

## TENTATIVE MINUTES

### BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 3:42 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Sarah D. Bormel, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymiski, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Mr. James R. Sasiadek, Mr. Sanford V. Teplitzky, and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Mr. Arnold asked Board members to advise Ms. Zepp if they plan to attend the Legislative Day event next month.

Board members were also advised that a resolution would tentatively be presented to Dianne Gilbert at the next meeting.

Mr. Arnold spoke with the Board about the Superintendent's weekly bulletin.

Ms. Bormel shared a request for the Board to provide a letter stating its position on student voting rights. Mr. Arnold will prepare the letter.

Mr. Arnold informed the Board of a dinner meeting with the State Board next month and asked Board members to inform Ms. Zepp if they plan to attend.

At 3:49 p.m., the record was opened in Hearing Examiner's Case #03-15.

In addition to the above listed Board members, also in attendance were Ms. Christine Johns, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Margaret-Ann F. Howie, Legal Counsel to the Superintendent; Carol Saffran-Brinks, Assistant County Attorney; Ms. Risa Schuster, Superintendent's Designee; and Ms. Denise Zepp, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education.

The Appellant did not appear, and the Board voted to dismiss the case.

The hearing was concluded at 3:54 p.m. Mr. Grzymiski left the room at 3:54 p.m. and re-entered the room at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Teplitzky announced that at tonight's meeting, he would request Board support to prepare a resolution for the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. The non-binding resolution would oppose the scheduling or rescheduling of athletic meets or games on certain federal holidays.

Mr. Arnold announced an invitation to an art exhibit at The Walters Art Gallery this weekend.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES (Cont.)

Mr. Arnold informed Board members of the upcoming Federal Relations Network Conference this weekend and announced the names of Board members who are planning to attend.

Dr. Hayman noted the December 17<sup>th</sup> minutes did not indicate any detailed information about the Board's two ad hoc Strategic Planning committees. Mr. Arnold stated the intent of the ad hoc committees is to have two members of the Board serve on the Operations side and two Board members serve on the Facilities side to work with staff as they prepare the five-year plan. Mr. Arnold, Mr. Teplitzky, and Mr. Grzymiski will serve on the Operations committee. Mr. Kennedy and another as yet un-named Board member will serve on the Facilities committee.

Mr. Walker moved that Sarah Bormel be permitted to participate in discussions relative to negotiations. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ettinger and unanimously approved by the Board.

At 4:07 p.m., Ms. Ettinger moved the Board go into closed session to discuss personnel matters and to discuss matters relative to negotiations pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508 (a)(1) and (a)(9). The motion was seconded by Mr. Sasiadek and unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Mr. Grimsley reviewed the appointment on tonight's agenda.

Dr. Hayman asked for clarification of information shown on the Leaves exhibit.

Mr. Grimsley distributed handouts providing information requested at the previous meeting. The Board also discussed a possible negotiations proposal.

At 5:32, Mr. Grzymiski moved to adjourn the closed session for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ettinger and approved by the Board.

The Board hosted members of the area educational advisory councils for dinner.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:37 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following members were present: Ms. Sarah D. Bormel, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymiski, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Mr. James R. Sasiadek, Mr. Sanford V. Teplitzky, and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston,

OPEN SESSION MINUTES (Cont.)

Superintendent of Schools; staff members; members of various civic, employee, and community organizations were present as was the media.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Henry Herr, a student at Franklin Middle School and member of Boy Scout Troop #143, and a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

MINUTES

Hearing no corrections or additions to the open and closed session minutes of December 17, 2002, Mr. Arnold declared the minutes approved as presented on the web site.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston spoke about the various levels of representation at the recent Board of Public Works hearing in Annapolis. He noted the entire House and Senate delegation was in attendance, as well as County officials, and parents. Dr. Hairston thanked all for attending.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT

Mr. Grimsley recognized Mr. Mark Nevins, whose appointment to Supervisor in Investigations and Records Management was approved at the January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the proposed revisions to Policy 3124 – Accounting and Cash Management.

REPORT

The Board received the following report:

On motion of Ms. Jung, seconded by Mr. Sasiadek, the Board adopted a resolution proclaiming February 3-7, 2003, as National School Counseling Week in Baltimore County.

### SCHEDULING OF ATHLETIC EVENTS

Mr. Teplitzky stated that he had received phone calls with respect to the possible rescheduling of an athletic event (in another county) on the Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday. He noted that Baltimore County follows a policy, as do some other counties in Maryland, that states games cannot be played or scheduled on certain days. Mr. Teplitzky noted that not all counties follow that policy.

