OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in open session at 5:55 p.m. at Greenwood.

Mr. Uhlfelder reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in July and August.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article, §3-305 (b)(1) and (b)(7), and upon motion of Mr. Gilliss, seconded by Ms. Williams, and approved unanimously, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:56 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in closed session at 5:56 p.m. at Greenwood. Chair David Uhlfelder, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael J. Collins, Ms. June P. Eaton, Edward J. Gilliss, Esquire, Ms. Marisol A. Johnson, Mr. Charles McDaniels, Jr., Mr. George J. Moniodis, Nicholas C. Stewart, Esq., Stephen L. Verch, Esq., Romaine N. Williams, Esquire, and student member Deeksha Walia.

In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: Ms. Michele O. Prumo, Chief of Staff; Mr. Kevin D. Smith, Chief Administrative and Operations Officer; Ms. Verletta White, Chief Academic Officer, Mr. D. Mychael Dickerson, Chief Communications Officer; Dr. John Mayo, Chief Human Resources Officer, Margaret-Ann F. Howie, Esquire, General Counsel; Andrew W. Nussbaum, Esquire, Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Deborah Decker, Sr. Executive Assistant to the Board.

Dr. Mayo presented the personnel matters to be considered on the evening’s agenda, including retirements, resignations, leaves, deaths, an advisory council appointment, and administrative appointments.

Mr. Nussbaum provided legal advice regarding the hearing officer’s opinion to be considered that evening.

Ms. Lichter entered the room at 6:15 p.m. Ms. Lichter and Ms. White discussed concerns about a school employee.

On motion of Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Gilliss, the Board adjourned its closed session at 6:37 p.m.
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:09 p.m. at Greenwood. Chair David Uhlfelder, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael J. Collins, Ms. June P. Eaton, Edward J. Gilliss, Esquire, Ms. Marisol A. Johnson, Mr. Charles McDaniels, Jr., Mr. George J. Moniodis, Nicholas C. Stewart, Esq., Stephen L. Verch, Esq., Romaine N. Williams, Esquire, and student member Deeksha Walia. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Kayla and Alexis Anelli, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Open and Closed Minutes of June 9, 2015, Mr. Uhlfelder declared the minutes approved as presented on the Web site.

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

SELECTION OF SPEAKERS

After collecting completed sign-up cards, Mr. Uhlfelder announced the names of persons who would be speaking during the public comment portion of the meeting as well as the order in which the persons would be called.

Mr. Uhlfelder stated that public comment is one of the opportunities provided to hear the views and receive the advice of community members. The members of the Board appreciate hearing from interested citizens and will take their comments into consideration, even though it is not the Board’s practice to take action at this time on issues which are raised. When appropriate, the Board will refer concerns to the superintendent for follow-up by his staff.

While the Board encourages public input on policy, programs, and practices within the purview of this Board and this school system, this is not the proper avenue to address specific student or employee matters, or to comment on matters that do not relate to public education in Baltimore County. The Board encourages everyone to utilize existing avenues of redress for complaints. Inappropriate personal remarks or other behavior that disrupts or interferes with the conduct of this meeting are out of order.

Mr. Uhlfelder also asked speakers to observe the timer, which lets the speaker know when time is up. He asked speakers to conclude their remarks when they see his/her time is up.
SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Dance provided the following update:

Thanking Departing Board Members

Dr. Dance expressed his appreciation for the dedication of outgoing Board members whose terms have expired. Together, they provided 31 years of service to BCPS students, families, and staff.

- Michael Bowler, a retired Baltimore Sun education writer, editor, and columnist was appointed July 2010.
- Rodger Janssen, employed by the Maryland Transportation Authority in facilities construction, was appointed August 2004.
- Edward Parker, a retired principal of Sollers Point Technical High School, was appointed July 2006.
- Lawrence Schmidt, Esq., a partner at Smith, Gildea and Schmidt LLC, was appointed July 2009.

