BOARD OF EDUCATION

BALTIMORE COUNTY

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

SEPTEMBER 10, 2019
BOARD MEMBERS

Kathleen S. Causey, Board Chair
Julie C. Henn, Vice Chair
Roger B. Hayden
Moalie S. Jose Not Present
Russel T. Kuehn
Lisa A. Mack
Rodney R. McMillion
John H. Offerman, Jr.
Cheryl E. Pasteur
Lily P. Rowe
Makeda Scott
Omer Reshid, Student Member

PROCEEDINGS

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Good evening. Seeing the time and seeing we have a quorum, I call to order the meeting of the Board of Education for Baltimore County for Tuesday, September 10, 2019. I invite you to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag to be led by Eamon Burgess. We will then remain standing for a moment of silence in recognition of 9/11, Patriot’s Day and also those who have served education in Baltimore County.

(Pledge of Allegiance) (Moment of Silence)

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Burgess. She’s joining us from Deep Creek Elementary School. Our second item is consideration of the September 10th, 2019 agenda. Dr. Williams, are there any additions or changes to tonight’s agenda?

DR. WILLIAMS: There are no changes or additions to tonight’s agenda.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Hearing none, the agenda stands as presented. Earlier this evening, the Board met in closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act for the following reasons. One, to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation or performance evaluation of appointees, employees or officials over whom it has jurisdiction or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals, seven, consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and, 9, to conduct collective bargaining negotiations or to consider matters that relate to negotiations.

The minutes of the closed session and informational summary can be found on our website at: www.bcps.org/board/informational-summaries.html

Our next item is Selection of Speakers. Sign-up cards were available to the public prior to the meeting for anyone wishing to speak at this evening’s Board meeting. Board practice limits to 10, the number of speakers at a regularly scheduled Board meeting.

Each speaker is allowed three minutes to address the Board. The completed sign-up cards for this evening have been placed in this box and the first 10 drawn from the box will be our speakers for tonight during the public comment portion of the meeting. Of course, if fewer than 10 sign-up cards are received, all who sign up will be permitted to speak.

VICE CHAIR HENN: Our first speaker this evening is Dr. Bash Pharoan. Our second speaker is Ms. Sharon Saroff. Our third speaker is Britanny Burgess. Our fourth speaker is Daniel Burgess. Our fifth speaker is Bill Groff. Our sixth speaker is Ann Groff. Those are all our speakers for this evening.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next item is New Business, Personnel Matters. For that, we call on Ms. Lowery to present the personnel matters. Good evening.

MS. LOWERY: Good evening, Chairwoman Causey, Vice Chairwoman Henn, Superintendent Williams and members of the Board. I would like the Board’s consent for the following personnel matters. Retirements, resignations, leaves of absence, deceased recognition of service, certified appointments, consideration of the Southeast Area Education Advisory Council appointment and consideration of the Southwest Area Education Advisory Council appointment.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to approve the personnel matters as presented in Exhibits E-1 through E-7?
attorney in the Law Office of Darlene Wakefield, Children's
Legal Services of Baltimore for five years, staff attorney at
the House of Ruth, Domestic Violence Legal Clinic for 1.9 years
and a teacher in New York City Public Schools for four years.
Supporting her this evening is her daughter, Meglynn. Please
stand? (Applause.) And, congratulations to both candidates.

Ms. Rowe: So moved.

Mr. Offerman: Abstain.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Offerman, for
your abstention. The motion carries. Our next item of business
is administrative appointments. For that, we call on Dr.
Willards to present the administrative appointments.

Dr. Williams: Madame Chair and members of the
Board, I would like to bring forward for your approval the
following administrative appointments. The assistant principal
at Catonsville Elementary School and Pupil Personnel worker in
the Office of School Climate.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to approve
the administrative appointments as presented in Exhibit F-1?

Ms. Rowe: So moved.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Rowe. Do I have
a second?

Mr. Offerman: Second.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Offerman. Any
discussion? All in favor, please raise your hand. Any opposed?
The motion carries unanimously.