He proposed a resolution, to be considered at the next meeting and distributed to the Maryland Association of Boards of Education, other boards of education, the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland, and the Maryland Association of Athletic Directors, seeking the establishment of a coordinated policy throughout the state so games, including postponed events, are not scheduled or rescheduled on certain federal holidays. Mr. Teplitzky noted that last year our students were disadvantaged because our county was doing the right thing.

Mr. Arnold asked Mr. Teplitzky to draft the resolution for the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits D, E, F, and F-1. (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.)

### CONTRACT AWARDS

Dr. Hayman pulled item 5 for further discussion; Ms. Ettinger pulled item 3. On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved items 1, 2, 4, 6-8. Mr. Arnold abstained from voting on all eight items.

1. Computer Assisted Real Time (CART) Services for Hearing Impaired Students
2. Contracted Services: Boiler and Pressure Vessel Repair, Maintenance, and Installation Services
4. Contracted Services: Multicultural Education and Diversity Consulting
6. Driver Education Vehicles
7. Re-Manufactured Dell Workstations
8. Printing: *Blueprint for Progress*

CONTRACT AWARDS (Cont.)

Item 5

In response to an inquiry from Dr. Hayman, Mr. Gay and Ms. Cromer explained how the award value of the contract was determined. Mr. Sasiadek and Ms. Ettinger expressed their hope that the school system would look into becoming approved as qualified providers. Dr. Hairston responded that if Baltimore County Public Schools were to put itself in a position such as the two recommended vendors, where the school system would pay its teachers on the same scale, it would require additional funding in the budget.

On motion of Dr. Hayman, seconded by Ms. Ettinger, the Board approved item 5.

5. Contracted Services: Title I Supplemental Services

Item 3

Ms. Ettinger asked for information with regard to the sort of improvement in student achievement that is expected, what sort of data gathering there will be, and the sort of assessment being used. Ms. Cromer stated the first two items mentioned by Ms. Ettinger are components of this application process. Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound has been regularly looking at student achievement data, and they are looking at assessments every eight weeks. With regard to the type of assessment being used, Ms. Cromer indicated models at Chase Elementary School and other schools are being used. Ms. Ettinger expressed interest in seeing the data coming out of this program.

Ms. Cromer explained for Dr. Hayman why the grant was being approved six months after the grant started.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sasiadek, the Board approved item 3.

3. Contracted Services: Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee, represented by Mr. Kennedy, recommended approval of items 1-6. Mr. Hayden pulled items 3 and 4. The Board approved recommendations 1, 2, and 5-6. Mr. Arnold abstained from voting on these items. Item 7 was deferred.

1. Video Surveillance System – New Town High School
2. Request to Negotiate – On-Call Architectural Services – Various Schools

BUILDING COMMITTEE (Cont.)

5. Request to Negotiate – On-Call Mechanical/Electrical Engineering Services – Various Schools
6. Fee Acceptance – Design Services for Stabilization Project – Farmland Tenant House

Items 3 and 4

As recommended by the Building Committee, the Board approved items 3 and 4. Mr. Hayden and Mr. Arnold abstained from voting on these items.

3. Request to Negotiate – On-Call Civil/Structural Engineering Services – Various Schools
4. Request to Negotiate – On-Call Geotechnical Engineering Services – Various Schools

SCHOOL LEGISLATION

An explanation of SB 5 (HB 11) SB 75 – Public Charter School Act of 2003 – was brought to the Board for informational purposes. Even though the Governor favors Charter School legislation, it is not known if these bills represent his thoughts or if an Administration bill might be forthcoming.

Mr. Kennedy noted the Board's opposition to Charter School legislation in the past. He suggested that once the bill is finalized, the Board might want to reconsider its position. Mr. Kennedy noted that the Maryland Association of Boards of Education is in support of the current bill.

On motion of Mr. Teplitzky, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Board voted to support SB 32 – Children in Out-of-County Living Arrangements- Informal Kinship Care - with amendment.

Ms. Ettinger moved to support SB 66 – Sales and Use Tax. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sasiadek. Mr. Teplitzky asked Ms. Ettinger to amend her motion to support the bill with an amendment to include certain electronics which are used by the student in the classroom setting. Ms. Ettinger accepted the amendment. The Board voted to support SB 66 – Sales and Use Tax – with amendment.

Dr. Poff provided information to Board members regarding SB 81 - Education-County School Board-Authority to Remove County Superintendents. No action was taken by the Board at this time. Mr. Kennedy offered his opinion that the legislature should refrain from involving itself in school board matters.

