

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY RETREAT

Sunday, September 14, 2003

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session for a retreat on Sunday, September 14, 2003, at 10:13 a.m. at the Marshy Point Nature Center, Marshy Point Road, Baltimore, MD. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were in attendance: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Ms. Francesca Cirincione, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzyski, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, Ms. Joy Shillman and Mr. James Walker. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Carol Saffran-Brinks, Assistant County Attorney; Mr. Douglas Neilson, Chief Communications Officer; Ms. Cheryl Bost, TABCO President; Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board, and the media were present.

STUDENT EXPULSIONS & SUSPENSIONS

Through a Power Point™ presentation, Mr. Dale Rauenzahn presented *“Student Hearings: The Appeal Process.”* He started by discussing how the number of hearings has decreased. In 1995-96, there were 76 hearings (2 per week in a 36 week period). In 2002-03, there were 2 hearings total. He remarked that zero cases have gone to the State Board.

Mr. Rauenzahn reviewed the purpose of an appeal and the Board’s authority; the definition of “expulsion” as the removal of a student from the regular state program; and the alternatives offered to expelled students.

Additionally, Mr. Rauenzahn discussed incidents or offenses that result in student(s) violating school rules and/or county policies and rules.

Mr. Rauenzahn then reviewed what occurs at the Designee’s hearing including the information provided to parents about the appeal and mitigation process.

Mr. Rauenzahn briefly explained the different between the appeal and mitigation processes, including the roles of the Appeals & Mitigation Officer as well as the Legal Counsel to the Superintendent.

Lastly, Mr. Rauenzahn outlined the Board’s role in the expulsion hearing process.

Mr. Grzyski asked whether this presentation had ever been provided at PTA meetings. Mr. Rauenzahn responded very few times has this been presented, however, the material is available to the PTA Council.

Mr. Sasiadek called for a ten-minute break at 11:13 a.m.

THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT

At 11:25 a.m., Mr. Sasiadek introduced Mr. Eric B. Schwartz, Esq., Staff Attorney for Charles County Public Schools. Mr. Schwartz's presentation was entitled, "Five Questions Which Must Be Addressed Before Closing A Meeting."

Mr. Schwartz reviewed the scope of the Act, its exceptions, how it applies to the "public body", and the procedure for issuing public notification of a closed meeting.

Lastly, Mr. Schwartz discussed the requirements for closing a meeting.

Mr. Sasiadek announced a lunch break at 12:10 p.m.

The retreat reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

BOARD NORMS

Ms. Ettinger briefly discussed the committee that was established to write the proposed Board Norms, a copy of which she distributed. She stated these norms might help assist the Board regarding their behavior. Ms. Ettinger asked Board members to review the Board Norms and provide comment. Changes recommended were: 1) replace "Elected" officials with "Public" officials, and 2) add Retreats to the sixth bullet.

Mr. Grzymiski congratulated the committee for its work in developing the norms. He recommended reviewing the norms annually at a retreat. Ms. Shillman stated Board norms institutionalize the Board's beliefs and behavior. She agreed with Mr. Grzymiski to review the norms annually.

Mr. Arnold suggested the Board vote on the norms at one of its regular sessions. Ms. Ettinger will work with Ms. Stiffler to get the appropriate changes made and place the Board norms on the agenda for vote at the September 23rd meeting.

Mr. Arnold recommended, in the future, we change the wording of "We" to "I" and possibly have Board members sign the norms.

INTERNAL PROCEDURES

Mr. Sasiadek reviewed the information distributed to Board members and staff in the Board Notebook, which included: Calendars, Board Norms, Open Meetings Act, Political Information, and Blueprint for Progress. Mr. Sasiadek recommended that this information be placed on the Board of Education website.

Mr. Sasiadek reviewed housekeeping items and future events with Board members. He asked Board members to provide suggestions for topics for future work sessions.

Mr. Sasiadek distributed a memo from Ms. Rita Fromm regarding the upcoming hearing on the Woodholme Elementary project. Dr. Hairston stated that government officials would be at the hearing to present the community with an overview of the plans to construct an elementary school at the proposed site.

