

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

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in open session at 5:15 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esquire, Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, 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 February and March.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Articles, §§10-508(a)(7), (a)(8), and (a)(9) and upon motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Uhlfelder, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:20 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:20 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esquire, Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, 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 T. Blannard, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Ms. Patricia A. Lawton, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Ms. Verletta B. White, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Dr. Edward Newsome, Jr., Assistant Superintendent, Middle/High Schools; Dr. Donald A. Peccia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources; Mr. George M. Duque, Staff Relations Manager; Margaret-Ann F. Howie, Esquire, General Counsel; Andrew W. Nussbaum, Esquire, Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

Mr. McNaney exited the room at 5:20 p.m.

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

Board member, Mr. James E. Coleman, entered the room at 5:27 p.m.

Mr. McNaney re-entered the room at 6:05 p.m.

Ms. Howie updated Board members on a lawsuit filed by a former employee.

On motion of Mr. Uhlfelder, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board adjourned its closed session at 6:15 p.m.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 6:44 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: 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, 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 Ms. Kiona Ervin, a student at Towson University, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

Dr. Hairston pulled item IX.A., Consideration of Action Taken in Closed Session, from the agenda.

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

Ms. Abby Beytin, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, stated that TABCO has been working collaboratively with the school system to ensure that the upcoming teacher evaluation system is valued and valuable. TABCO has come up with what it believes is a great qualitative system to help teachers grow and improve their craft.

Ms. Nancy Ostrow, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, expressed condolences to the family of Michael Trulcuk and the entire Parkville Middle School community who are grieving his recent death. She stated that the PTA Council provides a memorial donation to the Maryland PTA Scholarship fund whenever a student in Grades Pre-K through 12 dies while registered in a Baltimore County Public School.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. David Suarez-Murias stated that he represents the West Padonia community and Mays Chapel residents who are opposed to the 700-seat elementary school on the Mays Chapel site.

Mr. Stanley Miller asked the Board to find a location other than Mays Chapel for the elementary school that would be appropriate for students.

Dr. Bash Pharoan asked the Board to discuss openly the holidays on the school calendar. He stated that closing schools on the Jewish holidays is a violation of the first amendment.

Mr. Caleb Kelly asked the Board to not build an elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. He stated that the Board is planning on building a school without having a public hearing.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

In honor of Baltimore County Public Schools' participation in the Save-A-Limb Walk and Ride, a \$10,000 donation is being made to the Dr. Joe A. Hairston Scholarship Fund. The check was presented to Dr. Hairston by Dr. Ronald Delanois, Director of the Save-A-Limb Fund.

WORK SESSION REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

A. **Board of Education Policies** – Mr. Coleman reported that the Board of Education's Policy Committee had met to consider the policies presented this evening, and that the Committee is recommending approval of these policies. This is the first reading.

- Proposed Changes to Policy 1270 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Community Involvement-Parent and Family Involvement
- Proposed Changes to Policy 3200 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Purchasing-Purchases from Minority and Small Business Enterprises
- Proposed Changes to Policy 3209 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Purchasing Principles
- Proposed Changes to Policy 3520 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Physical Plant Services-Maintenance

In Section II of policies 3200, 3209, and 5470, Mr. Janssen asked whether the policy format had changed regarding "the Board directs the superintendent..." Ms. Howie responded that staff would review the policies.

- Proposed Changes to Policy 5470 – STUDENTS: Services to Students-Wellness
- Proposed Changes to Policy 5550 – STUDENTS: Conduct-Behavior

Mr. Janssen expressed concern over the substantial changes in Policy 5550 noticing the relocation of some of the offenses to lesser categories. Mr. Janssen asked that a work session be scheduled to discuss this policy prior to the Board's vote scheduled for April 17, 2012. Mr. Collins concurred with Mr. Janssen.

WORK SESSION REPORTS (cont)

Mr. Dale Rauenzahn, Executive Director of Student Support Services, explained that Policy 5550 is reviewed annually by a committee comprised of administrators, parents, students, TABCO, and CASE representatives to recommend changes to both the policy and student handbook. He stated that the State Board's major emphasis concerns long-term suspensions.

- Proposed Changes to Policy 6400 – INSTRUCTION-Magnet Programs
- Proposed Changes to Policy 7250 – NEW CONSTRUCTION: Designing-School Building Design

Mr. Janssen requested the definition of "educational specification."

- Proposed Deletion of Policy 7460 – NEW CONSTRUCTION: Constructing-Purchases from Minority Businesses
- Proposed Changes to Policy 8340 – INTERNAL BOARD OPERATIONS: Appeal Before the Board of Education

Ms. Bright Gordon stated that there was a typographical error under Section D, page 8. The COMAR reference should read "13A.01.05.05."

Ms. Bright Gordon asked whether State Board of Education cases exist that address the standard of review to be applied by local boards of education. Ms. Howie responded that she would provide a response to the Board.

Ms. Janssen suggested that appellants who provide late cancellation notices not be granted extensions, or in the alternative, that their cases be summarily dismissed.

Regards to Section VI.C., Mr. Schmidt asked whether the recommended amendments to the policy would constitute the unauthorized practice of law.

- Proposed Changes to Policy 8400 – INTERNAL BOARD OPERATIONS: Office of Internal Audit-General

Mr. Janssen recommended that Section II.B. paragraph be edited as follows: "The Board president will forward to the Board, at the recommendation of the Budget and Audit Committee, the appointment, replacement, and/or dismissal of the Chief Auditor and the Assistant Chief Auditor."

WORK SESSION REPORTS (cont)

- B. **Update on Task Force to Study High School Drop-out Rates of Persons in the Criminal Justice System** – Ms. Bright Gordon reported on the January 30, 2012, meeting of the Task Force. She reported that the task force is looking at the following items: raising compulsory age of education to 18; considering suspension as an option while using alternative resources; and focusing on the cost of failing to educate students. The next meeting of the Task Force is scheduled for March 5, 2012.

Mr. Janssen asked whether the increase in graduation rate was an overall increase or a percentage increase. Ms. Bright Gordon responded it is an overall increase of 5%; however, she will confirm with the task force.