Welcoming New Board Members

Dr. Dance welcomed the new members of the Board who were appointed by Governor Larry Hogan for terms starting July 1.

- Kathleen Causey, of Monkton, representing the Third Council District. Ms. Causey is owner of Corbett Overlook 2 LLC. She has been actively involved with Our Lady of Grace Parish, Hereford High School, and Hereford Zone Recreation Sports.
- June Eaton, of Dundalk, representing the Seventh Council District. Ms. Eaton taught language arts at Cardinal Sheehan School and has volunteered with the Harrison Medical Library at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center.
- Nicholas Stewart, Esq., of Arbutus, representing the First Council District. Mr. Stewart is an associate in litigation at Saul Ewing LLP, and is active in economic development across the region as well as in the southwest area of Baltimore County.
- Stephen Verch, Esq., of Perry Hall, representing the Sixth Council District. Mr. Verch is a sole practitioner and Baltimore County management assistant who graduated from Kenwood High School. He is on the board of the Marshy Point Nature Center and is counsel to the Back River Restoration Committee.
- Deeksha Walia, Student Board Member. Ms. Walia is a senior at Kenwood High School with a track record of student leadership, she has served on the Superintendent’s Student Advisory Council and the Baltimore County Student Councils.

Dr. Dance stated that continuing Board member Marisol Johnson now represents the Second Council District, while continuing Board member Romaine Williams, Esq., has moved to an At Large seat.
Gearing up for 2015-2016

Dr. Dance thanked the Board for jumping right into planning for the next school year. He stressed the importance of preparing students to graduate globally competitive. He stated July is full of summer professional development opportunities, school progress planning, and summer school, as everyone plans for the start of the new school year.

Leadership Academy

The 2015 Leadership Academy, *Students at the Center*, provided two days of professional learning for principals and assistant principals to discuss and plan high-impact leadership and instructional strategies for the 2015-2016 school year. A panel of elementary, middle, and high school students provided feedback on their experiences and how to better meet individual student needs.

Digital Curriculum Award

Chief Academic Officer Verletta White accepted the Digital Content and Curriculum Achievement Award from the Center for Digital Education on behalf of Team BCPS. The award was presented in honor of S.T.A.T. digital content, curriculum, and tools during the International Society for Technology in Education’s annual conference.

Curriculum Writing

The Division of Curriculum and Instruction is hosting curriculum writing workshops throughout July to serve as the foundation for ongoing curriculum development. More than 500 teachers and staff are rewriting and writing original curriculum in every content area from Grades K-12. Visitors’ Days held July 8 and 15 will offer an opportunity for invited guests, including Board members, to observe the curriculum development process and pose questions.

S.T.A.T. Professional Learning

Fall 2015 will launch 1:1 student devices at all elementary schools in Grades 1-3, school wide at the first 10 Lighthouse schools, and in Grade 6 at seven Lighthouse middle schools. To plan for meaningful use of technology that will increase student personalization and engagement, our comprehensive professional learning plan will continue to ensure intensive training and support for leaders from the Division of Curriculum and Instruction, assistant superintendents, department chairs, and school leaders and staff as designated:

- Elementary school administrators and S.T.A.T. teachers have been divided into six cohorts based on needs and readiness for the transformation of teaching and learning. Each cohort will receive monthly customized professional learning. In addition, administrators and 10 teachers from non-Lighthouse elementary schools completed a two-day summer institute.
• Administrators and S.T.A.T. teachers from the first 10 Lighthouse schools will receive quarterly professional learning. In addition, they will lead and help facilitate professional learning for other elementary schools.

• Administrators and S.T.A.T. teachers from the new Lighthouse middle schools will receive a full-day of professional learning each month driven by the Learner-Centered Environment Professional Learning Tool. Components include transforming the role of the teacher, the space, and the role of the student. Inter-school learning walks will be a critical component of professional learning for this community. In addition, all staff completed a full-day summer institute.

