

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

Tuesday, January 8, 2013

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in closed session at 4:57 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, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder and Miss Olivia Adams. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Mr. Schmidt reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in January and February.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Articles, §§10-508(a)(1) and (a)(9) and upon motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:00 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, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Miss Olivia Adams. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: Mr. Kevin A. Hobbs, Deputy Superintendent; Mr. Michael G. Sines, Chief Operations Officer; Dr. Lisa Grillo, Chief Human Resources Officer; Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director, Human Resources; Mr. D. Mychael Dickerson, Chief Communications Officer; Mr. George 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, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board.

Miss Adams exited the room at 5:00 p.m. Ms. Michele O. Prumo, Chief of Staff, entered the room at 5:02 p.m.

Mr. George Duque, Staff Relations Manager, provided Board members with an update on negotiations with various collective bargaining units.

Mr. Duque exited the room at 5:14 p.m. Miss Adams re-entered the room at 5:14 p.m.

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

Mr. Duque re-entered the room at 5:20 p.m. Miss Adams exited the room at 5:20 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES (cont)

Mr. Duque provided Board members with a negotiations update.

Dr. Grillo, Dr. Arrington, and Mr. Duque exited the room at 5:30 p.m. Miss Adams re-entered the room at 5:30 p.m.

On motion of Mr. Uhlfelder, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board adjourned its closed session at 5:39 p.m. All staff exited the room except Ms. Howie.

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION SESSION

Ms. Andrea Barr, Chief Auditor, entered the room at 5:40 p.m.

Mr. Collins exited the room at 5:40 p.m.

At 5:41 p.m. the Board received a project status update from the Office of Internal Audit.

Mr. Collins re-entered the room at 5:44 p.m.

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Ms. Roddy, the Board adjourned its administrative function session at 6:14 p.m. for a brief dinner.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:00 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, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder and Miss Olivia Adams. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Miss Olivia Adams, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Open and Closed Minutes of November 7, 2012; the Open and Closed Minutes of November 20, 2012; Open and Closed Minutes of December 4, 2012; and the Open and Closed Minutes of December 18, 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.

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, thanked those Board members who were able to attend the legislative breakfast on January 5, 2013. She stated that while TABCO appreciates no furloughs and no layoffs and funding of step increases, it expects that teachers will be able to see at least a cost of living increase. Ms. Beytin remarked that TABCO hopes that pay raises and other benefits will be a real part of negotiation discussions for the 2014-15 school year.

Mr. P. J. Shafer, Esquire, Chair of the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee, stated that the biggest challenge is that regular teachers have not received training for special education classes. He announced that the Committee's next meeting would be held on January 14, 2013, with a dial-in number of 1-866-814-5070. The passcode is 3692842.

Mr. John Desmone, Executive Director of the Council of Administrative and Supervisory Employees (CASE), reiterated the organization's position supporting of an agency fee for newly hired and promoted CASE eligible employees. He asked the Board to consider revising its ethics policy and the financial disclosure form.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS (cont)

Ms. Beverly Coleman, Chair of the Southwest Area Education Advisory Council, stated that its December meeting was cancelled and that the legislative “Meet and Greet” would be held in April. The Council’s next meeting would be held on January 16, 2013, at Woodmoor Elementary School with a presentation on the Common Core Standards.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3111

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3113

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 5510

Ms. Nancy Ostrow stated that she supports the revisions to this policy. She remarked that positive behavior is essential to supporting student achievement; needs to be equitably administered; and that students need to be in the classroom.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 6304

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Christine Barkowicz stated that she does not want her children used as “guinea pigs” for the upcoming changes at Eastwood Magnet and Norwood Elementary schools. She is concerned that parents are not being shown the plan.

Dr. Bash Pharoan proposed that the Board consider improving communications between the public and the Board. He asked the Board to address the questions asked about school closure for the Jewish holidays.

Ms. Jennifer Flynn asked the Board to build walls in the open space areas at Halthorpe Elementary School.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (cont)

Ms. Kimberly Noah expressed concern over the redistricting project where three schools would be combined in some form to a completely new school. She stated that parents were told that their comments would be presented to the Board and placed on the Web site.

Mr. James and Sherry Morrison yielded their time to Mr. Rich Foote. Mr. Foote read a letter from Dundalk United, which requested the suspension of the proposed reorganization of three Dundalk area schools.

Mr. Andrew Wilson proposed to the Board that it work with the parents to determine a long-term solution for overcrowding at Hillcrest Elementary School.

Ms. Erica Mah expressed her concern regarding the overcrowded conditions at Hillcrest Elementary School. She stated that five years is too long to wait for additional seats.

Mr. Charles Knutson stated that restroom facilities and library access are limited at Hillcrest Elementary School because of overcrowded conditions. The community would like the Board to address this issue.

Ms. Alicia Alcorn expressed concern about overcrowding at Hillcrest Elementary School as well as the other elementary schools. She also expressed concern that the middle school serving the community may become overcrowded.

Ms. Sarah Myers asked the Board to build walls and doors in the open space area at Halethorpe Elementary School.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

There was no report from the Superintendent.

Mr. Collins exited the room at 8:02 p.m.

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:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (cont)

- **Mays Chapel hearing** – The Board of Education will hold a public hearing on the proposed elementary school at the Mays Chapel site on Monday, January 14, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. at Loch Raven High School. Public sign-up will begin at 5:00 p.m. the night of the hearing.
- Mr. Schmidt announced that Ms. Ramona Johnson resigned from the Board effective December 31, 2012. He publicly thanked Ms. Johnson for her dedication and commitment to the students of Baltimore County while serving on the Board for the past 11 years.

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed FY2014 State and County Capital Budget

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Ms. Roddy, the Board approved the FY2014 State and County Capital Budget state request of \$95,899,070 and county request of \$148,875,000 as presented in exhibit B (favor-7). Student representative, Miss Adams, did not vote on this item. Mr. Collins was not in the room and did not 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 C, D, E, F, and G (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes).

Mr. Collins re-entered the room at 8:14 p.m.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Ms. Bright Gordon, recommended approval of items 1-2, and 4-14 (exhibit H). Item 3 was pulled from the agenda. Mr. Uhlfelder separated item 4, and Ms. Bright Gordon separated item 14 for further discussion.

The Board approved items 1-2 and 5-13.