Mr. Collins suggested that, at a future update, the Board be presented with information on what other LEAs are doing when students are not functioning well in the classroom.

Ms. Johnson asked what type of data has been provided to the task force. Ms. Bright Gordon responded that there is a data collection subcommittee, which will develop a database starting with the public school system, connecting with the juvenile system, and then connecting with the adult justice program. Linking the databases would help the task force determine the length of an individual's educational career. Ms. Johnson asked whether there is any data that shows that students ages 14 to 17 have been forced out of school. Ms. Bright Gordon stated that there is a segment of student population not served by a traditional school setting. Because there is no compulsory school attendance after age 16, it is not uncommon to hear that some students are encouraged to drop out of school.

Mr. Parker asked about the reasons that students are forced out and what percentage of the student population is represented. Ms. Bright Gordon responded she would get the name of the individual at the Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) who is tracking the data.

- C. **Report on the *Report on Results* and the National Student Clearinghouse Student Tracker Report for 2011** – Dr. Renee Foose, Deputy Superintendent, shared with Board members that the *Report on Results* is a report card for the *Blueprint for Progress*, which has 60 data points. Tonight's presentation reflected on 23 out of 60 data points.

WORK SESSION REPORTS (cont)

Ms. Elizabeth “Grace” Chesney, Executive Director of Research, Accountability, and Assessment, reviewed the following items:

- Maryland School Assessment (MSA) data for elementary, middle, and high schools
- PSAT Participation Rate and Scores
- Advanced Placement (AP) Participation and Pass Rate
- SAT and ACT Participation and Mean Scores
- Graduation and Dropout Rate
- Students meeting University System of Maryland and CTE Requirements
- Home—School Communication
- Student, Parent/Guardian, and Teacher Conferences
- Attendance at School-based Events and Activities
- Partnerships

Ms. Chesney stated that BCPS has developed a partnership with National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) to track the post-secondary outcomes of graduates. Disaggregated data by race and gender are not provided in the NSC Student Tracker Report at this time, although it is scheduled to be included in future reports. Additionally, not all BCPS graduates will have data that can be matched with NSC college data because (1) not all colleges and universities participate in the NSC Student Tracker Program, (2) not all BCPS graduates enroll in college, and (3) students may have privacy flags placed in their data by their parents/guardians in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which then prohibits the NSC from providing the students’ data.

In 2011, 50% of graduates were enrolled in public institutions while 12% were enrolled in private institutions. In 2011, 34% of BCPS graduates immediately entered a four-year college or university and 29% enrolled in a two-year institution.

Ms. Bright Gordon asked whether BCPS pays for the PSAT. Dr. Foose responded that the PSAT is offered to everyone. Ms. Bright Gordon asked why only 86% of the student population participates in the PSAT. Dr. Foose responded that students either elect not to take it or do not show up for the test. Dr. Hairston stated that the PSAT is voluntary, and there could be several variables that impact the scores and results.

Ms. Bright Gordon asked for SAT data on the “non-“gifted and talented students.

WORK SESSION REPORTS (cont)

Mr. Coleman asked what other activities are available for high school students to prepare for the SAT/PSAT and for college. Dr. Foose responded that staff reviews the SOAR report to determine a student's difficulties or deficiencies. The PSAT is one of the greatest indicators to see whether a student is prepared, as early as Grade 10, to graduate from high school and prepared for college. Some high schools are experimenting with the Accuplacer and partnering with CCBC to look at bringing that test into schools. Mr. Coleman asked what would a counselor be reviewing to suggest to a student what test would be appropriate for them. Dr. Foose responded that there are a series of 60 self-assessment questions to determine which test the student would prefer.

With regards to the SAT Total Mean Scores, Mr. Uhlfelder asked how the school system fares in mathematics compared to reading and writing. Dr. Foose responded that BCPS is below the national and state average in all three categories. Dr. Foose stated that the school system has identified the issues and is working to make the necessary corrections.

Ms. Johnson asked how the system is addressing the schools where the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced is below 80%. Dr. Foose responded that the central office is continuing to work with schools to increase rigor through the curriculum alignment to ensure that what is being taught is being assessed. Ms. Johnson asked whether there are individual school improvement plans for each school with Dr. Foose responding in the affirmative.

Ms. Johnson asked for data on the number of students who took the MSA in 2011 and the number who scored at less than proficient in each category for elementary, middle, and high schools.

Ms. Johnson asked what strategies exist to address the 17 schools that have scored less than proficient. Dr. Foose responded that the school system is focused on opportunities for improvement. The goal is to identify challenges for schools stagnating and to establish resources, strategies, and structures to ensure all schools achieve at a rate that is accelerated from where the system has been. Ms. Johnson expressed concern about schools with low scores. Dr. Foose stated that the central office is working closely with the schools and providing interventions and supports needed for those individual students throughout the system.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following information:

- A. Financial Report for months ending December 31, 2010 and 2011

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Schmidt made the following announcements:

- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, March 6, 2012, 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. The open session will reconvene at approximately 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome to attend all open sessions.

Mr. Schmidt stated that on Tuesday, March 6, 2012, an exhibit will be brought before the Building & Contracts Committee concerning overcrowding relief for the York Road corridor, which includes development of the Mays Chapel school site.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its work session at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

/bls

TENTATIVE MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in closed session at 5:18 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, 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 March and April.

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. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:20 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:20 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, 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. Patricia Lawton, 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; Andrew W. Nussbaum, Esquire, Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

Mr. McNaney exited the room at 5:20 p.m.

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

Mr. McNaney re-entered the room at 5:26 p.m.

Board member, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, entered the room at 5:26 p.m.

Mr. Duque exited the room at 5:26 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES (cont)

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

Ms. Frances Allen, Manager of Personnel Services, entered the room at 5:31 p.m.

Ms. Howie updated the Board on potential litigation regarding a health care contract.

Ms. Allen exited the room at 5:35 p.m.

Mr. Nussbaum provided legal advice to the Board on the hearing officer's opinion to be considered that evening. Mr. Nussbaum also provided legal advice relative to the *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article §4-116 and public hearings.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board adjourned its closed session at 5:57 p.m.

ADMINISTRATION FUNCTION

At 6:00 p.m., the Board discussed the superintendent search process.