Dr. Williams: Our first candidate is Alicia
Etienne, the assistant principal at Catonsville Elementary
School. Please stand? (Applause.) She was a former resource
teacher in the Office of Mathematics in 2019, resource teacher
at Woodmoor Elementary School, Colgate Elementary School and
Owings Mills Elementary School. She brings to us 9 years of
service in Baltimore County. This evening, supporting her is
her friend, Chris Hess. (Applause.) I was told the principal
is present as well. Please stand? Thank you. HeH

Our second candidate is Rebecca Permattei, a Pupil
Personnel worker in the Office of School Climate, Pupil
Personnel Services and Responsive Student Programming. Welcome
to Baltimore County Public Schools. She's an external
candidate. She brings 8 years of experience as the School
Climate Specialist at the Shepard Pratt Health System, CINA

- Interferes with the conduct of this meeting are out of order.
- I ask you to observe the three-minute clock which
will let you know when your time is up. Please conclude your
remarks when you hear the bell or see that time has expired.
The microphone will be turned off at the end of your time and it
could be turned off if the speaker addresses specific student or
employee matters or is commenting on matters not related to
public education in Baltimore County.

If not selected, the public may submit their
comments to the Board members in hard copy or via email at
boe@bcps.org.

I now call on our stakeholder groups to speak. This
evening, we have Mr. Seth Rich from the Teachers Association of
Baltimore County. Good evening and welcome.

Mr. Rich: Good evening, Chairwoman Causey, Vice
Chair Henn, Dr. Williams and members of the Board. On behalf of
Cindy Sexton, I bring greetings and remarks tonight.
The start of the school year has been exciting and
full of hope and promise. First day visits with Dr. Williams
and Dr. Olzewsie and their entire entourages were
well-received. The schools we visited showcased the very best
of BCPS administrators, teachers and students.

But, also, and equally important, the schools were
3 clean and well-kept inside and out and I want to thank the
4 buildings operations workers and ground crews for their hard
5 work over the summer and all year long.

6 Students were coming in late, looking for lost
7 items, needing to call home. I want to thank the administrative
8 assistants for their vital role in keeping the school running
9 smoothly.

10 Teachers know the value of additional support in the
classroom. So, also thanks to our additional adults and our
paraeducators for all you’ve done to make the beginning of the
school year a positive one. And, our bus drivers and
transportation department, what a challenge you face and how you
have risen to do your best to get students to and from school.

Thank you for your hard work.

To food and nutrition service workers who feed our
students and everyone else who plays a role in the lives of
these students, thank you.

To BCPS leadership and members of the Board, thank
you for working with me, Cindy Sexton, answering my questions
and responding to my concerns. I look forward to continuing our
collaboration.

On another note, and speaking faster, please
remember to reach out to your legislators and encourage them to
fund the Kirwan Commission recommendations. This entails so
much that is needed in education. Not just a change to the
current funding formulas for schools but so much more that would
benefit our students moving forward. All of us, those in this
room, those listening online and everyone who is vested in the
education of children, we all need to reach out to these
decision-makers and let them know that we need Kirwan funded.

You’ve all received invitations to the TABCO Town
Hall on September 26th at 6:00 at Parkville High. We want to
show our elected officials, who have also been invited, that we
all care about public education and we stand in support to do
what is best for students.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn’t mention World
Suicide Prevention Day which is today, and the mind over matters
campaign that BCPS has ongoing this year.

Thank you again to all who make our schools and
school communities places where our students learn and grow.
Directors has voted to not sign our Master Agreement and we will work without an agreement as the only item negotiated last year was salary. This is done as a sign of disappointment and dissatisfaction of our negotiated agreement not being funded in an arbitrary and capricious manner. This will not impact the hard work and extra effort given by these professionals every day.

Negotiations for 2021, CASE Master Agreement, begins next week and we already alerted the Board and the Superintendent that they should be prepared for us to make up for any lost earnings and retirement benefits incurred this year. Thank you very much.

**BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY:** Thank you. Our next stakeholder speaker for this evening is Nicholas Argyros from the Baltimore County Public School Organization of Professional Employees. Good evening and welcome.

**MR. ARGYROS:** Good evening, Chairwoman Causey, Vice Chair Henn, Dr. Williams and members of the Board. We sincerely appreciate your efforts to support a two percent cost of living distribution for all bargaining units. As a result of Senate Bill 1030, teacher salary incentive grant, the County Executive was able to provide TABCO with a two percent COLA effective July 1st, 2019.

