

TENTATIVE MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, December 19, 2006

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 5:00 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. JoAnn C. Murphy, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Mr. Peter Bacon. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Mr. Arnold reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in December and January.

Ms. O'Hare entered the room at 5:03 p.m.

Mr. Janssen moved that the student member be permitted to participate in closed session collective bargaining discussions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pallozzi and unanimously approved by the Board.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1), (a)(7), (a)(8), and (a)(9) and upon motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Bacon, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:12 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:12 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. JoAnn C. Murphy, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Mr. Peter Bacon. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: J. Robert Haines, Esq., Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Rita Fromm, Chief of Staff; Margaret-Ann Howie, Esq., Legal Counsel to the Superintendent; Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Governmental Relations; Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director, Personnel Staffing; Mr. Daniel Capozzi, Staff Relations Manager; P. Tyson Bennett, Esq., Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

Mr. Capozzi updated Board members on the status and content of collective bargaining discussions.

Mr. Capozzi exited the room at 5:29 p.m.

Dr. Peccia reviewed with Board members personnel matters to be considered on the evening's agenda.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES (cont)

Mr. Bennett and Ms. Howie advised Board members on litigation involving Board-owned property.

Mr. Dale Rauenzahn, Executive Director of Student Support Services, entered the room at 5:53 pm.

Mr. Rauenzahn and Board member, Mr. Hayden, exited the room at 6:07 p.m.

Mr. Bennett and Ms. Howie advised Board members on potential litigation involving a former employee.

At 6:16 p.m., Ms. Harris moved the Board go into open session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hayman and approved by the Board.

Mr. Hayden entered the room at 6:16 p.m.

Ms. Howie distributed to Board members the Maryland State Board of Education's opinion in *Michael Gruber, ET AL. vs. Baltimore County Board of Education*.

At 6:20 p.m., Mr. Janssen moved the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hayman and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:34 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. JoAnn C. Murphy, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Mr. Peter Bacon. 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 Clair Kim, Delaunta Duncan, and Chris Adams, 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 Session Minutes of November 8, 2006, and the Open and Closed Session Minutes of November 21, 2006, Mr. Arnold declared the minutes approved as presented on the website.

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

After selecting completed sign-up cards, Mr. Arnold announced the names of persons who would be speaking during the public comment portion of the meeting. If fewer than ten sign-up cards were received, all who sign up would be permitted to speak.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Ms. Jennifer Oswald, Baltimore County Student Council President and Superintendent's Student Council Advisory Group, reported on BCSC's general assembly meeting, when several pieces of legislation were addressed.

Mr. Eric King, a representative of the Advisory Committee for Alternative Programs, introduced Clair Kim, Delaunta Duncan, and Chris Adams, who shared with Board members their experiences in the alternative education program at Woodlawn High School.

Ms. Gloria Collins, President of the Baltimore County Instructional Assistants & Clerical Employees (BACE), remarked that paraeducators need a reasonable wage to support their families.

Ms. Karen Yarn, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented Education, reported on the Committee's October 11 meeting hosting several students who discussed ways to improve the G/T program. Ms. Yarn also reported on the Committee's previous two meetings where G/T science curriculum and the Library Information Network were discussed.

Ms. Susan Katz, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, thanked the Board for its work to ensure students receive a quality education.

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, thanked the Northeast Area Assistant Superintendent and various teachers who covered classes so that faculty could attend the funeral of an employee.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston congratulated student Board member, Peter Bacon, for his acceptance at Harvard University. Dr. Hairston also announced that BCSC President, Jennifer Oswald, who has been accepted at Princeton University.