On motion of Ms. Roddy, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board adjourned its administration session at 6:27 p.m. for a brief dinner.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:05 p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Ms. Caroline Schmidt, a graduate of Dulaney High School, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools and also in memory of Major Robert J. Marchanti, II, a former Baltimore County physical education teacher, who was recently killed in Afghanistan.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Open and Closed Minutes of February 7, 2012; 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.

Mr. Schmidt stated that the Building and Contracts Committee had discussed a number of projects, including a new elementary school on the Mays chapel site. The Board obtained legal advice and anticipates that, when the Mays Chapel project is presented, a motion will be made to schedule a public hearing in March.

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.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Miss Olivia Keithley, Baltimore County Student Council President and member of the Superintendent's Student Council Advisory Group, reported on its February 27 trip to Annapolis to meet with representatives to discuss youth and education-related Bills. She announced that the next Council's general assembly would be held on Wednesday, March 7, with keynote speaker, Dr. Hairston.

Ms. Abby Beytin, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, thanked the Board for moving the negotiating process forward and for continuing to research on the health care issue concerning changes to the CareFirst network. Ms. Beytin stated that TABCO looks forward to working with the Board as the superintendent search process continues.

Mr. P. J. Shafer, Esquire, Chair of the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee, reported on the Committee's February meeting regarding the expansion of West Towson Elementary. Mr. Shafer announced that Honestly Autism Day will be held at Towson University on April 21, 2012. Mr. Shafer stated that the Committee looks forward to seeing Board members at its March 12, 2012, meeting.

Ms. Nancy Ostrow, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, announced that the national PTA Reflections Awards Program would be held on March 18, 2012, at Cockeysville Middle School. Ms. Ostrow announced that its next general meeting would be held on March 22, 2012, at Loch Raven High School beginning at 7:30 p.m. The featured program, "Projected Student Enrollment and Relief Strategies for Overcrowding," will be presented by the Office of Strategic Planning.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS (cont)

Ms. Jessica Paffenbarger, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented (G/T) Education, remarked that the State Board of Education voted to approve new guidelines for gifted and talented education. She noted that virtually 100% of G/T students achieve at the proficient or advanced level on MSA reading and math, and that 88% of G/T students that took the SAT in 2010-2011 had the highest total average over all other student groups.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 1270

Ms. Nancy Ostrow stated that the PTA Council of Baltimore County supports the policy revisions. She stated that the accompanying rule is detailed and carries out the intent of Policy 1270.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3200

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3209

Ms. Nancy Ostrow stated that the PTA Council of Baltimore County supports the revisions to this policy. She stated that the PTA Council asks the school system to continue to take the appropriate measures to prevent or minimize the duplication of programs and initiatives and that current programs should be analyzed to ensure that funds spent achieve increased student performance.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3520

Ms. Nancy Ostrow stated that the PTA Council of Baltimore County supports the revisions to this policy that articulate the Board's commitment to provide an environment that is conducive to learning.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 5470

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 5550

Ms. Abby Beytin stated that this policy mentions interventions being provided for students and asked the following questions: Who will bear the burden for implementing those interventions—classroom teachers? paraeducators? Without the funding to provide the extra staffing needed to tackle these programs, how will we be able to provide reliable resources? Is there money in the budget to address these issues? She remarked that, while money is tight, a policy cannot be changed without thinking through all of the consequences that may arise from those changes. Ms. Beytin asked the Board to think through the entire policy and to make sure the policy is enforceable, doable, and in the best interest of all students.

Ms. Nancy Ostrow remarked that the State Board of Education had expressed concern that students were losing instructional time for various reasons, including out of school suspensions. Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) has several alternative programs to handle student behavior. She believes that the school system reports accurately, and therefore, reporting accurately may give the appearance that BCPS is suspending at a higher rate than other Maryland counties. Ms. Ostrow stated that the committee was tasked with evaluating the entire student handbook. There is very little wording change to the policy; however, offenses have been re-categorized.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 6400

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 7250

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED DELETION OF POLICY 7460

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 8340

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 8400

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

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.

Ms. Yara Cheikh asked the Board to continue its commitment to provide seats for children inside schools and not trailers and to build an elementary school on the Mays Chapel site.

Mr. Mark Fischer asked the Board to oppose or postpone the vote on a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. He stated that the Interagency Committee on School Construction (IAC) has not approved the FY2014 capital budget request for this project.

Mr. Marvin Tenberg believes that the Mays Chapel site is the wrong place for the wrong school. He stated that transporting children away from neighborhoods will cause lost time for students.

Ms. Gail Purnell stated that she is not against building a new elementary school; however, she does not want the school to be built on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that families in the area do not have children who would attend the new elementary school and bussing children in from other areas of the county is expensive.

Mr. Don Boardman asked the Board to reconsider building a new elementary school at the Mays Chapel site. He stated that the site should be kept as-is so children can play and seniors can enjoy the view and surroundings.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (cont)

Mr. Lewis Madison stated that he is in favor of maintaining Mays Chapel Park as-is. He expressed concerns about safety and traffic conditions.

Ms. Cathi Forbes advocated for a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that the land is Board of Education property and was purchased for the construction of an elementary school.

Mr. Harold Thompson stated that the community is not against building a school but that a school should be built where the overcrowded conditions exist. He stated that overcrowded conditions do not exist near the Mays Chapel site and that Pinewood Elementary School is not overcrowded.

Dr. Bash Pharoan stated that his request to close schools on Eid-al-Fitr and Eid-al-Adha is for a secular reason. He asked the Board to abide treat minorities equally.

Mr. Eric Rockel asked the Board to proactively have community input prior to voting on a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

There was no report from the Superintendent this evening.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Schmidt stated that the Board is continually questioned about many areas of our educational system. These questions come from public testimony, direct inquires to Board members, public hearings on capital and operating budgets, and area advisory councils. Some are specific to individual schools, while others involve the entire system. Mr. Schmidt reported on the following topics:

Issue: Relief Strategy for West Towson

Baltimore County Public School (BCPS) staff held meetings with parents of both Ridge Ruxton School and West Towson Elementary School students to obtain input on the proposal to use three classrooms and one room used as an office to house a grade level of West Towson students for school year 2012-13. The Board applauds the parents of both schools for their willingness to work together so we can keep all the students on the same campus. Staff will continue to work with both school communities to ensure that the integrity of the instructional programs at both schools. Student safety remains the highest priority.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (cont)

Congratulations to Dr. Joe A. Hairston for becoming president-elect of the Horace Mann League of the USA.

