

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

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in closed session at 4:02 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esquire, Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Mr. Logan McNaney. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Mr. Schmidt reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in November and December.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Articles, §§10-508(a)(1), (a)(7), (a)(8), and (a)(9) and upon motion of Mr. Uhlfelder, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board commenced its closed session at 4:03 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 4:03 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esquire, Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Mr. Logan McNaney. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: Dr. Renee A. Foose, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Michele O. Prumo, Chief of Staff; Dr. Roger L. Plunkett, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Karen Blannard, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Ms. Verletta White, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Dr. Edward Newsome, Jr., Assistant Superintendent, Middle Schools; Dr. Donald A. Peccia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources; Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director, Human Resources; Mr. George M. Duque, Staff Relations Manager; Margaret-Ann F. Howie, Esquire, General Counsel; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

Mr. McNaney exited the room at 4:03 p.m.

Mr. Duque provided Board members with an update on negotiations with various collective bargaining units.

Mr. McNaney re-entered the room at 4:17 p.m.

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

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board adjourned its closed session at 4:25 p.m. Staff members exited the room.

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION

At 4:26 p.m., Dr. Carl Smith, Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education, discussed superintendent searches.

Andrew W. Nussbaum, Esquire, Counsel to the Board of Education, entered the room at 4:37 p.m.

Mr. Collins exited the room at 4:53 p.m. Mr. Collins re-entered the room at 5:05 p.m.

Mr. Nussbaum provided legal advice to the board regarding the hearing officers' opinions to be considered that evening.

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Ms. Roddy, the Board adjourned from administrative function session at 5:35 p.m. for a brief dinner recess. The Board hosted the Baltimore County Student Council (BCSC) for dinner.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:06 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esquire, Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Mr. Logan McNaney. 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 Nick Pratley, a student at Hereford Middle School, 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 Minutes of October 11, 2011, Mr. Schmidt declared the minutes approved as presented on the Web site.

Mr. Schmidt 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, Mr. Schmidt 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.

Mr. Schmidt 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.

Mr. Schmidt also asked speakers to observe the timer, which lets the speaker know when time is up. He asked speakers to conclude their remarks when they see his/her time is up.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Miss Olivia Keithley, Baltimore County Student Council President and member of the Superintendent's Student Council Advisory Group, reported on the first general assembly of the year, which was held on October 18. Discussions included: teacher evaluations, school-day schedules, and AP class readiness. The Superintendent's Student Council Advisory Group held its first meeting on October 19 and discussed various schools. Miss Keithley thanked the Board for dinner earlier that evening and for its commitment to Baltimore County students.

Ms. Abby Beytin, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, stated that the school system needs to find the answers to allow our teachers to teach in their most effective way using their professional expertise.

Mr. P. J. Shafer, Chair of the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC), introduced himself as the new chairperson for SECAC. He stated that SECAC has worked on many different topics, such as: special education, G/T, magnet programs for disabilities, and language disabilities. Mr. Shafer stated that SECAC is interested in the superintendent search process and has appreciated Dr. Hairston's approach on "All Means All." Board members were invited to attend the November 14 and December 12 SECAC meetings.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS (cont)

Ms. Nancy Ostrow, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, thanked BCPS offices for participating in the exhibit area during the PTA's Annual Fall Reception and Workshop. She encouraged Board members to review the public testimony presented at each of the five pre-budget hearings. Board members were also encouraged to visit more schools and talk directly to administrators, teachers, staff, students, and parents.

Mr. Greg Paranzino, Vice Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented Education (GTCAC), reported on its November 2 meeting where parents and students discussed, "Mapping Your High School Path." GTCAC is working with the Office of Gifted and Talented Education to finalize a parent-friendly guide for G/T Education, which will act as a resource for parents, students, and teachers. Mr. Paranzino announced that on March 7, 2012, GTCAC will host a panel of students discussing their experiences in the G/T program.

Mr. John Desmone, Executive Director of the Council of Administrative and Supervisory Employees, thanked the Superintendent and Board for the continued discussion of the bargaining unit's composition as required by the state legislation passed last January.