1. PCR-266-06 Contract Modification: Digital Photocopiers, High Volume,
JMI-602-10 Leasing
JMI-615-13
2. JMI-608-13 Contract Modification and Rescission: Special Education Audit
Services

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

5. MWE-854-13 Education-Related Services and Specialized Instruction for
Preschool/PreK-12 Privately Placed Students
6. RGA-114-13 Professional Development for Nonpublic School Teachers and
Administrators
7. MWE-801-13 School Buses
8. MWE-859-13 World-Class K-6 Curriculum Developer
9. PCR-255-12A Contract Modification: New Stadium Bleachers – Owings Mills
High School
10. PCR4-268-13 Limited Air Handler Replacement – Chesapeake High School
11. JNI-726-13 Replacement of Windows, Blinds, and Doors – Dundalk Middle
School
12. PCR-266-13 Roof Replacement – Grange Elementary School
13. PCR-273-13 Roof Replacement – Hawthorne Elementary School

Item #4

On a motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved item 4 (favor-8; abstained-1). Mr. Uhlfelder abstained from voting on this item.

4. PCR-270-13 Doors – Interior and Exterior

Item #14

Mr. Pradeep Dixit, Executive Director of Physical Facilities, stated that other school systems surveyed indicated that the systems did not receive compensation for easements. He stated that Towson High School had a high number of power outages in the last 10 to 12 years compared to other high schools. Mr. Dixit remarked that underground wiring improves the overall safety of students.

Mr. Janssen remarked that he had not received an adequate response to his question during the committee meeting earlier this evening, of what would happen if the rationale used to approve this contract did not come to fruition.

On motion of Mr. Uhlfelder, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved item 14 (favor-7; opposed-1; abstained-1). Ms. Bright Gordon opposed this item. Mr. Janssen abstained from voting on this item.

14. RGA-112-13 Utility Easements – Towson High School

FY2013 CAPITAL BUDGET SUPPLEMENT

Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, reported to Board members that the capital budget supplement is a request to the county to use funds for design work to begin immediately on a variety of projects. The projects include school renovations and additions, roof replacements, air conditioning, and window, door, and boiler replacements. These funds are available from the bond referendum that was approved on November 6, 2012, and, if approved, will reduce bond funds available in FY 2014 by the same amount.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the operating budget appropriation transfer of \$7,315,500 as presented in exhibit I (favor-8). Student representative, Miss Adams, did not vote on this item.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Superintendent's Proposed Operating Budget, Fiscal Year 2014** – Dr. Dance presented to the Board, for its consideration, the Proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2014. A video was shown leading the segway into the presentation.

Dr. Dance stated that over 20 community meetings were held and that input received was an integral part in the development of the proposed operating budget. While the proposed operating budget does not meet all of the school system's needs, it does provide a good foundation related to three budget priorities: managing continued growth in student enrollment; raising the bar and closing gaps in student academic achievement; and investing in the future by strengthening the school system's infrastructure.

The proposed budget includes:

- **Managing Growth**
 - 125 instructional positions
 - Classroom materials
 - Start-up costs and staffing for a new elementary school in the Lutherville area
 - Additional school counselors to meet the increasing needs of our students
- **Raising the Bar and Closing Gaps**
 - Initial development of a world-class curriculum
 - Expansion of our credit recovery programs

REPORTS (cont)

- Investing in the Future
 - First step towards wireless infrastructure for all schools
 - Staffing and equipment for school safety and security
 - First step toward a comprehensive student data system

Specifically, the budget includes:

- \$15.1 million for continuing salary costs and \$6.8 million for benefits for current and retired employees. In addition, \$4.3 million is included for additional state teacher pension costs.
- \$9.6 million in additional efficiencies and reductions.
- \$12.6 million representing new initiatives and including funding to:
 - Expand classroom wireless infrastructure.
 - Increase the safety and security of schools.
 - Establish a student data management system fully aligned with a single point of access to the curriculum.
 - Effectively manage the climate of schools, as air conditioning is installed in more schools.

Dr. Dance stated that the proposed operating budget is 3.3% over the FY 2013 adjusted operating budget.

Dr. Dance encouraged the public to attend the public hearing on the proposed budget on Tuesday, January 15, 2013, at West Towson Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Southeast Area Education Advisory Council Minutes of November 12, 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Schmidt made the following announcements:

- The Board of Education will hold a public hearing concerning the construction of a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site on Monday, January 14, 2013, at Loch Raven High School beginning at 6:00 p.m. Sign-up for those members of the public wishing to speak begins at 5:00 p.m. at Loch Raven High School on the day of the hearing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

- The Board of Education will hold a public hearing to seek the community's input concerning the proposed fiscal year 2014 operating budget on Tuesday, January 15, 2013, at West Towson Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m. Sign-up for those members of the public wishing to speak begins at 6:00 p.m. at West Towson Elementary School on the day of the hearing. Snow date for the operating budget public hearing will be Wednesday, January 16, 2013.
- The Northwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 2013, at Woodmoor Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Southwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 2013, at Fort Garrison Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Board of Education will holds its next meeting on Tuesday, January 22, 2013, 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 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Dallas Dance
Secretary-Treasurer

/bls

TENTATIVE MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, January 22, 2013

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in open session at 5:31p.m. at Greenwood. President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, and the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esquire, Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. Charles McDaniels, Jr., Mr. George J. Moniodis, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Miss Olivia Adams. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Mr. Schmidt reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in January and February.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Articles, §§10-508(a)(7) and upon motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Uhlfelder, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:33p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:33 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. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. Charles McDaniels, Jr., Mr. George J. Moniodis, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Miss Olivia Adams. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: Mr. Kevin A. Hobbs, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Michele O. Prumo, Chief of Staff; Mr. Michael G. Sines, Chief Operations Officer; Mr. D. Mychael Dickerson, Chief Communications Officer; Andrew W. Nussbaum, Esquire, Legal Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Board.

Mr. Nussbaum provided legal advice to Board members regarding school closings.

