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BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

AUGUST 6, 2019

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1 BOARD MEMBERS
 2 Kathleen S. Causey, Board Chair
 3 Julie C. Henn, Vice Chair Not Present
 4 Roger B. Hayden
 5 Moalie S. Jose
 6 Russel T. Kuehn Not Present
 7 Lisa A. Mack
 8 Rodney R. McMillion
 9 John H. Offerman, Jr.
 10 Cheryl E. Pasteur
 11 Lily P. Rowe
 12 Makeda Scott
 13 Omer Rashid, Student Member
 14
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1 nine, conduct collective bargaining negotiations or to consider
 2 matters that relate to the negotiations.
 3 The minutes of the closed session and informational
 4 summary can be found on our website at
 5 www.bcps.org/board/informational-summaries.html.
 6 The next item is consideration of the agenda. Dr.
 7 Williams, are there any additions or changes to tonight's
 8 agenda?
 9 DR. WILLIAMS: There are no changes or additions.
 10 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Hearing none, the agenda stands
 11 as presented. The next item of business is selection of
 12 speakers. Sign-up cards were available to the public prior to
 13 the meeting for anyone wishing to speak at this evening's
 14 meeting. Board practice limits to 10, the number of speakers at
 15 a regularly scheduled Board meeting. Each speaker is allowed
 16 three minutes to address the Board. The completed sign-up cards
 17 for this evening have been placed in this box and the first 10
 18 drawn from the box will be our speakers for tonight during the
 19 public comment portion of the meeting. Of course, if fewer than
 20 10 sign-up cards are received, all those who signed up will be
 21 permitted to speak.

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1 PROCEEDINGS
 2 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Good evening. I now call to
 3 order the meeting of the Board of Education for Baltimore County
 4 for Tuesday, August 6, 2019. I invite you to rise and recite
 5 the Pledge of Allegiance which will be led this evening by
 6 Jayden Gordon from Dulaney High School. We will then remain
 7 standing for a moment of silence in recognition of those who
 8 have served education in Baltimore County.
 9
 10 (Pledge of Allegiance.) (Moment of Silence.)
 11
 12 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Gordon. Earlier
 13 this evening, the Board met in closed session pursuant to the
 14 Open Meetings Act for the following reasons. To discuss the
 15 appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline,
 16 demotion, compensation, removal, resignation or performance
 17 evaluation of appointees, employees or officials over whom it
 18 has jurisdiction or any other personnel matter that affects one
 19 or more specific individuals, seven, consult with counsel to
 20 obtain legal advice, eight, consult with staff, consultants or
 21 other individuals about pending or potential litigation, and

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1 MR. RASHID: Sharon Saroff, Phoebe Evans. That's
 2 all for tonight.
 3 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: So, we only have two speakers
 4 for this evening. The next item of business is New Business,
 5 Personnel Matters. For that, I call forward Assistant
 6 Superintendent, Maria Lowery. Good evening and welcome.
 7 MS. LOWERY: Thank you. Good evening, Chairwoman
 8 Causey, Superintendent Williams and members of the Board. I
 9 would like Board consent for the following personnel matters.
 10 Terminations, retirements, resignations, leaves and the
 11 Southeast Area Education Advisory Council Appointment.
 12 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to approve
 13 the personnel matters as presented in Exhibits E1 through E5?
 14 MS. MACK: So moved.
 15 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Mack. Do I have
 16 a second?
 17 MR. OFFERMAN: Second.
 18 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Offerman. Is
 19 there any discussion? All in favor, please raise your hand.
 20 Any opposed? The motion carries unanimously. The next item of
 21 business is administrative appointments. For that, I call on

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1 Dr. Williams.
 2 DR. WILLIAMS: Madame Chair and members of the
 3 Board, I would like to bring forward for your approval the
 4 following administrative appointments. Principal of Cedarmere
 5 Elementary School, principal of Chesapeake High School,
 6 principal of Cockeysville Middle School, principal of Grange
 7 Elementary School, assistant principal of Cockeysville Middle
 8 School, assistant principal of Dogwood Elementary School,
 9 assistant principal of Hillcrest Elementary School, assistant
 10 principal of Pikesville High School, assistant principal of
 11 Randallstown High School, assistant principal of Riverview
 12 Elementary School, assistant principal of Sandalwood Elementary
 13 School, assistant principal of Woodlawn Middle School, the Chief
 14 Accountability and Performance Management Officer in the
 15 Division of Research, Accountability and Assessment, the Chief
 16 of School Climate and Safety in the Division of School Climate
 17 and Safety, the Executive Director of School Support-Secondary,
 18 Office of the Community Superintendent, Director of Performance
 19 Management in the Division of Research, Accountability and
 20 Assessment, Director of Professional Learning, Division of
 21 Organizational Effectiveness, Director of Staffing in the Office

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1 of Staffing, Supervisor of Language Arts in the Office of
 2 English Language Arts, the Superintendent's Designee, the
 3 Division of School Safety and Climate, Specialist, Board
 4 Certified Behavior Analyst in the Office of Special of
 5 Education, Specialist in the Office of Special Education,
 6 Compliance and Placement, Specialist in the Office of Special Ed
 7 in Teaching and Learning and the ERP Database Administrator,
 8 Department of Administrative Services.
 9 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to approve
 10 the administrative appointments as presented in Exhibit F1?
 11 MS. ROWE: So moved.
 12 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Rowe. Do I have
 13 a second?
 14 MS. MACK: Second.
 15 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Mack. Is there
 16 any discussion? All in favor, please raise your hand. Any
 17 opposed? The motion carries unanimously.
 18 DR. WILLIAMS: So, the first candidate, I ask that
 19 she will stand. Valerie Alexander, the assistant principal of
 20 Sandalwood Elementary School. She comes to us with 19 years of
 21 experience in Baltimore County. She was the reading specialist

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1 at Sandalwood and classroom teacher. Valerie's husband,
 2 Russell, her two daughters, Alaina and Regan and a house full of
 3 BCPS friends that she has met throughout her career. We'll be
 4 livestreaming a meeting with Valerie from the Outer Banks in
 5 North Carolina. (Laughter.) (Applause.)
 6 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Welcome.
 7 DR. WILLIAMS: Dr. Elizabeth Burquist, the Director
 8 of Professional Learning in the Division of Organizational
 9 Effectiveness. She brings to us eleven years of service in
 10 Baltimore County formerly as the Coordinator of Professional
 11 Learning, a resource teacher in the Office of Social Studies, a
 12 special ed teacher in Cockeysville Middle School, social studies
 13 at Hereford High and Hereford Middle, and she's had previous
 14 experience at Towson University of 8 years. She is not present
 15 but she is presenting at Harvard University with Dr. Lisa
 16 Williams. Congratulations, Dr. Burquist. (Applause.)
 17 Next we have Daron Brinkley. Please stand. We want
 18 to see you. The assistant principal of Woodlawn Middle School.
 19 He brings to us 20 years of service in Baltimore County formerly
 20 as a physical education teacher at Dunbarton Middle School, Pine
 21 Grove Middle School and Loch Raven Technical Academy. Present

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1 with him, we ask that they stand, his wife, Candice Brinkley,
 2 his mother, Vanessa Baker and mother-in-law and father-in-law,
 3 Craig and Marian Turner. Congratulations. (Applause.)
 4 Next we have Allison Brooke, the Supervisor of
 5 Language Arts. She brings to us 14.5 years of experience in
 6 Baltimore County. Formerly, she was a resource teacher in the
 7 Office of English Language Arts, reading specialist at McCormick
 8 Elementary School, a classroom teacher at McCormick Elementary
 9 School and Edmondson Heights Elementary. Supporting her tonight
 10 is her husband, John Brooke. Please stand. (Applause.)
 11 Next we have Adam Carney, the principal of
 12 Cockeysville Middle School. Please stand He brings to us 13
 13 years of experience in Baltimore County, formerly as the
 14 assistant principal at Pikesville High School, an English
 15 teacher at Newtown High School. Supporting him tonight is his
 16 wife, please stand, Sarah Carney. (Applause.)
 17 Next we have Tammy Cowitt, the assistant principal
 18 at Dogwood Elementary School. Welcome to Baltimore County.
 19 She's coming from the KIPP Ujima Village Academy in Baltimore
 20 City with 6 years and a former English teacher of four years.
 21 Present tonight is her husband, Johnny Cowitt, and children,

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1 Johnny, Kylie, Lucas and Morgan Cowitt. (Applause.)
 2 Next we have Jamar Davis, the ERP Database
 3 Administrator. He is not present tonight but he is the newly
 4 appointed ERP Database Administrator in the Department of
 5 Administrative Services. We can acknowledge Jamar. (Applause.)
 6 Next we have Rachel Davis, the principal of Grange
 7 Elementary School. She brings to us 14 years of experience in
 8 Baltimore County. Formerly the assistant principal at Grange
 9 Elementary School, reading specialist at Sandy Plains Elementary
 10 School and five years of prior experience in Baltimore City
 11 Public Schools. Supporting her tonight are her parents, Andy
 12 and Janet Davis and friend, Mike Jenkins. (Applause.)
 13 Next we have Cara Fowler, the assistant principal of
 14 Cockeyesville Middle School. She brings to us 2.5 years of
 15 experience in Baltimore County. Previously, she was a social
 16 studies teacher at Deerpark Middle Magnet School and a teacher
 17 at Lee County School District and Richland School District.
 18 Present tonight are her parents, Deborah and Erskine Fowler.
 19 Congratulations. (Applause.)
 20 Next we have Lisa Griffin-Short, the assistant
 21 principal at Hilcrest Elementary School. Welcome to Baltimore

