

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

Tuesday, December 18, 2007

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in open session at 3:30 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Donna Flynn, Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Miss Audrey Dittman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Ms. Murphy reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in January and February.

Mr. Pallozzi moved that the student member be permitted to participate in closed session collective bargaining discussions. The motion was seconded by Ms. Harris 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. Parker, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board commenced its closed session at 3:33 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 3:33 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Donna Flynn, Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Miss Audrey Dittman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: J. Robert Haines, Esq., Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Sonia Diaz, Chief Academic Officer, Mr. William Lawrence, Assistant Superintendent, Northwest Area; Dr. Robert Tomback, Assistant Superintendent, Northeast Area; Dr. Manuel Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Southwest Area; Ms. Jean Satterfield, Assistant Superintendent, Southeast Area; Anjanette Dixon, Esq., Staff Attorney; Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent, 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 discussed with Board members the status of collective bargaining negotiations.

Board member, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, entered the room at 3:38 p.m.

Board member, Mr. Earnest E. Hines, entered the room at 3:43 p.m.

Mr. Capozzi exited the room at 3:47 p.m.

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

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES (cont)

Dr. Peccia and Dr. Arrington exited the room at 3:53 p.m.

Mr. Bennett provided legal advice to the Board regarding the hearing officer's opinion in a case to be considered this evening.

Mr. Lyle Patzkowsky, Assistant Superintendent for the Central Area, entered the room at 3:55 p.m.

Mr. Bennett updated the Board on litigation involving the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act.

On motion of Ms. Harris, seconded by Ms. O'Hare, the Board ended its closed session at 4:06 p.m. to go into administrative function.

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION

Board members discussed a performance evaluation instrument.

Board member, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, entered the room at 4:38 p.m.

At 6:06 p.m., Mr. Parker moved the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pallozzi and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:29 p.m. at Greenwood. President JoAnn C. Murphy and the following Board members were present: Ms. Donna Flynn, Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Mr. Earnest E. Hines, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Miss Audrey Dittman. 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 Miss Jill Schuhart and Mr. Daniel Breidenbaugh, 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 20, 2007, Ms. Murphy declared the minutes approved as presented on the Web site.

Ms. Murphy informed the audience of the sessions in which Board members had participated earlier in the afternoon.

SELECTION OF SPEAKERS

After collecting completed sign-up cards, Ms. Murphy announced the names of persons who would be speaking during the public comment portion of the meeting as well as the order in which the persons would be called.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Ms. Rebecca Palardy, Baltimore County Student Council President and Superintendent's Student Council Advisory Group, reported on the last general assembly meeting. Ms. Palardy announced the council's upcoming lobbying trip to Annapolis.

Miss Jill Schuhart and Mr. Daniel Breidenbaugh, representatives of the Northeast Area Education Advisory Council, expressed concerns of overcrowding and the need for a new high school in the northeast area

Ms. Carmela Veit, a representative of the Baltimore County Education Coalition, stated the coalition appreciates the many talents brought to the Board and is also appreciative of the Superintendent's leadership.

Mr. Carl Bailey, a representative of the Minority Achievement Advisory Group, reported on its December 13 meeting where the discussion centered on the results of the special legislative session.

Ms. Susan Katz, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, stated that long ago the Board of Education recognized the PTA as the organization that represents parents. The PTA strives to advance parent-school partnerships that will improve the academic achievement of our students.

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, stated that curriculum and student achievement are important and hopes there are additional work sessions. Ms. Bost announced that the TABCO/BACE Legislative Breakfast would be held on Saturday, January 5, 2008, at the Timonium Holiday Inn.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston announced that the Office of Physical Facilities received the 2007 *Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools* National Excellence Award.

Dr. Hairston commended staff and TABCO for working together to help reduce the volume of testing and bring relief to teachers' work load in the near future.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Governmental Relations, recognized the administrative appointments made at the December 4, 2007 Board meeting:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>MERRIL E. PLAIT</u> (Effective December 5, 2007)	Head of Engineering Department of Physical Facilities	Assistant Administrator Engineering Department of Physical Facilities
<u>MICHAEL WEGLEIN</u> (Effective December 5, 2007)	Supervisor Career and Technology Education	Assistant Principal Sollers Point Technical High School

OLD BUSINESS

On a motion of Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the re-adoption of Policy 6104 – INSTRUCTION: Field Trips and Foreign Travel.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Superintendent's Report on Upcoming FY09 Budget Issues** – Dr. Hairston commented that this is a unique year because of fiscal climate state-wide. Dr. Hairston stated that one percent, or \$4.6 million, under the Budget Reconciliation Act was adopted at the 2007 Special Session of the Maryland General Assembly. This law becomes effective January 1, 2008. By comparison, state education aid increased by \$67.6 million in the current fiscal year and was expected to increase by \$23.4 million in FY 2009.