Mr. Sasiadek reviewed the list of possible constituent groups for dinner on a board night or a non-board night and requested suggestions from Board members.

Mr. Sasiadek addressed the possibility of having work sessions on the third Tuesday of every month. The intent is to have Board members automatically set this day aside for possible work sessions, thereby not interfering with other obligations. Additionally, lengthy reports presented at Board meetings could be provided at these work sessions.

Dr. Hairston remarked that there could exist a gray line between work session and Board meetings. He feels that staff needs a reasonable amount of time to validate the information before presenting.

Mr. Grzynski recommended that staff be provided report-structuring guidelines (e.g., number of slides). Ms. Ettinger stated she would like enough lead time to read and digest the information. She also expressed concern about the public receiving incomplete reports. She recommended that one copy be marked "draft" before going out. Ms. Jung recommended reports be made available through the education channel.

Dr. Hairston stated staff would make every effort to have the reports completed in a timely manner so Board members have the opportunity to review the material.

Additionally, Dr. Hairston stated that unless there is a severe time constraint, staff would make available a contract person with whom the Board can talk regarding a specific report.

Based on discussion, Mr. Sasiadek reiterated:

- Reports to be provided ahead of time, where practical
- Reports marked "draft," when necessary
- Agenda to be reviewed ahead of time and determine if a report could be considered a work session item
- A work session should be scheduled on the alternate Tuesday of the month, that is, a non-Board meeting day.

Mr. Sasiadek invited Board members to discuss the current configuration of the public comments period at the Board meetings. After thoughtful consideration and extended discussion by the Board, Mr. Sasiadek stated public comment would remain at the end of the Board meeting.

Mr. Sasiadek distributed the Board of Education Committee Members list from the prior year. Board members were requested to review the committees they are currently on and adjust accordingly. Mr. Sasiadek requested Ms. Stiffler make the appropriate changes to the committee member list and disseminate.

The retreat was concluded at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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TENTATIVE MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, September 23, 2003

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 4:15 p.m. at Loch Raven High School. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymiski, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, Ms. Joy Shillman and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

The Board entertained oral argument in Hearing Examiner's Case #03-30. The case was heard in closed session.

In addition to the above listed Board members, also in attendance were the Appellant; the Appellant's mother and advocate Mrs. Cleo Stewart; Ms. Christine Johns, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Merle Audette, Chief of Staff; Mr. William Lawrence, Executive Director of Schools, Northeast Area; Margaret-Ann F. Howie, Esq., Legal Counsel to the Superintendent; Carol Saffran-Brinks, Esq., Assistant County Attorney; Mr. C. Robert Loskot, Assistant County Attorney; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education.

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

Mr. J. Robert Haines, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services, entered the room at 4:46 p.m.

The Board deliberated on the case.

Mr. John Hayden entered the room at 5:07 p.m.

The hearing was concluded at 5:24 p.m.

At 6:15 p.m., Mr. Walker moved the Board go into closed session to discuss personnel matters and to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1), (a)(7) and (a)(9). The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

At 6:44 p.m., Mr. Walker moved that the Board adjourn the closed session for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayden and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 7:37 p.m. at Loch Raven High School. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Ms. Francesca Cirincione, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzynski, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, Ms. Joy Shillman and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present as was the media.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Derreck Tooth, Towson University student, and a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

MINUTES

Hearing no additions or corrections to the closed session minutes on September 14, 2003, Mr. Sasiadek declared the minutes approved as presented on the website.

Mr. Sasiadek informed the audience of the previous sessions in which Board members had participated earlier in the afternoon.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston discussed dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Isabel. One hundred fifty-three (153) out of 163 schools will be opened on September 24th. Dr. Hairston named the 10 schools that will be closed on Wednesday, September 24th. Dr. Hairston received information from Baltimore County's transportation office to confirm conditions in the Hereford area including power outages and lines hanging on trees. He stated the goal is to have all schools open by the end of the week. Dr. Hairston expressed his appreciation for the overwhelming support and generosity of personal time and commitment of employees of the Baltimore County Public Schools.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Sasiadek extended his deepest appreciation to Dr. Hairston and all employees who did so much to assist.