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, Coordinator of the Area Education Advisory Councils (AEAC), announced that there will be a joint AEAC meeting on Thursday, November 10, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. She thanked the chairpersons of each of the five AEAC for their work on behalf of the school system.

Ms. Laura Mullen, Chair of the Central Area Education Advisory Council, reported on its operating pre-budget hearing held October 13, 2011. Testimony included: consistency and accountability of the G/T program; overcrowding and long-term projections for Padonia International School; teaching force cannot afford to be reduced; and concern with class sizes. The Council's next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2012, at Towson High School to discuss "College 101."

Mr. Clifford Collins, Chair of the Northwest Area Education Advisory Council, reported on its operating and capital pre-budget hearing held October 18, 2011. Testimony included: safety and overcrowding issues at New Town Elementary School; requested new video screen and LCD projector at Old Court Middle School; request for two additional relocatables at Owings Mills High School to relieve overcrowded conditions; air conditioning at Pikesville High School; and new music instruments, equipment, and supplies for Randallstown High School's band. Detailed information on each request was provided to Board members.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS (cont)

Ms. Beverly Coleman, Chair of the Southwest Area Education Advisory Council, reported on its operating and capital pre-budget hearing held October 19, 2011. Testimony included: repair of emergency lights, installation of air conditioning, two crossing guards, and repainting of some portions of Southwest Academy; concerned about not meeting Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and the loss of a special education teacher position at Featherbed Elementary School; and updating technology resources and installation of air conditioning at Catonsville Elementary School. Ms. Coleman provided detailed information on each item to Board members.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 1230

Ms. Jasmine Shriver asked the Board to support the proposed changes to the policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 1240

Ms. Nancy Ostrow stated that the PTA Council of Baltimore County supports the revisions to this policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 1250

Ms. Nancy Ostrow stated that she supports the deletion of this policy as redundant. While wording within policy and rule 1270 address much of the original intent of policy 1250, Ms. Ostrow stated that Rule 1270 and related rules should be reviewed to ensure that the wording “community representation on the School Improvement Team” is included.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3130

Ms. Nancy Ostrow stated that the proposed revisions add oversight so that the principal is the only administrator entering into contracts. She stated that it is important to carefully review the rule in regards to the acceptable list of products made available to students. More details are needed on the most efficient process for placing student orders and how much instructional time could be lost.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3225

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED NEW POLICY 4008

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED NEW POLICY 4009

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 5140

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 5150

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 5330

Ms. Nancy Ostrow stated that the PTA Council of Baltimore County supports the changes to this policy because it relates to the assurance of student safety at school-sponsored social events.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 8315

Ms. Nancy Ostrow stated that the PTA Council of Baltimore County supports the revision to Policy 8315. However, the wording is unclear whether stakeholder groups would also be afforded the opportunity to provide comment. Section III should be changed to reflect “during regular board meetings” as revised in Section II, Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 8360

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 8361

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 8362

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 8363

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 8364

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 8365

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 8366

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

Board member, Mr. Michael J. Collins, entered the room at 7:31 p.m.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Alex Jerome, a student at Pikesville High School, asked the Board to consider the installing of air conditioning in its budget request. He stated that, on average, some classrooms are 20 to 25 degrees hotter than the outside temperature, and that extreme heat in the school affects his homework.

Ms. Susan Waldman asked the Board to install air conditioning at Pikesville High School.

Mr. Jeff Jerome asked the Board to install air conditioning at Pikesville High School.

Ms. Jayne Lee asked the Board to advance Pikesville High School on the priority list for receiving air conditioning. She stated that some students have fainted due to lack of air circulation.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (cont)

Ms. Jill Dudley Cohen asked the Board to install air conditioning at Pikesville High School. She stated that it appears there have been no significant improvements at Pikesville High in 40 years.

Dr. Bash Pharoan stated that documentation of public participation in the minutes is too brief. Dr. Pharoan stated that the focus on quality must be done by objective data and asked the Board to stress that in the future in its decisions about the effectiveness of teachers and which tools are used in the teaching materials.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston acknowledged Mr. Tom "TK" Kuegler, a 1989 graduate of Kenwood High School. Mr. Kuegler is a successful businessman who co-founded a consulting firm that helps new technology companies. Through his generosity, Mr. Kuegler has given our students the Pb Wiki enterprise Campus Solution valued at over \$90,000. This gift enables our system to effectively manage 35,000 wiki users and the content.