• S.T.A.T. teachers have been divided into learning cohorts by school level. They will receive half-day, customized professional learning each month that is aligned to their administrators. In addition, all S.T.A.T. teachers will receive a conference-style day of professional learning each month with opportunities to personalize their own learning and showcase best practices occurring in their schools.

Relay Elementary School

In recent weeks some parents and teachers have voiced concerns about Relay Elementary School. Chief Academic Officer, Ms. Verletta White, and the assistant superintendent for the school, Ms. Jane Lichter, will work with the school’s administration to address concerns the parents and teachers may have.

No Child Left Behind Reauthorization

Dr. Dance announced that Congress is working to reauthorize the No Child Left Behind Act. It is anticipated that a decision will be forthcoming by the end of the week.

Looking Back at the Class of 2015

Dr. Dance introduced this month’s video highlights of the Class of 2015 commencement ceremonies. It is an honor to celebrate the more than 6,900 students who graduated from BCPS high schools in May and June.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Mr. Uhlfelder reported the following:

Dr. Dance attended all graduation ceremonies and shook the hands of the 6,900 graduates. This was a tremendous accomplishment.

Mr. Uhlfelder suggested to the Board members to read the first two sections of the Approved FY2016 Operating Budget. He feels these sections best capture the key components of the budget for the upcoming school year.
Mr. Uhlfelder acknowledged that BCPS was recently honored with the title of “District of Distinction” for the S.T.A.T. program by the District Magazine.

Mr. Uhlfelder asked new Board members to introduce themselves to the audience by providing a brief statement.

**ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS**

Mr. Nick Burton-Prateley, Baltimore County Student Council President, welcomed the new Board members and spoke about the student council upcoming events, and that they looking for new venues to hold assembly meetings.

Mr. Seth Rich, Board member of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, spoke on behalf of Abby Beytin, thanking the former Board members for their service to BCPS and welcoming the new Board members to BCPS.

Mr. William Lawrence, Executive Director of the Council of Administrative and Supervisory Employees, welcomed the new Board Members and asked them to remember their goal is student achievement and providing a safe and orderly environment for staff and students.

Ms. Beverly Coleman, Chair of the Southwest Area Education Advisory Council, thanked Mr. Bowler for his service to the area council and welcomed Mr. Stewart to the Board. She spoke of the meetings she recently attended and the many upcoming activities planned for the group.

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Samels spoke about Dulaney High School. She thanked the Board for the work that is being done to address the many concerns about the school and the need for a comprehensive plan for further renovations.

Ms. Anita Brockington spoke of her concerns about some schools in the Randallstown area losing magnet programs and about the possibility of a middle school being combined with a high school.

Mr. Jacob Danyali spoke about the overcrowding and uncovered walkways leading from relocatables to the main school building at Summit Park Elementary School.

Ms. Alicia Danyali spoke about the overcrowding at Summit Park Elementary School and the need for renovations. She asked that community members be included in any discussions about renovations.
Miss Kristina Panausos spoke about the much needed renovations to Dulaney High School including air conditioning, water pipe repairs, and improvements to the auditorium.

Ms. Susan Davis spoke of parental concerns regarding Relay Elementary School discussed at a recent community meeting and also of survey results available for review.

Mr. Glen Geelhaar spoke about the location of a new elementary school in the northeast area. He would like the students who attend Oakleigh Elementary School to attend the new school.

Miss Emma O’Grady spoke about the need for renovations to Dulaney High School including shower repairs for the athletic department.

Ms. Marie Bates spoke about teacher turnover and student achievement at Relay Elementary School.

Ms. Shanta Chapple spoke about the recent survey completed at Relay Elementary School and the need for assistance so community members understand the results, time for the administration to work on the concerns, and the chance for all students to be provided equal education opportunities.

OLD BUSINESS

Board of Education Policies

On motion of Ms. Johnson, to accept the Policy Committee’s recommendation to approve exhibit I.