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1 County. She comes from Anne Arundel County Public Schools with
 2 a lot of experience. A behavior interventions specialist
 3 teacher, a special ed teacher, a classroom teacher and even a
 4 Kindergarten teacher of 8 years. Congratulations for that.
 5 Supporting her tonight is her husband, Norman Short, and the
 6 current principal, Jennifer Lynch, at Hilcrest Elementary
 7 School. (Applause.)
 8 Next we have Glen Haas, the assistant principal at
 9 Randallstown High School. He brings to us 12 years of
 10 experience in Baltimore County. Formerly, he was a social
 11 studies teacher at Kenwood High. He was at SIAM Learning
 12 Community Leader, Crossroads Center, and a social studies
 13 teacher at Crossroads School. Supporting him tonight, the
 14 assistant principal, Kelly Smith, at Randallstown High School
 15 and former principal, Brian Powell at Kenwood High School.
 16 (Applause.)
 17 Next we have Erin Haroth who is not present tonight.
 18 She is the assistant principal at Pikesville High School. She
 19 brings 10 years of experience for Baltimore County and a former
 20 English teacher at Pikesville High and Dundalk High.
 21 (Applause.)

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1 Darlene Harris is our specialist in the Office of
 2 Special Education, Compliance and Placement. She brings several
 3 years of experience from Frederick County Public Schools,
 4 Baltimore City Public Schools. Unfortunately, she is not
 5 present tonight. So, let's acknowledge Ms. Harris. (Applause.)
 6 I think we're halfway there, folks. Monica Hetrick,
 7 oh, Dr. Hetrick, Director of Performance Management, Division of
 8 Research, Accountability and Assessment. She was the former
 9 Coordinator of Data Strategy in that same office previously.
 10 She has 5.4 years of experience in Baltimore City, 6 years of
 11 experience in Anne Arundel County Public Schools and two years
 12 of experience at Johns Hopkins University. Supporting her
 13 tonight is her husband, Dr. Matthew Hetrick. (Applause.)
 14
 15 Next we have Michael Hodge, the new Director of
 16 Staffing. He brings to us 3.9 years of experience from
 17 Baltimore County. In his previous experience, he worked as a
 18 Supervisor in HR, the HR Officer in Staffing and he has worked
 19 in the government of the District of Columbia for 7 years and
 20 Prince George's County Public Schools for two years. He is here
 21 representing himself. Good job. (Applause.)

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1 Daniel Klingler, the Specialist in Special
 2 Education, Office of Special Education. He brings to us 11
 3 years of service in Baltimore County. Formerly, he was a
 4 resource teacher in the Office of Special Education and a
 5 Special Ed self-contained teacher at Chatsworth School and
 6 Arbutus Middle School. Supporting him tonight is the Director
 7 of Special Ed, Rebecca Rider, in the Office of Special
 8 Education. (Applause.)
 9 Tim Mathis, the assistant principal of Riverview
 10 Elementary School. He brings to us 8.3 years of service in
 11 Baltimore County. He was a resource teacher at Crossroads, he
 12 was a math teacher at Crossroads Center, a behavioral
 13 interventionist, special ed at Crossroads Center, a mathematics
 14 teacher at Crossroads Center and a special ed inclusion teacher
 15 at Crossroads Center. Tonight, supporting him is his wife
 16 Lakiya Mathis and the principal, Colleen Fitzmaurice from
 17 Riverview Elementary School. Congratulations. (Applause.)
 18 Next we have Regina Matthews, the principal of
 19 Cedarmere Elementary School. She brings to us 10 years of
 20 service in Baltimore County, formerly as the assistant principal
 21 at Johnnycake Elementary School and classroom teacher at

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1 will refer your concerns to the Superintendent for follow-up by
 2 his staff.

3 We're going to take just a moment while all of our
 4 new professionals clear the room. While we encourage public
 5 input on policy and programs and practices within the purview of
 6 this Board and the school system, this is not the proper forum
 7 to address specific student or employee matters, or to comment
 8 on matters that do not relate to public education in Baltimore
 9 County. We encourage everyone to utilize existing dispute
 10 resolution processes as appropriate.

11 I remind everyone that inappropriate personal
 12 remarks or other behavior that disrupts or interferes with
 13 conduct of this meeting are out of order. I ask you to observe
 14 the three-minute clock which will let you know when your time is
 15 up. Please conclude your remarks when you hear the bell or see
 16 that time has expired. The microphone will be turned off at the
 17 end of your time and it could be turned off if a speaker
 18 addresses specific student or employee matters or is commenting
 19 on matters not related to public education in Baltimore County.

20 If not selected, the public may submit their
 21 comments to the Board members in hard copy or via email to

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1 boe@bcps.org.

2 I now call on our stakeholder groups to speak. The
 3 first speaker this evening is the newly inducted President,
 4 Cindy Sexton, of the Teacher's Association of Baltimore County.
 5 Good evening and welcome.

6 MS. SEXTON: Good evening, Chairwoman Causey, Dr.
 7 Williams and members of the Board. It is with a great deal of
 8 hope and pleasure that I am here tonight speaking on behalf of
 9 the teachers in Baltimore County.

10 As we are getting ready for the new school year, a
 11 new Superintendent, new leadership in so many schools, hundreds
 12 of new teachers and thousands of smiling faces, we are charged
 13 with so many responsibilities and opportunities. Thinking of
 14 all this in my past four days has made my head spin but given me
 15 pause and I kept coming back to one thought. That properly
 16 staffed schools will improve our learning outcomes, some of our
 17 discipline concerns and promote positive school climate and
 18 morale.

19 So, to that end, as I prepared for this meeting, I
 20 look again at the blueprint 2.0 and Dr. Williams' hundred day
 21 entry plan and I have just a couple thoughts.

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1 According to the blueprint, learning is our core
 2 purpose and effective teaching is the most essential factor in
 3 student learnings. While that may seem obvious to the people in
 4 this room and even some listening online, they're important
 5 enough to be the first two items under our core values. Our
 6 focus must always be on what is best for students and the
 7 educators in the classroom are the ones who know best what that
 8 means.

9 The positive and productive relationships referred
 10 to in the blueprint must be built for those meaningful
 11 communication and engagement and we cannot foster those
 12 relationships if we, the teachers, are not part of the process.

13 Please give us a seat at every table where decisions
 14 are being made. We are the educational experts Dr. Williams
 15 includes in every aspect of his 100-day entry plan.

16 BCPS is a wonderful school system. We have many
 17 strengths but our concerns tend to be complex and all parts of
 18 the system need to be invited in and to participate and
 19 contribute.

20 I am looking forward to being part of the work we
 21 have to do and the members of TABCO are ready to do the work as

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1 well. Thank you.

2 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next speaker
 3 for this evening is from the American Federation of State,
 4 County and Municipal Employees Local #434, AFSCME. Interim
 5 President, Mr. Brian Epps. Good evening and welcome.

6 MR. EPPS: Good evening, Councilwoman Causey,
 7 Superintendent Dr. Williams, my name is Brian Epps, President of
 8 AFSCME Council 67, Local #434. I'm here tonight with some of
 9 our Board members to introduce ourselves and to welcome Dr.
 10 Williams to BCPS.

11 As we begin the 2019-2020 school year, we're looking
 12 forward to partnering with you for a successful school year. We
 13 feel one of the ways we can accomplish this is working and
 14 including us in the discussions regarding AFSCME members. Thank
 15 you for your time.

16 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you and welcome. Our
 17 next speaker this evening is from the Citizens Advisory
 18 Committee for Gifted and Talented Education, Ms. Julie
 19 Miller-Breetz. Good evening.

20 MS. MILLER-BREETZ: Good evening, Chairwoman Causey,
 21 Board members, Dr. Williams and the BCPS community. COMAR

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1 13A.04.07, the Maryland regulation that speaks to gifted and
 2 talented education just recently passed a major revision process
 3 that has been greeted excitedly by members of the GT advocacy
 4 community. This regulation greatly strengthens the muscle
 5 behind GT identification and programming and institutes strong
 6 monitoring and reporting requirements.

7 We believe that the requirement for monitoring and
 8 reporting presents BCPS with a golden opportunity to begin
 9 significantly collecting and reporting data on GT students. We
 10 know that what gets measured gets done and it is past time to
 11 get things done for every single one of the GT students in
 12 Baltimore County.

13 According to a 2019 study in Gifted Child Quarterly
 14 that used data from the Office of Civil Rights, over 42 percent
 15 of US schools have zero students identified as gifted. How many
 16 BCPS schools have zero or very few students identified as GT and
 17 is this data available to the public? Disaggregated data on
 18 every school in the district needs to be transparently
 19 published. Parents have the right to know how capable a school
 20 is at providing the appropriate level of challenge and every
 21 building has kids who can do more and every building needs to

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1 proactively identify and serve those kids.

