General Assembly.

Mr. Uhlfelder requested that detailed information be placed on the exhibit for Board review and approval (i.e. who introduced the bill and why the administration supports or opposes the bill).

Mr. Uhlfelder asked why the administration opposes HB1053. Mr. Novak responded that this bill could have a potential impact on smaller vendors or businesses. Smaller businesses may not be able to meet the statewide requirement to provide goods and services.

Mr. Uhlfelder and Ms. Roddy expressed concern that the legislative bills are being presented to the Board after the hearings have been held. Mr. Novak stated that the purpose of this report is to update the Board on the status of previously presented bills, as well as requesting positions on new bills. Dr. Hairston stated that it is a timing issue. The Board meets twice a month; legislative bills move constantly during the 90-day session. Dr. Hairston noted that the Board does meet with legislators in the fall, prior to the session, to ensure there is no legislation that would be adverse to the school system's operations.

On motion of Mr. Harris, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board voted to oppose HB1053 – Community Environmental Protection Act of 2009 (favor-12).

ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE PLAN – DUNDALK HIGH SCHOOL

Ms. Jean Satterfield, Assistant Superintendent, Southeast Area, presented the staff's recommendations to the Board for approval regarding the restructuring plan for Dundalk High School. Mr. P. Thomas Shouldice, principal of Dundalk High School, stated that the high school has not made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in Graduation Rate for the past two years and did not make AYP for two subgroups: English Language Learners (ELL) and students receiving special education services, respectively. Mr. Shouldice shared with Board members the top five action steps:

1. Develop and maintain a professional learning community committed to excellence and high expectations for every student.
2. Design, implement, monitor, evaluate, and adjust ongoing differentiated professional development in the use and analysis of data to support informed decision making about students' academic achievement and graduation rate.
3. Develop and enhance existing community-based partnerships focused on academic excellence, preparing students for the workplace and college, and ensuring that students graduate from high school.
4. Review, monitor, evaluate, and refine the school-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program to improve attendance, increase instructional time, and maximize opportunities for learning for all students.
5. Review, evaluate, and refine the school schedule and organization to support extended learning opportunities and increased instructional time.

Mr. Parker commented that increased instructional time should not reduce the class time for music, art, and physical education. Mr. Shouldice stated that as Dundalk High moves from a four-period A/B schedule day to a 60-minute every day schedule, students will go from 7-1/2 hours of instructional time a day to ten hours.

Ms. Johnson asked why the dropout rate was so high. Mr. Shouldice responded that the issues are: attendance; 9th and 10th graders were repeaters and therefore, becoming unengaged; and high mobility rate—students feel disengaged and not part of the school community. Ms. Johnson asked whether the history of the school is displayed throughout the building. Mr. Shouldice responded that while the school's history is not displayed throughout the building, the school does have a museum. Ms. Johnson asked if students provided input and feedback into the process. Mr. Shouldice responded that students and teachers recently completed a survey and that information will be used as the administration develops specific programs.

Ms. O'Hare asked if there is a correlation between the dropout rate, the mobility level, and the reading level. Mr. Shouldice responded that it is the high mobility rate; students coming in from Grades 7 through 9 from other schools with a fourth grade reading level. A lot of resources are used to bring these students up to the appropriate reading level.

ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE PLAN – DUNDALK HIGH SCHOOL (cont)

Mr. Janssen asked whether additional counselors would be required. Mr. Shouldice responded in the affirmative. Mr. Shouldice stated that every student must have a graduation plan and that plan needs to be monitored. Mr. Shouldice noted that funding is in the FY10 operating budget request for the governance plan and differentiation. Mr. Janssen asked how the school was going to address the students who were behind since most of them cannot attend an after-school program or Saturday school. Mr. Shouldice responded that, through the marketing plan, the administration is looking at implementing several programs: bringing parents and the community to the school house; study hall for all scholar athletes before practice; no student can go one week with grades falling, changing the schedule to engage students more routinely in the learning process; and using Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) strategies.

Mr. Coleman asked whether the AVID program was currently at Dundalk High School. Mr. Shouldice responded that the program is at every grade level. Mr. Shouldice stated that the goal is to have two AVID classes at each grade level next school year.

Mr. Hines asked Mr. Shouldice to think of ways that the Board can collectively help Dundalk High School in areas such as culture, resources, and programs. Ms. Johnson concurred.

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Harris, the Board approved the Alternative Governance Plan for Dundalk High School: Replace all or most of the school staff who are impeding the progress of the school (exhibit P).

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Superintendent's Rule 1110 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Communications with the Public-Publications, Radio, Television, and Web Site
- B. New Superintendent's Rule 5320 – STUDENTS: Activities-Organizations

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Murphy made the following announcements:

- The Northwest Area Educational Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2009, at Scotts Branch Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:30 p.m. The Board will then adjourn to meet in closed session. The open session will reconvene at approximately 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome to all open sessions.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED NAMING OF THE NEW TOWSON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 2361

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 3141

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3142 (renumbered to 4009)

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 4100

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 4113

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Judith Wilson-Burkes stated that her son was in the Baltimore County Virtual Instruction Program (BCVIP) last year and that his self-esteem increased while in the program. She asked the Board to include the BCVIP in its planning and funding for next year.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (cont)

Ms. Kia Cummings asked the Board to place the virtual instruction program in the budget for fiscal year 2010.

Ms. Amy Sparks asked the Board to reconsider placing the BCVIP into the fiscal year 2010 budget.

Ms. Victoria Airey asked the Board to be the leader in the 21st century and bring back the BCVIP and support eMerging Minds.

Dr. Bash Pharoan asked the Superintendent and Board for data that supports the proposal to close the school system on a religious holiday.

Mr. Muhammad Jameel asked that all religious holidays be recognized equally.

Ms. Bonnie Wesselhoff asked the school system to continue the tradition and expand options that would include the virtual instruction program.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

/bls