Dr. Hairston acknowledged and thanked Ms. White, Principal of Seneca Elementary School and the staff for set out into the community and provided information regarding the school's status even though the school was closed.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. Sasiadek presented a framed plaque to Mr. Donald L. Arnold, who was selected to take part in the Seventh Annual Oxford Round Table held at St. Anthony's College at the University of Oxford in England.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Grimsley recognized the advisory council and administrative appointments approved at the September 9th meeting.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. Waiver Report for Conditionally Certified Teachers - Mr. Grimsley reviewed the purpose of the waiver request, which offers a one-year waiver of the teacher quality requirement that is allow under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* as amended by the *No Child Left Behind Act*. This waiver provides Title I schools a one-year extension to allow them to continue their recruiting efforts in order to meet the required criteria. Mr. Grimsley reviewed the information and form within the packet (Exhibit B). He is purposing that we provide the community an opportunity to comment on the report at the next scheduled board meeting.

Mr. Hayden expressed his concern with the timeliness of the report that we will be into our sixth-week of school by the time this waiver is approved. In response to Mr. Hayden's questions on timeliness, Mr. Grimsley stated no date was set specifically in the document.

Mr. Walker noted that all the schools listed are in the Southwest area and wanted to know if there would be a separate list for each area. Mr. Grimsley responded that the acronym SW stands for School-Wide initiative.

Dr. Hayman express his concern that Title I schools and highly qualified teachers should be a priority and not a waiver. He suggested there be a public hearing on this issue instead of public comment. On the second page of the packet, item 1, Dr. Hayman asked how we are going to monitor where the non-certified teachers are going to be placed. Dr. Hayman suggested language be strengthened as well as strengthening our relationship with higher education institutions.

Mr. Sasiadek asked if the report only covers teaching staff or if it also covers the instructional assistants. Mr. Grimsley responded the waiver focuses on the hiring of teachers in the Title I schools only. Mr. Sasiadek commented there needs to be a highly qualified staff on the instructional assistants' level, and he would like to see this information throughout the year.

REPORTS (cont)

Dr. Hairston clarified that the highly qualified teacher requirement speaks of the individual who is the keeper of the record.

Dr. Hayman suggested we look at this holistically, focusing to have highly qualified teachers in all schools.

- B. FY05 Proposed Capital State/County Budget - Barbara Burnopp provided a preliminary introduction to the state/county budget that will be discussed at the work session on Thursday, September 25, 2003.
- C. Report on Proposed Board Norms - Ms. Ettinger brought forward a list of Board norms for review. The Board norms are reflective of the Boards' existing practices and values in which the Board believes.

Mr. Grzynski emphasized these norms are a point of reference for future appointees to the Board.

Ms. Ettinger read the Board norms out loud to constituent groups and the public.

On motion of Mr. Grzynski, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Board approved the proposed Board Norms (Exhibit D).

- D. Report on Proposed Policy 5450 – Services to Students- Accident Insurance (First Reading) – Ms. Fromm reported on the changes to proposed Policy 5450, which was first adopted in 1968. She noted the changes are to bring the language and the policy in line with current practices.

Dr. Hayman expressed concern with the language not being consistent within the policy. He proposes exploring requirements since language currently suggested in the policy would deny students the opportunity to participate. Ms. Fromm stated she would investigate this issue. Mr. Belinko stated the school works with the parents to ensure the student can participate in the program. Ms. Fromm commented that the student could choose to participate in the program through the Board of Education or through private insurance.

In response to Dr. Hayman's question, Ms. Fromm stated that a student must have insurance either through the Board of Education or through private insurance.

Dr. Hayman inquired if the school system has paid the insurance cost in the past. Mr. Belinko responded that up to the mid-1980's the system paid the cost. However, the cost has escalated and the policy was changed. He stated the school system has a voluntary program for students at a reasonable cost for those who do not have insurance.

Mr. Kennedy recommended the word "voluntary" be removed from the second paragraph of the policy.

