

Minutes  
SW Education Advisory Meeting  
SW Area Office  
June 7, 2005

Council Attendees: Brian Bailey, Elizabeth Lee, Sharon Loving, Sam Macer, Dr. Richard Milbourne, Lisa Orens, Joseph Pallozzi

Others in attendance: Daric Jackson (Woodlawn HS Principal), Michael Grimes

Meeting called to order 7:10 pm by Lisa Orens.

I. New Business

A. Announcements

1. Dr. Milbourne discussed MSA results. Special Education scores are the best ever. The focus is on subcategories.
2. Sam Macer was named Parent of the Year by Dr. Nancy Grasmick.

B. Space Concern

Dr. Milbourne questioned Sharon Loving regarding resolution of space issues at Woodbridge ES. Sharon responded that she had recently been informed at a Woodbridge PTA meeting that the computer lab would not be dismantled.

C. Parent Concern

Michael Grimes requested time to express his concerns, have them documented, and seek some guidance for possible resolution regarding perceptions he has regarding Woodlawn High school and violence confronting his children. He expressed concern in particular for his two Asian children currently juniors at Woodlawn HS who were adopted and appear to be confronted regularly with racial prejudice. His description of a violent attack on his children indicated that the incident occurred off school property by persons who could not be identified. His concerns are strong enough that he is considering private school for these two children for a smaller, more private setting. He has another son who is currently a sophomore at Woodlawn HS in the magnet program who either does not seem to experience prejudicial situations or is coping with them differently.

Dr. Milbourne explained that BCPS has “scope of authority” if such incidents involve students even if they do not occur on school property; if it would be determined that allowing a student who was involved in an incident off school property would disrupt instruction, that student would be prohibited from returning to school (per the student handbook, page 4, BOE Policy 5550).

Dr. Milbourne further explained the formation of groups to discuss inappropriate behavior in communities. Dr. Eric Fine (Bureau Chief for Child, Adolescent, and Reproduction Health and Deputy Health Officer, Baltimore County Department of Health) is planning to establish meetings to be held in both the Woodlawn and Lansdowne areas which are to include among others the BCPS Department of Health and Baltimore County Police. Dr. Milbourne will contact Dr. Fine to request SWAEC members be included in an invitation to these meetings.

Daric Jackson responded to Michael Grimes’ concerns beginning with an explanation that Woodlawn HS has one of the largest ESOL populations in the county, so large that an additional ESOL teacher is being added to the staff for next year. He explained that there are two bus pick up locations, one in each the front and back of the building. Regarding the physical attack on the Grimes’ children, he indicated since the perpetrators could not be identified, there is no evidence they were Woodlawn student. Daric remarked that no teacher reported any incidents of harassment of these children. He highlighted that the

number of violent attacks on campus at Woodlawn HS have been reduced as will be evident in the school's end of year report. He explained that, this his first year at Woodlawn HS, he walks the campus regularly and had cameras installed to help ensure any incidents would be seen and reported.

Sam Macer questioned whether such a large ESOL population might require a school-wide meeting at the start of the year. Daric questioned whether there were incidents of racial harassment involving the Grimes children this school year to which Michael Grimes responded affirmatively. Daric explained that his conversations with school's administration as well as the Magnet Coordinator and the school councilor indicated no reports involving the Grimes children. Sam expressed the importance of ensuring any and all incidents are documented.

Daric further defended that an increase in the attendance rate for Woodlawn HS this year from 84 to 91.6% is an indication that students want to come to school. Regarding Michael's May 6 visit to the HS, Daric was involved with another crisis at the school and referred Michael to the Assistant Principal, Mr. Harding, who met with Michael. Daric's recap from Mr. Harding has Daric concerned the Michael may have incorrect perception of Woodlawn HS students. As a parent concerned for the safety of his children, Michael questioned how to proceed. Dr. Milbourne suggested the school principal and staff should address this response.

Lisa Orens questioned whether school guidance councilors were to be included in the meeting being planned by Dr. Fine; Dr. Milbourne indicated he is uncertain as to the composition of the committees at this time.

- D. Dr. Milbourne thanked Council members, expressing that the "commitment, dedication and will to make a difference in BCPS" of individual members is evident and recommended they continue with their persistence. Lisa presented a small gift of appreciation for his service to BCPS in light of his announcement to retire.
- E. Joe Pallozzi indicated his information packet for consideration as a BOE nominee will be mailed to the Governor within the next few days.
- F. Joe also announced that a Catonsville HS student was the recipient of the national Elks scholarship.

## II. Schedule

Dates offered on agenda included third Wednesday of each month September 2005 through June 2006. The following dates (with noted exception to third Wednesday), considered locations, and topics were discussed/determined:

September ?	<u>Joint Council Meeting</u> <i>TBD</i>
September 21	<u>Meet the new Area Superintendent</u> <i>Riverview ES</i>
October 19	<u>Operational Pre-budget Hearing</u> <i>Catonsville MS</i>
November 16	<u>Violence and Bullying</u> <i>Woodlawn MS</i>
December 14	<u>Elected Officials</u> (NOTE: this is second Wednesday) <i>Halethorpe ES</i>
January ?	<u>Joint Council Meeting</u> <i>TBD</i>
February 15	<u>Update from Dr. Hairston</u> <i>Woodmore ES</i>
March 15	<u>The Bridge Center</u> <i>The Bridge Center</i>
April 26	<u>Benefits to Magnet ES and does SW need one</u> (NOTE: this is fourth Wednesday) <i>Catonsville ES</i>
May ?	<u>Joint Council Meeting</u> <i>TBD</i>
May 17	<u>Capital Pre-budget Hearing</u> (possibly Joint meeting) <i>Powhatan ES</i>
June 7	<u>Planning meeting for 2006-07</u> <i>Southwest Area Office</i>

III. Elections

Brian agreed to serve as communications liaison mostly to share information via email and will begin collecting email addresses for school principals; Sharon agreed to continue as Secretary. Other positions were not discussed due to time constraints.

IV. New Members - *not discussed due to time constraints* but Brian agreed to contact HS principals with request for referrals from Woodlawn, Lansdowne, Western Tech and Catonsville

V. Goals for 2005-06 - *not discussed due to time constraints*

- each member plan and coordinate attendees/guest speakers and agenda for one meeting
- each member liaison with specific schools
- increase SWAEAC presence at BOE meetings
- increase council membership with attention to areas not currently represented

VI. Volunteer Opportunities - *not discussed due to time constraints*

- A. Report Card Committee
- B. New Teacher Induction Aug 17-19; Contact Pat Grampp at 410-887-6400.

VII. Accomplishments

A. Representation on committees - *not discussed due to time constraints*

- 1. Calendar Committee – Sharon and Joe served
- 2. Smaller Learning Communities Committee
- 3. Master Plan Oversight Committee and workgroups
- 4. Baltimore County Education Coalition

B. Met with County Councilmen Moxley and Oliver

C. Advisory Council website is up and running.

[www.bcps.org/community/educational/edu\\_advisory\\_council/default.asp](http://www.bcps.org/community/educational/edu_advisory_council/default.asp)

In closing, Lisa will contact members to schedule a meeting for late June or early July meeting to discuss remaining agenda items. Sharon will determine possible locations for additional meetings based on records of where past meetings have been held.

Meeting adjourned approximately 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Loving

Secretary, SW Education Advisory Council