2 A fall 2019 article in the Education Next Journal
 3 discusses how, despite the efforts since NCLB in getting all
 4 students up to minimum standards, there's not been a comparable
 5 effort to meet the unique needs of the nation's highly gifted
 6 students.

7 From current BCPS dashboards, it is evident that,
 8 across grades and subject areas, advanced academic students'
 9 scores on the MAP, PARCC and the SAT are often either decreasing
 10 or stagnant. Can parents see this data on an individual school
 11 on a disaggregated basis? They should. There are a lot of
 12 talented kids that are getting sidelined.

13 Another study, How Can So Many Students be
 14 Invisible?, found that very large percentages of students are
 15 performing above grade level. That large percentages of
 16 students are performing well above grade level and that these
 17 percentages represent staggeringly large numbers of students.

18 From the report, NAEP data provided evidence that,
 19 in a single recent year, there were more students in the U.S.
 20 already working four grade levels above than the entire
 21 population of Rhode Island. Four grade levels above their

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1 normal grade level.

2 BCPS should start reporting the absolute numbers and
 3 percentages of students who are performing above grade level.
 4 Transparency creates a climate of accountability. What is
 5 tested gets taught and what is reported received attention.

6 The first step toward meeting these high-performing
 7 learners' educational needs is to routinely report their
 8 presence and their numbers. In addition to above grade level
 9 performance, BCPS should use assessments that measure growth and
 10 report typical growth for GT students.

11 Ultimately, we believe that BCPS needs to conduct an
 12 internal program, review on advanced academics as well as begin
 13 the process of an external evaluation of the program. Something
 14 that was last done 25 years ago.

15 Board members and stakeholders need to know what the
 16 data is showing for GT and twice exceptional students in the
 17 county. Thank you for your time.

18 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next speaker
 19 for this evening is the President of the PTA Council of
 20 Baltimore County, Ms. Jayne Lee. Good evening and welcome.
 21 MS. LEE: Good evening, Chairwoman Causey,

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1 Superintendent Dr Williams, Board members. This has been a
 2 difficult weekend for most of us. Especially for me. Two
 3 reasons. My sister is the manager of a Walmart and I have
 4 friends that were in El Paso and in Dayton where my
 5 brother-in-law is stationed.

6 We live with an air of fear. We live in hate. I
 7 mean, it's just incredible and it needs to end. PTA's mission
 8 is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and
 9 empowering families and communities to advocate for all
 10 children.

11 While we set our goals this week as a Board, that's
 12 my goal. We need to advocate for all children and all means
 13 all. We need to be working toward that goal. The emails I've
 14 gotten are full of fear, asking me where to get emotional
 15 support for their children who are afraid to go to school.
 16 Hunger. This shouldn't be what I should be here coming to talk
 17 to you about. It should be talking about the good things we
 18 want to do. But, right now, we need to concentrates on the
 19 needs, the wrap-around services that our children need in
 20 keeping them healthy and wanting to go to school.
 21 This morning, I actually had a parent come up to me

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1 and ask me if she could give their children my phone number to
 2 keep in case something happened to her during the day. This was
 3 a Latino parent and it made me cry. I almost didn't go to work
 4 today. She's afraid and that's a citizen of these United
 5 States.
 6 It is time for us to come together and work
 7 together. I look forward to meeting with the new Chief of
 8 School Climate and possibly working with them and working with
 9 all of you and getting back to where school is a safe haven for
 10 our children.
 11 We need to work together. I can't begin to tell you
 12 how this saddens me. I should be telling you about all the
 13 grants we have out there for healthy lifestyles and ways to
 14 teach parents and all of our website and information. But, what
 15 I'm coming to you to say is we need to get it together. The
 16 fighting needs to stop. That goes for in the school system, in
 17 this Board, in our communities and in our schools. Thank you.
 18 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Lee. Our next
 19 speaker is from the Special Education Citizens Advisory Council,
 20 Ms. Elizabeth Hembling. Good evening and welcome.
 21 MS. HEMBLING: Good evening, Chair Causey, Dr.

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1 Williams and Board members. My name is Liz Hembling. I'm here
 2 today representing SECAC and Decoding Dyslexia Maryland. We are
 3 a grassroots, parent-led organization that focuses on improving
 4 literacy in both general education and special education for all
 5 children who struggle to read.
 6 Dr. Williams, we want to officially welcome you to
 7 BCPS. We'd love to be able to meet with you to provide details
 8 of our collaborative efforts with the county. Along with
 9 advocating for this system, we also operate at the state and
 10 federal levels. I'm here to tell you that the literacy plan
 11 currently in place in BCPS exceeds that of all other counties in
 12 the state and is a model for implementation of science-based
 13 approaches to reading instruction.
 14 BCPS did not start as a leader in literacy. Quite
 15 the opposite. However, they were extremely concerned that only
 16 40 percent of BCPS students were reading proficiently. These
 17 changes that have been implemented have taken some time and are
 18 not reflected in the numbers. Some of the changes were just
 19 approved by the Board. But, rest assured, you are inheriting a
 20 fantastic literacy plan and we know it will impact all students.
 21 Decoding Dyslexia Maryland has been working closely

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1 with Rebecca Rider in Special Ed, Megan Shay in general ed, as
 2 well as Dr. McComas. Here is a snapshot of what has been
 3 accomplished within the last several years.
 4 BCPS has been training 700 teachers in Orton
 5 Gillingham which is a structured literacy approach for Tier 3
 6 intervention for those that are dyslexic or have general reading
 7 failure. They have sent cohorts of teachers to the Dyslexia
 8 Certificate Program at the Notre Dame of Maryland. They've
 9 utilized programs in general education to entrust decoding such
 10 as Wilsons Foundations, Just Words, Hagerty and have now
 11 approved Open Court.
 12 They have also recently approved visualizing and
 13 verbalizing for reading comprehension. BCPS has made a
 14 commitment to training teachers in structured literacy. They
 15 have recognized that teachers are not getting this important
 16 information preservice.
 17 For this reason, they have trained over 1,000
 18 teachers in LETRS, language essentials for teachers of reading
 19 and spelling. The reason we are speaking here tonight is that
 20 the contract for LETRS is said to be expanded and voted on this
 21 evening. We are asking that that contract be approved.

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1 At the SECAC meeting on literacy a few months ago, a
 2 structured literacy-trained teacher shared how she had two
 3 students who were siblings. One sibling was older and had
 4 struggled for years. The younger child was screened and
 5 received a structured literacy-based intervention through BCPS
 6 way earlier than the sister.
 7 The teacher commented that while the older child
 8 struggled through special ed, because of early identification
 9 and evidence-based remediation, the younger sibling would never
 10 see special ed at all. BCPS is changing lives. We hope we can
 11 partner with you to continue this progress. Thank you.
 12 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Now, I'll ask the
 13 individuals that signed up to come forward. Our first public
 14 member is Sharon Saroff. Good evening and welcome.
 15 MS. SAROFF: First, I would like to extend a welcome
 16 to Mr. Williams. Welcome aboard to BCPS. I think you've got
 17 your work cut out for you. Hopefully, you'll be seeing a lot of
 18 me this school year. But, hopefully what I have to say will be
 19 positive and not negative.
 20 I'm a special education advocate. I am the mother
 21 of two graduates from Baltimore County Public Schools. So, I

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1 have a vested interest in the school district.

2 I'm here tonight to offer a few solutions as opposed

3 to offering concerns. Solution number one, I was perusing

4 several school websites to try and help clients find out who

5 their special educators were. I couldn't find that information.

6 That should be as easily available to a parent as knowing the

7 4th grade teacher, the science teachers on the middle and high

8 school level. So, we need to put that special ed and that

9 advanced academic teacher list on every school website so that

10 we can contact those teachers.

11 We also need to introduce those individuals at

12 back-to-school night just like we do, again, with the 4th grade

13 teachers or the science teachers. We need to know who these

14 people are and not hide them.

15 There needs to be collaboration. We need to be

16 willing to collaborate with parents, not treat them as

17 adversaries but treat them as members of the team. If a parent

18 asks for advanced academics or home and hospital to come to an

19 IEP meeting, we should invite them because their input can be

20 very vital.

21 I am the parent of two twice exceptional students

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1 and I can tell you that when we did allow that, that was the

2 difference in my kids' education. We need to bring that back.

3 We also need to be willing to place students in the

4 appropriate environment and the appropriate school that is going

5 to allow us to implement that IEP with fidelity and not just,

6 pardon me for saying this, dump them in the school because of

7 least restrictive environment.

8 I have several clients who are dealing with that now

9 and don't know where they're going to be come the first day of

10 school.

11 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you very much. Our next

12 speaker for the evening is Phoebe Evans-Latocha. Good evening

13 and welcome.

14 MS. LATOCHA: Good evening. To our Board and our

15 new Superintendent Williams who I'm delighted to hear has a math

16 background and digs into numbers.

17 My name is Phoebe Evans-Latocha and I am here as an

18 advocate for Towson High School. Yet another capital budget

19 request is being presented tonight with a placeholder for Towson

20 High but no funding to address its ongoing, extreme

21 overcrowding.

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1 As the Towson skyline is dotted with numerous

2 construction cranes and new housing units are expected to come

3 online in the coming years, I'm here to remind the Board of the

4 need to start planning relief now. Any plan to build new high

5 school seats in any proximity to Towson High is likely to take

6 another 10 years for those seats to become available.