REPORTS (cont)

Ms. Jung inquired as to how is the system balanced as far as individual students meeting the requirements. Mr. Belinko responded that there has been no problem at this point. In response to Ms. Jung's question, Mr. Belinko stated that very few students are kept out of the sports program due to lack of funds. Ms. Jung asked if this was for all sports with Ms. Fromm and Mr. Belinko acknowledging yes.

Ms. Ettinger expressed her concern about communities and their resource and economic situations. She suggested we continue to be sensitive of the situation.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Dr. Hayman, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits F, G, H, I and J. (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.)

NEGOTIATIONS

On motion of Ms. Ettinger, seconded by Dr. Hayman, the Board approved the negotiated master agreements as presented on Exhibit K. (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.)

CONTRACT AWARDS

On motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Mr. Hayden, the Board approved items 1-5 (Exhibit L).

1. Assistive Technology Equipment
2. Contracted Services for On-Call Inspection and Repair of Physical Education Facilities and Equipment
3. Contracted Services: Maryland Online Technology Assessment for Teachers
4. Office Supplies
5. Telephone Repair and Maintenance

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee, represented by Mr. Kennedy, recommended approval of items 1-4. The Board approved these recommendations (Exhibit M through P). Mr. Arnold abstained from voting on item 3 (Exhibit O).

BUILDING COMMITTEE (cont)

1. Fee Acceptance – Design Services for Science Room Renovations at Randallstown High School
2. Fee Acceptance – Design Services for Window Replacement at Riverview Elementary School
3. Change Order – Design and Construction Administration Services at Woodholme Elementary School
4. Increase in Contingency Authorization for Boiler Replacement at Southwest Academy

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Policy 4157 – Vacations (Second Reading)
- B. Revised Rule 4157 – Vacations

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Sasiadek made the following announcement:

On Thursday, September 25, 2003, the Baltimore County Board of Education will conduct a work session on the proposed FY05 capital state/county budget. The meeting will take place at the ESS Building located on the Greenwood campus at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.

On Thursday, September 25, 2003, the Educational Advisory Councils will meet to discuss the Board of Education nominating process. The meeting will take place at Cockeysville Middle School at 7:00 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2003, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at 5:00 p.m. The Board will adjourn to meet in closed session, followed by a brief dinner recess. The open meeting will reconvene at approximately 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome at all open sessions.

Mr. Sasiadek reminded speakers to refrain from discussing any matter that might come before the Board in the form of an appeal, as well as any personnel matters.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Ms. Amethyst Danesin, Baltimore County Student Council President, noted the first executive board meeting will be Wednesday, October 8, 2003. She stated students would be out collecting pledges, with names and telephone numbers, asking adults to exercise their right to vote.

Ms. Karen Yarn, Advisory Committee for Gifted/Talented Education Chair, thanked Board members for approving the gifted and talented education policy. Ms. Yarn thanked Ms. JoLynn Chadwick for her dedication to the committee and to children.

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, Advisory Committee for Special Education representative, informed the Board the Advisory Committee has met with the auditor for Special Education.

Ms. Lora Williams, AFSCME President, noted that on September 17th the membership ratified the contract. She asked that improvements be made to the second and third shift nighttime differentials. Ms. Williams also requested any kind of improvement to bus drivers' salaries.

Mr. Stephen Crum, Southeast Area Advisory Council Chair, commented on the damage some of the schools have incurred due to Hurricane Isabel. He hopes that necessary adjustments are made to take care of the schools affected by the storm.

Mr. Clifford Collins, Minority Achievement Advisory Group Chair, expressed his concern to enrollment of agency-based youth in the school system. A public hearing was held with a variety of issues surfacing. Mr. Collins recommends that the Baltimore County Board of Education, in cooperation with appropriate state and local agencies, establish a temporary transitional program within the Baltimore County Public Schools that will immediately and effectively address the educational, psychological, physical health, and social needs of agency-based youth.

Ms. Vicki Schultz-Unger, Area Advisory Council Coordinator, noted their first joint meeting will be Thursday, September 25, co-sponsored with the League of Women Voters with the topic being "Putting the Public in Public Education, A Forum on School Board Selection." Ms. Schultz-Unger stated that the findings from the meeting would be brought back to the Board.