Using county funds, he also decided to provide a two percent COLA to ESPBC effective July 1st, 2019. The remainder of the bargaining units did not receive a COLA for the same period. Such exceptions create inequities among bargaining units and long-term financial implications for employees left out of the COLA distribution.

The Baltimore County government’s budget deficit this year prevented us from negotiating other salary concerns such as employees on the OPE salary scale that have reached the maximum steps on their grade and have not received a raise. A two percent COLA on July 1st would have benefitted these employees and their families.

To rectify what we view as inequities in the County Executive’s budget for this fiscal year, we will vigorously pursue remedies during the upcoming negotiations and we appreciate, in advance, your support for all the bargaining units. Thank you.

**BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY:** Thank you. Our next speaker this evening is from the Northeast Area Education Advisory Council, Ms. Lily Li. Good evening and welcome.

**MS. LI:** Board members and Dr. Williams, my name is Lily Li, Co-Chair of the Northeast Advisory Council and I'm here to speak for our northeast area communities and parents.

If not everybody already knew, the northeast area has an emergency crisis of school bus overcrowding and all the new stations have been covering it. In a way, the Northeast Advisory Council wants to give urgent suggestions to our new Superintendent, Dr. Williams, and the new Transportation Director, Mr. Green.

Number one, please make it an urgent plan on your schedule for this week or next to visit our loving, caring and dedicated bus drivers and attendants on every northeast bus lot.

Like the Kenwood bus lot, Rosedale bus lot and our wonderful contract with the company, Harris Bus Company, if I didn’t miss any.

Our bus drivers are heartbroken. They are crying. They are waiting for our top administrators to show the care, sympathy and appreciation of their hard work and their pains of being separated from their older kids they used to drive due to the complete rerouting in our northeast area.

Please visit them in person, shake hands with them and say thank you. They are the backbone of our transportation department. Most of our bus drivers and attendants, they work on this job not for this kind of minimum pay income but for the strong bond they have with the students they have been transporting for 10 or 20 years. Our kids are their babies and now they are separated from their babies by? this complete rerouting thing. Please comfort them.

Your visit with them in person this week or next will stop them from quitting the job or retiring early. That’s the quickest fix. Otherwise, BCPS will have to continue to combine busses due to a bus driver shortage and our children will have to sit on the floor or stand on the aisle.

Number two, please explain to our bus drivers why we needed a complete rerouting. Bus drivers still don't understand why a lot of good routes are redone as well. Why can't we just redo the messy ones and leave the good ones alone?

Also, this new transfiber routing software sometimes directs the bus drivers to a name road and how can bus drivers know where to go? Bus drivers asking why this new software didn’t get double-checked by human eyes first before it was put
All in all, the Northeast Advisory Council would like to see our new Superintendent, Dr. Williams, and our new Transportation Director, to visit all northeast area bus drivers in person this week or next and it will be the only way for a quick fix for now. We really hope that things will be improved, parents are running out of patience.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next stakeholder speaker for this evening is from the Northwest Education Advisory Council, Mr. Mike Hofmeister. Good evening and welcome.

MR. HOFMEISTER: First, I'd like to thank the Board and Dr. Williams for listening to me this evening. My name is Mike Hofmeister. I'm the current President of the Alumni Association of Franklin High School. I would like to bring to your attention an historical event that will occur in 2020.

Actually, it started with the opening of the school year this year with the Class of 2020. I'm referring to the oldest high school in Baltimore County, Franklin Academy or Franklin High School. It will celebrate 200 years after its establishment in 1820 by the General Assembly of Maryland.

At first, the students attended school at private residences and it wasn't until 1826 that the building was completed. That building still stands today and is used by the Baltimore County Public Library. Maybe some of the building construction companies for the school system could take some lessons. That's another topic for another day.

I'm not here this evening to ask for money. I'm here to make you aware the alumni association of Franklin High School, and many community organizations, are preparing for a rededication of the school in January, 2020. The exact date and time has not been set because of the pending renovations to the original academy. We would like the School Board members and representatives from the school system to attend. Formal invitations will be sent out when a date and location has been finalized.

Franklin High School awards about $110,000 in scholarships each year. Of the $110,000 in scholarships, the alumni association contributes about $30,000 towards those scholarships. There are scholarships set up in family names and in company names.