RECOGNITION OF ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Donald Peccia recognized the Education Advisory Council appointments made at the December 5, 2006 Board meeting:

- Mr. Frank Thomas New Member – Central Area
- Ms. Jean-Marc O'Connor New Member – Southwest Area
- Mr. Bassam Sayad New Member – Southwest Area

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. Arnold announced that the BCPS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is published annually after completion of the annual audit of the Board's financial statements. The fiscal year 2006 CAFR includes the artwork of students from various schools for the 2005-2006 school year. Mr. Arnold recognized and thanked the students by presenting each student with a U.S. Savings Bond. The students were:

- Justin Livi – Catonsville High School
- Evgeniya Frolova – Owings Mills High School
- Andrew Yancura – Patapsco High School and Center for the Arts
- Suhyeun Yoo – Perry Hall High School
- Pilar Diaz – Towson High School

OLD BUSINESS

Deletion of Policy 3320

On a motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Ms. Murphy, the Board approved the proposed deletion of Policy 3320, NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Food Services – Responsibilities and Duties, as presented in Exhibit B.

Changes to Policy 3330

On a motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the proposed changes to Policy 3330, NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Food Services – Finance, as presented in Exhibit C.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **FY2006 Comprehensive Annual Finance Report and Single Audit Report** - Mr. Hayden presented the fiscal year 2006 financial and single audit report and the management letter to the Board. He noted that the auditing firm of Clifton and Gunderson reviewed all the reports and findings in detail with the Budget and Audit Committee members and staff. Mr. Hayden stated that the Board received an "unqualified opinion" on the CAFR, which is the greatest level of assurance that an auditor can give to indicate that the financial statements of an organization are not materially misstated.

Although the Single Audit Report contained findings, Mr. Hayden stated that staff has already developed and/or implemented corrective action to address them. Staff will provide updates at future Budget and Audit Committee meetings to report progress made in addressing the findings, and any unresolved concerns will be reported to the full Board.

REPORTS (cont)

- B. **Report on Proposed FY2008-2013 State and County Capital Budget Request -** Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, summarized the budget request. She noted that the major foci are the construction of Vincent Farm Elementary School and renovation projects. Ms. Burnopp stated that two submissions have been received from the state in the amount of \$27.9 million. This is the first reading.

Mr. Hayden asked whether the list reflects a prioritization of these projects. Ms. Burnopp responded there is no priority requirement at the county level.

Ms. O'Hare noted that not all renovations showed roofs as part of the project. Ms. Burnopp responded that when that particular school's roof was part of the renovation cycle, it was added.

Ms. Shillman asked about renovations at Cockeysville and Pikesville Middle Schools. Ms. Burnopp responded projects have been forward-funded by the county; therefore, projects can be started prior to funding.

Dr. Hayman expressed concern that the music facility at Milford Mill Academy does not appear on the capital budget request. He also stated that the school system needs to evaluate the impact renovations have on instruction and after-school programs.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Ms. Harris, seconded by Mr. Janssen, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, and N (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.).

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Ms. Shillman, recommended approval of items 1-14 (Exhibit O). Dr. Hayman separated item 4, and Mr. Janssen separated items 10 and 11 for further discussion. Mr. Janssen abstained from voting on item 14, and Mr. Hayden abstained from voting on item 7.

The Board approved items 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, and 14.

1. RGA-110-07 Contract Extension: Lease Agreement for the Timonium Office
2. JNI-705-05 Contract Modification: Academic Book Services, Inc.
3. JMI-620-07 Automated Time and Attendance Tracking System
5. RGA-111-07 Hollins Ferry Bus Facility Lease Agreement
6. JMI-618-07 Stone, Mulch, Topsoil, and Associated Materials

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

7. JNI-711-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovations at Southwest Academy
8. PCR-256-07 Elevator Replacement at Kenwood High School
9. JMI-622-07 Design Services – Roof Replacement at Deep Creek Middle, Perry Hall Middle, Pikesville Middle, Deer Park Middle, Old Court Middle, Cockeysville Middle, Parkville Middle, Maiden Choice, and Eastern Technical High Schools, and the ESS Building at Greenwood
12. RGA-113-07 Agreement: Temporary Construction Easement Agreement at Carver Center for Arts and Technology
13. RGA-114-07 Agreement: Temporary Construction Easement Agreement at Franklin High School
14. RGA-115-07 Right-of-Way Entry – Overlea High School

Item 4

Dr. Hayman asked whether the principals at Randallstown High and Milford Mill Academy were aware of this particular process. Ms. Sines responded that the Department of Physical Facilities is working with the area Assistant Superintendents and schools to identify projects and implement policies to address projects uniformly.