The Horace Mann League is comprised of scholars who are committed to the strengthening public education in every community. This is a great honor and the Board applauds Dr. Hairston.

Issue: Proposed Elementary School on the Mays Chapel Site

At the Building and Contracts Committee meeting earlier this evening, an exhibit to construct an elementary school on the Mays Chapel site was discussed and is on tonight's agenda for further discussion. Mr. Schmidt highlighted the information presented to the Committee, which included:

- That the Mays Chapel site was acquired in 1986 when the Keelty Company arranged for a land swap with BCPS and the Department of Recreation and Parks.
- That the infrastructure is in place (i.e. public water, sewer and storm drains).
- That relief would be provided for seven elementary schools in the central area.
- That approximately 5 to 10 acres would be used for the school site and the remaining acreage would be retained as open space.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Board approved a resolution recognizing Ms. Sally Nazelrod as the 2012 recipient of the Eastern District Association Honor Award. The resolution states:

WHEREAS, Ms. Sally Nazelrod serves the cause of public education with honor and distinction; and

WHEREAS, She demonstrates vision and leadership through her focus on increased student performance and contributes her expertise on improving the Physical Education, Health, and Dance Curriculum and Instructional Program in Baltimore County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Nazelrod has also served exceptionally as a school-based administrator and teacher; and

WHEREAS, Through her work in the fields of Physical Education, Health and Dance, Ms. Nazelrod has held several important positions within the Maryland Association for Health, Physical Education and Dance; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Nazelrod has provided leadership as the Maryland representative for the Eastern District Council for Services, Conventions, By-Laws and Sponsorship Committees; and

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS (cont)

WHEREAS, She serves as a role model for students from kindergarten to the university level and is a contributor to the professional growth of her fellow professionals; and

WHEREAS, At the March conference of the Eastern District Association, Ms. Nazelrod will be the 2012 recipient of the Eastern District Association Honor Award which honors a member who demonstrates excellence in education, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education, herewith assembled in regular session on the sixth day of March, in the year two thousand and twelve, expresses to Ms. Sally Nazelrod, on behalf of the citizens of this county, our sincere congratulations on this recognition and gratitude for her continued service; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board herewith extends its best wishes for her good health, happiness, and continued success.

The Board approved a resolution recognizing Miss Olivia Keithley, who was named the 2012 Young Woman of the Year by the Baltimore County Commission for Women. The resolution states:

WHEREAS, Olivia Keithley, a senior at Hereford High School, has demonstrated exemplary academic achievement in advanced placement, gifted and talented, and honors courses; and

WHEREAS, She has served as the President of the Baltimore County Student Councils with honor and distinction for the school years 2009-2010, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012; and

WHEREAS, Olivia was the first student to be elected and serve as President of the Baltimore County Student Councils during her sophomore year and serve for three consecutive terms in office as President; and

WHEREAS, She has served as an integral member of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Board for the 2009-2010, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years; and

WHEREAS, Olivia has been a vital member of the Maryland Association of Student Councils' Executive Board for the 2009-2010, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years; and

WHEREAS, She has been a member of the National Honor Society, National Math Honor Society, National Science Honor Society, and Spanish Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, Olivia has served as a staff member of the Maryland Leadership Workshop's Middle School Exploration in Leadership Program and Outreach/Journey Program; and

WHEREAS, She has been the Girl Scout Silver Award recipient, and served as assistant Girl Scout troop leader, Aldante Familia volunteer, Greater Baltimore Orchestra member, and Hereford High School Student Council Vice President; and

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS (cont)

WHEREAS, Olivia was named the "2012 Young Woman of the Year" by the Baltimore County Commission for Women on March 15, 2012 for making significant contributions in her community and school to further the interests of women and children; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of Baltimore County, assembled in regular session on the sixth of March, in the year two thousand twelve, expresses to Olivia Keithley, its fondest regards and gratitude for her services; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Board does herewith extend its best wishes for happiness, good health, and continued success in future endeavors, and that it directs a copy of this resolution to be recorded among the permanent records of the Board of Education of Baltimore County.

Mr. Bowler and Mr. Collins exited the room at 8:28 p.m.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Uhlfelder, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on exhibits B, C, D, and E (favor-9). (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes).

ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board confirmed the action taken in closed session in Case Numbers H.E. 11-46 (favor-9).

Mr. Collins re-entered the room at 8:30 p.m.

NEGOTIATED AGREEMENTS

Mr. Moniodis moved to approve the negotiated supplement to the Council of Administrative and Supervisory Employees (CASE) master agreement. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion.

Mr. Janssen stated that he would be voting to oppose all master agreements. When information was distributed to Board members in closed session, the information was re-collected and, therefore, he was unable to follow the process from beginning to end to ensure the items discussed by the Board were addressed.

NEGOTIATED AGREEMENTS (cont)

The Board approved the negotiated supplement to CASE was approved (favor-8; opposed-1). Mr. Janssen opposed this item. Student representative, Mr. McNaney, did not vote on this item.

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

On motion of Mr. Uhlfelder, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board approved the negotiated supplement to the Educational Support Professionals of Baltimore County (ESPBC) master agreement (favor-9; opposed-1). Mr. Janssen opposed this item. Student representative, Mr. McNaney, did not vote on this item.

On motion of Mr. Uhlfelder, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board approved the negotiated supplement to the Teachers Association of Baltimore County (TABCO) master agreement (favor-7; opposed-3). Mr. Janssen, Ms. Johnson, and Mr. Parker opposed this item. Student representative, Mr. McNaney, did not vote on this item.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Mr. Parker, recommended approval of items 1-13 (exhibit G). Mr. Parker separated item 14 for further discussion.