Mr. Roger Jansen and Ms. Butler, on behalf of the PTA Council, expressed their concern over the lack of adequate air conditioning within the school system. Ms. Butler stated that most HVAC systems are in need of repair or renovating. The PTA Council respectively requests the renovation or installation of new air conditioning systems at every school within Baltimore County.

On behalf of the PTA Council, Mr. Jansen thanked Dr. Hairston and his staff for their hard work during Hurricane Isabel. Mr. Jansen expressed concern that the current capital budget does not meet the needs of the students, noting that costs from this natural disaster need to come from somewhere. Mr. Jansen requested that the Board stay focused on Perks-Reutter and the timeline set forth in the document.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS (cont)

Ms. Cheryl Bost, TABCO President, thanked the school system and employees for their many hours during Hurricane Isabel. Ms. Bost stated that through Kid-Care, TABCO is giving vouchers to those in need. Ms. Bost thanked the Board for adopting the proposed negotiated master agreement with TABCO tonight.

Mr. Michael Behrens, PSNA President, thanked the Board for adopting the proposed PSNA master negotiated agreement tonight.

At 8:51 p.m., Mr. Grzymiski moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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REPORT OF THE WORK SESSION ON THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2005
CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Thursday, September 25, 2003
Greenwood

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 7:03 p.m. at Greenwood. Vice President Ms. Janese Murray and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Ms. Francesca Cirincione, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas Grzymiski, and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools; staff members; as well as the media were present.

Ms. Murray reviewed the purpose of tonight's meeting. Staff was thanked for its work in preparing the information presented at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Michael Kennedy entered at 7:04 p.m.

Ms. Burnopp, Executive Director of Fiscal Services, remarked that tonight's work session was a follow-up to the presentation made to the Board on September 23rd. Ms. Burnopp commented that in FY2003 BCPS asked for \$31M and received \$11M. She stated that current requests are based on items that were previously State, County and Board priorities with the concern being enrollment needs then systemic needs. She stated that for the first time systemic renovations include an additional \$1.5M per school for program renovations.

Mr. Goodhues explained the next steps of the process. He noted to the Board that the IAC (Interagency Committee on School Construction) has not provided information regarding school projects or the allocation to Baltimore County. Instead there is a list of items that will be used to determine the State's funding position. They are:

- High school science rooms
- Long-term needs to address full-day kindergarten
- Systemic renovations

Mr. Goodhues informed the Board that the budget is due to the State by October 15th.

Ms. Jung entered the room at 7:10 p.m.

Mr. Arnold inquired about how the \$1.5M has changed the County mix related to the \$1.407M. Ms. Burnopp clarified that the mix has shifted; meaning the County will provide less funding because the State should provide more funding. Mr. Arnold's concern is that the State will not have additional dollars. Ms. Burnopp stated that in addition to systemic renovations, we would complete program needs. Mr. Goodhues indicated the State possibly might not provide additional dollars.

Mr. Kennedy expressed his concern regarding full-day kindergarten. Ms. Burnopp responded that his concerns would be addressed as part of the operating budget.

Responding to a question by Ms. Ettinger, Ms. Burnopp replied that the IAC has committed to the funding changes and that the State is in favor towards our looking at program changes. However, this does not imply we will get the necessary funding.

Ms. Ettinger inquired about the process for prioritizing projects. She recommended we restate our process of prioritizing projects and communicate this information to our communities. Dr. Krempel reported that he consistently keeps the community and schools informed via telephone inquiries and meetings.

With regard to a study question from Ms. Ettinger, Dr. Krempel reminded the Board that the systemic renovations at 105 elementary schools were completed using Perks-Reutter. Middle schools reflected in the budget are also following that format. Dr. Krempel remarked the State would prefer that we include program issues.

Dr. Krempel provided an example of State requirements increasing school square footage allowances for specific programs in schools and the impact on decreasing other available space in the schools.

Ms. Ettinger noted the public's concern about windows, doors, and HVAC in the schools. She inquired as to whether a HVAC feasibility study was conducted for the school system. Dr. Krempel responded that a feasibility study was completed and the cost would be \$80 M to air condition every school within the system. Ms. Ettinger requested that the feasibility study again be reviewed even though it is not in the 2003-04 budget cost. Dr. Krempel added that roughly one-third of our schools are air-conditioned.

