

APPROVED MINUTES – 09/08/09

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, August 25, 2009

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in open session at 5:45 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. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esq., and Mr. David Uhlfelder. 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 August, September, and October.

Board member, Ms. Ramona Johnson, entered the room at 5:47 p.m.

Ms. Murphy distributed the Board's draft 2009-2010 focus areas for review. Board members were asked to provide any additional changes to Ms. Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board, by Friday, August 28, 2009.

Ms. Johnson requested that the Board receive an update on the Office of Communications. Ms. Murphy asked the Superintendent to provide the Board with a status report at its October work session.

Following the discussion on upcoming school board association events, the Board adjourned at 6:08 p.m. for a brief dinner.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 6:33 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, Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esq., and Mr. David Uhlfelder. 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 Dr. Lisa Williams, 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.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Mr. Pallozzi, recommended approval of item 1 (exhibit H).

The Board approved this recommendation.

1. JN1-773-10 Supplemental Reading Resources and Professional Development

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Board of Education Policies** – Ms. O’Hare stated that the Board of Education’s Policy Committee met to consider the policies to be presented this evening, and that the committee is recommending approval of these policies. This is the first reading.

- Proposed Deletion of Policy 5170 – STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance-Assignment to Special Education Program
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 5171 – STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance-Impartial Due Process Hearing Procedures – Ms. Roddy noted that the new Policy 6402 does not include a reference to due process. J. Stephen Cowles, Associate General Counsel, stated that due process procedures are part of both federal law and state regulation. Ms. Patricia Lawton, Director of Special Education, noted that parents receive the Procedural Safeguards Notice at their each Individualized Education Plans (IEP) meeting.

Mr. Schmidt asked who is the “certified independent hearing officer who is not an employee of the Baltimore County Public Schools.” Mr. Cowles responded that the office of administrative hearings, a state agency.

- Proposed New Policy 6402 – INSTRUCTION: Special Education Program and Services

- B. **Report on the Proposed Announcer Sign at Hebbville Elementary School (first reading)** – In accordance with Board Policy 7330, Dr. Manuel Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Southwest Area, informed Board members that the announcer board is being erected with a donation from the PTA and that installation will be done by Urban Francis LLC. This is the first reading.

REPORTS (cont)

Mr. Pallozzi moved to waive the three-reading process on this item. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. The Board approved waiving the three reading on exhibit E (favor – 11).

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, the Board approved the proposed announcer sign at Hebbville Elementary School (favor – 11).

- C. **Report on the Proposed Announcer Sign at Middleborough Elementary School (first reading)** – In accordance with Board Policy 7330, Mr. Lyle Patzkowsky, Assistant Superintendent, Southeast Area, informed Board members that the announcer board is being erected with a donation from Middleborough Elementary School’s PTA. This is the first reading.

Mr. Pallozzi moved to waive the three-reading process on this item. Mr. Hines seconded the motion. The Board approved waiving the three reading on exhibit F (favor – 11).

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Ms. Roddy, the Board approved the proposed announcer sign at Middleborough Elementary School (favor – 11).

- D. **Report on the Proposed Naming of the Perry Hall High School Track (first reading)** – Ms. Verletta White, Assistant Superintendent, Central Area, informed the Board of the request to name the track at Perry Hall High School the “Gerald L. Martin Track” in honor of Mr. Martin. Mr. Martin retired from Baltimore County Public Schools in 1999 and passed away in June 2009. This is the first reading.

Mr. Janssen moved to waive the three-reading process on this item. Mr. Pallozzi seconded the motion. The Board approved waiving the three reading on exhibit G (favor – 11).

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the proposed naming of the Perry Hall High School track to the “Gerald L. Martin Track” (favor – 11).

Mr. Parker requested that a task force be appointed to review the Board’s practice regarding the three-reading process. Ms. Murphy stated she would appoint the committee and asked that a report be presented to the Board at its September work session.

REPORTS (cont)

- E. **Report/Discussion on the Proposed FY 2011 State and Capital Budget Request (exhibit H)** – Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the project priority order and provided background information on the capital budget process. She stated that the Board will take action at its September 8 meeting on the state capital request. Ms. Burnopp noted that one project has been added to the request: Herford High School water tower replacement. This item was separated from the Hereford High School renovation/addition project should state funding not be available.