Mr. Collins asked that item I-7, Policy 8221, INTERNAL BOARD POLICIES:  Duties and Responsibilities-Officers Duties:  President, Vice President, be separated.

Mr. Verch asked that item I-1, Policy 1280, COMMUNITY RELATIONS:  Community Involvement-Boundary Changes, be separated.

On motion of Mr. McDaniels, the Board unanimously approved Policies 4202, 5100, 6400, 6402, and 8210, as presented in exhibit I, attached.

Mr. Verch opposes the language as presented in Policy 1280 relative to the division of parcels, the responsibility of the Board and the Superintendent exercising his discretion to a boundary.

Ms. Calder clarified new technology allows mapping of the existing boundaries of the parcels so to not divide them.
Dr. Dance explained that should a new development/parcel come about after attendance lines are approved by the Board, the policy allows the Superintendent to adjust the boundary. He further explained that this occurs in less than 1% of boundaries.

Ms. Williams explained that intent is not addressed when policies are written. There is a format that is followed.

Mr. Collins suggested that the policy’s language be written more precisely.

Ms. Williams asked Board members to forward questions or specific language regarding policies prior to the third reading to Ms. Decker. Ms. Decker will forward the questions to the Policy Review Committee.

Mr. Collins motioned that the policy be remanded back to the committee for further clarification and for a vote at the next meeting. The motion was approved (9-approved; 1-abstained; 1-opposed). Ms. Johnson – opposed, Ms. Williams – abstained.

Ms. Williams encouraged new Board members to attend the Policy Review Committee to become familiar with the process.

Mr. Collins stated that the language should reflect that Board members be able to speak for themselves.

Ms. Williams stated that she agreed that Board members speak individually.

Mr. Uhlfelder explained that the Board chair would speak on behalf of the Board at functions and events, not for individuals.

Mr. Gilliss motioned for the acceptance of Policy 8221.

Mr. Verch was unclear as to definition of “official” spokesperson (chair).

The motion was passed (9-approved; 0-abstained; 2-opposed). Mr. Collins and Mr. Verch opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION OF BLUEPRINT 2.0 STRATEGIC PLAN

Dr. Brown presented the Blueprint 2.0 Strategic Plan. He explained that Blueprint 2.0 was reviewed and the performance metrics were revised to better assist in the transition to the Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards and will provide increased accountability.

At the conclusion of the presentation the following questions were asked by Board members:
Ms. Johnson asked if there were any results for workforce diversity. Dr. Brown responded not at this time, but the information would be compiled at a later date.

Mr. McDaniels stated it was important to have the metrics to review and see what areas of improvement are needed in order to make decisions for the future.

Mr. Collins asked if testing is being done twice a year. Dr. Brown stated yes, testing is being done in grades 1 through 8, twice a year. Mr. Collins asked if there is data to support improvement through the years of testing. Dr. Brown stated the testing is looked at on a yearly basis to determine changes from the fall to the spring. Dr. Brown also explained that the records are maintained and used for comparison. Mr. Collins said this information would be helpful for evaluation purposes.

On motion of Collins, seconded by Mr. Verch, the Board approved the Blueprint 2.0 Strategic Plan as presented in exhibit J (favor 11-0).

CONSIDERATION OF NON-UNIT CONTRACTS

On motion of Mr. Gilliss, seconded by Mr. McDaniels, the Board approved the Non-Unit Contracts as presented in exhibit K (favor 11-0).

CONSIDERATION OF PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Moniodis, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board approved the Personnel Matters as presented in exhibit L (favor 11-0).

On motion of Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. McDaniels, the Board approved the administrative appointments as presented in exhibit M (favor –11-0).