Ms. Flynn asked for clarification on revenue amounts. J. Robert Haines, Esq., Deputy Superintendent, responded that revenue will increase \$4.6 million on the state side; BCPS would have received \$23 million without the legislation.

Mr. Janssen asked if the school system would see a real-dollar decrease in the state aid formula. Mr. Haines responded there will not be a gross dollar reduction; however, there will be a tremendous reduction in growth in the budget.

Ms. Flynn asked if the lost revenue of \$5.1 million is a result of reduced enrollment. Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, responded BCPS would need to take into account state and county revenue to determine staffing.

REPORTS (cont)

Dr. Hairston reviewed the general fund revenues and expenditures, which indicate where the bulk of the BCPS dollars are allocated (salaries, wages, benefits). Examples of other “fixed” charges are fuel and insurance.

Ms. Flynn asked what the net change in positions is. Ms. Burnopp responded that the county government allowed BCPS to keep the FTEs for specific additional programs.

Mr. Janssen asked what the staffing ratios for summer schools are. Ms. Burnopp responded that those types of details would be available during the Board’s operating budget work session.

Mr. Hayden commented that BCPS continues to see a decrease in enrollment and asked when the school system anticipates increased enrollment due to BRAC. Dr. Hairston stated that BCPS enrollment is “flat” at this time with a spike to begin in 2010. Dr. Hairston noted that the school system will need to monitor the elementary-to-middle and middle-to-high school enrollment transitions.

Ms. Flynn inquired about funding for the recommendations in the curriculum management plan. Dr. Hairston responded everything within those recommendations are within the current budget. Dr. Hairston stated that BCPS needs to be accurate in identifying those initiatives that are not working and redirect those expenditures.

B. Report on Proposed FY2009-2014 State and County Capital Budget Request –
Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, summarized the county capital funding request. This is the first reading.

Mr. Hayden asked if these capital projects are listed in the Board’s priority. Ms. Burnopp responded that the county does not require prioritization.

Ms. O’Hare asked if one-third of the capital budget was for building an auditorium at George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology. Ms. Burnopp stated that this initial estimate is for renovations and an auditorium at this school. Ms. O’Hare expressed concern that there are higher priorities within the school system. Mr. Michael Sines, Executive Director of Physical Facilities, briefly reviewed the feasibility study program for the ten high schools that were identified earlier in the year.

Ms. Shillman expressed concern about placing tennis court improvements ahead of parking lots. Mr. Haines briefly explained the renovation program under Perks-Reuter and that the school system continues to following that arrangement.

Mr. Janssen encouraged Board members to put Harford Hills Elementary School parking lot at the top of the priority list. Mr. Janssen also expressed concern that \$2 million dollars is being requested for a middle school addition in an area of the county that is currently at 75% capacity.

REPORTS (cont)

C. **Report on Gifted and Talented Program** – Ms. Sonja Karwacki, Executive Director of Special Programs, PreK-12, reviewed the status of the Gifted and Talented (G/T) program. She stated that this is the third annual report on the ongoing implementation of the G/T Program. Ms. Karwacki noted that the data presented reflects a six-year trend and is organized in six sections:

- G/T Education Enrollment
- G/T Education Student Achievement
- Program Implementation
- Curriculum
- Professional Development
- Patterns, Trends, and Recommendations for Improvement

Mr. Janssen asked if the G/T curriculum is aligned. Ms. Karwacki responded that portions of the curriculum are aligned and other sections are in the process of being aligned. Mr. Janssen asked how “standard” students are performing in Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Ms. Karwacki responded that approximately 80% of these students are scoring 70.9% on exams.

Ms. Flynn commented that there needs to be a comparison of the increasing number of gifted students. In 2005-2006, BCPS had a decreasing number of students who scored in proficient and advance levels on MSA/HSA. For example: 82% in math decreased to 73.5% in middle schools and a decrease to 59.5% in high schools with a corresponding pattern in reading. Dr. Hairston stated that the notion of increased participation is inconsistent with the level of rigor. The information speaks to the quality of implementation, the quality of the curriculum, and the quality of the teacher response.

On pages 27-29 of the report, Ms. O’Hare asked how many students does the 70.9% and 63.3% represent. Ms. Karwacki responded that after reviewing the data, the “number of students” was not placed in this report and needs to be reflected in future reports.

Ms. Johnson asked how the report will be updated to reflect the number of students. Ms. Karwacki responded that the next report provided to the Board will have those numbers.

With respect to section IV, Curriculum, Ms. Johnson asked if honors and standards courses differ in terms of overarching concepts, advanced content, and process/product. Ms. Karwacki responded that content, process, and product are standard forms of differentiation that apply across all areas. In terms of content for G/T, the school system does have, in specific areas, an accelerated content beginning at the elementary level and moving to the high school level.