Ms. Ettinger summarized two concerns:

- Finding money or funding for the projects
- Explaining the process to the community

Responding to a question by Mr. Kennedy, Dr. Krempel stated that a feasibility study including cost was completed on schools that do not have auditoriums along with cost. Dr. Krempel will again provide the Board a copy of that study.

With regard to Mr. Kennedy's question, Dr. Krempel responded that a State taskforce makes the decision of what are considered program issues.

Responding to a question by Mr. Grzynski, Dr. Krempel responded that every middle school has program adjustments that could be made to meet the guidelines of the State. Dr. Krempel noted that State participation is crucial to the process and that the State requires program adjustments in addition to systemic renovations.

Mr. Grzynski reiterated the need to convey the process to the community. He believes that program issues are bigger than systemic issues.

Mr. Arnold suggested that a presentation be given at a Board meeting. He voiced his concern that the State is requiring full-day kindergarten by 2007, however, not providing the dollars to assist the County. He stated we needed to move forward in the best fashion possible.

With regard to Ms. Cirincione's question, Dr. Krempel responded that replacement windows and doors would be completed at those systemic middle schools listed on the proposed capital budget as needed.

Ms. Jung stated the need to educate the public (e.g. PTA newsletters, TABCO newsletters). She asked the Board to think about different ways to keep the public informed of the progress.

With regards to full-day kindergarten, Ms. Ettinger voiced her concern that this is a quality of life issue for schools that do not have the appropriate space in the buildings. Perhaps we can look into placing an inquiry with the State Board. Dr. Krempel responded that BCPS is still in the formation of plans with full-day kindergarten. At this time, it is uncertain what monies the school system will receive from the State.

Mr. Walker voiced his concern about the communication breakdown between the school system and the public.

Ms. Burnopp reminded the Board that some full-day kindergarten issues would be addressed in the Operating Budget.

Ms. Fromm reviewed the student population and elementary school enrollments and projections in the Northwest area, including updated enrollment figures surrounding the Woodholme Site/New Town Vicinity. Ms. Fromm also reviewed the prospective Windsor Mill Middle School vicinity and looked at enrollment figures in the northwest and southwest areas. Ms. Fromm explained the 2003/04 Pre-K and kindergarten status for the BCPS system.

Mr. Arnold inquired as to how many schools are currently set up for pre-K and full-day kindergarten. Ms. Fromm stated 38 schools remain to be set up for full-day kindergarten.

Responding to a question by Ms. Cirincione, Mr. Haines stated that schools are ranked from greatest need to least need. He stated that ranking deals with the student necessity not geographic location.

Ms. Jung asked whether certain schools may or may not necessarily have pre-K. Mr. Haines responded that we need to go with the data provide to us as far as demographics and population and that any attempt to project beyond the five-year plan would be soft numbers.

Ms. Murray inquired of Mr. Haines how often we re-evaluate the demographics and shift of the population. Mr. Haines stated that an evaluation is completed on an annual basis and there is often movement. However, school rankings move very little. Mr. Haines noted there is a methodology in place for the rankings and that schools continue to move up the list. Mr. Shah, Planning Administrator in the Office of Strategic Planning, re-emphasized Mr. Haines' comments about school ranking according to needs.

Mr. Kennedy inquired about the figures for overcrowding in the Perry Hall High School area. Ms. Fromm stated DeJong and Associates is five months into a survey for all high schools.

Ms. Ettinger inquired as to what might be available to us as far as a contingency plan for overcrowding due to full-day kindergarten. Ms. Fromm responded BCPS is looking at every possible solution that would be available over the next few years. Ms. Ettinger requested a presentation to the Board when a contingency plan or possible redistricting becomes available.

Mr. Walker inquired about a high school in the White Marsh area. Ms. Fromm stated the school system is working with DeJong and Associates on a high school study, and a final report would be available in November.

Ms. Ettinger recommended that key points emerging from this work session be shared with the public at the October 9th Board meeting.

The hearing was concluded at 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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