Franklin has graduated many students who have established their names in history. We are proud and acknowledge them on our website. Two of the most known are Dr. Bea Oliver Coleman who is the First Lady of Maryland pharmacy. She was the first woman to receive a law degree, University of Maryland female acting Dean of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. First full professionalship at the School of Pharmacy. She graduated in 1904. Over the past several years, Franklin High School, led by Patton McCusker, 1981 graduate and alumni association, has established a working relationship with one of our first great graduates, Thomas Rowe Price, founder of the global management firm which bears his name. He graduated in 1904 and was 16 years old. They're the largest corporate employee in Baltimore County. They've established scholarships and are hosting career days at their headquarters for Franklin students.

As I said, we're not here this evening to ask for money but to ask for the support of the School Board and the school system and the support of this historical event. Thank you in advance and I appreciate the time.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next speaker for this evening is Marlena Pearsell and she is from the Southwest Area Education Advisory Council. Good evening and welcome.

MS. PEARSELL: Good evening, everyone and Dr. Williams. This will be short. I just wanted to take a moment to introduce myself. I am Marlena Cowington-Pearsell. I am a proud 5th grade parent in the southwest area and I am the Chair for the southwest area for the 2019-2020 academic year.

With a calendar week already underway, I simply just want you to know our three top goals for this school year. The first one being the capacity issues that are occurring at Johnny Cake Elementary School as well as Catonsville High and Middle School.

The second one being school safety along with bullying and, of course, cyber bullying.

The last one being our academic rigor including class choices as well as identification of students that need more.

We also intend to attend our Town Hall meetings that Dr. Williams has set up at Catonsville High School and Woodlawn High School in order to hear our community voices and to be there, of course, for all parties.
Proceedings

As I end, I would just like to personally thank you for the appointment of addition members. We're short and we're striving to be more. I would also like to thank you for our Community Superintendent, Dr. Jones, who is here. She had attended all of our meetings last year.

We look forward to forging a partnership with you all as well as our two Board members as well as our district councilmen.

In closing, I just simply would like to offer you any time on the second Mondays of your month. I know that it may not be in your district but to come on out and hear us at 7:00 p.m. Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Our final stakeholder for the evening is Megan Stewart-Sicking from the Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee. Good evening and welcome.

MS. STEWART-SICKING: Chairwoman Causey, Vice Chairwoman Henn, Dr. Williams and members of the Board, good evening to all of you. Our SECAC Executive Board is very excited about several initiatives for the 2019-2020 school year.

First, Board members, in your email from this afternoon, probably around 5:00 just before I came here, you will have an email from me with an attachment. It's the first page of the Hand in Hand Newsletter which will be distributed later this month. The first page contains our meeting dates, locations, times and topics. We are excited to kick off in October with executive functioning presented by Dr. Tana Hope from the Kennedy Krieger Institute. We will then continue with updates from the Office of Special Education and preparation for our December meeting with Dr. Williams. We will also be covering transition, autism and literacy later in the year. We hope each of you will join us for a meeting or two sometime this year.

Also, as an attachment in your email today, you will find a copy of a poster from a special project that we worked on last year. We worked on belief statements about IEP teams and meetings and it was a collaborative project between SECAC and the Office of Special Education.

We included feedback from special ed parents, administrators and community members such as lawyers and advocates. It is our hope that the poster with belief statements will be provided for every team meeting room by November and remind us of important elements of effective teams such as communication, civility, data-driven decision making and cultivating positive relationships throughout the year. I have sent you copies of the posters as an attachment and I hope you have a chance to take a look.

We also look forward this year to continuing to support the collaborative relationship between the Office of Special Education and the Office of English Language Arts. We will also continue working closely between SECAC and advocacy groups such as Decoding Dyslexia Maryland.

We are happy to see huge strides being made in literacy resources, training and outcomes over recent years and look forward to more progress in the future.

Over the summer, we also had a chance to meet with Cindy Sexton from TABCO and we look forward to developing a positive advocacy relationships between OSE, TABCO and parents.

Finally, and as always, you are used to this from us, we will spend time communicating with you at Board meetings and directly as individuals regarding budget requests this fall.

We will continue to advocate for more resources in our schools and look forward to following up with more specifics. Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. That concludes our stakeholder comments. I now call on our general public speakers. Our first speaker for public comment is Dr. Bash Pharoon. Good evening and welcome.