**TONI-LYN AMBROSE**  
(Effective July 15, 2015)  
Team Leader/Infants & Toddlers  
Office of Special Education  
Specialist, Infants & Toddlers  
Office of Special Education

**KRISTIN L. ANELLI**  
(Effective July 15, 2015)  
Director of Innovative Learning Projects  
Department of Innovative Learning  
Principal  
Dundalk High School

**MAUREEN D. ASTARITA**  
(Effective July 15, 2015)  
Assistant Principal  
Perry Hall High School  
Principal  
Parkville High School
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOLLY C. BISSELL</td>
<td>Assistant Principal</td>
<td>Oliver Beach Elementary School</td>
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<td>(Effective July 15, 2015)</td>
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<td>Oliver Beach Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANNE CALDWELL</td>
<td>Teacher/Social Studies</td>
<td>Catonsville High School</td>
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<td>(Effective July 15, 2015)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADAM S. CARNEY</td>
<td>Teacher/English</td>
<td>New Town High School</td>
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<td>(Effective July 15, 2015)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pikesville High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>LISA M. DEDEO</td>
<td>Teacher/Classroom</td>
<td>Warren Elementary School</td>
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<td>(Effective July 15, 2015)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dogwood Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAUREN EVERD</td>
<td>Teacher/Special Education, Inclusion</td>
<td>Scholars K-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Effective July 15, 2015)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seneca Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>LISA M. FARLEY</td>
<td>Teacher/Special Education, Inclusion</td>
<td>Deep Creek Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Effective July 15, 2015)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oakleigh Elementary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LYNN LETUKAS</td>
<td>Assistant Research Scientist &amp; College Board Program Evaluation</td>
<td>Supervisor, Research Department of Research, Accountability, and Assessment</td>
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<td>(Effective July 15, 2015)</td>
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<td>VALERIE D. LEWIS</td>
<td>Teacher/Classroom</td>
<td>Woodholme Elementary School</td>
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<td>(Effective July 15, 2015)</td>
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<td>Timber Grove Elementary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOPE L. MCGUIRE</td>
<td>Compliance Specialist</td>
<td>Office of Title I</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Effective July 15, 2015)</td>
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<td>Dundalk Elementary School</td>
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<td>HEATHER A. MILLER</td>
<td>Teacher/English</td>
<td>Sparrows Point High School</td>
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<td>Patapsco High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>KIERAN J. O’CONNELL</td>
<td>Teacher/Physical Education</td>
<td>Franklin High School</td>
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<td>(Effective July 15, 2015)</td>
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BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Mr. Moniodis, recommended approval of items 1-11 (exhibit N).

Ms. Williams abstained from voting on item #4.

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. RGA-107-15 Modification – English Language Arts (ELA) Assessment
2. MBU-532-11 Modification – Testing Equipment and Forms Loaner Program
3. MWE-837-15 Keyboarding Software
4. JMI-602-16 Identity and Access Management Software Solutions and Associated Services
5. PCR-286-14 Demolition of Old George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology and Construction of Athletic Fields
6. MWE-841-14 Construction of Lyons Mill Elementary School – Package 16A Electrical
7. JNI-740-16 Officiating Services for Interscholastic Sports
8. JNI-736-15 Private Duty and Substitute Nurses
9. ARA-207-15 Psychological Services
10. MBU-522-15 Well Water Treatment, Sampling, and Inspection Services
11. ARA-200-15 Window Blinds Installation, Removal, and Associated Services
Mr. Dixit provided an update on the following projects: Lyons Mill Elementary, Catonsville Elementary, Pikesville High, Sparks Elementary, Westchester Elementary, and Westowne Elementary schools.

Mr. Sarris stated that additional monies have been allocated for renovations for high schools. Dr. Dance explained that the capital budget will highlight the projects to be addressed in the next fiscal year.

WORK SESSION REPORTS

The Board received the following report:

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

   - Proposed changes to Policy 4006-PERSONNEL: General-Medical-Evaluations
   - Proposed changes to Policy 8350-INTRNAL BOARD POLICIES: Operations-Counsel
   - Proposed changes to Policy 8500-INTERNAL BOARD POLICIES: Evaluation-Board Self-Evaluation
   - Proposed changes to Policy 8501-INTERNAL BOARD POLICIES: Evaluation-Superintendent Evaluation

On motion of Mr. Gilliss the Board unanimously approved the policies to be moved forward for second reader.

