

Southwest Advisory Council
<http://myschoolonline.com/md/swadvisory>
Meeting Minutes – April 2002 – Woodlawn High School

BB

In Attendance:

Dawn Baker
Jane Davis
Carl Klein
Samuel Macer
Anita Newkirk
Lisa Orens (Vice Chair)
Joseph Pallozzi (Chair)
Sabria Smith
Alana Wase
Tracey Weinkam

Absent:

Deray McKesson
Marquita Saunders

Meeting Opened by Joseph Pallozzi at 7:15pm.

Meeting Attendance: 20

Open Session:

Presenter: Carl Klein, Catonsville Senior High School Debate Team.

- Debate Team members present: Brian Holler, Sarah Frisina, Samantha Waters.
- Two types of debates – policy and philosophies.
- Hate speeches prohibited.
- Resolution and literary interpretation also components.

Presenter: Delegate Murphy

- Thornton Commission was a blue ribbon panel which met for two years. Thornton totals \$1.3 billion dollars for education – there is no way to fund without revenue enhancements.
- All day kindergarten inappropriate.
- Post 9/11 – common sense must be used in Baltimore County when small children bring items such as nail clippers to school.
- Voted for text book funding in public schools.

Presenter: Senator Kasemeyer:

- Budget dominate issue – 20 states have major deficits.
- MD Bond Rating – AAA. Due to good management skills and balanced budget.
- Met for two years regarding Thornton Commission.
- Legislature has constitutional responsibility to provide adequate public education.
- Some politicians believe the graying of population warrants reduced spending on education.
- In Prince George's County, 60% of budget goes towards education.
- Up to 2007, an additional \$12,000,000 for free/reduced lunches, ESOL and special education.

Presenter: Delegate Jim Malone

- Changed bus driver licensing rules to ensure quality of drivers is upgraded.
- Out of district children attending SW area schools – has asked BCPS lawyers to provide official letter of interpretation – wants to address issue with Attorney General. Current policy upon finding of fraud, ask parents to pay tuition. If no tuition paid, student is still allowed to stay for the remainder of the year.
- He needs to hear from principals and teachers regarding their education needs.
- Has talked to teachers who admit teaching to the test.

Questions and Comments to Politicians:

- Featherbed Elementary is overcrowded and uses modulars. *Baltimore County School Board sets capital prioritization list and Featherbed parents much address question as to where they are on this list.*
- Suggestion of a commercial fundraiser dedicated to education.
- Funding of textbooks for private schools. *Kasemeyer voted no, Delegates voted yes.*
- Mr. Kennedy feels the minority gap would disappear with small class room sizes.
- There are no summer program subsidies for children of middle income parents. *Banneker Center, Arbutus Rec Center, Pal Centers - funds provided by legislature but it's up to Baltimore County to decide how to spend them.*
- Teacher salary disparities. *Legislature is responsible for funds but it's up to the school board and County Council as to how they are spent. Non-elected school board officials seen as a problem.*

Next Meeting:

May 15, 2002, 7:00pm, Sun Room
Planning and Elections

Respectfully Submitted by,
Dawn Baker, Secretary

cc: All Meeting Attendees
Mr. Kennedy
Dr. Milbourne
Ms. Zepp