

**Southeast Area Education Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes January 28, 2013**

Meeting called to order: 7 PM

Advisory Council Members: Jackie Brewster, Bonnie Saul, Sandra Skordalos & Bud Staigerwald

Attendees: Melissa Allen (Eastwood parent), Aurora Arenajo (parent), Marsha Ayres (Charlesmont ES Principal), Seth Barish (Dundalk MS Principal), Kim Barnhouser (Eastwood PTA President), Laura Basta (Colgate teacher), Jaime Beaumier (Eastwood parent), Charlene Behnke (Seneca ES Principal), Stephen Bender (Logan ES Principal), Christine Borkowicz (Norwood PTA President), Thomas Bowser (Sussex ES Principal), Cheryl Brooks (Eastwood Principal), Ben Buehl (Dundalk), Gardner Butler (Eastwood parent), Emily & Natalie Butler (Eastwood students), (Crystal Chamberlain (Holabird MS PTA President), Vicky Ciulla (Berkshire ES Principal), Lorena Clary (Holabird MS teacher/ community), Kevin Connelly (Colgate ES Principal), Linda Cotter (Logan ES teacher), Tara & Walter Cross (Eastwood parents), R.E. Daddura (Grange ES Principal), Julie Dellone (Holabird MS Principal), Erin DiCello (Colgate ES AP), Russell S. Donnelly, Doug Elmendorf (Chase ES Principal), Dawn Feliciano (Dundalk MS parent), Rich Foot (Eastwood parent), Debbie Forakis (Eastwood PTA), Laura Frasca (Eastwood), Pat Goldys (Norwood ES Principal), Jennifer Gounaris Principal), Bridget Hoban (Dundalk HS English Chair), Lori Hutchinson (Battle Grove ES AP), Ryan Imbriale (Patapsco HS Principal), Tammy Jankewicz (Eastwood), Linda Jones (Dundalk HS Booster President), Jeanie Jung (Dundalk citizen), Sonja Karwacki (Charlesmont ES AP), Denise Kropkowski (Logan ES PK teacher), Mike Kulansky (Advance Path/ Sum School Supervisor), Barbara Lewis (Chase ES AP), Oneida Licona (Dundalk HS parent), Maria Lowery (Chesapeake HS Principal), Sharon Mason (Deep Creek ES Principal), Erica McCollough (Dundalk HS teacher), Barbara McLennan ( Dundalk ES Principal), Mari Morris (Norwood ES AP), Morrison (parents), Angela Neal (Eastwood), Meghan Nelson-Tracey (Dundalk ES AP), H. Ed Parker (Board of Education), Pam Pfeifer (Eastwood parent), Dwan Pinamonti (Deep Creek MS Principal), Wanda Porter (AVP- SENC PTA Council of Baltimore County), David Proudfoot (Dundalk ES AP), G. Prya (Dundalk ES parent), Mildred Reusing (Sussex ES teacher), Kennis Rolle (Sparrows Point HS teacher), Tammy Rudolph (Dundalk HS Math Chair), Leah Scarafile (Colgate ES counselor), Lisa Schultz (Logan ES teacher), Katherine Scott (Patapsco parent), Tricia Selby (Eastwood parent), Nick Stokes (Patapsco HS & CFA Music Chair), Nicole Swink (Eastwood parent), Cheryl Thim (Bear Creek ES Principal), Constance Thorn (Sussex ES teacher), Anthony Tice (Eastwood parent), Brian Wagner (Dundalk MS AP), Vicki Waite (Eastwood AP), Jayne Wetzel (Sparrows Point HS AP), Sharon Whitlock (Mars Estates ES Principal), Wrae Wene (Deep Creek MS AP), Sam Wynkoop (Sparrows Point HS Principal), Nancy Yetter (Dundalk HS WL/ESOL Chair)

Presenters: Dr. S. Dallas Dance

Also in attendance: Michele Prumo (Chief of Staff) & Michael Sines (Chief Operations Officer)

Presentation:

Dr. Dance spoke about his first seven months as superintendent.