Mr. Hayden commended the Franklin High School Athletic Boosters, Inc. for raising the funds for this large project.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Ms. Murphy, the Board approved item 4.

4. RGA-112-07 Franklin High School Stadium Project

Items #10 and 11

Mr. Janssen expressed concern over spending monies for design services and building additions to an area that is not overcrowded. Mr. Sines stated the school system is working with county officials to identify the needs in the area. It is a matter of working in collaboration with the county and the Board of Education, which approved this item previously. In regards to item 11, Hillcrest Elementary School, the school system is trying to address the feasibility study and capacity issues.

Mr. Hayden stated there needs to be good quality facilities to move students in when overcrowding occurs at other schools. Mr. Hayden shared Mr. Janssen's view that the Board needs to look at capacity throughout the school system.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

Items #10 and 11 (cont)

Mr. Janssen asked what the feasibility study will entail. Mr. Sines responded the school system has been placed in a position to react to many facility issues. As the capital program is finalized, all involved should be strong advocates for even-funding over a four- or five-year interval. Mr. Sines stated that the projects before the Board this evening are good projects for the system and bode well for student achievement.

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved items 10 and 11. Mr. Janssen and Ms. Shillman abstained from voting on items 10 and 11.

10. RGA-101-07 Fee Acceptance: Architect/Engineering (A/E) Services for the Feasibility Study and Schematic Design Phase at Catonsville Middle School
11. RGA-101-07 Fee Acceptance: Architect/Engineering (A/E) Services for the Feasibility Study and Schematic Design Phase at Hillcrest Elementary School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Arnold made the following announcements:

- Schools will be closed for Winter Break from December 25, 2006 through January 2, 2007. Schools will reopen for students and teachers on Wednesday, January 3, 2007.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 9, 2007, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:00 p.m. The Board will then adjourn to meet in closed session, which will be followed by a brief dinner recess. The open session will reconvene at approximately 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome to all open sessions. The Board will host the PTA Council of Baltimore County for dinner on January 9, 2007 from 6:00 until 7:30 p.m.
- On Wednesday, January 24, 2007, the Baltimore County Board of Education will meet for a public hearing to seek the public's input on the operating budget for FY2008. The meeting will take place at the Ridge Ruxton School at 7:00 p.m. Sign-up for the public to comment will begin at 6:00 p.m. at Ridge Ruxton School on the day of the hearing.

Mr. Arnold 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. Arnold also asked speakers to observe the light system, which lets the speaker know when time is up. He asked speakers to conclude their remarks when they see the red light.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3200

No one from the public signed up to speak on Policy 3200.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3610

No one from the public signed up to speak on Policy 3610.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 7460

Dr. Bash Pharoan commended the Board and staff on this Policy. He stated the Policy is the first step for correcting discrimination.

Mr. Ori Shabazz commended the Board for changes to the Policy.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Hadeer Abdul stated the social studies curriculum regarding Islam lacks historical accuracy and is inaccurate.

Ms. Kay Hardisky expressed concern that the vendor, Play Center, Inc., cannot operate before and after-care services to students during inclement weather and when schools are closed.

Ms. Nancy Ostrow asked the Board to consider creating a performing and visual arts magnet to primarily serve the students residing in the Northwest and Southwest areas, recommending New Town High School.

Mr. Ori Shabazz stated he would like to see the AVID program expand at Woodlawn High School.

Dr. Bash Pharoan stated Islamic holidays are not treated equally to the two Jewish holidays. Dr. Pharoan asked the Board to approve two Muslim holidays.

Mr. Muhammad Jameel stated Muslim children have been out of school for other holidays except their own. He asked for equal justice for Muslim children.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:54 p.m., Mr. Janssen moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pallozzi and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

bls