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. Contract Modification: Every Day Counts Calendar Math
2. Contract Modification: Security System/Access Control Installations, Repairs, Parts, and Preventative Maintenance
3. Cohort – Earth-Space Science Graduate Certificate
4. Cohort – English Literature Master of Arts Cohort II
5. Cohort – Leadership in Curriculum and Instruction Cohort II
6. Cohort – Leadership in Special Education Master of Arts
7. Cohort – Preparation for Secondary Mathematics Teacher Endorsement Cohort VII
8. Internet Service Provider
9. Measures for Academic progress (MAP) for Primary Grades
10. Specialty Paper and Envelopes Contract
11. Technology Supplies and Services

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

12. Contract Modification: Construction Package Site Work (2A) Contract – George Washington Carver Center for Arts & Technology
13. Auditorium/Stage Lighting and Sound system Upgrade – Pikesville Middle School

Item #14

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. McNaney, the Board unanimously voted to suspend the rules in order to allow the Board to consider a motion to give preliminary approval to the Mays Chapel Elementary School Site and to schedule a public hearing regarding that site (favor-11).

Mr. Parker moved that the Board give preliminary approval to the construction of a new elementary school on what is known as the Mays Chapel Future Elementary School Site and that the Board schedules a public hearing on this issue for Monday, March 19, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Parker further moved that final consideration of the site be put on the agenda for the next Board meeting, to be held on March 20, 2012. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moniodis and approved by the Board (favor-11).

14. Request to Accept School Site: Mays Chapel Site for New Lutherville Area Elementary School

Mr. Uhlfelder asked whether the school system can quantify the difference in cost between the Mays Chapel site and the Dulaney Springs site. Mr. Sines responded that until a design consultant is engaged and completes a site analysis, the development cost would be speculative other than providing the range of 20-40% increase for the Dulaney Springs site than the Mays Chapel site.

Mr. Schmidt asked the acreage to be allotted to the building and parking. Mr. Sines responded that 30% to 40% of the site would be building and parking; however, the study is not yet complete. The total development of the site would not exceed seven to ten acres and 10 acres could possibly remain green. Mr. Sines stated that walking paths can be considered and incorporated into the design.

Mr. McNaney requested the information presented at the Building and Contracts Committee to all Board members.

Mr. Bowler asked whether the new elementary school would be a commuting school and how common such schools are in the system. Mr. Sines responded that there are regulations regarding the distance a student lives from a school, who is required to walk or who would receive transportation. Mr. Sines stated that it is not unusual to transport elementary level to schools.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

Ms. Roddy asked that staff be prepared to give a presentation to the Board at the public hearing. Dr. Hairston stated he will meet with staff regarding the request.

SCHOOL LEGISLATION

Mr. Robert Barrett, Executive Officer of Community Outreach, and Dr. Carol Batoff, Ombudsman, reviewed with the Board proposed legislation currently under consideration by the General Assembly and requested positions on certain legislation.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board voted to oppose HB 2/SB 173 – Public School Buildings – Carbon Monoxide Detection and Warning Equipment (favor-10; opposed-1). Mr. Collins opposed staff's recommendation.

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Uhlfelder, the Board voted to oppose HB 9 – Education – Children and Youth – reporting of Information Concerning Student Health, Well-being, and Growth (favor-11).

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. McNaney, the Board voted to support HB 11 – Criminal Law – Third Degree Sexual Offense – Person in Position of Authority (favor-11).

On motion of Mr. Uhlfelder, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board voted to support HB 122/SB 139 – Criminal Law – Third Degree Sexual Offense – Person in Position of Authority (favor-11).

Mr. Uhlfelder moved to oppose HB 191/SB 307. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion.

Mr. Collins recommended that the Board take no position on this item. Mr. Uhlfelder withdrew his motion. On motion of Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Moniodis, the Board voted to take no position HB 191/ SB 307 – State Board of Education – Financial Literacy Curriculum – Graduation Requirement (favor-11).

On motion of Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board voted to oppose HB 196/SB 564 – Student Health and Fitness Act (favor-10; opposed-1). Mr. Uhlfelder opposed staff's recommendation.

Mr. Collins moved to support, with amendments, HB 201. Mr. Uhlfelder seconded the motion.

SCHOOL LEGISLATION (cont)

Ms. Roddy asked about the efficacy of the Board's vote because the Bill has already been heard. Mr. Barrett responded that through oral and written testimony, there are opportunities to convey the school system's position prior to a vote on any Bill. Mr. Moniodis asked whether these amendments were offered in committee. Mr. Barrett responded that these amendments are BCPS' and have not been offered in committee.

The Board voted to support, with amendments, HB 201 – Public Schools – Meal Menus – Nutrition Information (favor-7; opposed-4). Mr. Bowler, Mr. Coleman, Ms. Johnson, and Mr. Schmidt opposed staff's recommendation.

On motion of Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Collins, the Board voted to oppose HB 335 – Education – Public Secondary Schools near Boundary of Two Counties (favor-11).

Mr. Collins moved to support HB 567/SB 329 – Education – Parent-Teacher Meetings – Unpaid Leave. There was no second. The motion was defeated.

Mr. Collins moved to support HB 1006/SB 853 – Baltimore County – Public School Employees – Collective Bargaining Units. There was no second. The motion was defeated.

With regards to HB 1281/SB 988, stated that he supports the Bill with the understanding that it is for non-educational programs and that the Board would have a voice in participating in contracts. Dr. Hairston commented that safeguards are necessary since the school system could and has received better pricing than the County in some contracts.

Mr. Janssen expressed concern with the bill, which included: where would the savings or credits be applied; would Maintenance of Effort (MOE) be impacted; and how is FERPA affected; and maintenance priorities. Mr. Janssen stated that BCPS already belongs to several consortiums and has tremendous purchasing power. Ms. Johnson concurred with Mr. Janssen's remarks.

Mr. Uhlfelder stated that the projected savings was anticipated to be large and was only to include technology. Dr. Hairston remarked that the school system and county are in the process of consolidating a location for technology.

Mr. Barrett stated that the Board already has the power to enter into these agreements and that this Bill adds five words, "Baltimore County and Baltimore County Executive." Mr. Barrett also noted that an amendment will be brought before the delegation to remove "personnel" from the list of categories.

