

TENTATIVE MINUTES**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Tuesday, September 21, 2004

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 4:01 p.m. at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Mr. Luis E. Borunda, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymiski, Ms. Frances A.S. Harris, Mr. John Hayden, III, Dr. Warren Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, and Ms. Joy Shillman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

The Board entertained oral argument in Hearing Examiner's Case #03-47. The matter was heard in closed session.

In addition to the above listed Board members, also in attendance were the Appellant; James R. Whattam, Esq., Assistant General Counsel, Maryland State Teachers Association; Dr. Christine M. Johns, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; Margaret-Ann F. Howie, Esq., Legal Counsel to the Superintendent; Nevett Steele, Jr., Esq., Assistant County Attorney; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education.

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

The hearing was concluded at 5:19 p.m.

Board members deliberated on the case.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

At 5:20 p.m., the Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Mr. Luis E. Borunda, Mr. Nicholas P. Camp, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymiski, Ms. Frances A.S. Harris, Mr. John Hayden, III, Dr. Warren Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, and Ms. Joy Shillman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

President Sasiadek reviewed with Board members September and October school board events.

At 5:55 p.m., Mr. Arnold moved the Board go into closed session to discuss personnel matters and to conduct matters related to the negotiations pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1). The motion was seconded by Mr. Hayden and unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director of Human Resources, reviewed with Board members personnel matters to be considered this evening.

At 5:57 p.m., Mr. Kennedy moved that the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnold and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:25 p.m. at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Mr. Luis E. Borunda, Mr. Nicholas P. Camp, Mr. Thomas G. Grzyski, Ms. Frances A.S. Harris, Mr. John Hayden, III, Dr. Warren Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, and Ms. Joy Shillman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, 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 Carol Hudrlik, a student at Towson University, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

There were no items for the Superintendent's report.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS FROM SEPTEMBER 8, 2004

Dr. Arrington recognized the administrative appointments approved at the September 8th meeting.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Public School Construction Program Overview** – Dr. David Lever, Executive Director, Public School Construction Program, provided an overview of the process and criteria used by the Interagency Committee (IAC) on school construction. Dr. Lever reviewed how each LEA's staff assigns a status to each project as well as the two rounds of approvals that follow. Final revisions to the Capital Improvement Program requests must be submitted by December 8, 2004. Dr. Lever noted that if an item is not approved by the local Board of Education and the County government, it cannot be considered as a project.

REPORTS (cont)

Next, Dr. Lever explained at length two factors considered in developing recommendations for planning approval:

1. Quantifiable planning factors
2. Planning Factors that Entail Judgment

Planning approval cannot be given unless there is an approved site. The site, in turn, must be approved by the Board of Public Works as well as four additional State agencies. When the site is cleared, the next step is for the site to be approved by the IAC.

Mr. Hayden asked what percentage of appeals that come before the IAC are successful. Dr. Lever responded that decisions have been changed after the appeal process; however, was unsure of the percentage. Mr. Hayden inquired about the cost of aging schools and full-day kindergarten. Dr. Lever stated the estimated cost to build facilities associated with the *Bridge for Excellence* requirements is \$188 million. Mr. Hayden inquired about schools that have been renovated within the past 16 years not being eligible for renovations. Dr. Lever responded if a school has received substantial funding in the last 16 years that school would not be eligible for funding. Dr. Lever noted there are some exceptions.

Mr. Hayden asked for the criteria IAC used to determine whether approval would be granted for new schools. Dr. Lever stated the IAC looks at the adjacent schools, five year projection for the adjacent schools, a substantial degree of overcrowding that would provide 50% of the capacity of the new school the day it opens, and complete capacity within that five year period.

Mr. Janssen asked whether new construction funding includes furniture. Dr. Lever responded in the negative; anything detachable would not be eligible for State school construction funds.

Mr. Arnold expressed concern over the State's formula on new construction projects. Dr. Lever stated projections are five years out. Five years is a time from beginning to end and should be a sufficient timeframe for any building in the State. He noted the State's methodology depends on live birth and cohort survival.

Mr. Borunda asked for the rationale of projects valued at least 75% of total anticipated funding. Dr. Lever explained the need for flexibility to recommend "B" projects to the Board of Public Works. Mr. Borunda inquired whether land acquisition is eligible for State funding. Dr. Lever stated a local board of education can only receive State funds if it has title to the land.

In response to a question from Mr. Grzyski, Dr. Lever then explained the forward funding process to the Board.

REPORTS (cont)

With regards to Mr. Sasiadek's question of land acquisition, Dr. Lever responded the IAC cannot recommend planning approval without the acquisition of land.

- B. **FY06 Proposed Capital State/County Budget** - Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Executive Director of Fiscal Services, introduced the State/County budget that will be discussed at the work session on Wednesday, September 22, 2004.

Mr. Hayden inquired about treated air distribution systems in schools and how many students are impacted by those renovations. Ms. Burnopp distributed enrollment information to the Board on each school recommended for renovation.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

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

CONTRACT AWARDS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Borunda, the Board approved items 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7 (Exhibit G). Ms. Shillman pulled item 3, and Ms. Harris pulled item 4.