7 Last year, Towson High had 369 students above its

8 state-rated capacity of 1,260. Projected to be 443 overcapacity

9 when the new school year starts in September with over 1,700

10 student enrollment or 135 percent overcapacity.

11 That overcrowding keeps growing into 538

12 overcapacity in 2020 and over 700 by 2026. Let a school

13 designed for 1,260 students get up to 2,000 student enrollment

14 is negligent and puts our student safety at risk.

15 We are going into our 16th year of trailers at

16 Towson, longer than the current seniors have been in BCPS,

17 longer than the incoming freshman have been alive. Given the

18 time it takes to plan and construct high school capital

19 projects, we are likely facing another 10 years of trailers.

20 Twenty-five years of trailers is not a temporary solution. That

21 is multiple generations of students in trailers at Towson High.

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1 This summer, Towson High's feeder, Stoneleigh

2 Elementary, had two trailers installed 6 years after an addition

3 was built that was supposed to solve its overcrowding. Towson

4 High had an additional trailer installed this summer bringing

5 its total to 11.

6 Not only do these trailers usurp our school's

7 athletic field space, the overcrowding also negatively impacts

8 cafeteria space, bathrooms and other communal spaces. Rather

9 than spending millions of dollars year after year on

10 relocatables which, in an era of school shootings, our students

11 and families do not feel safe inside, please consider conducting

12 a systemwide boundary study to provide relief for our

13 overcrowded schools like Towson High School before the `20`21

14 school year. We have no solution to our extreme overcrowding at

15 Towson and it will take years for long-term solutions to build

16 any new high school seats.

17 I respectfully request that the Board take a

18 systemwide look at seat capacity within high schools with the

19 goal of reducing extreme overcrowding and Towson High. We have

20 undercapacity schools within BCPS while Towson continues to be

21 overcapacity year after year.

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<p>1 A high school capacity study as conducted by Sage 2 Policy Group failed to take a holistic view of the needs to 3 study boundaries within our high schools. There's currently 4 excess capacity. I know that surplus of seats disappears and 5 will soon be replaced with a shortfall of 1,700 seats. But, 6 even if BCPS later adds additional capacity at Towson High, it 7 will still need a boundary study because its projected 8 overcrowding is greater than (Time is up. Microphone 9 disconnected.)</p> <p>10 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Earlier this 11 evening, community members had the opportunity to sign up to 12 speak on policies that are coming forward from the Board. Board 13 Policy 3710, Safety and Security Equipment. Board Policy 4102, 14 Sexual Harassment. Board Policy 4201, Employee Insurance 15 Benefits. Board Policy 5320, Student Organizations and clubs.</p> <p>16 No community members signed up for comment but you 17 can send comments to us at our website. You can start at boe 18 @bcps.org.</p> <p>19 The next item of business is the Superintendent's 20 Report and, for that, I call on Dr. Williams.</p> <p>21 DR. WILLIAMS: So, good evening. I would like to</p>	<p>1 Lastly, it has been a pleasure to begin my travels 2 around the county. I assure you that if I haven't made it to 3 your neck of the woods yet, I will be there as soon as I can.</p> <p>4 In July, I enjoyed visiting our curriculum writers 5 and learning about our process to prepare culturally responsive 6 curriculum across the content areas to support excellent 7 teaching and learning.</p> <p>8 I had the opportunity to meet our newly appointed 9 principals and assistant principals who will join all of our 10 school leaders in building strong relationships with staff, 11 students and families to support student achievement.</p> <p>12 But, the highlight of the past month has been 13 visiting students at more than a dozen schools. We had a 14 special opportunity this summer to offer jobs to high school 15 students from across the county. I met with students who are 16 cleaning and repairing our devices in close partnership with our 17 IT staff. Not only is this a wonderful experience but students 18 are also earning the HP certification.</p> <p>19 It is my pleasure to share a snapshot of my travels 20 around the county in this video.</p> <p>21</p>
<p>Page 35</p> <p>1 start, once again, by thanking Team BCPS for helping me get off 2 to a great start. In particular, I would like to take a moment 3 to thank this Board.</p> <p>4 Each member of the Board has set aside time this 5 summer to share their thoughts with me as we start our work 6 together. Even so, with our new Student Member of the Board, 7 Omer Rashid, who met with me and other student leaders on my 8 very first day.</p> <p>9 I also would like to recognize and send kudos to our 10 grounds workers and building service workers. If you are in our 11 schools, you will see the hard work that goes into preparing 12 schools inside and out for the new school year.</p> <p>13 Just a reminder, the first day of school is 14 September 3rd. Speaking of the first day, in just 28 days, I'll 15 say that again, 28 days, our schools, programs and centers will 16 welcome approximately 115,000 students. I, for one, cannot wait 17 to ask students what they've learned this summer and get down to 18 the business of teaching and learning.</p> <p>19 On our homepage, you will find our countdown to the 20 first day of school and I hope you are celebrating right along 21 with me.</p>	<p>Page 37</p> <p>1 (Video Presentation.)</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Dr. Williams. The 4 next item of business is my Chair Report. It is hard to believe 5 that, as Dr. Williams pointed out, in less than one month, our 6 BCPS teachers and students will return to the classroom.</p> <p>7 Of course, many BCPS staff and all of our 8 administrators have worked throughout the summer. While this 9 summer provided a slower pace for many, good work continued at 10 BCPS. In June, many of us were privileged to attend the 11 swearing in of our own Student Member of the Board, Omer Rashid, 12 and the swearing in of Towson High School student, Noreen Badwe, 13 to the State Board of Education.</p> <p>14 We were thrilled to have had the opportunity in 15 early June to attend a meet and greet with Dr. Williams and our 16 elected officials and individual Board members were busy over 17 the summer with a variety of initiatives.</p> <p>18 This Saturday, Board members and Dr. Williams will 19 be together at our Board retreat and, on Saturday, August 17th, 20 our summer graduates will walk across the stage at Carver to 21 receive their diplomas.</p>

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1 I'm sure that students, parents and teachers are
 2 starting to think about back-to-school. Some students are
 3 breathing a sigh of relief because their summer reading is
 4 finished while others may be reading faster than they've read
 5 before to try and get caught up. Anyone at home that I'm
 6 talking to specifically?
 7 I encourage all students to keep reading and finish
 8 the summer strong. I hope that parents are taking advantage of
 9 Maryland's tax-free shopping days because September 3rd will be
 10 here before we know it. I'm sure our teachers are also trying
 11 to savor those last few weeks before they are back in the
 12 classroom.
 13 But, looking forward, as John F. Kennedy stated,
 14 change is the law of life and those who look to only the past or
 15 the present are certain to miss the future. We can look forward
 16 to a future and the stability that having a Superintendent with
 17 a four-year contract and Board members with more than three and
 18 a half years left on our terms can bring to the system.
 19 Make no mistake, there is hard work to be done.
 20 While we'll bring a diversity of opinions, we will always fight
 21 to do what is right for students, all students, because they are

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1 why we are here.
 2 As we move through the month of August and into the
 3 beginning of the school year, I encourage you to take advantage
 4 of opportunities to meet with and speak with Dr. Williams.
 5 Although I've only been working with him since July 1, I know
 6 that he likes to listen and learn and who better to inform him
 7 than our parents, our stakeholders, our students, our teachers
 8 and other staff and our administrators because all of our
 9 children deserve a champion. An adult who will never give up on
 10 them who understands the power of connection and insists that
 11 they become the best that they can possibly be. Thank you and
 12 that's my report.
 13 Our next item is the Student Member of the Board
 14 Report. Mr. Rashid?
 15 MR. RASHID: Good evening, Team BCPS. My name is
 16 Omer Rashid and I am your Student Member of the Board of
 17 Education.
 18 Since my swearing in on July 2nd, I've had the
 19 chance to see some of the inner workings of BCPS. I have been
 20 provided with opportunities to meet with Dr. Williams and staff
 21 surrounding my key issues and share opinions around the table

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1 from the student's perspective to ensure the decisions that are
 2 being made are what are best for students.
 3 I had the opportunity to visit curriculum-writing
 4 and see the great work our teachers are doing to make sure our
 5 curriculum is the best it can be for our students. I appreciate
 6 the teachers and staff taking time out of their summers to
 7 commit to this work.
 8 From our integrated classes to our health
 9 curriculum, we are doing a great job and I believe that we have
 10 an amazing curriculum and we keep improving it every year.
 11 I also had the opportunity to visit Watershed Public
 12 Charter School and see their curriculum being run by an amazing
 13 group of teachers. They explained to me their vision for their
 14 classes and connecting it to the environment, allowing kids to
 15 grow in their own special way.
 16 I walked through their outdoor class settings,
 17 stream and garden where I picked out some raspberries that were
 18 pretty refreshing.
 19 As to my main initiative on tackling mental health,
 20 I met with Dr. Nieves, Executive Director of Social-Emotional
 21 Learning, and Mr. Jensen, along with leaders from One Love. I

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1 am excited and happy to bring social-emotional ambassadors to
 2 BCPS also called SEL Ambassadors.
 3 These Ambassadors will be student leaders who serve
 4 as a symbol for social and emotional learning and serve as a
 5 support for students who may need help as well as be aware of
 6 all the resources available for students. This opportunity will
 7 allow students to have a peer resource they can turn to which
 8 can make a huge difference. Instead of a student not telling
 9 anyone about mental health issues or the state that they are in,
 10 especially because it's just because they're scared to talk to
 11 an adult.
 12 So, I believe that this is a great start and we'll
 13 make a big difference, especially with all that is going on
 14 recently.
 15 Last week, I met with Mr. Offerman about cell phone
 16 use in class and how it is affecting student learning as well as
 17 teachers giving instruction. We are now working on how we can
 18 tackle this issue to ensure all students are focused in the
 19 classroom and teachers aren't interrupted.
 20 This is my last year in high school and I couldn't
 21 be happier to spend it as your SMOB and make as many positive

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1 changes for students as possible. As always, students, don't
 2 hesitate to reach out to me via social media or email and invite
 3 me to any events you would like for me to attend. Enjoy your
 4 last few weeks of summer and I look forward to starting the
 5 school year and interacting with you. Thank you.