On motion of Mr. Collins, seconded by Ms. Roddy, the Board adjourned its closed session at 6:03 p.m. for a brief dinner recess.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 6:38 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. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. Charles McDaniels, Jr., Mr. George J. Moniodis, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Miss Olivia Adams. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Miss Mara Jade Beaumier, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

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

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Ms. Anita Rozenel presented a plaque to Dr. Dance on behalf of Kids Helping Hopkins.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Collins, the Board adopted two resolutions honoring Chadwick and Charlesmont Elementary schools as a 2012 Maryland Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. The resolution stated:

WHEREAS, Chadwick Elementary School is one of six schools to be honored by the Maryland State Department of Education as a 2012 Maryland Blue Ribbon School of Excellence; and

WHEREAS, This Baltimore County elementary school was selected based on rigorous requirements for high achievement and dramatic improvement; and

WHEREAS, Chadwick Elementary School was joined in this honor by Charlesmont Elementary School, a second recipient of the 2012 Maryland Blue Ribbon School of Excellence distinction, thus allowing Baltimore County Public Schools to claim one-third of the schools that received this prestigious recognition this year; and

WHEREAS, These two schools now join the roster of the sixteen other county schools that have earned this honor and collectively represent the potential of every Baltimore County school to ensure that all students excel academically; and

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS (cont)

WHEREAS, This recognition for Chadwick Elementary School brings attention to the strength of the school's administrative and academic leadership; the quality, dedication, and creativity of its teachers; the enthusiasm and abilities of its students; and the consistent support the school receives from involved parents and community partners; now, therefore, it be

RESOLVED, That the Board of Education, herewith assembled in regular session on the twenty-second day of January, in the year two thousand and thirteen, expresses gratitude and sincere appreciation to Chadwick Elementary School's student body, staff, and community for their cultured foresight, unwavering commitment, and commendable efforts in achieving this milestone.

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. Jacki Brewster, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, announced the Council's general meeting would be held on January 31, 2013, at Loch Raven High School regarding advocacy. She distributed Option A and B materials that were provided to parents at the December 10, 2012, meeting. Ms. Brewster stated that parents were upset with not receiving an opportunity to provide input regarding the closing of the Eastwood Center.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS (cont)

Ms. Jessica Paffenbarger, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented (G/T) Education, stated that students from outside of the school system tend to be put into standard classes with no formal assessment for honors or G/T. She stated that the advisory committee would like to see a formal assessment of students coming into the school system before they are placed.

Ms. Jacqueline Brewster, Chair of the Southeast Area Education Advisory Council, expressed concern that the two joint advisory council meetings were cancelled. She hopes that the meetings will be rescheduled. Ms. Brewster announced that Dr. Dance would join the Council at its next meeting on January 28, 2013 at Dundalk High School.

Mr. Schmidt stated that a public hearing is scheduled for February 12, 2013, at Dundalk High School on the Eastwood Center.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Dawn Baier thanked the Board for the outstanding allied sports athletic program in the school system. She stated that the policy was that students who reached 19 years old cannot fully participate in the program. However, she was informed this evening that a solution was found to allow students up to 21 years of age to participate in the program.

Mr. Michael DiMarzio stated that seven months is an unreasonable amount of time to implement a new magnet program in three schools. He asked the Board not to allow the county to act hastily in closing the Eastwood Center.

Ms. Erika Sapp asked how and why the County Executive could dictate where a school goes. She asked how can the school system take four and five-year-olds in a school to be warehoused. Ms. Sapp inquired as to why there are eight other county schools half empty.

Mr. Charles Pfeifer stated that the staffs of the three schools affected by the proposed Eastwood closure were informed that they may not have a position at those schools. He remarked that if the Board will not explain the reason for the proposed closing of the Eastwood Center, and cannot produce any educational research showing how the closing represents a "best practice," then it would seem clear that the Board's only decision is to vote "no."

Mr. Hennel expressed disapproval to close the Eastwood Center. He stated that, because of the timing of the communications, parents are left without an option. Special permission transfer requests do not allow for "school closing" as a reason.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (cont)

Ms. Rachel Zampini pleaded for Option B regarding the consolidation of three schools. She stated that Option A would be a regression for all children in these programs. Children need the structure and routines that are currently in place. Mixing programs would have a negative impact on each child's development as they would be part of a larger learning environment.

Mr. Leo Woerner stated that the new central area elementary school needs to be built in the right place and Dulaney Springs is the best place for the school. He expressed concern over traffic, utilities, transportation, and roads with no curbs.

Ms. Jamie Beaumier stated that the entire Eastwood closing process has left her frustrated. She remarked that on January 17, staff and teachers were informed that their jobs were not guaranteed.

Students from Eastwood elementary magnet school asked the Board not to close the Eastwood Center. Students expressed concern over safety and lost friendships.

Ms. Tristan White asked the Board not to amend Superintendent's Rule 6400. The unamended Rule benefitted families, transportation, and sibling priority. She stated that family involvement, transportation, and extra-curricular involvement are some of the issues with the changes to the rule.

WORK SESSION REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Report on Key School Legislation** – Edward Novak, Esquire, Government Relations Liaison, reported on three legislative items that are currently under discussion in the General Assembly:
- SB10 – Baltimore County-Board of Education-Selection of Members – The bill would change the Board's composition to include: six members elected on a nonpartisan basis, five members appointed by the Governor, and one student member.
 - Federal budget and funding issues – Issues include: federal "fiscal cliff" and sequestration, which could result in chaos and uncertainty in the federal budget.
 - Baltimore City Public Schools: Proposed Alternative Financing for Public School Construction – Concerns include the effects on the State's credit and bond ratings, bonding capabilities, and interest from other schools systems in obtaining similar authority.

WORK SESSION REPORTS (cont)

- B. **Report on Consolidation of Eastwood Elementary, Norwood Elementary, and Holabird Middle schools to PreK through Grade 8 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Magnet** – Ms. Karen Blannard, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Zone 1, reported on the proposed consolidation of Eastwood Elementary, Norwood elementary, and Holabird Middle schools, and the closure of the Eastwood Center. Staff recommends that Eastwood, Norwood, and Holabird become one PreK-8 school on two campuses as a science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) magnet school. The Norwood building would serve students in Grades PreK-3 as the lower school, and the Holabird building would serve students in Grades 4-8 as the upper school.

The rationale for this option is based upon the following:

- A PreK-8 continuum of services sharing the same mission and vision with a strong focus on STEM 21st century skills that will prepare students for college and the workplace.
- Opportunities for grade level and vertical team planning to ensure strong teacher collaboration with student skill acquisition at each grade level.
- The development of a community-based magnet program that will expand opportunities for more Dundalk area students, and serve as a direct feeder program into Dundalk High School programs.
- Lower and upper schools will have access to 21st century technology, including on- and off-campus field experiences for all students.

Ms. Blannard reviewed student enrollment trends, transportation, and financial considerations that influenced the recommendation to consolidate the three schools.