Ms. Williams asked Board members to review the Policy Schedule for 2015-2016 and the Policy Editing Conventions.

B. **Fiscal Year 2017 Operating and Capital Budget Schedules** – Mr. Sarris provided dates for the operating and budget scheduled events and noted that the schedule will be updated throughout the year on the BCPS Web site.

C. **End of Year S.T.A.T. Evaluation** – Dr. Brown, Dr. Morrison, and Dr. Ross presented the report and provided the following summary:

The purpose of the present study was to conduct an evaluation of the Students and Teachers Accessing Tomorrow (S.T.A.T.) initiative in Baltimore County Public Schools during the 2014-15 school year. S.T.A.T. is a multi-year transformation of all district schools in order to ensure each school has an equitable, effective digital learning environment. S.T.A.T. places an emphasis on the transformation of teaching and learning including access to personalized, interactive digital curriculum and individual student and teacher devices.
Key components of S.T.A.T., as reflected in the evaluation model (see Figure 1 presented in the main report), include professional development and the resulting impact on measurable outcomes that will then affect the goals of improving student achievement and preparing globally competitive students.

This summative report examined aspects of professional development and collected data from Lighthouse schools pertaining to measurable outcomes. The research questions focused on the professional development offered by the S.T.A.T. teacher and the early impact of professional development on measurable outcomes (e.g., classroom environment, teacher practice, digital content, student engagement, and P21 skills).

**Professional Development**
Lighthouse classroom teachers were less positive towards the district summer professional development as compared with that offered by their S.T.A.T. teacher. The interviews and focus groups suggest the teachers were not ready for the district summer professional development and some of the presenters lacked the knowledge or skill needed. In contrast, the teachers were supportive of the professional development provided by the S.T.A.T. teachers in their schools. This training was adapted to meet the specific needs of grades and disciplines as well as individual needs. Overall, classroom teachers within Lighthouse schools viewed the S.T.A.T. teacher as instrumental in transforming their classrooms in accordance with S.T.A.T. goals. However, classroom teachers within non-Lighthouse schools were mixed on their views of their S.T.A.T. teacher.

**Measurable Outcomes**
*Classroom environment:* Over 90% of the classrooms were arranged to support collaborative learning and a majority of the classrooms displayed materials to support independent thinking. The observations, however, suggest that students seldom move about the room to acquire different resources and less than a third of the students were observed moving to a different area of the classroom for collaboration, small-group work, or for direct instruction. The S.T.A.T. teacher interviews suggested that they perceived students as moving around the room and using different areas. There appears to be an impression that students have the freedom to move around the room and work where they are most comfortable.

*Teacher practice:* The impact of S.T.A.T. on teacher practice was evident throughout data sources. Teachers were observed more frequently acting as a coach or facilitator and less presenting instruction during the spring observations as compared with the baseline observations. There was a reduction, however, in the frequency that flexible groups of students were observed and also in the frequency that students were asked higher-level questions and provided with higher-order instructional feedback by the teacher. Interviews indicated that teachers were emphasizing a more student-centered learning environment, differentiating instruction to students, and relinquishing control to the students for the learning process.

*Digital content:* Lighthouse classroom teachers created more file and repository content tiles during the second semester than the first and student tile views also increased within these two categories. This finding is consistent with the indication by classroom teachers within Lighthouse schools that they used BCPS One to differentiate instruction for students.
Concerns were expressed regarding the challenges of adjusting the curriculum for consistency with student-centered instruction.  