6 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Rashid. Our
 7 next item of business is action taken in closed session. For
 8 that, I call forward Mr. Andy Neusbaum.

9 MR. NEUSBAUM: Good evening. Earlier this evening,
 10 the Board of Education met in a closed session to discuss legal
 11 advice by counsel and it would be appropriate at this time to
 12 confirm actions taken in that meeting.

13 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to approve
 14 the action taken in closed session?

15 SPEAKER: So moved.

16 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Do I have a second?

17 SPEAKER: Second.

18 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Any discussion?
 19 All in favor, please raise your hand. All opposed? The motion
 20 carries.

21 MR. NEUSBAUM: Thank you.

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1 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Neusbaum. Our
 2 next item of business is Unfinished Business, Consideration of
 3 Board Policies.

4 Members of the Board, the Policy Review Committee
 5 asks that the Board accept this report of the committee's
 6 recommendation to amend the following policies. Policy 1260,
 7 School Volunteers. Policy 3230, Qualification of Vendors.
 8 Policy 8130, Policy Formulation. Policy 8315, Meetings and
 9 Participation by the Public.

10 These recommendations are presented to you on
 11 tonight's agenda as Exhibit L. The committee considered public
 12 comments received during the Board's public meeting on July 9,
 13 2019.

14 Do I have a motion to adopt the recommendation of
 15 the Board's Policy Review Committee?

16 MS. MACK: So moved.

17 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Mack. No second
 18 is required. Those in favor, please raise your hand. Any
 19 opposed? The motion carries unanimously. Thank you.

20 The next item on the agenda is New Business,
 21 Contract Awards. For that, I call forward Mr. Saris.

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1 Members of the Board, the Board's Building and
 2 Contracts Committee met earlier this evening. During this
 3 meeting, I presided since Vice Chair Julie Henn, who is the
 4 Chair of the Contracts Committee, could not attend that meeting.
 5 During this meeting, Contract MWE 801-20, Auditorium, Stadium,
 6 Field Seating, Bleachers and Installation Services was added as
 7 Item M15. A copy of this contract exhibit was provided to the
 8 Board members at their seats this evening and M15 has been added
 9 to Board Docs.

10 At the committee meeting, the committee recommended
 11 at this time that items M1 through M14 are forwarded to the full
 12 Board for approval. Item M15 will be discussed afterwards.

13 At this time, do I have a motion to approve items M1
 14 through M14?

15 MR. OFFERMAN: So moved.

16 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Offerman. No
 17 second is needed since it was a recommendation out of the
 18 Buildings Committee. Yes, ma'am?

19 VOICE: (Inaudible. Speaking away from microphone.)

20 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: We'll separate out number four
 21 so that Ms. Scott's recusal can be noted. So, we'll do numbers

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1 M1 through M3 and then M5 through M14. Is there any discussion
 2 on items M1 through M3 and M5 through M14? Hearing none, all
 3 those in favor, please raise your hand. The motion carries
 4 unanimously.

5 Next on Item M4, are there any questions or comments
 6 related to that? Mr. Saris, would you like to make comments on
 7 this?

8 MR. SARIS: Oh. No. Unless you have questions.

9 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Okay. Because, all of this was
 10 discussed earlier in the Buildings and Contracts Committee. So,
 11 all those in favor of Item M4, please raise your hand. Any
 12 opposed? Ms. Scott is recused and the motion carries.

13 The next item, Item M15, if I could have Mr. Saris,
 14 that moved out of committee without a recommendation from the
 15 Board. So, we did want to allow the full Board to hear the
 16 information from Mr. Saris and ask questions as appropriate.
 17 Thank you.

18 MR. SARIS: So, this is a new cooperative contract
 19 specializing in auditorium, stadium, field seating, bleachers
 20 and associated installation services for schools and the
 21 Department of Facilities Management. We are requesting approval

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1 for a one year, two month contract with 9 recommended bidders
 2 and contract spending authority of \$2 million.
 3 As we mentioned, this is a cooperative contract
 4 under the interlocal purchasing system which is a national
 5 consortium based in Texas and organized by a cooperative group
 6 of School Boards.
 7 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Board members, are there
 8 comments or questions at this time? Ms. Mack?
 9 MS. MACK: Is there a master schedule that exists
 10 today that shows when schools will be getting new bleachers?
 11 But, kind of like the Facilities Plan. Is there a Facilities
 12 Plan for spending this money?
 13 MR. SARIS: Well, this money derives entirely from
 14 legislative grants which function like earmarks so that every
 15 session of the General Assembly, certain delegates and
 16 representatives have funds that are available to be designated
 17 in restricted grants for specific schools and projects.
 18 So, at this point, we are currently working with a
 19 \$50,000 grant at Towson High School which is what brought about
 20 this contract and we know of an approximately \$500,000 grant for
 21 Newtown High School. Because we know that, every session, we

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1 get additional projects designated by the legislature, we added
 2 enough purchasing authority to anticipate possible additional
 3 grants which would facilitate keeping these projects moving
 4 quickly because, by the time the General Assembly acts and we
 5 get the documentation, summer is here and these projects are
 6 anxiously awaited by different school communities.
 7 So, there is no pre-established schedule other than
 8 our past experience which indicates there will very likely be
 9 additional projects in the spring.
 10 MS. MACK: So, for the money that's granted as a
 11 grant, it does not come out of the capital budget? Is that a
 12 true statement?
 13 MR. SARIS: No. This comes out of legislative funds
 14 that are designated. For this that has nothing to do with the
 15 public school construction program or the budget capital or
 16 operating budget process that we go through, starting this
 17 evening, really.
 18 MS. MACK: Okay. Thank you very much.
 19 MR. DIXIT: I'd just like to provide a response to a
 20 question that was raised in the Building Committee meeting. It
 21 was about the capacity for Newtown High School bleachers and

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1 it's in the range of 500 to 600.
 2 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Did you have a
 3 follow-up to that, Mr. McMillion?
 4 MR. MCMILLION: But, that's grant money. That's not
 5 our money. It's state money that's going towards those
 6 bleachers. Correct?
 7 MR. DIXIT: It depends on how we define our money.
 8 It is coming out of our taxes. So, in that sense, it's our
 9 money. But, it's not part of the capital improvement program or
 10 operating budget. It's a different source of funding.
 11 MR. SARIS: In this project, the Towson Boosters
 12 have also contributed, I think, \$28,000 to be combined with the
 13 state grant to make it a joint project.
 14 Sometimes just a private group will get the money.
 15 In this case, it was jointly funded. We think that is likely to
 16 be more typical going forward.
 17 MR. MCMILLION: I'm just going to state this. As a
 18 former athletic director for Chesapeake High School, I was
 19 actively involved in our stadium project. Our project cost
 20 \$165,000 for 770 seats, a press box and a film deck. So, that's
 21 part of why I questioned the \$500,000 to begin with because I

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1 was curious how many seats they were getting for \$500,000. I
 2 just want to go on record as saying that. That's all. Thank
 3 you.
 4 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: I also had a question related
 5 to that. So, for the Towson High School project, there's a
 6 \$50,000 grant and then you said the Towson Sports Boosters is
 7 adding an additional \$28,000. So, how many seats are they
 8 getting? And, that's adding to some that already exist there.
 9 Is that correct?
 10 MR. DIXIT: The Towson High is for a small bleacher.
 11 It is for the band. So, the capacity there is 165.
 12 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Okay. I would agree with Mr.
 13 McMillion. It makes the other number seem high. I mean, if
 14 you're talking about the number of seats.
 15 MR. DIXIT: Different projects have different scope
 16 of work. Some require ADA modifications, some require other
 17 additional modifications.
 18 So, it perhaps is not fair to compare per seat cost.
 19 You have to look at the entire scope of work.
 20 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: I see. Does Newtown currently
 21 have bleachers around their track and is that where they're

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1 going?

2 MR. DIXIT: No, I don't know. But, they do have a

3 track.

4 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Mr. McMillion?

5 MR. MCMILLION: Newtown, the last time I was at

6 Newtown, they did not have seats. Mr. Pete makes an excellent

7 point that that landscape is different than our landscape. We

8 were on a flat surface. We initially were going down a hill.

9 We changed that up to go flat. It saved us a lot of money.

10 If I'm not mistaken, Newtown has a real embankment

11 or a hill there. So, they're probably building it into the

12 hill. That's probably where the additional cost comes from.