Mr. Schmidt asked which of the three schools have air conditioning. Ms. Blannard responded Norwood Elementary and Holabird Middle schools are air conditioned. Mr. Schmidt asked whether there were other elementary schools in Baltimore County that were the size of Eastwood Elementary Magnet with Ms. Blannard responding in the negative.

Ms. Bright Gordon requested the following information:

- A breakdown of the programs at Eastwood Elementary Magnet School.
- A breakdown of the number of students in the early childhood program and the adapted learning support program (Grades 1 through 5) at Eastwood Elementary Magnet School.

WORK SESSION REPORTS (cont)

- The number of students who applied for Eastwood Magnet and who were denied magnet placement during the current school year.
- A breakdown of all inclusion classrooms in the elementary and middle schools in the southeast area.

Miss Adams asked whether the magnet program at Eastwood is dependent upon the size of the school. Ms. Blannard responded that the magnet program involves environmental science and could be moved to Norwood Elementary and benefit Holabird Middle students. The STEM program would supplement the core curriculum with cross disciplinary skills.

Mr. Janssen asked whether data exists concerning the efficacy of PreK through Grade 3 model. Ms. Blannard responded that the school system has reviewed research across the nation and there are many positive reports.

Mr. Schmidt inquired about staffing allocations for the three schools. Ms. Blannard stated that, pending Board approval, the school system would look at having all three principals remain in place for the 2013-2014 school year. The principal at Eastwood Magnet would assist the principals at Norwood Elementary and Holabird Middle schools. Teachers of those grade levels affected would have the opportunity to move with the students.

Mr. Collins commented that it is critical that the administration and teachers remain for the transition year.

Ms. Roddy asked how the system can ensure the high quality education for Norwood Elementary and Holabird Middle schools. Ms. Blannard responded that all schools provide the opportunity for teachers to plan together. With Norwood and Holabird, this would increase the conversation vertically and at grade level. Ms. Roddy asked how would the school system expand the benefits of a close-knit community such as Eastwood. Ms. Blannard responded that principals will foster that throughout the summer months and will schedule times for those meetings to occur and to include parents. Other components include parent visibility in the building and a strong rapport with teachers.

Mr. Bowler requested the following information:

- How much money the school system would save by closing Eastwood Magnet Elementary School; and
- The disposition of the building.

WORK SESSION REPORTS (cont)

Mr. Janssen requested the following information:

- Current test scores (i.e. MSA) and suspension/expulsion data for Eastwood Magnet Elementary, Norwood Elementary, and Holabird Middle schools along with comparison data for surrounding schools.
- The success of any Grade 4-8 models.

C. **Report/Discussion on the Proposed FY2014 Operating Budget** – Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the operating budget process and timeline with Board members.

January 8, 2013	Superintendent’s Presentation to the Board
January 15, 2013	Board Public Hearing
January 22, 2013	Board Work Session
February 5, 2013	Board Adopts Budget
By March 1, 2013	Board Proposed Budget Book goes to County Executive
April 12, 2013	County Executive Presents Budget to County Council
May 24, 2013	County Council Adopts Budget
July 1, 2013	BCPS Implements FY 2014 Budget

Fund	FY13 Adj Budget	FY14 Proposed	Difference	% Change
General Fund	1,272,253,709	1,314,105,568	41,851,859	3.3%
Special Revenue Fund	74,272,536	73,474,588	(797,948)	-1.1%
Operating Budget Subtotal	\$1,346,526,245	\$1,387,580,156	\$41,053,911	3.0%
Capital Projects Fund	72,251,312	244,774,070	172,522,758	238.8%
Debt Service Fund	35,274,354	35,599,923	325,569	0.9%
Enterprise Fund	39,605,993	41,871,421	2,265,428	5.7%
Total	\$1,493,657,904	\$1,709,825,570	\$216,167,666	14.5%

Ms. Burnopp noted that, if funded, this would be the fourth year at Maintenance of Effort (MOE). Additional information reviewed, as detailed in exhibit C, included:

- Enrollment
- FY 2014 General Fund Revenues
- Comparison with Other Revenues

WORK SESSION REPORTS (cont)

- Proposed Budget by Object Class and Expenditures
- Managing Growth
- Raising the Bar and Closing Gaps
- Future Investments

Ms. Patricia Lawton, Chief Academic Officer, highlighted some of the components of the elementary digital language arts curriculum that would allow students to be college and career ready and compete globally.

Ms. Camille Jones, Chief Information Technology Officer, reported on streamlining data management and performance data for all stakeholders. She commented that an update on the new system would be provided to the Board in May.

Mr. Dale Rauenzahn, Executive Director of School Safety and Security, provided an update on phase two of the safety and security program.

Mr. Janssen asked whether there was an increase in custodial staff or square footage. Ms. Burnopp responded that the custodial staff for the new elementary school would come in the following budget year. The school system would have to add square footage to the schools undergoing renovation. Mr. Janssen asked whether there was a position in the budget for an additional auditor. Ms. Burnopp responded that there was an agreement to fund an intern for the Office of Internal Audit.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Financial Report for months ending November 30, 2011 and 2012
- B. Report on the Annual *Report on Results*
- C. Enrollment Projections for 2013-2022

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Schmidt made the following announcements:

- The joint Area Education Advisory Council scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 2013, has been postponed.
- The Board of Education will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, February 5, 2013, 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 meeting will reconvene at approximately 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome to all open sessions.
- The Board of Education will hold its winter recognition night on Thursday, February 7, 2013, at Perry Hall High School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Southeast Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Monday, February 11, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at Norwood Elementary School.
- The Board of Education will hold a public hearing concerning the consolidation of Eastwood Elementary, Norwood Elementary, and Holabird Middle schools on Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at Dundalk High School beginning at 6:00 p.m. Sign-up for those members of the public wishing to speak begins at 5:00 p.m. at Dundalk High School on the day of the hearing.
- The Northwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2013, at Summit Park Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Dallas Dance
Secretary-Treasurer

sdd/bls

TENTATIVE MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, February 5, 2013

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in closed session at 5:36 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. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. Charles McDaniels, Jr., Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, and Miss Olivia Adams. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, 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)(1), (a)(7), and (a)(8) and upon motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:44 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:44 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. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. Charles McDaniels, Jr., Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, and Miss Olivia Adams. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: Mr. Kevin A. Hobbs, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Michele O. Prumo, Chief of Staff; Mr. Michael G. Sines, Chief Operations Officer; Mr. D. Mychael Dickerson, Chief Communications Officer; Dr. Lisa Grillo, Chief Human Resources Officer; Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director, Human Resources; 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.