1. Automobile
2. Cingular/Verizon Cellular Phones
5. Electric Motor Repair (Extension)
6. Mechanical Pump Repair (Extension)
7. Specialty Paper & Envelopes

Item #3

Ms. Shillman asked whether the proposed cost was reasonable.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hayman, the Board approved item 3. Ms. Shillman abstained from voting on this item.

3. Digital Dual-Keyboard Organ

Item #4

Ms. Harris asked whether any preference was given to companies in Maryland. Mr. Gay responded BCPS was unable to find a vendor in Maryland but was able to piggyback on a contract in the State of Virginia. He noted Board's approval tonight only allows the school system to use it if necessary.

Item #4 (cont)

Dr. Hayman expressed concern that this type of security system is needed in other schools rather than New Town High School. Mr. Gay noted this security system provides accountability of people within the school building. Ms. Burnopp stated there would be a presentation on security systems at the budget work session on September 22, 2004.

Mr. Janssen inquired about systemic prioritization of security systems in the schools. Mr. Haines, Deputy Superintendent of Business Services, responded this system is a card system for students and staff that monitors their ingress and egress. He noted there is a proposal in the capital budget for a security system in the high school population. Mr. Janssen expressed concerns that the school is using its funds to pay for the security system.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hayman, the Board approved item 4. Mr. Janssen abstained from voting on this item. Mr. Borunda voted in opposition to this item.

4. Door Access Safety, Security, and Accountability System

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee, represented by Mr. Kennedy, recommended approval of items 1-2 (Exhibits H and I). The Board approved these recommendations.

1. Award of Contract – New Gas and Electric Service at Western School of Technology
2. Award of Contract – Various Construction Packages at Windsor Mill Middle School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Sasiadek made the following announcements:

- ③ On Wednesday, September 22, 2004, the Baltimore County Board of Education will conduct a work session on the Proposed FY06 Capital State/County Budget. The meeting will take place in room 114 of the ESS Building at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.
- ③ There will be a joint meeting with the Baltimore County Board of Education and the Area Educational Advisory Councils on Tuesday, September 28, 2004 at Cockeysville Middle School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- ③ The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be Tuesday, October 5, 2004, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:30 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

Mr. Sasiadek reminded speakers to refrain from discussing any matters that might come before the board in the form of an appeal, as well as any personnel matters. Mr. Sasiadek announced that constituent response time would be moved to the beginning of the Board meetings starting October 5, 2004 for a four-month trial period. Constituent groups are required to sign up in order to be recognized.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Mr. Mike German, Baltimore County Student Council President, noted executive board has been involved in committees such as environmental and PTA. He also announced the BCSC Student Council Leadership Workshop on September 30 through October 1, 2004 at Camp Ramblewood.

Ms. Maggie Kennedy, Chair of the Baltimore County Education Coalition, announced the coalition will meet with County Executive James T. Smith on October 25, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. concerning Baltimore County Public Schools and the well-being of students. Ms. Kennedy and the coalition requested a meeting collective with the Board.

Miss Carrie Jackson, student at Chesapeake High School and representative for the Advisory Committee for Alternative Programs, spoke on the significance of the *Maryland's Tomorrow* program.

Miss Amber Witt, a senior, also spoke on the *Maryland's Tomorrow* program and a group entitled GEM (Girls Empowerment Mission). She thanked the Office of Alternative programs for supporting her.

Ms. Vicki Schultz-Unger, Coordinator of the Area Educational Advisory Councils, announced the pre-budget meeting schedule for the advisory councils in October.

Mr. Stephen Crum, a Southeast Area Educational Advisory Council representative, noted the advisory council's last meeting centered on building and construction. He noted the construction of Route 43 extension over to Eastern Avenue could open up 1,000 acres with a large residential development component.

Mr. Walter Hayes, Chair of the Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council, reiterated that the DeJong study recommends a new high school between Towson and Perry Hall. Mr. Hayes also added that the County Executive's report does not touch on additional growth areas.

Mr. Steve Crum introduced Mr. Carroll Cilento, Chair of the Career & Technology Education Advisory Council. Mr. Cilento distributed a brochure which briefly describes the council's history, structure, list of monthly meetings, and goals.

Mr. Sam Macer, First Vice President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, invited the Board to the annual fall reception and workshop to be held on October 28 at Cockeysville Middle school from 6:00 – 9:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Carl Gold, Vice President of the PTA, stated Carver Center for the Arts is the only high school without an auditorium. On behalf of the Carver Center, he is asking the Board to consider adding the auditorium to its capital budget.

Mr. Jack Condliffe, a parent and past president of the Carver Center Foundation, provided a brief summary of the foundation. Mr. Condliffe requested the Board to strongly consider a new theatre.