13 Thank you.

14 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: I was going to say, I've sat on

15 that hill and watched track races. So, we understand there's

16 needs around the county for improving because we want our

17 children to be active and we want the community to be able to

18 come and support that activity.

19 Also, earlier in the committee, we asked for a

20 breakdown of the operating budget versus capital budget versus

21 grants.

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1 MR. DIXIT: Yeah.

2 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Were you able to get those

3 numbers?

4 MR. DIXIT: Yes. There are minor expenses I

5 indicated about the operating budget for repairs. There are no

6 capital projects at this time. So, most of the projects, most

7 of this funding will be grant-based. The grants sometimes they

8 come to boosters, sometimes they come to us. One time they went

9 to Baltimore County government and, sometimes they are to

10 multi-party. That means booster and us together. This contract

11 will help us expediting the delivery of the product.

12 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Also, Mr. Dixit, if

13 you would also review what you were speaking about with Policy

14 7330 in terms of the Board's oversight into how these projects

15 move forward and have oversight on the procurement.

16 MR. DIXIT: Yeah. Whenever there is a private fund

17 involved and booster funds, and most of the cases are private

18 funds, the project is called 7330 request. That project, while

19 we provide the technical assistance, technical review of the

20 drawing, in the end, it comes to the Board for their approval.

21 So, even if this contract would be used, 7330 will come to the

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1 Board for approval.

2 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Also, I believe

3 there was a question asked about the interlocal purchasing

4 system contract because we're doing a cooperative contract with

5 them and on when that was competitively bid?

6 MR. SARIS: Yeah, that was, well, I thought I had

7 it. I guess I don't have that information about the date of the

8 bid. I want to say that it was in August of 2018 and was issued

9 to over 270 vendors, awarded to 14, 9 of which do business in

10 this area and in this state. But, I'm sorry, I can't be sure

11 that August 2018 is the exact, correct date.

12 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: But, it's relatively recently.

13 MR. SARIS: Yes.

14 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: And, in terms of getting

15 competitive prices, it's a very recent event.

16 MR. SARIS: Right. And, these vendors listed here

17 all have local distributors that represent them. The bids were

18 evaluated on the qualifications basis like an RFP so that we

19 looked at their hourly labor rates, the discounts that they

20 offer on materials and components is included in the pricing and

21 it does give future boosters or other organizations an

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1 opportunity, even if our funds are not involved, to get 9

2 competitive quotes, as many as, to make sure that their pricing

3 is competitive.

4 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Okay, great. Thank you. Are

5 there other comments or questions from Board members? Hearing

6 none, may I have a motion to accept Item M15?

7 MR. MCMILLION: So moved.

8 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Mr. McMillion. Any second?

9 MS. ROWE: Second.

10 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Rowe. Any other

11 discussion before we take the vote? All in favor, please raise

12 your hand. Any opposed? Seeing none, the motion carries

13 unanimously. Thank you very much, Mr. Saris and Mr. Dixit.

14 Our next item is Item N, New Business, Report on the

15 Fiscal Year `20-`21 state capital budget. For that, we have Mr.

16 Smith and Mr. Dixit.

17 The Board of Education will review the attached

18 Superintendent's Proposed Fiscal Year `20-`21 State Capital

19 Budget Recommendation and it is available on Board Docs. The

20 Fiscal Year `20-`21 final approved budget for discussion at the

21 work session on Tuesday, August 20th, 2019 and for Board action

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1 on Tuesday, September 10th, 2019.

2 State funded project requests require verification

3 of county matching funds before final state approval. So, I'll

4 now ask Dr. Williams to begin the discussion on the fiscal year

5 `20-`21 state capital budget request.

6 DR. WILLIAMS: Thank you. Madame Chair and members

7 of the Board, I am pleased to present to you this evening the

8 proposed FY21 state capital budget for the Board's review.

9 In our efforts to be completely transparent and

10 consistent with previous discussions on this subject, the

11 schedule for the Board's consideration and approval consists of

12 a four-step process. Staff will present the proposed FY21 state

13 capital budget this evening. Board members are asked to submit

14 questions directly to me no later than Monday, August 12th,

15 2019. Staff and I will review the questions and provide written

16 responses to the Board in public. A work session on the

17 proposed state capital budget is scheduled for Tuesday, August

18 20, 2019. Final approval by the Board is scheduled for the

19 September 10, 2019 Board meeting.

20 At this time, I would like Mr. Smith and his team to

21 share the plan with the Board.

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1 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you.

2 MR. SMITH: Thank you, Dr. Williams, Chairwoman

3 Causey, members of the Board. I won't re-introduce Mr. Saris

4 and Mr. Dixit again.

5 This state request is almost identical to our FY20

6 request submission that was approved by the Board last year.

7 The projects that were fully funded by the state last year have

8 been removed and there's been no change in the priority of the

9 other projects that were formally approved by this Board.

10 For infrastructure improvements, new systemic

11 projects have been added. As Dr. Williams has indicated, there

12 will be a work session at the August 20th, 2019 Board meeting

13 and the approval for the request at the September 10, 2019 Board

14 meeting.

15 Certainly, this is just the introduction of the

16 exhibit tonight. So, I know you're going to have a lot of

17 questions. You have the opportunity to write them down and

18 submit them to us, as well as when we come back from the work

19 session, we can have a robust discussion about it. With that,

20 please forward your questions to us by August 12th of 2019 and

21 we'll try to get those responses in writing to Dr. Williams that

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1 can get back to the Board. With that, I want to turn it over to

2 Mr. Dixit who is going to walk through the document to give you

3 an overview.

4 MR. DIXIT: Good evening, again. Before I go over

5 the document which is very identical to what we presented last

6 year, I just wanted to share the schedule of the entire state

7 capital submission process.

8 We are introducing it to the Board tonight. A Board

9 work session is on August 20th. The Board will vote on this

10 budget on September 10th. Submission to the state will be

11 October 4th and that submission will be a big binder with all

12 the documents. A copy of that will be shared with you.

13 The first round of their recommendations will come

14 around November 1st, 2019. The second round of their

15 recommendation, which is generally 90 percent of the funding,

16 that comes around February of 2020. The third round will be in

17 May, 2020.

18 The legislature's approval of the capital budget is

19 anticipated in May of 2020 and the final letter of approval will

20 be coming to us in June of 2020.

21 Other than that, the detailed discussion on the plan

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1 will be at the work session that is scheduled for the next

2 meeting. We just request that if you submit all the questions

3 by the date, we'll be able to provide you the detailed

4 responses.

5 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Is there anything

6 else they're going to prepare at this time? Or, we'll move on

7 to the next item. Okay. I would also just like to say,

8 community members that are reviewing the documents that are

9 available on Board Docs can email the Board their comments or

10 questions at boe @bcps.org. If they are received before August

11 12th, the Board will compile them and forward them to Dr.

12 Williams and staff to evaluate for the Board to have included at

13 our Board work session.

14 Our next item is Item O, New Business, Report on

15 Watershed Public Charter School. For that, we call forward Dr.

16 Jones to come up and present an update. Following the

17 presentation, we will allow time for discussion if the Board so

18 desires. Dr. Jones, if you could just announce everyone that's

19 going to be joining us. Thank you.

20 DR. JONES: Thank you. Good evening, Ms. Causey,

21 Dr. Williams and members of the Board. I am happy to present

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1 the update on the opening of Watershed Public Charter School.
 2 Presenting with me is Ms. Melissa D'Donato, Executive Director
 3 of School Support West Zone, Ms. Jeanetta Jaymon who is the
 4 principal of Watershed Public Charter School and Ms. Jessie
 5 Leeson, Executive Director of Watershed Public Charter School.
 6 The purpose of our presentation today is to provide
 7 an informational update to the Board of Education on the opening
 8 of Watershed Public Charter School. Our informational update
 9 will include the following as it appears on your screen. We
 10 will discuss the Baltimore County Public Schools and Watershed
 11 Public Charter School collaboration, teaching and learning,
 12 student enrollment, safety and security, information technology
 13 and facilities.
 14 We want to begin our presentation with the journey
 15 of collaboration between BCPS and Watershed Public Charter
 16 Schools. There are several events that took place after MSDE
 17 approved the charter school application.
 18 From January through the present, we've been in
 19 school opening meetings with Watershed Public Charter School and
 20 several offices within Baltimore County Public Schools. Those
 21 meetings included staff from CNI, Facilities and various areas

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1 throughout the county.
 2 Specifically, during the months of January and
 3 February, parent interest meetings occurred and a student
 4 lottery was hosted by Watershed Public Charter Schools and
 5 attended by Baltimore County Public Schools.
 6 Throughout the months of May and April, we were very
 7 proud to have our human resources support collaborating with
 8 staff to meet the needs of the school and prepare them for the
 9 candidates that were interested in attending the school.
 10 A teacher interest meeting occurred with TABCO and
 11 representatives as well, just to inform teachers and
 12 interested candidates of the opportunities at Watershed.
 13 Throughout the months of May, June and July, we've
 14 really been focusing on staffing the school and making sure that
 15 all of the human resources and capital are in place.
 16 During the month of May, we also had the opportunity
 17 to hire and select Ms. Jaymon which was a collaborative effort
 18 between BCPS and Watershed Public Charter School. During the
 19 summer months, there have been community activities, as you can
 20 see, there have been coffee, community and conversation, an
 21 Independence Day school community event, a Turtle Time for

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1 Family Game Night which Ms. D'Donato had the opportunity to
 2 attend with her son which was a very nice event. Invitations
 3 have been extended to BCPS as it relates to these community
 4 events.
 5 We are looking forward to September, the opening of
 6 the school. But, we look forward to this journey of
 7 collaboration and growing over time as we meet the needs of our
 8 students with a huge focus on instruction and teaching and
 9 learning.
 10 VOICE: So, I will provide updates on the
 11 instructional components of curriculum development, materials
 12 and professional development.
 13 So, for curriculum development, in particular,
 14 lesson planning. We did lesson planning during the week of July
 15 15th through 19th. During that time, all 8 of our classroom
 16 teachers, our art teacher and our physical education teacher
 17 participated.
 18 We know that curriculum development is going to be
 19 an ongoing process so our teachers are using their knowledge of
 20 the common core state standards and also using an integrated
 21 approach focused on arts integration and also outdoor learning.