Board members expressed concerns that not enough detail was made available to consider the Bill.

SCHOOL LEGISLATION (cont)

Mr. Schmidt moved to support conditionally HB 1281/SB 988 – Baltimore County – Cooperative or Joint Administration of Programs as long as the legislation does not impact the education, curriculum, or instructional areas. Mr. Collins seconded the motion (favor-6). The motion failed.

Mr. Collins moved to suspend the remaining items on the agenda due to the lateness of the evening. Mr. Coleman seconded the motion. No vote was taken. The motion failed.

On motion of Mr. Uhlfelder, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board voted to support SB 58 – Education – Children in Informal Kinship Care Relationships – Payments for Students with Disabilities-Funding (favor-10; opposed-1). Ms. Roddy voted in opposition.

On motion of Ms. Roddy, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board voted to support SB 143 – Education – Comprehensive Master Plan (favor-11).

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. McNaney, the Board voted to oppose SB 178/ HB 617 – Education – Informal Kinship Care – Documentation Supporting Affidavit - Repeal (favor-11).

On motion of Mr. McNaney, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board voted to oppose SB 293 – Education – Core Content Areas – Accountability Program (favor-10; opposed-1). Mr. Collins voted in opposition.

On motion of Mr. Uhlfelder, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board voted to oppose SB 721 – Task Force on Climate Control in Public Schools in Baltimore County (favor-11).

Mr. Barrett stated that SB 848 and SB 851 – Education – Maintenance of Effort, were withdrawn and cancelled and were being redrafted.

Mr. Barrett stated that he would articulate the Board's comments and position to the General Assembly on the bills voted on this evening.

Mr. Barrett updated the Board on HB 481, Elected School Board – Baltimore County Public Schools, which has been amended as follows:

- Hybrid school board seven elected by councilmanic district, four appointed, and one student member.
- Staggered terms of elected members.
- First election would take place November 2014.
- Compensation reduced from \$3,000 to \$100 to \$0.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Southeast Area Education Advisory Council Minutes of January 9, 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Schmidt made the following announcements:

- The Central Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Thursday, March 8, 2012, at Loch Raven High School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Southeast Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Monday, March 12, 2012, at Grange Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Northwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, March 13, 2012, at Old Court Middle School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Board of Education will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2012, 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.
- The Board of Education will hold a public hearing to seek community input on the new elementary school at the Mays Chapel Site on Monday, March 19, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. at a site to be announced. Sign-up for the public hearing will begin at 5:00 p.m. with the hearing beginning promptly at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

TENTATIVE REPORT

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOLLOWING THE PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF THE MAYS CHAPEL SITE

Monday, March 19, 2012
Loch Raven High School

The hearing was called to order by President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire at 6:09 p.m. In addition to President Schmidt, the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esquire, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Mr. Logan McNaney. In addition, Dr. Renee A. Foose, Deputy Superintendent, staff members, as well as media, were present.

Mr. Schmidt stated that the Board has received considerable input regarding this item from a variety of sources. The Board has heard from the superintendent's staff relative to capacity issues in the central area; information from physical facilities that the infrastructure relative to water, sewer and storm drains are already in place; and since the Board currently owns two properties in the central area, acquiring another property would result in additional costs.. He stated that this is the third public opportunity to address the Board regarding this issue. Mr. Schmidt asked Mr. Sines to provide a brief summary of the Mays Chapel site.

Mr. Michael Sines, Executive Director of Physical Facilities, provided a brief summary to the Board. He stated that on September 6, 2011, the Board approved the State Capital Improvement Program, and on January 10, 2012, the Board approved the County Capital Improvement Program, both included a request for planning a new elementary site in the Lutherville area. At the September 10, 2011, meeting, the Board was presented with an update on enrollment and capacity. The Board was informed that there were two board-owned sites in the Lutherville area: Mays Chapel and Dulaney Springs. The Dulaney Springs site is located at the corner of Old Bosley and Pot Spring Roads. The Mays Chapel site is located on the west side of Roundwood Road in the community of Mays Chapel North.

Staff from the Department of Physical Facilities conducted preliminary assessments of both sites. These assessments yielded the following:

- Dulaney Springs – is approximately 20 acres in size. There is no storm water management facility and no evidence of utilities. Utilities such as water, sewer, and electricity would have to be run from the county roads. The two county roads (Old Bosley and Pot Spring), which border the property on the south and east are not improved at this location. If the board property were developed, curbs/gutters, sidewalks and acceleration/deceleration lanes would be required.
- Mays Chapel – is approximately 20 acres in size and is located on the west side of Roundwood Road. Mays Chapel is better suited to serve the current needs of the school system. The location is more desirable; it would be more cost effective to develop the site because utilities are partially available, and the main county road (Roundwood Road), which serves the site is improved with curbs/gutter and sidewalks.

Based on the aforementioned assessments, it was determined that Mays Chapel, obtained 26 years ago, was the most viable and cost-effective site for the following reasons:

- Utilities: water, sewer, electricity
- Lower site development cost
- Better strategic location to student population

The Mays Chapel site assessment was submitted to the Department of Planning for review and approval by the following state agencies: Maryland Departments of Planning, Transportation, Environment, Natural Resources, and the Maryland Historical Trust. These agencies found this project to be consistent with their plans, programs, and objectives. Mr. Sines stated that the site does not need to be reapproved per the Maryland State Department of Education.

The Dulaney Springs site, located in very close proximity to Warren Elementary School, is not suitably located to provide maximum relief to schools west of York Road. The Office of Transportation estimates that the average bus ride to a school on the Dulaney Springs site would likely be longer than that to Mays Chapel. Based on the location of the Mays Chapel site, most students will be eligible for transportation services. This is not unique in a county as physically diverse as Baltimore County. Currently, 56.3% of the elementary school students are eligible for transportation services.

The establishment of the boundary for the new elementary school will be conducted in accordance with Board of Education Policy and Superintendent's Rule 1280, *Boundary Changes*. With the construction of an elementary school on this site, coupled with appropriate boundary adjustments, the following schools could be relieved: Lutherville, Padonia, Pinewood, Pot Spring, Riderwood, Timonium, Warren, and West Towson. Based on the boundaries of these schools and the residences of the students, the Mays Chapel site is the most desirable location for maximizing the opportunity for comprehensive regional redistricting.

Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) is aware of the public's use of the walking paths on the proposed school site. It is estimated that the footprint of the school will use approximately between 5 to 10 acres of the current 20-acre site. Staff from the Department of Physical Facilities will seek community input into the planning for the development of the remaining acres.

Following Mr. Sines' summary, the following persons offered testimony:

- 1) Ms. Margot Senuha – Urged the Board to meet the needs of the students and to build a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site.
- 2) Ms. Angela Ruddle – Opposed to the construction of a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. Traffic congestion and noise caused by buses and cars early in the morning and afternoon would obstruct the roads and pollute the air. The Board should consider expanding existing schools.

- 3) Mr. Mark Ostrowski, Mays Chapel Resident – Asked the Board to reconsider locating a new elementary school at the Mays Chapel site. He expressed the following concerns: new bus routes, increased travel expenses, widening of road, traffic lights, lighting, and minimal staff parking.
- 4) Mr. Bill Sullivan, Mays Chapel Resident – Expressed concern over increased traffic, staff parking lot, and traffic lights. If the Board approves the construction of a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site, asked the process of and timing for community input regarding the remaining 8-10 acres of open space. Asked whether the trails and open space would be utilized by the community when the elementary school is in session.
- 5) Ms. Ronda Kunkel, Parent – Supports building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that 300 children are currently bused west and north of Mays Chapel. A school in Mays Chapel would reduce time on the buses and more time for completing homework. Ms. Kunkel remarked that she does not approve the use of the walking trail while school is in session.
- 6) Alan Zukerberg, Esquire, representing Dunloy Townhome Condominium Association, Inc. and Save Mays Chapel Park Committee – Stated that his clients' concern is that the Board is asked to rush to judgment to approve an elementary school at Mays Chapel Park, and that the school system has not reached out to the Mays Chapel residents to give and receive input on this matter. He stated that over 2,500 petition signatures were sent to the Board supporting the continued use of the Mays Chapel Park. On March 8, 2012, a Public Information Request was filed to obtain information in advance of this hearing. Mr. Zukerberg stated that general counsel replied that she had not received the request until Monday, March 12. Mr. Zukerberg requested that the minutes of this hearing incorporate his remarks, individual testimonies and written materials, with exhibits as submitted.
- 7) Mr. Ed Speno, Mays Chapel Resident – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. He expected the transparency, fiscal responsibility, and policies and rules to be adhered to. If the Board has not received the appropriate approvals, it should say “no” to building on the Mays Chapel site.
- 8) Dr. William Vitale, Mays Chapel Resident – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. He stated that has strong convictions and believes this is a disgrace.
- 9) Mr. Angelo Del Negro, Mays Chapel Resident – Asked the Board to oppose building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site and requested an analysis of all options before making a decision. He stated that at the March 6 Board meeting the Dulaney Springs site was removed from consideration because of the potential 20-40% additional cost for utilities. Mr. Del Negro stated that there are utilities on the Dulaney Springs site.

- 10) Ms. Penny Noval, Mays Chapel Resident – Asked the Board to seek multiple solutions to this issue and search for options that are cost effective and obtainable. She suggested the following: creating an early childhood learning center for prekindergarten and kindergarten students for the overcrowded schools—location could be the George Washington Carver Center or Towson University; or building adjacent on middle school properties that have ample space.
- 11) Mr. Eric Rockel, President, Greater Timonium Community Council – Asked the Board what the cost of a new elementary school building would be. He stated that there are some public utilities at the Dulaney Spring site. Mr. Rockel remarked that any discussion on a new elementary school should consider redistricting and transportation costs. He estimated that the new elementary school would cost approximately \$60 million.
- 12) Ms. Carol Mills, Member of Save Mays Chapel Committee – Opposed to the construction of a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She asked the following question: why is the school being proposed at this time; why is the Board rushing to take a vote on March 20 before all the information is available; how can the system propose a commuter school; what is the environmental impact; and what are the transportation costs associated with the new elementary school.
- 13) Ms. Gail Purnell – Opposed to building a new elementary school at the Mays Chapel site. She stated that she is not against the school; however, is against a school being built in the Mays Chapel Park. Ms. Purnell stated that the trail is used several times a day and that children play and practice lacrosse and other sports.
- 14) Mr. Marvin Tenberg – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. He stated that this is the wrong school in the wrong place. Mr. Tenberg expressed the following concerns: traffic; safety; transporting children to another school could break up existing friendships; and a negative impact on the environment. He urged the Board to explore other options that would best serve students.
- 15) Ms. Nancy Burke – Stated that, according to the deed 10 of the 20 acres on the Mays Chapel site are not available for school use. She commented that before the site can be used for a school the Board must receive written approval of the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and the Secretary of the Department of State Planning. Ms. Burke commented that standard space needed for elementary schools is 10 acres, plus 1 acre for each 100 students and the Mays Chapel site is not 17 acres of land. She expressed other concerns which include: costs, redistricting, safety, and bussing.
- 16) Mr. David Taylor, Parent – Supports building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. He stated that the overcrowding issue is in crisis and must be addressed immediately.