Ms. Ginny Barnhart, a parent and member of the Carver Center Foundation, urged for support of capital request funding for a performing arts and exhibition hall at Carver Center for the Arts. She was disappointed to not see this item on the budget list for the September 22 work session. Ms. Barnhart believes it is not adequate to have any high school without an auditorium.

Ms. Maria Duvall, PTA President of the Carver Center for the Arts, reviewed academic achievements of students at Carver Center. She reiterated the need for an auditorium at Carver Center.

Mr. Muhammad Jameel remarked that State code does not prevent the Board to provide two Muslim holidays.

Dr. Bash Pharoan asked the Board to consider adding Muslim holidays to its calendar as a priority.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:31 p.m., Mr. Arnold moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hayman and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

TENTATIVE MINUTES

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND WORK SESSION WITH THE AREA EDUCATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCILS

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

President James R. Sasiadek called the work session to order at 7:18 p.m. at Cockeysville Middle School. In addition to Mr. Sasiadek, the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A.S. Harris, Dr. Warren Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, and Mr. Michael P. Kennedy. In addition, Ms. Kara Calder, Chief Communications Officer and Nevett Steele, Jr., Esq., Assistant County Attorney; as well as the media were present.

Ms. Vicki Schultz-Unger, Area Educational Advisory Council Coordinator thanked those who attended this evening. She noted this was the council's opportunity to provide useful feedback to improve communications between the Area Advisory Council and the Board.

Ms. Schultz-Unger reviewed the contents of the packets distributed this evening. Included in those packets were:

- ③ Approved AAC Operation Procedures
- ③ Copy of the Blueprint For Progress revised 8/10/04
- ③ Updated summary of the Master Plan
- ③ Copy of the proposed FY06 Capital Budget
- ③ Presentation on Smaller Learning Communities
- ③ Calendar of AAC meetings for 2004-05

Next, Ms. Jane Gordon, Supervisor of Professional Development, shared information regarding the Parent Support Service Program. The focus this year is to increase involvement in parent/teacher conferences.

Each Area Chairperson or representative provided a brief update:

- ③ Central – Focusing on recruitment and representing schools and their needs
- ③ Southwest – Sharing best practice on attendance at council meetings
- ③ Northwest – Focusing on overcrowding and development in the area
- ③ Northeast – Focusing on overcrowding and summer reading
- ③ Southeast – Focus on increasing participation on the council and revitalization/development of the area

Board President, Mr. James R. Sasiadek, introduced those Board members in attendance. He reiterated the announcement from the September 21st Board meeting stating all stakeholder groups would be recognized to speak at the beginning of the regularly scheduled Board meetings beginning October 5, 2004. The expectation is for each stakeholder group to share information with the Board regarding concerns and issues within their respective area.

Ms. Ramona Johnson, Board member, entered the room at 7:50 p.m.

Mr. Sasiadek stated the council helps the Board understand the issues and provides advice to the Board based on community feedback.

With regards to the budget process, Ms. Jasmine Shriver noted the need to reiterate the difference between the capital budget and the operating budget.

Next, the Council broke into groups by area. Board members were assigned to a group to discuss ways to improve communications, review concerns, and report back to the group.

Mr. Kennedy and Dr. Hayman exited the room at 8:45 p.m.

Ms. Schultz-Unger introduced Ms. Erin O'Connor, County Educational Liaison.

Each Area Educational Advisory Council shared their concerns and suggestions with the group.

③ Northeast

- High school in the Northeast area
- Kenwood High School renovations
- "Warehousing" of schools
- Move "public comment" to the beginning of the Board agenda

③ Central

- Prompt feedback of communication from the Board
- Overcrowding
- Apparent lack of promotional abilities
- Deficiencies in communicating hard-copy calendar (i.e., capital budget schedule)

③ Southeast

- Prioritize Council feedback to the Board
- Input to the Board from Area Educational Advisory Council after first reading (not third reading)
- Maintenance concerns in schools

Ms. Harris exited the room at 9:12 p.m.

③ Northwest

- Training for Guidance Departments in the college application process
- Overcrowding
- Development in Owings Mills area and its impact on the schools

③ Southwest

- Increased awareness/communication on capital and operating budget process
- Timely Council minutes to the Board
- Board member has always attended council meetings
- Suggested presentation to Council describing the BCPS operation and the Board's role in the school system

A council member inquired about frequent reports or policy changes presented to the Board. Mr. Sasiadek reviewed the three-reading process regarding policies. Ms. Schultz-Unger suggested perhaps Board or BCPS staff could provide a list to the Council detailing those items that come before the Board on an annual basis.

Other topics discussed were:

- ③ Area chairs or secretaries should submit minutes or reports from their meetings to Ms. Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board and copy Vicki Schultz-Unger for inclusion in the Board packets.
- ③ Overcrowding concern among all area councils. This topic would be addressed at the joint council meeting in January 2005.
- ③ New member orientation will be scheduled in November.

Ms. Johnson exited the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Ms. Schultz-Unger thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting. She asked that Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board, provide a copy of Board members' addresses and phone numbers.

The meeting was concluded at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

bls