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

Dr. Grillo and Dr. Arrington exited the room at 6:00 p.m.

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

Ms. Howie updated the Board on potential litigation regarding a school incident.

On motion of Mr. Moniodis, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board adjourned its closed session at 6:20 p.m.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 6:57 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. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. Charles McDaniels, Jr., Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, and Miss Olivia Adams. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Miss Breana Echols, President of the Baltimore County Student Council, 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 Report on the Public Hearing on the proposed new elementary school at the Mays Chapel site; and the Report on the Public Hearing on the FY 2014 Operating Budget of January 15, 2013, 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 by the Board to hear views and receive advice from 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 Breana Echols, Baltimore County Student Council President and member of the Superintendent's Student Council Advisory Group, announced the February 25, 2013, annual lobbying trip and the March 9, 2013 Maryland Association of Student Councils' legislative session in Annapolis. Miss Echols announced that the Student Council Advisory Group is preparing for the county's first anti-bully day on March 1, 2013.

Ms. Abby Beytin, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, thanked the Board for appointing Dr. Dance. Ms. Beytin also thanked the superintendent for his collaborative work and skill in bringing much needed change to Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS).

Ms. Alisha Hartman, representative of the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC), stated that the Committee would like protocols established for staff's response to committee recommendations. She thanked the Office of Special Education for working to resolve the Allied Sports Program issue. Ms. Hartman announced that SEACAC'S next meeting would be held on February 11, 2013 in ESS Room 114.

Mr. John Desmone, Executive Director of the Council of Administrative and Supervisory Employees (CASE), reiterated that CASE is not opposed to completing the financial disclosure form, but was under the impression that the Ethics Review Panel would revisit the policy.

Ms. Beverly Coleman, Chair of the Southwest Area Education Advisory Council, reported on the Council's January 16, 2013, meeting, where the Common Core Standards and overcrowding concerns at Hillcrest Elementary School were discussed. She announced that its next meeting would be held on February 20, 2013, to discuss bullying, suspension, and student behavior.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Whistler Burch stated that it is "absurd" to build a school where there are no children when other alternatives exist which are far more economical and safer for children. He asked the Board to table its vote until disclosure has been made as to why there is a need to use the program open space.

Mr. Angelo Del Negro stated that there are many inconsistencies with the plan to build a school on the Mays Chapel site. He stated that a new school may or may not be required, but not at the Mays Chapel site.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (cont)

Ms. Nancy Burke stated that she has reviewed the tax payer funding and projected cost for Baltimore County school additions. She also reviewed published data and obtained the cost of renovating schools instead of building a new school. Ms. Burke remarked that money could be saved by expanding several other schools.

Mr. Charles Knutson deferred his time to Ms. Kelly Fox. Ms. Fox stated that Hillcrest Elementary School has reached its physical limits due to overcrowding conditions.

Ms. Carol Mills deferred her time to Ms. Penny Noval. Ms. Noval stated that building a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site would be a “travesty” that cannot be justified or rectified. She challenged and urged the Board to vote “no” on this project.

Dr. William Vitale stated that should the Board vote in favor of the new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site, the community’s opposition would not end with the vote.

Mr. James Kitchel expressed concern regarding overcrowding and staff challenges at Hillcrest Elementary School. He asked the Board to address short-term facility issues and ensure that a core capacity study is completed without delay.

Mr. James Reichlin asked the Board to consider the students and staff at the overcrowded Hillcrest Elementary School.

Dr. Bash Pharoan asked why there is no openness regarding closing schools for Jewish holidays. Dr. Pharoan asked the Board to respond to him via email and not in a letter.

Mr. Eric Rockel expressed disappointment in the minutes of January 14, 2013, public hearing. He stated that when the public submits written remarks that those documents should be attached to the minutes of the meeting. Mr. Rockel suggested that in the absence of those Board member not at tonight’s meeting that the Board defer the vote until all members are present.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Dance reported on the following items:

- Sixty-three (63) support personnel were recognized for graduating from CCBC with a Certificate in Business on February 1, 2013.
- Mr. Ryan Imbriale, Principal at Patapsco High School and Center for the Arts, was named as NAASP Principal of the Year.
- BCPS had 168 out of 410 students honored in the 2013 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Moreover, BCPS students won 46% of the awards presented statewide.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (cont)

- Rigor in middle school instruction can be ensured through engaging principals and students. He introduced a video that highlighted the middle school program approach in BCPS and is focused on efforts to strengthen those schools.

Dr. Dance stated that, as a result of the stakeholder input, surveys, and direct outreach concerning magnet schools and programs, there will be no procedural changes to the magnet application process for the 2014-15 school year. The school system will engage an outside evaluator to make a comprehensive review of the system's magnet programs. The review will take place during the first semester of the next school year and will result in a report to the Board of Education by February 2014.

Mr. Janssen stated that it was rewarding to observe support personnel taking advantage of the CCBC cohort and furthering their education.

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 inquiries 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:

- Recognized the Baltimore Ravens organization for their support and community work within BCPS.
- **Eastwood Center** – There will be a public hearing on the closing of the Eastwood Center on Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. at Dundalk High School with sign-up beginning at 5:00 p.m.
- **School Holidays** – Maryland law requires the school system to close on certain days. The law also allows school systems to close on other days if one of two criteria is met: 1) a disruption to the educational program in schools, or 2) there will be inappropriate levels of expense that would be sustained should the school system remain open. Baltimore County Public Schools are closed on the Jewish holidays because there is a large Jewish population in Baltimore County, and opening on those days would be a disruption to the school system. Likewise, there are a number of teachers that would be absent on those days requiring the school system to hire a number of substitute teachers at great expense.

OLD BUSINESS

Board of Education Policies

The Board Policy Committee, represented by Ms. Roddy, recommended approval of eleven policies. This is the third reading.

The Board approved the following proposed policies (favor-9):

- Proposed Changes to Policy 3111 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Fiscal Services: Budget-Planning and Preparation
- Proposed Changes to Policy 3113 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: Transfers and Supplements
- Proposed Changes to Policy 5510 – STUDENTS: Conduct-Positive Behavior
- Proposed Changes to Policy 6304 – INSTRUCTION: Commemorations and Observances

Proposed FY2014 Operating Budget

Mr. George Sarris, Director of Budget and Reporting, reviewed the budget request as presented in exhibit F. The superintendent's proposed budget was based on a 3.7% increase of \$19.5 million in state funding for Grades K-12 education. Local county revenues are proposed to remain at the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) level as prescribed by state law.