- 17) Ms. Barbara Shelhoss – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that this hearing is occurring because Board’s counsel requested it. Ms. Shelhoss commented that the process has not been transparent or data-driven.
- 18) Mr. David Suarez-Murias – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. He commented that this hearing was ludicrous and that the Board is going to vote in favor of the site regardless of the testimony.
- 19) Mr. Robert Sarnovsky – Asked the Board to consider the Dulaney Springs site for building a new elementary school.
- 20) Mr. Don Boardman – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. He suggested that the Board consider alternate sites such as the Board of Education campus. Mr. Boardman stated that the Mays Chapel site is not central to the York Road corridor.
- 21) Ms. Jessica Paffenbarger, Parent – Stated that a new elementary school is needed to alleviate overcrowding in the York Road corridor. She would bemoan the loss of open space in Mays Chapel; however, in these economic times it is unrealistic to think that the school system can purchase acreages of land to build a new school. Ms. Paffenbarger hopes that a better job would be done in planning for a new school so that there is not another West Towson Elementary School situation.
- 22) Ms. Yara Cheikh, Parent – Supports a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that the Mays Chapel site is the connector of those elementary schools needing relief. Ms. Cheikh expressed concern over the number of relocatables at the overcrowded schools. She stated that parents do not want overcrowded schools. Ms. Cheikh urged the Board to approve the new elementary school and work with the community on utilization of the 10 acres of green space.
- 23) Ms. Jean Cuddington, Mays Chapel Resident – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She is appalled that the Board would take away the seniors’ park. Ms. Cuddington commented that she is not against building a school; she is against building a school in Mays Chapel Park.
- 24) Ms. Spear – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that the demographics have changed and that the population has increased. Ms. Spear’s concerns included: added traffic; gas and oil dripping off buses and going into wells; environmental issues; and encroachment on houses bordering the property.
- 25) Miss June Keating, Student – Supports building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that the school would only take up 10 acres and the other 10 acres would be open space. Miss Keating stated that some children do not have a school to go to and she would be grateful for a school on the Mays Chapel site.

- 26) Ms. Juliet Fishes, Parent – Supports building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that Stoneleigh Elementary School was built for 499 students and that the population has grown to 668. Ms. Fishes commented that Stoneleigh Elementary is receiving an addition; however, there is not enough money in the current economy to provide an addition to every school. Approximately 1,000 children in the next five years will not have a school and this is the right site for the right school.
- 27) Ms. Elliot Azzam, Parent – Supports building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that the school system has placed band-aids on other schools for years and the overcrowding must be addressed. Ms. Azzam stated that schools have been known to be an asset to the community and not a deficit. These children deserve the best education has to offer.
- 28) Mr. Leo Woerner, Consultant Engineer – Stated that the Dulaney Springs site is more suitable for a new elementary school. He shared with Board members a map of the Dulaney Spring and Mays Chapel sites. Mr. Woerner stated that the Dulaney Springs site would be more suitable for a new school for the following reasons: a water tower is available on or near the site; fire hydrants near the property; Roundwood Road is 30' x 2" wide and widening would be minimal; one mile radius surrounding Dulaney springs has no less than 50,000 residents; and the estimated cost of building a new school would be less than the Mays Chapel site.
- 29) Mr. Stan Licharowsicz, Mays Chapel Resident – Asked the Board to consider deferring the vote on the Mays Chapel site and consider a motion to conduct a detailed site analysis. He believes that there should be more details to make an informed decision. Mr. Licharowsicz asked that an outside consultant analyzes each site and determine the proper site for a new school.
- 30) Ms. Laurie Taylor-Mitchell, Parent – Supports building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that the school system does not have the luxury to own land. Ms. Taylor-Mitchell stated that responsibility for the lack of open space is not the ownership of the school system but the responsibility of county officials.
- 31) Ms. Doris Del Negro – Asked the Board to work with the community and consider an alternate location for the new elementary school. She stated that placing a school on the Mays Chapel site would have catastrophic events—it would affect how the community lives, impact future generations, and the open space and park would be gone forever.
- 32) Ms. Casa Whelton – Asked the Board to look for an alternative site to build a new elementary school so that residents can enjoy the park.

- 33) Ms. Connie Dicembre, Parent – Read to Board members a letter from Jason Matthew Smith, P.E. Mr. Smith’s letter expressed concerns over the environmental impact that could result from the construction of an elementary school at Mays Chapel Park; asked whether an environmental assessment report by licensed professionals has been completed and whether the report would be made this report available to the public.
- 34) Ms. Cathi Forbes – Supports building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that by 2015, the school system would have 817 students over the state rated capacity. Ms. Forbes remarked that this new school is the solution for the central area of Baltimore County. New construction is the ultimate relief after all other relief strategies has been exhausted. She commented that additions have not addressed the common area space and that the redistricting process will always involve the communities it serves.
- 35) Ms. Liz Hembling – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She asked the Board to consider postponing the vote and look at the site. Ms. Hembling asked the Board to review future gas and oil cost and conduct a cost analysis comparison of the Mays Chapel and Dulaney Springs sites.
- 36) Mr. Joe Hauf, Mays Chapel Resident – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. He stated that Padonia Road is a major intersection with many houses and that the road is unsafe.
- 37) Mr. Paul Lang, Mays Chapel Resident – Asked that the Board declare the Mays Chapel site unsuitable for a new elementary school and look at alternative sites as quickly as possible. He appreciated the frustration of parents but suggested that the Board defer its decision until all steps have been considered.
- 38) Ms. Jean Suda, Parent – Supports building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. She stated that the site was reserved for an elementary school 25 years ago. The site can accommodate everyone’s needs.
- 39) Mr. Harold Thompson – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. He stated that roads would need to be widened to accommodate buses and traffic for a 700-student commuter school. Mr. Thompson stated that the Dulaney Springs site is a 20-acre, undeveloped site with no trees and one playing field. Mays Chapel has several hundred children on the fields and mature hardwood trees that would need to be removed.

- 40) Ms. Sari McLeod – Opposed to building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site. As a developer and historian of the Mays Chapel neighborhood, Ms. McLeod provided the following demographics of Mays Chapel: 220 townhomes, 402 condos with seniors, 280 assisted living health care facilities, and 96 apartments occupied by professionals. She stated that the *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article §4-115 requires the Board to return the land to the county should the council want the land. Ms. McLeod noted that 95% of the students attending Mays Chapel would need to be bused to the school. She believes that the overcrowding issue should be addressed in areas other than the Mays Chapel Park.
- 41) Mr. Charles Cole – Asked the Board to build a new elementary school at an alternative site and not the Mays Chapel Park site. He stated that it would be an error to locate a school on the Mays Chapel site due to student safety, bussing and commuting students, cost effectiveness, and property value.
- 42) Mr. Dennis King, Parent – Supports constructing a new school on the Mays Chapel site. He compared the traffic and congestion issues of the proposed Mays Chapel site and West Towson Elementary School. Mr. King stated that this scenario is the best solution to proactively deal with the overcrowding issue in the central area.

The hearing was concluded at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

JAH/bls