Dr. Hairston also acknowledged Ms. Cindy David, Division Director of Visual Sound/Kunz AV, who has worked with offices, schools, teachers, and parents to provide support for many technology-related resources including hardware and software for the past 18 years. She has personally installed software and hardware, provided door prizes for Tech Nights, and in any way possible, supported the school system's effort to provide students with sound and effective technology.

Mr. Collins exited the room at 8:19 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Roddy, chairperson of the Search Committee, stated that the Committee has met to interview a potential firm. She stated that references and credentials will be verified. Ms. Roddy stated that the Committee's goal is to bring a contract to the full Board for approval in the near future.

Mr. Schmidt stated that the parameters and timelines relative to the search would be forthcoming.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, recognized the administrative appointments from the October 11, 2011, Board meeting.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>SHERRYL AHERN</u> (Effective October 12, 2011)	Elementary Instructional Specialist/ Coordinator Madison City Schools	Coordinator Elementary Language Arts Office of Language Arts, PreK-12
<u>JAMIE L. BASIGNANI</u> (Effective October 12, 2011)	Teacher/Classroom Villa Cresta Elementary School	Assistant Principal Pinewood Elementary School
<u>ELIZABETH GRACE CHESNEY</u> (Effective October 12, 2011)	Supervisor, Testing Office of Shared Accountability Montgomery County Public Schools	Executive Director Department of Research, Accountability, and Assessment
<u>ERIC CROMWELL</u> (Effective October 12, 2011)	Coordinator of Accelerated Learning Programs Harford County Public Schools	Coordinator Office of Science, PreK-12
<u>TIMOTHY P. HAYDEN</u> (Effective October 12, 2011)	Supervisor Office of School Counseling Services	Coordinator Office of School Counseling Services
<u>CAMILLE B. JONES</u> (Effective October 12, 2011)	Director of Technology Lansing Public School District	Chief Information Officer Department of Technology
<u>LAURIE MAZELIN</u> (Effective October 12, 2011)	Teacher/Resource Department of Research, Accountability, and Assessment	Specialist Department of Research, Accountability, and Assessment
<u>BARBARA W. ROEMER</u> (Effective October 12, 2011)	Teacher/Classroom Carney Elementary School	Assistant Principal Carney Elementary School

RECOGNITION OF AREA EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (AEAC)
APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Peccia recognized the following area education advisory council appointments and reappointments from the October 11, 2011, Board meeting:

- Mr. Thomas Henry Northeast AEAC appointment
- Ms. Lori Rivieri Northeast AEAC reappointment
- Ms. Sandra Skordolas Southeast AEAC appointment

ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Uhlfelder, the Board confirmed the action taken in closed session in Case Numbers H.E. 12-08 and 12-10 (favor-11). Mr. Collins was not in the room to vote on this item.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on exhibits B, C, D, E, F and G (favor-11). Mr. Collins was not in the room to vote on this item. (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes).

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Mr. Parker, recommended approval of items 1-11 (exhibit H).

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. JNI-779-12 Digital Library Information Services (Defined STEM)
2. JNI-778-12 Health and Dental Services
3. JMI-604-12 Grounds Equipment Repair Parts
4. MBU-506-12 Kitchen Equipment – Large
5. JMI-609-12 Mulch – Wood Fiber
6. RGA-112-12 Nonpublic Special Education Facilities
7. JMI-606-12 School Locker (Hall/Gymnasium) Repairs, Installation, and Parts
8. JMI-607-12 Roof Replacement – Elmwood Elementary School
9. JNI-764-12 Replacement of Windows, Blinds, and Doors – Halethorpe Elementary School

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

10. PCR-225-11 Replacement of Windows, Blinds, and Doors – Pine Grove Elementary School
11. MBU-507-12 Roof Replacement – Warren Elementary School

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Mechanics of a Superintendent Search** – Dr. Carl Smith, Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE), shared with Board members the mechanics of a superintendent search. The report covered:

- Planning the search
- Screening and selecting candidates
- Selecting and appointing the new superintendent'
- General timeline

Mr. Collins re-entered the room at 8:31 p.m.