- 18 community meetings
- Blue Print 2.0
- Transitioning to Common Core
- Infrastructure – air conditioned modernized buildings to support student achievement
- Safety that is proactive

- Organization
- Strategic Plan
- Student enrollment increasing
- Showed a diversity video (Suburban to Suburban/ Urban School System)
- Access and opportunities for all students
- Budget proposal submitted
- Four million to re-develop curriculum
- New data system
- Wireless network in all schools
- Four million for pensions
- Eastwood/ Norwood/ Holabird – STEM Magnet Program

Questions:

Melissa Allen: She has a hearing impaired child at Eastwood. He child's home school is Norwood. She prefers Eastwood. She likes the class size. Her child is doing very well there.

Kim Barnhouser: How are they going to expand the Eastwood program? Children will be diluted with the Norwood students. Eastwood teachers are not guaranteed a job. Principal only guaranteed to be there one year. Pre-K, 3 & 4 program, ECS & ALS will not be moving with them. Why can't you make Holabird a middle school magnet program and leave Eastwood? Dr. Dance replied - 150 students will move with the program and staff members at Eastwood will have a job.

Nicole Swink: Why didn't we just add a middle school magnet in our area? Right now we have to send our children to Parkville or Deep Creek MS. Why not build onto Eastwood to expand the program? Norwood ES is already overcapacity. Will they still be overcapacity with this change? Dr. Dance replied – Schools will be balanced.

Christine Borkowicz: She loves her school (Norwood). Ms. Goldys is wonderful. Leave Eastwood out of it and just send their 5<sup>th</sup> graders to Holabird MS. They are forcing our children to grow up too quickly. Why can't they combine two of the middle school?

Pam Pfeifer: What about the events for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders? Will they be 4-8 grade events? What is the rush to get us out of Eastwood? Her son is having a panic attack about moving. Dr. Dance replied- Rough no matter when they move. Curriculum is strong. More students will have an opportunity to attend the magnet program.

Crystal Chamberlain: She empathizes with the Eastwood parents and welcomes all of them. Holabird and Norwood are amazing schools. She is excited about a community based magnet program. All students deserve an opportunity to attend. Dr. Dance replied- He appreciates her remarks. He visited Norwood and Holabird and they are doing amazing things at their schools. He wants to create an environment where southeast students have an opportunity in grades K-12.

Additional questions sent to Ms. Prumo via email:

- Sandie Skordalos - What is BCPS doing to provide safety in our trailers?
- Jaime Beaumier - When a final decision is made about Eastwood, will a model of the magnet be available to the parents? When? How?
- Russell Donnelly - He would like Eastwood to remain where it is. Why do we have to lose it?
- Angela Neal - Feels that this transition is being rushed and does not understand why the principals are being put in charge of coming up with the magnet program. They already have full time jobs running their

school buildings. Why wasn't this studied over the summer by BCPS staff along with the principals? Why is there a rush to have it ready by the beginning of next year? Will the curriculum be ready?

- Pam Pfeifer - I have a GT 4th grader who works with 5th graders. If this happens, will my son have to be in with 6th graders next year? How will this be handled?
- Jackie Brewster - What will be done for the students at Berkshire and Colgate ES? They are also feeder schools for Holabird MS. They will be at a disadvantage when they enter Holabird MS. Was there thought into possibly moving the 5th graders from Norwood, Eastwood, Colgate & Berkshire to Holabird MS and creating a 5-8 STEM Academy. If you look at the enrollment in all of these schools they are at or above capacity. I think you will find the same situation at Dundalk ES and Logan ES which feed into an under capacity Dundalk MS. To be fair to those students (who will be attending Dundalk HS with the Holabird MS students), you could create a 5-8 STEM Academy at Dundalk MS as well. If the goal is to create this wonderful progression of K-12, you should be building a STEM focus at all elementary schools. Not just the ones that feed into Dundalk HS. STEM is the future for all of our students.
- When you speak about aging facilities in the SE, you need to look at Colgate ES. Eastwood is a much newer facility. During one of our SE Advisory meetings last year at Colgate, we were told that they cannot be made wheel chair accessible. If they were to have a wheel chair bound student, they go to Eastwood. Will they now need to go to Norwood ES?

Presentation Period Ended 8:06 PM

#### Advisory Council Meeting

November minutes were approved.

Topic for the April meeting – School Safety

Meeting Adjourned: 9:08 PM

Next meeting: February 11<sup>th</sup> 7PM at Norwood ES – The New “Teacher Evaluation System”