**Student engagement:** While the use of digital tools for learning remained consistent between observation time points, there was a noted decline in the frequency of independent work and an increase in the frequency of collaborative learning. There was also an increase in the frequency by which student discussion occurred across these time points. Participants conveyed that students were much more interested in learning and expanding their knowledge to a much deeper level due to the technological affordances available within Lighthouse schools. A significant decrease in the percentage of Lighthouse school students meeting the 94% attendance cut off during semester one of 2013-2014 compared with 2014-2015 was observed; the differences in semester two were not significant. The occurrence of student suspensions and office referrals decreased between these two years.  

**P21 skills:** Observations indicated noticeable changes in P21 skills, such an increase in the frequency that students were observed engaging in problem solving as well as learning that incorporated authentic or real world contexts. S.T.A.T. teachers conveyed that students were much more willing to work with their peers and think critically when posed with a problem.  

**Conclusion**  
Overall, Lighthouse schools have demonstrated substantial growth since the midyear report in transitioning to technology enhanced, learner-centered environments. Findings of the present study indicate evidence of the effects of professional development on measurable outcomes (e.g., classroom environment, teacher practice, digital content, student engagement, and P21 skills). Based on evaluation findings, recommendations are as follows:  

**Professional development.** Offer more differentiation in professional development as it is rolled out to more grade levels, and tailor support and training to the groups who have or have not had certain training, meeting teachers at their existing levels of technology knowledge and acquisition. Create videotaped modeled teacher lessons so teachers can see what strategies and approaches should look like.  

**S.T.A.T. teacher role.** Clarify the roles and responsibilities of the S.T.A.T. teacher throughout the district.  

**Curriculum.** Update the curriculum to fit the requirements of the S.T.A.T. initiative including thoughtful and planned integration of technology into the lessons.  

**Technology integration.** Increase the focus on making sure technology tools are not just being used without clear curriculum and instructional purposes.  

**S.T.A.T. message.** Leadership must understand and communicate that S.T.A.T. is not just technology; teaching and learning has to be in place before devices are provided.  

At the conclusion of the presentation the following questions were asked by Board members:  

Mr. McDaniels asked about the suggested changes and how they would be implemented.  
Ms. White and Mr. Burke explained that changes have already been put into action at both curriculum writing and professional development for administrators and teachers.  

Mr. Gilliss stated that the Board should expect to see the bar graphs move in the right direction given the amount of investment and training into the program.
Mr. Uhlfelder spoke of his visits to Lighthouse Schools and the teachers reporting on the reduction of behavior issues in the classroom.

Mr. Moniodis asked about student achievement. Dr. Morrison reported that student achievement has not been evaluated at this time and would be forthcoming.

Mr. Collins stated that it is important to make sure students are more college ready and achieving as a result of the program.

**ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

On motion of Mr. Moniodis, seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board confirmed the action taken in closed session in Case Numbers H.E. 15-29 and 15-32 (favor-11; abstained-0; opposed-0).

**INFORMATION**

The Board received the following as information:

A. Revised Superintendent’s Rule 3640 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Fees, Gifts, and Property Disposition-Disposal of Surplus or Excess Property

B. Revised Superintendent’s Rule 4202 – PERSONNEL: Compensation, Benefits, and Retirement – Retirement

C. Revised Superintendent’s Rule 5120 – STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance – Attendance and Excuses

D. Revised Superintendent’s Rule 5250 – STUDENTS: Promotion and Retention – Graduation Requirements

E. Revised Superintendent’s Rule 6402 – INSTRUCTION: Special Programs – Special Education Services


H. Board of Education Policy Editing Conventions

I. Questions and Answers on Appeals and Hearings before the Board of Education

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Uhlfelder made the following announcements:

- The Board of Education will hold its Board Retreat on Saturday, July 25, 2015, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 8:30 a.m. The Board will then adjourn to meet in closed session. The open session will reconvene at approximately 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome to all open sessions.

- The Board of Education will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, August 4, 2015, at Greenwood, 7 p.m.

- Opening Day for Students is Monday, August 24, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

Because there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Dallas Dance
Secretary-Treasurer

/dd