Dr. Smith reminded the Board that the superintendent must meet Maryland certification requirements and must also be approved by the state superintendent of schools. If a superintendent is not appointed by June 30, the board must select an interim superintendent to serve for one year.

Mr. Parker asked what the approximate cost for a search firm would be. Dr. Smith responded that for a school system of this size the base fee would be approximately \$30,000 to \$40,000 and approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000 in additional expenses.

Mr. Schmidt asked what the trends are relative to a traditional versus a non-traditional candidate. Dr. Smith responded that he has never seen a non-traditional candidate receive approval from the state superintendent.

- B. **Report on September 30 Official Enrollments, Projections, and Capacities** – Ms. Kara Calder, Executive Director of Planning and Support Operations, shared with Board members the history of the September 30 Enrollment report. The report contains:

REPORTS (cont)

- Official September 30 enrollments
- Latest state-rated capacity (SRC) adjustments
- Enrollment comparison to projections
- Thematic maps

The official student enrollment for September 30, 2011, was 105,315. Ms. Calder reviewed the projections vs. actual enrollments compared to September 30, 2010.

	9/30/2010 Actual	9/30/2011 Projection	9/30/2011 Actual	Over/Under Projection	% Accuracy	Increase/Decrease From Prior Year
Elementary Schools	49,314	50,399	50,757	358	99.29%	1,443
Middle Schools	22,272	22,515	22,411	-104	99.54%	139
High Schools	31,202	30,775	30,554	-221	99.28%	-648
Special Education Schools	351	351	374	23	93.85%	23
Alternative Schools	292	292	248	-44	84.93%	-44
Other Schools and Programs	900	863	971	108	88.88%	71
Total	104,331	105,195	105,315	120	99.89%	984

C. **Report on Reading English Language Arts (RELA)** – Dr. Roger Plunkett, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, stated that the purpose of the presentation was to provide an overview of the current functions and to forecast work relative to transitioning to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Dr. Plunkett reviewed two questions relative to Language Arts: literary textbooks purchased in 2010 and the amount of monies spent on curriculum development.

Ms. Sherryl Ahern, Coordinator for Elementary Language Arts, stated that a gap analysis has been completed for all guides, PreK through 12. Staff members are starting to review new reading programs to replace the outdated/out-of-print anthologies, “Open Court” and “Houghton Mifflin” series that do not meet the instructional expectations of the Common Core.

Ms. Kelly Smith, Coordinator for Secondary Language Arts, stated that the curriculum and instruction staff are reviewing the CCSS and are aligning the current curriculum with the new standards. Members of the Effective Educator Academy Teams have designed lessons that are being distributed to all schools.

REPORTS (cont)

Ms. Ahern and Ms. Smith review the Curriculum Appraisal Process, which consisted of:

- The ISO-9001: 2008 Process
- Beginning the process in November and conclude in February. Each guide will have a list of specific, detailed recommendations for aligning to the CCSS.
- Exemplar curriculum examples that focus on reading, writing, speaking, listening, language, and research.
- Gap analysis documents and CCSS transition documents will be used to evaluate all curriculum guides Grades K-12.
- Guides that are reviewed and detailed recommendations will be made for alignment to the Common Core in each area.

Immediate challenges and professional development are needed in the following areas:

- Text Types and Text Complexity
 - Two workshops are planned for the first semester: November 29 and 30 and December 19 and 20.
 - Access to grammar books and online language resources to help plan effective language lessons.
- Writing process, focusing on revision
 - Writing process workshops
 - Materials and resources
 - Web-site entitled, *The Writing Place*, which will become a cross-curricular tool for all teachers in all subjects

Curriculum and instruction staff will complete the review process for appropriately aligned Common Core reading resources and a pilot will be placed in selected elementary schools in 2012-2013, following the ISO process. Teachers participating in the pilot will be trained in May 2012. In the spring of 2013, a reading series/resources will be selected dependent on pilot outcomes and teachers will be trained on new reading series aligned to new BCPS/CCSS curriculum in summer 2013, following the ISO process. All elementary schools will use new reading series to teach BCPS/CCSS curriculum in 2013-2014.