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1 The unit and lesson plans will also continue on
 2 a daily basis during common planning time by grade level and
 3 also weekly when we have our early dismissal on Fridays.
 4 Art, music and physical education teachers will
 5 utilize the Baltimore County Public Schools curriculum as a
 6 foundation for their own instruction and lesson planning.
 7 For our resources and our materials, we are using
 8 Bridges in Mathematics. That is a textbook series that has been
 9 purchased for our Kindergarten through grade three. It is a
 10 comprehensive PreK-5 curriculum that provides teacher materials,
 11 assessments and also teacher guides. It is a way for us to make
 12 sure that the common core standards in mathematics is engaging
 13 and rigorous and accessible to all of our students. Those
 14 materials have already arrived at our school and our teachers
 15 are also prepared for that as well.
 16 Our Open Court foundational skills program is the
 17 program for students in Kindergarten through grade three and
 18 this is the same phonics series that BCPS is piloting this
 19 coming school year for Kindergarten through 1st grade. We're
 20 using in Kindergarten through 3rd. So, those materials have
 21 been ordered and that was placed on July 19th.

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1 Both Bridges and Open Court have intervention
 2 components to it. So, not only will we provide on-grade direct
 3 explicit instruction in those areas, but it will also provide an
 4 intervention as well for students who are falling below grade
 5 level.
 6 Scholastic level texts which are aligned to our
 7 thematic units have been provided for our teachers with guided
 8 reading and also for students to engage in independent reading.
 9 Those materials were ordered on July 30th. Reading A to Z and
 10 classroom libraries will be utilized for independent reading and
 11 small group instruction. Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark
 12 Assessment System, we will use that to assess students' reading
 13 levels and we will also do it quarterly to monitor their reading
 14 development. Those materials are already at our school.
 15 We're also using a Pfeiffer assessment of reading
 16 screening form. That particular screening is a one-time, we'll
 17 do it in the fall for all of our students, to determine if there
 18 are any other various reading difficulties that they may have so
 19 that we can adjust our instruction accordingly to meet those
 20 students' needs.
 21 For professional development, we are having a

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1 Bridges in Mathematics professional development that is being
 2 provided by the company on August 26th. We're also having an
 3 Open Court Foundation Skills Program professional development
 4 provided by the company as well. So, we're having professional
 5 professional developers coming in. That will occur on August
 6 30th.
 7 Guided reading and administering of records will
 8 have professional development on August 20th and September 6th
 9 to make sure that we're doing it consistently across the board
 10 within our school. Of course, we're having our Responsive
 11 Classrooms professional development happening on August 8th and
 12 throughout the school year because that will be our
 13 social-emotional learning component within our curriculum.
 14 VOICE: Good evening. Each presentation that has
 15 been provided to the Board of Education has included student
 16 enrollment information. This is the update on the current
 17 enrollment numbers that have been validated by both BCPS and
 18 Watershed Public Charter School.
 19 As you can see on the display, as of July 29th, 151
 20 students were enrolled in Watershed. However, since then,
 21 additional enrollments have occurred. So, as of 10:00 p.m.

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1 yesterday evening, August 5th. The total enrollment was 159
 2 students. Forty-one in Kindergarten, 41 in grade one, 34 in
 3 grade two and 43 in grade three. There are also 6 pending
 4 enrollments. A pending enrollment is an enrollment that's been
 5 started but not completely finished within the system. There
 6 are four pending enrollments in 1st grade, one in second and one
 7 in third.
 8 Additionally, Watershed a substantial wait list of
 9 students to fill those additional sports although they have been
 10 offered to students to meet the projection of 44 students per
 11 grade level. There's a wait list of 67 students for
 12 Kindergarten, 17 for grade one, 12 for grade two and 8 for grade
 13 three.
 14 On July 15, 2019, Dr. Ford, the School Safety
 15 Manager for West Zone schools, Officer Sutton who is a Baltimore
 16 County police department SRO officer who supports West Zone
 17 elementary schools, myself, as well as Ms. Jaymon and Ms.
 18 Leeson, toured Watershed and conducted a building walk-through
 19 to look at safety and emergency procedures for the school.
 20 Part of that walk-through included looking at
 21 building access. Watershed will have, and are in the process of

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1 installing, four swipe card entry systems on exterior doors.
 2 The administrators, teachers, school safety manager for
 3 Baltimore County Public Schools as well as other designated
 4 BCP)S staff and Baltimore County Police Department officers will
 5 have issued swipe cards for their exterior doors.
 6 Visitors to Watershed will enter the school in the
 7 same way as any other BCPS school. Ringing a door buzzer, they
 8 will be brought into the front office and allowed into the
 9 school as if they were entering any other BCPS office or school.
 10 Watershed will have a camera system and both staff
 11 from the Office of School Safety and Security, as well as the
 12 Baltimore County Police Department will have access to that
 13 camera system. Baltimore County Office of Safety and Security
 14 was consulted regarding the location of the cameras and
 15 installation and the cameras are in process of being installed
 16 right now.
 17 Watershed will follow all BCPS emergency procedures
 18 and conduct all BCPS required drills. Dr. Ford, the west zone
 19 safety manager, will be providing site-based ALIS training for
 20 the staff at Watershed on August 27th to ensure that they are up
 21 and running and ready for the start of school.

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1 VOICE: Hi, good evening. I'm going to be talking a
 2 little bit about information technology. Watershed will not use
 3 the Cronos Time Keeping System for non-exempt employees during
 4 the 2019-2020 school year as there are currently less than five
 5 non-exempt employees.

6 Teachers and students will have access to
 7 district-licensed digital curricular resources and Watershed, in
 8 collaboration with BCPS, will identify and implement an
 9 appropriate filter for their Chromebooks.

10 So, facilities updates. Anticipated completion of
 11 interior construction is August 8th, 2019 which is this
 12 Thursday. Our U and O inspection is scheduled for this Friday.
 13 Site work in the parking lot, handicapped parking and ramp have
 14 been installed and crosswalks have been delineated. The health
 15 inspection will be scheduled for mid-August. Watershed will
 16 follow the BCPS heat closure process. Our certificate of
 17 occupancy is required by August 28th. However, we anticipate
 18 getting it much earlier than that. We have passed our plumbing
 19 inspection, our electrical inspection, our framing inspection
 20 and then, on Friday, as I mentioned, we have a U and O
 21 inspection which is use and occupancy, and a fire alarm

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1 inspection. So, we are 95 percent done with construction at the
 2 site.

3 DR. JONES: Thank you. The final update to the
 4 Board will be part of the school readiness report on August
 5 20th, 2019. This concludes our summary of where we are in the
 6 opening of the charter school. We will continue to hold school
 7 opening meetings throughout the month of August and at this time
 8 we'll take any questions that you may have.

9 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Mr. McMillion?
 10 MR. MCMILLION: I have one question and one
 11 statement. The statement is I'm extremely happy to see the
 12 Watershed leadership seeded with Baltimore County Public Schools
 13 leadership. I think that shows the collaboration that we talked
 14 about at the last meeting.

15 My question is to Ms. Jeanetta. Do you have all
 16 your faculty? Is your faculty in place and ready to go?
 17 MS. JAYMON: There is one position that we're still
 18 thinking about how we're going to fill. But, yes. The majority
 19 of our faculty is in place.
 20 MR. MCMILLION: And, what grade level is that
 21 position?