### SCHOOL LEGISLATION (Cont.)

Mr. Hayden complimented Dr. Poff on his work in Annapolis and in the Baltimore County area. Dr. Poff “inspired” the Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce’s Legislative Committee to adopt a strong recommendation that the Thornton monies be fully funded and applied to schools rather than offsetting county contributions.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Arnold made the following announcements:

- On Wednesday, January 29, 2003, the Board will conduct a public hearing on the proposed operating budget for 2003-2004 at Dulaney High School at 7:00 p.m. The snow date for the hearing will be Thursday, January 30, 2003.
- On Tuesday, February 4, 2003, the Board will conduct a work session on the proposed operating budget at 7:00 p.m. at Greenwood.
- On Wednesday, February 5, 2003, the Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council will meet at Perry Hall High School at 6:30 p.m.
- On Thursday, February 6, 2003, the Board will meet at Greenwood at 6:45 p.m. in an open/closed session to discuss personnel matters.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be held on Tuesday, February 11, 2003, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at 4:30 p.m. After the Board adjourns to meet in closed session, followed by a brief dinner recess, the open meeting will reconvene at approximately 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome at all open sessions. The Board will host the Baltimore County Student Councils for dinner on February 11 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Miss Amethyst Danesie, President of the Baltimore County Student Councils (BCSC), noted BCSC’s scheduled activities during February.

Ms. Nancy Dillon Tobias, a resource teacher for the HIPPY program, introduced two HIPPY paraprofessionals/home visitors. Ms. Sue Carr and Ms. Kimberly Coates shared how the program impacted their children and how, as a result, they became involved as home visitors. Both home visitors shared how the HIPPY program helps parents gain skills in helping their children. Ms. Carr and Ms. Coates also shared how their children became excited about learning after being part of the HIPPY program.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Cont.)

Ms. Kelli Nelson, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee for Special Education, thanked the Superintendent and the Board for including parents at the Board of Public Works hearing in Annapolis last week. She announced the Student Behavioral Intervention Task Force has completed its work, and the proposed changes to the guidelines will be published in the *Maryland Register* on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Public comment will follow. Ms. Nelson stated that Governor Ehrlich has included \$33 million dollars in the proposed State budget for public special education. She also alerted Board members to an article that recently appeared in *Education Week* regarding Medicaid reimbursement to local school systems. She noted the proposed changes could decrease funding.

Ms. Maggie Kennedy, Coordinator for the Area Educational Advisory Councils, thanked the Board for hosting dinner and the meeting. The area advisory councils strongly support the initiatives outlined in the proposed operating budget. She expressed hope that County officials would be able to support COLA's for all school system employees, despite an increase in health insurance costs. Ms. Kennedy also stated that to remain competitive and to retain teachers between the first and fifth years, as well as in recruiting new teachers, we must be forward thinking and possibly utilize County funds that may have been identified in the recent County spending affordability meeting.

Ms. Lisa Orens, Chair of the Southwest Area Educational Advisory Council, thanked the Board for hosting advisory councils for dinner. She noted that four of the area councils have asked for clarification of their role. Ms. Orens suggested the Board give area advisory councils an official charge or an updated official charge. Some issues raised by parents in the Southwest Area include overcrowding and the need for salary increases for clericals and custodians.

Ms. Lynn Sklar, Chair of the Central Area Educational Advisory Council, urged the Board to clarify and accelerate the appointment process for advisory councils.

Ms. Meg O'Hare, Chair of the Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council, noted the need for intervention programs at the middle school level for students who have fallen behind in reading and math. She spoke about how the Pine Grove Elementary School newsletter is a role model for other school newsletters. Ms. O'Hare stated the attachment, "Home and School Connection," should be added to all school newsletters.

Mr. Michael Franklin, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, informed Board members of a workshop held recently in partnership with Johns Hopkins. The workshop dealt with conditions that relate to a healthy and unhealthy learning environment for children. He shared his disappointment that a representative from Facilities was not present, and he expressed his hope that if the workshop is held in the future, a Facilities representative would be able to attend. Mr. Franklin also announced that on January 25<sup>th</sup>, the Maryland PTA held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new office. Board members were reminded of the January 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.



PUBLIC COMMENT (Cont.)

Mr. Mark Beytin, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, requested the legislative report be made available to the audience. He asked the Board to consider supporting HB 3, which was heard today in the House Ways and Means Committee. The bill would give a \$300 tax rebate to teachers for out-of-pocket money spent on supplies and materials for their classrooms. Mr. Beytin noted that there is \$14 million less this year under Spending Affordability Guidelines than last year as reported by the County Council's Spending Affordability Committee last week. Mr. Beytin provided a quick synopsis of an article that recently appeared in the *American School Board Journal*. The article dealt with how Maryland stacks up against Delaware, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia on issues of finances, student achievement, and school and classroom characteristics. In most areas, Maryland did not fare well.

Mr. Arnold announced that the Board's hearing on the budget would still be held tomorrow if schools were to open two hours late. However, if schools were closed, the hearing would be rescheduled to January 30<sup>th</sup>.

At 8:48 p.m., Mr. Sasiadek moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joe A. Hairston  
Secretary-Treasurer