On January 18, 2013, preliminary calculations for major state aid programs were released by the Maryland State Department of Education. These preliminary calculations appear to provide additional funding for Baltimore County Public Schools above the initial projections upon which the budget is based. Additional information has been received on the Affordable Care Act and bus financing requirements. Accordingly, the proposed budget has been increased by \$1 million for each of these items. Special Education revenues and expenditures were adjusted by \$1 million to more accurately reflect reduced state reimbursements from nonpublic placements. Expenditures of approximately \$1 million were redirected to instructional salaries for tutoring in Tier II and Tier III schools.

The total budget for all funds is \$1,711,516,570.

Ms. Roddy moved approval of the proposed Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2014. The motion was seconded by Mr. McDaniels.

Mr. Janssen moved to amend the budget to include an additional Auditor II position in the Board's Office of Internal Audit at a cost not to exceed \$70,000. Mr. Parker seconded the motion. The Board approved the amendment to the budget (favor-8). Student representative, Miss Olivia Adams, did not vote on this amendment.

OLD BUSINESS (cont)

The Board approved the Fiscal Year 2014 amended budget (favor-8; opposed-0; abstained-0). Student representative, Miss Adams, did not vote on this item.

FY2013 Capital Budget Supplement

Ms. Sarris reported to Board members that the capital budget supplement is a request to the county to use funds for design work to begin immediately on a variety of projects. The projects include school renovations and additions, roof replacements, air conditioning, window, door, and boiler replacements. These funds are available from the bond referendum that was approved on November 6, 2012, and, if approved, will reduce bond funds available in FY 2014 by the same amount. Additional funding of \$2,747,000 is now available to be used for the purchase and installation of security cameras and electronically controlled entry systems.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the operating budget appropriation transfer of \$10,062,500 as presented in exhibit G (favor-8; opposed-0; abstained-0). Student representative, Miss Adams, did not vote on this item.

Proposed New Elementary School on the Mays Chapel Site

Ms. Bright Gordon moved to approve the Mays Chapel site for a new elementary school. Mr. McDaniels seconded the motion.

Ms. Roddy read the following statement for Board member, Mr. David Uhlfelder, who was unable to attend tonight's meeting:

I regret that I am unable to deliver this message to you tonight in person, however, when my vacation plans were made I had no idea that the Mays Chapel decision that we made many months ago would be the subject of conversation and a vote this evening.

Prior to our previous decision to support the construction of an elementary school on the Mays Chapel site, I devoted a considerable amount of time reviewing all the information that was presented to us at the public meetings as well as the information provided by the Superintendent's staff.

OLD BUSINESS (cont)

I personally walked the Mays chapel site, as well as the alternative site that was suggested. In addition, is spent two hours on a very warm Sunday afternoon observing the activities at the Mays Chapel site which I must say were very limited for such a lovely day. I saw a few walkers, a couple of persons walking their dogs and very little other activity. The athletic fields were not in use that Sunday. Considering the number of people living in close proximity of the Mays Chapel site, I was truly disappointed in the inactivity that afternoon.

I previously voted in favor of construction of the elementary school and perhaps I do have a bias. In 1968 I purchased a newly-built house across from Fort Garrison Elementary School, a mere 21 feet from the school property and perhaps maybe 125 feet from the front door. Contrary to many of the comments, the elementary school did not reduce the value of my home, but in fact increased the value of the home. An elementary school is a stabilizing factor when it comes to maintaining property values.

Moreover, have a household of six school age children we fully utilized all the athletic facilities of the school. The kids' playground was our playground. The ball fields were our ball fields. The concrete paths surrounding the school provided a walking path as well as a practice area for several of my children in the cross country endeavors.

I am sure the older residents of this area will find great use for the elementary school facilities for their grandchildren and may in face encourage more visits from grandchildren.

The athletic fields were in constant use by Parks and Recreation for lacrosse, soccer, girls' softball, and adult softball leagues. The all-purpose courts were used for basketball, roller blading, and other activities.

If you didn't participate in a sport, there was ample opportunity to enjoy all the activities as a spectator.

In addition to providing an immediate relief for the overcrowding in the central district, I believe that there will be opportunities to alleviate some of the overcrowding that the families just on the other side of Falls Road is enduring. In the not so distant future the Chestnut Ridge Country Club site will be developed, which I am sure will provide additional school-age children.

I am firmly convinced that the Mays Chapel school site provides us the best opportunity to further the education of our Baltimore County school children. I urge my fellow Board members to vote in favor of construction of the elementary school on this site.

OLD BUSINESS (cont)

Mr. Schmidt commented that consideration of this site has certainly brought about significant public interest. He thanked the citizens who have taken the time and expended the effort to provide the Board with their views. The State Board considered the appeal. The appeal raised a whole host of issues, many of which the Board has heard through the testimony of the many individuals who have spoken at the public hearings held for this matter and at regular meetings of the Board. The State Board remanded this case to the Board to conduct another hearing. The Board has done that. It is to be noted that the State Board's written decision indicated that this Board's decision was not erroneous based upon any of the substantive objections that were raised. Rather, the State Board found, that notwithstanding the significant public notice and participation last year, that there has been a failure to comply with requirements that the public hearing in March 2012 be advertised via a "legal notice" in a newspaper of general circulation. But it has now been cured. There has been another public hearing that was properly advertised and well attended.

Mr. Schmidt stated that the Mays Chapel site addresses the overcrowding issue as it offers a proper and strategic location for a new school. There will be, as was done when West Towson was opened, a public process to adjust school boundaries. As a bottom line, we need another school (building) in the central area. He stated that this site has been designated as an elementary school site since it was acquired in 1986 by BCPS. That was before the first construction in Mays Chapel North began. This school has been "on the books" before any of the condos, senior assisted living and other parts of Mays Chapel North were built.

Mr. Schmidt remarked that a school does not just serve those who live close enough to see it. Schools have been traditionally viewed as the heart of a community. He hopes that the neighborhood would embrace the energy and sense that a school can bring to a community, and hopes that the senior citizens will volunteer at the school and welcome those young voices to their community.

Mr. Schmidt stated that he intends to vote "yes" on this issue and encouraged his fellow Board members to do likewise.

The Board unanimously approved the construction of a new elementary school on the Mays Chapel site (favor-9; opposed-0; abstained-0).