DR. PHAROAN: Long time, no see. My apologies for not attending August meetings.

Good evening to all. I want you to know why I have been here for 25 years. 1995. My son was in Baltimore County Public Schools and one time her came with a book which talks about getting the facts.

In some lands, people don't talk when they sit down to eat. In China, no one talks at all. Then, it goes more into the famine in China.

Do you know someone without a name? Everyone has a name now. Then, it talks about a country where people don't have names. It's a typical stereotype.

The one that really blew my top at that time, it says the Arabs eat five meals at one time. First, they put eggs inside the fish. Next, they put the fish inside the chicken.

Then, they put the chicken inside the sheep. All of this is put
inside the camel, it is cooked and then it's time to eat.

The reason I'm here is really a reflection of that event before and having been here for so long, I'm not really sure that this school system truly does not teach stereotypes, especially Islamophobia, especially Arab-phobia.

To me, it's not really just about Arabs. It's really about treating people equally.

So, you know in the past, I asked you many times about the Jewish holidays. The school system closed on the Jewish holidays for 25 years. That's worth, in my professional opinion, $75 million of advertisement money. It did not offer that to Muslim holidays despite our large numbers.

This year, when the school system opened the schools on the Muslim holidays and didn't do the same thing for the Jewish holidays.

So, I'm asking you always to remember equity and equality. I know it's a trip. I have been here for 25 years and I will still be here as long as any practice of Islamophobia, Arab-phobia, discrimination of any other categories, color, ethnicity, religion, etc., is being done in the school system.

I ask you to remember that when you talk about policies. I ask you to remember that we pay taxes. (End of time.)

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next speaker for this evening is Ms. Sharon Saroff. Good evening and welcome.

MS. SAROFF: Good evening. I want to try to start this public comment with a little bit of positivity because, unfortunately, in 17 years of doing advocacy, I feel like this school year is the most chaotic I've ever experienced.

I received a phone call today, however, from a student who started her first day in a new school, in one of our high schools, and she called to say to me, thank you. For the first time, she belonged and felt she belonged in a school.

In 15 years, this is the first time. This is why I do what I do. This was the light, this was telling me that I need to continue even though there's a whole lot of chaos going on.

I have said that I will provide suggestions for improvement and here is one. I have repeatedly, over the past year and a half, asked for collaboration between parents, advocates and resource people from the Office of Special Education and other offices. The response I get is we don't have enough staff.

We're here to support our schools. We feel that the data might be tainted if we constantly have somebody there preventing us from doing our job. When I go into a school to do an observation, I go with an administrator and I welcome that administrator because I feel that that person is going to see what I see. At least, that's my hope.

Why can't it be the other way around where I get to see what the resource people and the BCBAs get to see when they go into the school and observe the student?

So, as a suggestion, let's get that collaboration going. It used to happen. Let's get it going again so that we can fulfill our obligation to the people that we serve which are the students and the parents. (Applause.)

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next speaker for the evening is Brittany Burgess. Good evening and welcome.

MS. BURGESS: Good evening, everybody. My name is Brittany Burgess and the reason I came tonight was just to make you guys aware and speak on behalf of my daughter.

My daughter is 8 years old, she's in the 3rd grade at Deep Creek Elementary School. Yesterday, I picked her up from school and she and her friend were enjoying their lunch, just minding their own business being girls, when two of her other classmates came up to her and her friend and said some racial, sexual and mean things to them.

This is hard to talk about. I'm trying to be strong for my daughter. But, I never thought in 2019 that I would have to sit down and comfort my daughter for some of the things that some of her counterparts of another race would say to her. I just wanted to make you guys aware, hoping that somebody would do something about it. Talk to her, implement something into these schools.

When she told me some of the things that happened to her, I found out that some of these things happened to some of the other girls of color. It's just not fair.

I go and talk to the school and I asked my daughter, did she say anything to her teacher. She said, she did and nothing was done. The teacher told her she would do something and did nothing, as my daughter sat there and watch these two same classmates tease her and her friend in the back of the
My daughter don't deserve that. She go to school, she get good grades. She stand up for others. She's very loved everywhere she goes and I don't understand why this happened to her in this school and something needs to be done about it.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Ma'am, thank you for coming and thank you for sharing with us. What I would like to do is to ask, we have a staff member that can step outside and speak to you about this. We do care about each and every student, to have a positive environment to learn.