REPORTS (cont)

- D. **Board of Education Policies** – Ms. Frances Harris, Chairperson of the Board Policy Committee, stated that the Board of Education’s Policy Committee met to consider the policies presented this evening, and the committee is recommending approval of these policies. This is the first reading.
- Proposed Changes to Policy 4000 – PERSONNEL: General-Equal Employment Opportunity
 - Proposed Deletion of Policy 4220 – PERSONNEL: Classified-Employment

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Ms. Harris, seconded by Ms. O’Hare, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits H, I, J, K, L, and M (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 1-15 (Exhibit N). Mr. Janssen abstained from voting on items 10 and 11.

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. JMI-643-06 Contract Modification: Ball Diamond Mix
2. JMI-620-08 Automated Maintenance Software for Exchange Mail System
3. PCR-290-08 Doors: Interior & Exterior
4. JMI-604-08 Fire Alarm System Installations, Repairs, Parts, Inspections, and Preventative Maintenance
5. JMI-614-08 Network-enabled Uninterruptible Power Supply Systems
6. JMI-603-08 Security System/Access Control Installations, Repairs, Parts, and Preventative Maintenance
7. JMI-608-08 Sprinkler System Installations, Repairs, Parts, Inspections, and Preventative Maintenance
8. MBU-516-07 Contract Modification: Construction of Corridor Separations in Various Elementary Schools
9. MBU-588-06 Contract Modification: Design Services – Food and Nutrition Services Warehouse Expansion and Renovation
10. MWE-817-06 Contract Modification: General Contractor Construction Services Contract – Kenwood High School Addition and Technology Wing Renovation

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

11. MBU-599-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovation – Loch Raven Technical Academy School
12. PCR-261-07 Contract Modification: Systemic and Programmatic Renovation – Sudbrook Magnet Middle School
13. MWE-829-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovation – Woodlawn Middle School
14. PCR-292-08 Fee Acceptance: Design Services – Inwood Bus Maintenance/Dispatch Building
15. PCR-292-08 Fee Acceptance: Design Services – Rosedale Bus Maintenance/Dispatch Building

HEARING EXAMINER’S RECOMMENDATIONS

On a motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved that the hearing examiner’s opinion in case #08-23 be affirmed (favor-8; opposed-0). Ms. Flynn, Mr. Hines, and Ms. O’Hare did not participate in this appeal.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. FY08 Financial Report for months ending October 31, 2006 and 2007
- B. Bridge to Excellence Master Plan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Murphy made the following announcements:

- Schools will be closed for Christmas/Winter Break from December 24, 2007 through January 1, 2008. Schools will reopen for students and teachers on Wednesday, January 2, 2008.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 8, 2008, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 4:30 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 officers of the PTA Council of Baltimore County on January 8, 2008, from 6:00 until 7:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

- On Tuesday, January 15, 2008, the Baltimore County Board of Education will meet for a public hearing to seek the community's input on the operating budget for FY2009. 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.

Ms. Murphy stated that public comment is one of the opportunities provided to hear the views and receive the advice of community members. The members of the Board appreciate hearing from interested citizens and will take their comments into consideration, even though it is not the Board's practice to take action at this time on issues which are raised. When appropriate, the Board will refer concerns to the superintendent for follow-up by his staff.

While the Board encourages public input on policy, programs, and practices within the purview of this Board and this school system, this is not the proper avenue to address specific student or employee matters, or to comment on matters that do not relate to public education in Baltimore County. The Board encourages everyone to utilize existing avenues of redress for complaints. Inappropriate personal remarks or other behavior that disrupts or interferes with the conduct of this meeting are out of order.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON RE-ADOPTION OF POLICY 2352

No one from the public signed up to speak on this policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON RE-ADOPTION OF POLICY 3111

No one from the public signed up to speak on this policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON RE-ADOPTION OF POLICY 3112

No one from the public signed up to speak on this policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON RE-ADOPTION OF POLICY 3121

No one from the public signed up to speak on this policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CHANGES TO POLICY 5160

No one from the public signed up to speak on this policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CHANGES TO POLICY 5310

No one from the public signed up to speak on this policy.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Asifa Hamiff stated that December 19 is an Islamic holiday, and she thanked the Board for past support.

Mr. Muhammad Jameel stated that he hopes the Board will come back in the New Year with a new vision.

Dr. Bash Pharoan asked the Board to refocus and include all students in its calculations and treat all students equally.

Ms. Gale Sauer requested a meeting with school representatives to explore how Franklin Square Hospital can partner with BCPS to decrease absenteeism.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:21 p.m., Ms. Harris moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Janssen and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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