PERSONNEL MATTERS

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

PERSONNEL MATTERS (cont)

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the administrative appointments as presented in exhibit N (Copy of the exhibit is attached to the formal minutes).

Dr. Dance recognized the administrative appointments approved by the Board.

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
<u>DEBRA A. STEVENS</u> (Effective February 6, 2013)	Auditor IV Office of Audit	Assistant Chief Auditor Office of Audit
<u>VALERIE THOMPSON</u> (Effective February 6, 2013)	Assistant City Solicitor City of Baltimore Department of Law	Associate General Counsel Office of Law

ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. McDaniels, the Board confirmed the action taken in closed session in Case Numbers H.E. 13-03, 13-05, and 13-06 (favor-8; abstained-1). Ms. Roddy abstained from voting on this item.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Ms. Bright Gordon, recommended approval of items 1-12 (exhibit O). Ms. Bright Gordon separated items 7 and 8 for further explanation.

The Board approved items 1-6 and 9-12.

1. JNI-737-11 Contract Modification: Meeting Space for Administrative and Supervisory Meetings
2. JNI-740-13 English Language Training for Parents of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Students
3. JMI-603-13 Paper – Cut Sheet Paper (Copy, Laser Printers, and Duplicators)
4. PCR-280-13 Servers, Printers, Networking Equipment, Installation, and Training
5. PCR-272-13 Video, Digital, and Audio Networking Installation and Repair
6. PCR-279-13 Web Hosting

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

9. MBU-504-13 Demo and Site Restoration site Package (02B) – Former Dundalk High School
10. MBU-504-13 Demo and Site Restoration Electrical Package (16C) – Former Dundalk High School
11. MWE-857-13 Roof Replacement – Franklin High School
12. PCR-277-13 Roof Replacement – Woodlawn High School

Item #7

Ms. Camille Jones, Chief Information Technology Officer, stated that online assessments will be required in November 2014. In order to prepare for those assessments, BCPS is contracting with three vendors to provide wireless LAN in every building where instruction occurs, including Dundalk/Sollers Point High School. Before full implementation, the school system will pilot equipment in several schools. Roll out of the plan will begin in the high schools and schools receiving eRate funding; middle schools and any schools receiving eRate funding; and finally any remaining elementary schools. The plan will take approximately two to three years to complete

Item #8

Mr. Gay stated that this contract would authorize the superintendent to make declarations of official intent on behalf of the Board for one year. The authorization is related to the issuance of the tax-exempt financing and is brought before the Board annually for its approval.

The Board unanimously approved items 7 and 8 (favor-9)

7. JMI-613-13 Wireless Local Area Network (LAN) Infrastructure
8. MBU-513-13 Resolution: Declaration of Official Intent

NEW SIGN AT SCOTTS BRANCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ms. Verletta White, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Zone 3, stated that, in accordance with Superintendent's Rule 7330, Scotts Branch Elementary School's PTA is proposing the installation of a new marquee sign at the school. The new sign will be erected to provide and promote effective and efficient communication regarding school events for parents, students and community members. A few examples of the information that will be posted on the new sign will include: kindergarten registration, school closings, special announcements and recognitions, and notification of school functions throughout the school year.

NEW SIGN AT SCOTTS BRANCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (cont)

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Bowler, the Board approved the new sign at Scotts Branch Elementary School (favor-9).

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Consideration of School Legislation
- B. Revised Superintendent's Rule 5510 – STUDENTS: Conduct-Positive Behavior

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Schmidt made the following announcements:

- The Board of Education will hold its winter recognition ceremony on Thursday, February 7, 2013, at Perry Hall High School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Southeast Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Monday, February 11, 2013, at Norwood Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Board of Education will hold a public hearing concerning the proposed closing of Eastwood Center as required by state law on Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. at Dundalk High School. Sign-up for those members of the public wishing to speak begins at 5:00 p.m. at Dundalk High School on the day of the hearing.
- The Northwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2013, at Summit Park Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- School and offices will be closed on Monday, February 18, 2013, in observance of Presidents' Day. Schools and offices will reopen on Tuesday, February 19, 2013.
- The Board of Education will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, February 19, 2013, 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

As there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Dallas Dance
Secretary-Treasurer

sdd/bls

TENTATIVE REPORT

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED CLOSING OF THE EASTWOOD CENTER ELEMENTARY MAGNET SCHOOL

Tuesday, February 12, 2013
Dundalk High School

The hearing was called to order by President Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire at 6:06 p.m. In addition to President Schmidt, the following Board members were present: Mr. Michael H. Bowler, Cornelia Bright Gordon, Esq., Mr. Michael J. Collins, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Mr. Charles McDaniels, Jr., Mr. George J. Moniodis, Mr. H. Edward Parker, and Miss Olivia Adams. In addition, Dr. S. Dallas Dance, Superintendent of Schools, 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. Mr. Schmidt asked Ms. Karen Blannard, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools, Zone 1, to provide a brief statement to the Board on the Eastwood Center Elementary Magnet School (Eastwood Center). Mr. Schmidt remarked that the statement provided by Ms. Blannard will be placed on the Baltimore County Public Schools' (BCPS) Web site on Wednesday, February 13, 2013.

The following persons offered testimony:

- 1) Ms. Linda Gossman – Protested the closing of the Eastwood Center. She stated that an elementary school is a vital part of any community. Ms. Gossman suggested closing Norwood Elementary and transfer students to the Eastwood Center. She asked the Board to keep the Eastwood Center open.
- 2) Ms. Tammy Ricci – Asked the Board to not close the Eastwood Center. She has been impressed by the attitude and care from staff and teachers towards students. Ms. Ricci asked how parents could make a rational decision when they were provided “misleading information.”
- 3) Ms. Ann Ritchey – Asked the Board to consider the ramifications that closing the Eastwood Center would have on the community. She reminded Board members of when the school system created the middle school model that consisted of Grades 6, 7, and 8. Ms. Ritchey stated that fourth and fifth graders do not belong in a middle school.
- 4) Ms. Marie Gagne-Stacy – Believes that fourth and fifth graders would be welcome at Holabird Middle School. She stated that the science, engineering, technology, and math (STEM) program prepares students to be college and workforce ready. Ms. Gagne-Stacy commented that change is difficult but it is important to allow students to have the technology and exposure to new things.
- 5) Ms. Dawn Peake – Supports the closing of the Eastwood Center. She stated that combining teacher expertise, student knowledge, and being part of the STEM program is an amazing opportunity. Ms. Peake stated that teachers were concerned about their jobs for next school year; however, they are now at ease.