Mr. Coleman asked whether there is flexibility in the guide for experienced teachers. Dr. Plunkett responded that the guides are not scripted. There are essential learning outcomes and staff wants to differentiate based upon the needs of the students.

REPORTS (cont)

Ms. Johnson asked for a summary of events that took place in the summer of 2010 during the Language Arts curriculum writing process. Dr. Plunkett stated that, due to a lack of leadership, some things had been completed that were not authorized. As a result, members of the Language Arts department and teachers have spent some time this year revising some of the work due to lack of direction. Ms. Johnson asked where the Language Arts curriculum stands regarding revisions, restoration, and applying the proper resources. Dr. Plunkett responded that staff does not view linguistics as a curriculum and that information will be presented to the Curriculum Committee in the near future then to the full Board for approval. Ms. Johnson asked for a current update to the Language Arts revisions. Dr. Plunkett responded that the revisions are being incorporated into the work staff is doing with the teams and is an ongoing process at this time.

Mr. Parker asked whether staff was following the ISO-9001: 2008 guidelines with Dr. Plunkett responding in the affirmative.

Mr. Schmidt asked whether the curriculum will be aligned with the CCSS with Dr. Plunkett responding in the affirmative. Dr. Plunkett stated that this is a transitional year where BCPS is taking the Common Core standards and the gap analysis to align the curriculum with those standards to ensure there is rigor embedded into the curriculum.

Ms. Johnson asked for a timeline of when the Language Arts curriculum would be brought to the full Board. Dr. Plunkett stated that, as staff continues to phase plan and work with the Executive Director of Liberal Arts, the school system will have a date in the near future. Ms. Johnson asked whether resources were being allocated for the curriculum. Dr. Plunkett responded that teachers are being used to support the work.

Ms. Johnson asked whether the school system will continue to use the novel, *Mrs. Dalloway*, and if so how will the novel be used. Dr. Plunkett responded that the book will be made available to those students at the collegiate level. Some of the books will be returned to the company.

Mr. McNaney asked whether there were any AVID strategies being used in this curriculum. Ms. Smith responded affirmatively. She stated that as the school system creates *The Writing Place*, that resource will be linked to AVID. Mr. McNaney asked whether *The Writing Place* will be a resource for teachers and students. Ms. Smith responded that it needs to be made available first to teachers. A parent/student version could be created in the future.

REPORTS (cont)

Mr. Bowler asked whether the Language Arts curriculum in 2010 was approved by the administration and the Board. Dr. Plunkett responded that he did not have that information.

With the events that took place in the summer of 2010 relative to the Language Arts curriculum, Ms. Johnson asked what processes and controls have been put in place to prevent this from recurring. Mr. Schmidt stated that the Board has an interest to ensure that the school system is moving forward and that corrections have been made to prevent recurrence. Dr. Plunkett noted that staff convenes on a regular basis; has clearly identified targets and goals; and meets with teachers and focus groups to ensure open communication on what needs to be accomplished.

Dr. Hairston stated that this is a proactive step in moving forward with the Language Arts curriculum. Dr. Hairston stated that the school system is attempting to restore the curriculum, and it has been a long process.

Mr. McNaney suggested that *Mrs. Dalloway* could be used in Advanced Placement (AP) classes such as AP-12.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Central Area Education Advisory Council Minutes of October 13, 2011

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Schmidt made the following announcements:

- The Northeast Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2011, at Eastern Technical High School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- There will be a joint Area Education Advisory Council meeting on Thursday, November 10, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building, Rooms A and B.
- The Southeast Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Monday, November 14, 2011, at Sparrows Point Middle School beginning at 7:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

- The Northwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2011, at Church Lane Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Southwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, November 16, 2011, at Arbutus Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, November 22, 2011, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:15 p.m. The Board will then adjourn to meet in closed session. The open session will reconvene at approximately 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome to all open sessions.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

/bls