MS. BURGESS: Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next speaker for this evening is Mr. Daniel Burgess.

MR. BURGESS: Good evening, everyone. Thank you for your time. I'm sure my wife will speak into detail of the things that happened to my daughter and the list of other children we found out these things were happening to since the 2018 school year. Most of which were Nigerian or African American and nothing was done.

But, I'd like to also talk at this point in time about what could be and should be being done. I notice a lot of these names and I'd like to put some faces with them. I'm an advocate for law enforcement. I've been doing community work. For the last year and a half now, I've run a program called the Policing and Parenting Partnership. I'm responsible for working with the law enforcement officers and the kids that are mentored in the program and a former teacher of the Baltimore County Public School System who resigned as of last year because she could not tolerate the school system's lack of effort to be involved. Over 20 years in the school system of Baltimore County, I'm pretty sure a lot of you have gotten emails from her over the course of the last three months. Her name is Jennifer Shepherd. Again, 20 years in the Baltimore County Public School System. She runs our entire division of the work that needs to be done.

We've come up with a wonderful program that was supposed to be put in place in the school system this year to stop things like this from happening. Ms. Shepherd doesn't get paid, nor do I. This is a volunteer program. I've heard all these wonderful people ask for funding and different things to implement this but we have a community of just parents and hard-working people who are willing to get involved and do the work.

We've spent our own money. We've got 14 different businesses in Baltimore City and Baltimore County that fully fund us and support this. All we ask for is a chance to be heard and a chance for our program brought to everyone's attention.

On June 10th, we sent emails out to S. Muster, W. Bates, R. Jones, G. Roberts, S. Truesdale. On June 22nd, Shawn Visin and, again, I work with the police department on this issue. So, Jenn Shepherd can testify more to this but because I run the program, she cc'd me on all these emails and Shawn Visin, at the public safety forum, a conversation was had on July 13th, Mr. Rod McMillion, the district that my daughter's school goes to, Ms. Kathleen, I'm pretty sure you're familiar with Jenn Shepherd. I'm pretty sure you're also familiar with Ms. Terry Anderson, her son, Nathaniel. Her issues made the Sun. These are people who are working with us voluntarily trying to come up with a solution and have had wonderful ideas.

We've actually developed a mobile application. It's just crazy. Since June 10th, we have not had a three-minute conversation with, besides Ms. Julian Rowe, I'd like to personally thank her for all her work and all her cooperation from day one with us in supporting our community and hearing our voices.

But, Mr. McMillion, Ms. Henn, Mr. Williams, Mr. McMillion again, I could submit a list of emails asking for just an opportunity. I hate the fact that things like this have to happen before people get involved. I hate the fact that the community (End of time.)

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Burgess. Our next speaker for the evening is Mr. Bill Groth. Good evening and welcome.

MR. GROTH: Good evening, Board members and welcome, Dr. Williams. A stack of dollar bills. Stat has cost over $500 million dollar bills and counting since its inception. Or, more simply put, over a half a billion dollars.

Five hundred million one dollars bills stacked one on top of another would reach almost 34 miles high. Sadly, for all that hard-earned money paid for by the taxpayers of Baltimore County, the latest test scores show we have barely moved the proverbial needle measuring the educational achievement of our students.
Why am I telling each of you this tonight? Well, it's simple. Each of you sitting in this fine room with richly paneled walls, brass name plates and lined with pictures of our students watching are here for one purpose. Governance. https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/e/zEoXoTmNM2fDictionary.com&c=E,1,ZdoFVr0Sth7xElA3PvP6vihN_8x18AkInPtyhCl8dghH6ERdKGrYkbOBLEzmGoAxaDuFgqQhpX2z8s2Tet8xOxGxY95afZeHXPJRU2Y.&amp;type=1 defines it thusly. Governance, a noun. Exercise of authority, control. You see, my esteemed Board members, you are here in this fine room to make sure that the right things happen to ensure that all 117,000 students of BCPS get the best, safest education possible for the money this county has to spend.

Yup. You govern Team BCPS. All of these well-educated, hard-working folk who wear the blue and white badges, they work for you. You were not put here just to watch over the money but also the direction and purpose of each and every initiative this administration has undertaken to carry out the mission of the Baltimore County Public Schools. Big task.