- 6) Ms. Darrielle Samorsky – Supports the closing of the Eastwood Center. She stated that she understands the concerns of parents; however, 21st century technology calls for an entirely different set of skills. Ms. Samorsky remarked that the STEM format for the proposed academy is absolutely the best thing for the students.
- 7) Ms. Michelle DiMarzio – Urged the Board to not close the Eastwood Center. She was disheartened with the way things played out. Ms. DiMarzio stated that the option of a K-8 STEM was not presented. She stated that parents were told that their voices would be heard; however, little time was given for parents to respond and provide input.
- 8) Ms. Johnna Mennel – Asked the Board to stop the closing of the Eastwood Center. She stated that it would be a huge mistake should the Board vote “yes” for this proposal. Ms. Mennel remarked that students would miss out on elementary school activities such as fifth grade graduation. She stated that teachers would have to go through professional development to learn how to teach STEM. Ms. Mennel commented that the Eastwood Center is being penalized for being under capacity.
- 9) Mr. David Mennel – Asked the Board to weigh the benefits of the Eastwood Center students. If closing the school does not benefit students’ academically, then do not close the school.
- 10) Ms. Nicole Swink – Opposed the closing of the Eastwood Center. She stated that, regardless of the outcome, the decision may not be in the best interest of the students and the community. Ms. Swink commented that nine other middle schools are under capacity including Dundalk and General John Stricker Middle schools. She commented that the Eastwood Center could accommodate 250-275 students in the existing building. Ms. Swink believes that the closing of the school is about money and politics.
- 11) Ms. Nicole Rogers – Asked the Board to keep the Eastwood Center open. She is angered and saddened by the closing of Eastwood. Ms. Rogers stated that it will be difficult for the Eastwood Center staff to meet the same goals in a school three times the size. She stated that it is unfair that parents do not have a choice.
- 12) Ms. Jaime Beaumier – Stated that the 2013-20122 enrollment projections indicated that the Eastwood Center was scheduled for closure at the end of the 2012-2013 school year and that the program would be incorporated into existing facilities. She remarked that parents were told at one point that the school would not be closed but consolidated. Ms. Beaumier believes that the decision to close Eastwood was made prior to this hearing.
- 13) Ms. Crystal Chamberlain – Understands the concerns and difficulties that Eastwood Center parents are experiencing. She stated that the possibility of the STEM program in the Dundalk area is amazing. As a community it is important that students in this area receive the same opportunities as other students in the county. If the closing of the Eastwood Center materializes, we need to prepare our children for the change.

- 14) Ms. Laura Frasca – Opposed the closing of the Eastwood Center. She stated that, by closing Eastwood, the school would lose everything that makes it great. Ms. Frasca commented that the Eastwood students would not receive the individualized attention at the middle school that they receive at the elementary school. She asked why is a PreK-8 good for the Dundalk area and not in the Mays Chapel area, which is getting a new elementary school.
- 15) Ms. Ericka Sapp – Opposed the closing of the Eastwood Center. She stated that there was no discussion with parents until December 10, 2012. Ms. Sapp asked how the school system can make this 21st century school within less than seven months. She commented that three other middle schools in the Dundalk area are under enrolled and suggested merging those middle schools. Ms. Sapp remarked that she has read studies where combining fourth and eighth graders is not good. She inquired why the County Executive appears to have say in school system decisions. Ms. Sapp stated that it is not fair to use students as “guinea pigs” for the sake of saving a budget.
- 16) Ms. Charlette Hunt – She stated that she is opposed to closing the Eastwood Center.
- 17) Mr. Rich Foot – Opposed to the closing of the Eastwood Center. He commented that the proposed closing is a false hope. Mr. Foot remarked that Maryland education law, §4-115 states that the Board must notify the Baltimore County Office of Planning and Zoning of any schools it is considering for closure, request a written recommendation on the proposed action, and must be submitted by November 1. He also stated that these provisions can be waived by mutual agreement.
- 18) Ms. Linda Caperna – Did not speak at the public hearing.
- 19) Mr. Russell Donnelly – Asked the Board not to close the Eastwood Center. He expressed concern over the impact on children when this school closes. Mr. Donnelly stated that keeping the school would be more of an asset than a liability.
- 20) Ms. Mary Frances Graef – Supports the closing of the Eastwood Center. She noted that the teachers who spoke this evening were in favor of the closure and hopes that parents would feel that excitement as well. Ms. Graef stated that this is an opportunity for students to benefit from the STEM program. She commented that closing the school would conserve energy and help students to be part of a “green” school.
- 21) Mr. Charles Pfeifer – Stated that it would be a conflict of interest to have a land zoning attorney part of this process. He asked whether the Baltimore County Planning and Zoning Board has been informed of the proposed closing and selection of the Norwood Elementary and Holabird Middle school sites as stated in §4-115. Mr. Pfeifer asked how the results of the combined school would be evaluated. He remarked that this combination could have a negative effect on the students.

- 22) Ms. Amy Schenning – Asked the Board to conduct a pilot before closing the Eastwood Center. She asked why the school system did not consider merging the Eastwood and Norwood Elementary students into the middle school and relocate the Holabird Middle school students into the elementary school. Ms. Schenning expressed concern over the difference of age groups being placed together into one building. She also expressed concern with the liberal arts program at Norwood Elementary and transporting students to another building.
- 23) Ms. Kim Barnhouser – Opposed to the closing of the Eastwood Center. She asked why the school system has to close one school to make two schools in the same area better. While she would love to see Holabird Middle become a STEM magnet school, Ms. Barnhouser stated that closing the Eastwood Center would be a huge detriment to the students and parents. The Board needs to think about what it will be doing to a close-knit community when closing a school.
- 24) Ms. Dana Foot – Opposed to the closing of the Eastwood Center. She stated that the Eastwood Center is a good school. Other schools could not provide what her child needed.
- 25) Ms. Melissa Allen – Opposed to the closing of the Eastwood Center. She stated that her child is flourishing at Eastwood. She asked that, when the decision is made, the Board was not given all the options and choices that it could have chosen. Ms. Allen stated that the Dundalk area has one magnet school and that is Eastwood Center Magnet Elementary School. She asked the Board to take its time in making a decision: it affects Eastwood, Norwood, and Holabird students.

The hearing was concluded at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. Dallas Dance
Secretary-Treasurer

SDD/bls