Ms. Murphy inquired about the listing of the projects. Ms. Burnopp stated that the list of projects is in priority order. Those priorities can be changed by the Board. Ms. Burnopp reminded the Board that the State can choose which projects qualify or disqualify for state funding.

Ms. Roddy asked why Riverview Elementary and Old Court Middle Schools are listed for air conditioning. Mr. J. Kurt Buckler, Administrator for Physical Facilities, responded that Riverview Elementary is a partially air conditioned school. When the systemic renovations were performed in FY2002, so that a chiller could be added in the future when the existing chiller failed. Old Court Middle School was approved and funded by the state in FY2009 as a limited renovation project. Once a limited renovation project is complete, the school system can return to that particular school with additional systemic projects. Riverview Elementary and Old Court Middle Schools were selected for the priority list due to the low cost of both projects.

Mr. Janssen asked whether the school system has a contract ready to replace the water tower. Mr. Buckler responded that a study on the tower was completed last summer and that the Baltimore County Department of Public Works has on-call design consultants as needed. Mr. Janssen suggested that the Hereford High School water tower replacement project move up on the priority list.

Ms. O'Hare asked about the capacity number of the new George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology. Dr. Hairston noted that there is an extensive waiting list for students who want to attend the school, so that the number of students able to attend will increase.

Mr. Pallozzi asked whether air conditioning was included in the Hampton Elementary School or Stoneleigh Elementary School renovation projects with Mr. Buckler responding in the affirmative.

REPORTS (cont)

Ms. O'Hare asked for a "timetable" for completing air conditioning in all schools. Mr. Buckler responded that as systems are coming to the end of their useful lives, Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) is including such systems in the capital budget to keep the schools operational. Mr. Buckler stated that Ridgely Middle School was approved by the state in the FY2006 capital budget as a renovation project. Once approved as a renovation project by the state, the school system cannot go back into that school and request or receive state funding for 16 years. Therefore, Ridgely Middle School is ineligible for state funding.

With respect to the capital planning and priorities timeline for FY2011-FY2014, Mr. Janssen asked whether feasibility studies had been completed. Ms. Michele Prumo, Executive Director of Planning and Support Operations, responded that this planning document gives the Board a perspective of where BCPS will need capacity and that a feasibility study would be completed during that particular planning year.

Mr. Hines asked whether there were emergency funds to cover the Hereford High School water tower replacement if needed. Ms. Burnopp responded that the school system will work with the county to request forward funding or redirect projects.

Mr. Hines asked how many projects on this priority list are related to improving air conditioning. Mr. Buckler responded that 25 out of the 35 requested projects include air conditioning. Mr. Hines stated that this type of information needs to be disseminated to communities.

Mr. Schmidt asked whether the limited renovations category allowed the school system to return for funding before 16 years had run out. Mr. Buckler responded that the purpose of the limited renovation category was to allow school systems to propose a systemic renovation for a particular school for state approval and funding.

Mr. Parker asked what funding the school system could expect to receive from the state. Ms. Burnopp responded that the priorities listed are based on previous state funding.

Ms. Roddy asked whether the state could approve Dundalk and Sollers Point High Schools for planning and then come back for funding at a later date. Ms. Burnopp stated that if the school system receives planning approval, it can move forward with funded projects.

REPORTS (cont)

Ms. O'Hare asked that, if BCPS would receive stimulus money, whether the money could be directed to projects that are "shovel ready" like Dundalk and Sollers Point High Schools. Ms. Burnopp stated that the only project available now is Quality School Construction Bonds (QSCB) program, which allows the county to bond at no interest. Ms. O'Hare asked whether this program would cover the Dundalk and Sollers Point projects. Ms. Burnopp responded that it would be part of the county money to match these projects.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Murphy made the following announcements:

- Schools and offices will be closed for Labor Day on Monday, September 7, 2009. Schools and offices will reopen on Tuesday, September 8, 2009.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 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 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome to all open sessions.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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