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1 MS. JAYMON: That is actually one of the specials.
 2 MR. MCMILLION: Okay. Thank you.
 3 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Mr. Offerman?
 4 MR. OFFERMAN: (Inaudible.)
 5 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Oh, okay. Ms. Scott?
 6 MS. SCOTT: Thank you all so much for that
 7 presentation. I think it was very informative. I was just
 8 curious. I wanted to know with the numbers and everything of
 9 the students coming, did you have it broken down where they're
 10 coming from throughout Baltimore County? Are they predominantly
 11 coming from the west zone? Which areas are they coming from?
 12 Or, which schools.
 13 DR. JONES: I don't have a report in front of me
 14 right now. There's quite a bit from the surrounding area and
 15 there's quite a bit that's just all over the place.
 16 MS. SCOTT: When you say surrounding, you all are
 17 in, like, the Woodlawn area. So, it's mostly coming from
 18 children in Woodlawn?
 19 DR. JONES: I wouldn't say mostly. No. I would
 20 say, this is a wild guess, I have to preface this because I
 21 haven't actually run a report in quite a while. But, last time

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1 I checked it was around 50 percent surrounding area and 50
 2 percent all over the place.
 3 VOICE: And, just to clarify, we actually do have
 4 the precise answer to that question and that's something that we
 5 can provide through Dr. Williams for your review.
 6 But, there is a population of students that is
 7 coming from the surrounding area but then there are other
 8 students across the county. But, we do have that information
 9 that we can get from our Office of Strategic Planning. They can
 10 provide us with that.
 11 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Ms. Rowe and then
 12 Ms. Mack.
 13 MS. ROWE: So, I noticed that you mentioned the heat
 14 closure policy that you're following. Does that mean the school
 15 does not have air conditioning?
 16 VOICE: That is correct. Yes.
 17 MS. ROWE: Okay. My other question is I remember
 18 your very first presentation that was at, like, midnight. I
 19 wasn't on the Board then. So, I didn't have the opportunity to
 20 ask the question I wanted to ask at the time.
 21 I remember from that presentation that there was a

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1 difference in enrollment criteria, that you have some Board
 2 members and you have some different people that are given
 3 priority placement because of their founding of the
 4 organization. I just wanted to know what percentage of your
 5 students are priority placements and how many students are
 6 coming from the lottery across the county?
 7 VOICE: As Dr. Jones says, we have the exact
 8 numbers. I don't have them in front of me. We can get them for
 9 you. There are founding members, there are three students total
 10 and there is a priority for children of staff and then a
 11 priority for siblings. I don't have the numbers in front of me
 12 right now but I do know that there's only three founding members
 13 whose children are attending the school.
 14 DR. JONES: Right. We will provide that information
 15 as well for Dr. Williams to provide to you all.
 16 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Ms. Mack was next.
 17 MS. MACK: I was trying to do the math when you were
 18 talking about your staffing so I'll just ask. What is your
 19 average class size going to end up being?
 20 VOICE: Twenty-two.
 21 MS. MACK: That's what I thought. Okay. Thank you.

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1 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Any other questions or comments
 2 from Board members?
 3 DR. WILLIAMS: I just want to reiterate, I
 4 appreciate the collaboration and the work that has started
 5 earlier this spring, again, preparing for opening takes a lot of
 6 time and attention. So, I appreciate it. I even asked how many
 7 meetings that we've had but we chose not to include that data.
 8 But, clearly, there's been the collaboration through
 9 several meetings of several offices. So, I just want to commend
 10 you for your work.
 11 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: If there's no other questions,
 12 thank you very much. We look forward to the next update and the
 13 work to continue. Thank you.
 14 Our next item of business is Board member comments
 15 and I'll just go around the room seeking comments from Board
 16 members. Mr. Offerman, if we could start with you? I think I
 17 started with Ms. Rowe last time.
 18 MR. OFFERMAN: Yes. As mentioned earlier, I am
 19 working with Mr. Sheath to try to get a handle on cell phone use
 20 by students, particularly in the classroom. There's a general
 21 cell phone policy or a device policy for use.

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1 In the policies that we have, I'm trying to examine
 2 whether we need to better define that and to look at what's in
 3 practice now. Apparently there's a wide range of plans and
 4 processes in place in various schools. Some, apparently, are
 5 very successful. Other ones, I'm hearing from teachers, is not
 6 so successful. So, that's one of the things that I'm targeted
 7 with and I appreciate that Mr. Rashid is helping that. Thank
 8 you. And, that staff members I've talked to already. Thank
 9 you.
 10 MS. PASTEUR: Happy August to all of you and I hope
 11 everyone has had a wonderful and restful summer. I have had a
 12 restful summer but came back in August as I did in June by
 13 working on the funding task force for the Kirwan Commission. I
 14 look forward to being able to share with members of the Board
 15 and various stakeholders as we put together that funding
 16 formula. We will be finished, just so you know the timeline, we
 17 will be finished, we hope, by the end of September.
 18 What that means is just a litany of things that all
 19 school systems inside the state will have to consider in terms
 20 of plans for using the money in the future and making sure that,
 21 as I listened to a couple of you tonight address it, how we

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1 address the needs of our neediest students and making sure that,
 2 as a system, we hold true to those things.
 3 So, I'm happy to be coming from Baltimore County
 4 because it is like having an extra track into what's going on
 5 and what is expected.
 6 My last thing is to the Watershed team. When we
 7 met, we talked about collaboration with the surrounding schools
 8 and other Baltimore County schools. So, I will certainly be
 9 looking forward to hearing what your ideas are about that
 10 because you will have wonderful things going on and we want to
 11 make sure that our schools, especially, since we're working
 12 together, are going to be able to participate in some of those
 13 things. Also, as you grow, knowing that because we have
 14 wonderful schools already, that there will be some growth that
 15 you will make by having that collaboration with our Baltimore
 16 County schools. Thank you.
 17 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Mr. Hayden?
 18 MR. HAYDEN: I'm very pleased to see the number of
 19 challenges that we have on the table in front of us and, more
 20 specifically, those challenges for our new Superintendent. I am
 21 a big believer that the Board's job is to lend direction and

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<p>1 serve policy and the Superintendent's job is to make these 2 things happen. So, that's a big challenge out there for the 3 Superintendent.</p> <p>4 There are lots of things on the table. There are a 5 lot of ideas and a lot of directions that we have to go. But, 6 realizing that we Board members were just listening and putting 7 things together and you, Dr. Williams, you're sort of the focal 8 point here.</p> <p>9 So, if you feel like you've got the weight of the 10 world on your shoulders, it's not the whole world. It's just 11 Baltimore County. (Laughter.) So, we wish you all the best as 12 we move forward.</p> <p>13 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Mr. Rashid? 14 MR. RASHID: I want to start off by thanking 15 Watershed Public Charter School. I visited them, like, two 16 weeks ago and I saw a lot that was going on. I like how they're 17 integrated with the environment and I look forward to seeing 18 what it's like after everything is done.</p> <p>19 I look forward to working with Mr. Offerman to 20 finish our discussion on cell phone use within the classrooms. 21 Also, happy to roll out, with the help of Dr. Nieves, our</p>	<p>1 planning for a year, sow rice. If you are planning for a 2 decide, plant trees. If you are planning for a lifetime, 3 educate people.</p> <p>4 While we have real hurdles to overcome in BCPS, the 5 principals and administrators with whom I met give me great hope 6 for the future. These administrators know their students, they 7 know their strengths and they even know their dreams for the 8 future.</p> <p>9 They also know first-hand the challenges many of our 10 students face and are doing extraordinary things to mitigate the 11 impact of these challenges.</p> <p>12 Meeting with these principals and their teams has 13 given me tremendous insight into how difficult it must be to be 14 responsible for the educational, emotional and social well-being 15 of hundreds of little lives and these visits have made me even 16 more determined to support administrators so that they have 17 everything they need to support and educate our students. Thank 18 you.</p> <p>19 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Ms. Scott? 20 MS. SCOTT: Thank you. I'm just very hopeful for 21 our future of working together with our new Superintendent, Dr.</p>
<p>1 social-emotional learning ambassadors. Thank you.</p> <p>2 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Ms. Jose? 3 MS. JOSE: Thank you. I'd like to welcome Dr. 4 Williams again. Enjoy the rest of your summer and goodnight.</p> <p>5 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Mr. McMillion? 6 MR. MCMILLION: As a former athletic director, I'd 7 be remiss not to remind everyone, all the fall athletes, get 8 your physicals, register online, start getting your body ready 9 because what you're going to face in the next week or so is 10 going to be more than you've done all summer. So, do what 11 you're supposed to do and take care of it. Thank you.</p> <p>12 MR. RASHID: I need to get my physical in. 13 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Ms. Mack? 14 MS. MACK: When I was elected to the Board of 15 Education, I set a goal to visit all 25 schools in district one 16 before the school year was over. Due to circumstances beyond my 17 control, I didn't meet that timeline. But, through four days of 18 visits in late June and early August, for the most part, I did 19 meet the goal by visiting 9 elementary schools, three middle 20 schools and the Catonsville Alternative Center.</p> <p>21 There is a Chinese proverb that says if you are</p>	<p>1 Williams, working on ways that we can address issues that arise 2 but working together as a team, being collaborative in our 3 approach and I hope everyone is doing all of their summer work. 4 As I said before, their summer reading, getting all of that done 5 so they can come back to school and just hit the ground running. 6 Thank you.</p> <p>7 BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Ms. Rowe? 8 MS. ROWE: So, it's summer. You know I like summer. 9 Who knows what my favorite thing is that BCPS does besides 10 actually teach kids stuff. Who knows? Do you know? Feed. 11 Yes. Rod, you got it.</p> <p>12 So, I just want to remind parents that we do 13 something really great in our school system and also in 14 cooperation with the local government. We have lunch at 15 libraries and at different schools throughout the school year 16 during the summer.</p> <p>17 In addition to that, if you have a child in BCPS 18 schools, they already have an account at the library. So, if 19 you show up to the library at noon, one of the libraries that 20 has lunch, your kid can get lunch for free, any kid, and they 21 can take out books on their BCPS library account which,</p>

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