So, each of you must make sure that every program, every effort, every dollar spent goes toward proven, tried and true practices, programs and initiatives that will result in all of our students being well-rounded, totally prepared to be productive citizens, earn a living, raise a family, care for the sick and elderly and, in short, take over for each of us someday.

Public education is not one big experiment like Stat. It must be proven, dependable and the results must be verifiable because each child gets only one chance at a free, publicly funded start in life.

My point in all this, please don't be afraid to govern. Adopt the mantra of the X-Files. The truth is out there. Question everything. Check the numbers, review the performance, verify the outcomes and if they don't add up, be bold and just say no. Govern.

I come to you tonight both as a taxpayer and as one of the 19 appointed Commissioners of the Baltimore County School Board nominating commission that worked to place four of you on this esteemed Board. The voters of this great county (End of time.)

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Our final speaker for public comment is Ms. Ann Groth. Good evening and welcome.

MS. GROTH: Good evening, members of the Board, Chairwoman Causey, Vice Chair Henn and Dr. Williams, welcome to BCPS. My husband and I, as well as our parents, are and were retired teachers in BCPS. One hundred and 32 years combined.

We like to think that our generation is leaving BCPS in good condition. Just like it was left for us. We've invested a lot.

My sons went to school in BCPS and it was awesome. But, are the student of today getting that same quality? I worry. So, I have some suggestions.

Teaching has become a revolving door. That's a quote from our recent article in the Sun on teacher retention. Here's one suggestion. Take a good look at the data that I've heard about on teacher assaults. By last June, five to 10 a week. Teachers and their students need to feel safe. Who wants to teach in a dangerous environment? Even the most dedicated teachers will not stay if under threat of assault.

Two, take a hard look at our early childhood practices. Current practices for our K-3 students are out of step with what the research tells us. We need people in leadership with a deep understanding of how young students learn and what the literature tells us about appropriate practice.

Dr. Williams, please, find people who have real knowledge and backgrounds in early childhood education. And, talk to the teachers. Ask any Kindergarten teacher what needs to change. Give them a voice, pump them for knowledge. They know so much. Give the teachers autonomy.

Since the inception of Stat, I've voiced my concern about the half a billion dollars that was spent on a technology program that, to date, has not produced measurable results. It also conflicts with the health and safety information coming out in research about screen time.

There is a BCPS health and safety committee, to my understanding. Sadly, it has not met recently. Why not?

Three, get that committee going again.

Four, and finally, please do more than talk about equity, fairness and diversity. Give our Muslim students a holiday in the calendar.

In a few short years, my grandson will be starting school. Will he be safe in school? Will he be safe on the bus? Will the bus pick him up on time? Or, will I be advising my son, much to my deep lament, to move to another district? I hope not.
All the children in BCPS deserve the same great education my children had. All means all. Thank you for your service and all that you do and for giving me the opportunity to share my opinion. Please do your best. I know you will do your best. Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. We also had an opportunity for individuals to sign up for public comment to speak on Board policies. There were no speaker sign-ups. So, that concludes our public comment portion of the meeting.

The next item of business is the Superintendent’s report. For that, I call on Dr. Darrell Williams.

DR. WILLIAMS: Good evening, everyone. Just an announcement. We will be following up regarding the Deep Creek situation as you heard today.

I would like to begin by looking back at our first week of school. It was my pleasure to kick off the school year by visiting 15 schools last week. The learning, laughter and enthusiasm were contagious. I want to thank our educators for not only welcoming our students and getting them settled into new routines but also for diving right into rigorous and engaging instruction starting on our very first day. I look forward to visiting all schools by the end of this school year.

I’ve said many times that every child deserves to have at least one adult at school whom they trust. That sense of connectedness is one way that we can support student mental health, an issue raised by our very own Student Member of the Board.

I’m proud to work with Omer to support students all year and I’m glad that schools honored World Suicide Prevention Day today by giving students opportunities to become familiar with school-based mental health resources including our school counselors, social workers, psychologists and nurses.

This is just the beginning of our year-long Mind Over Matters campaign with a focus on student and staff mental health. Follow along with our hashtag, #iwilllisten.

You heard earlier, I would like to formally invite all of Team BCPS students, families, staff and residents to my series of community conversations which will start in about two weeks. This is an informal opportunity to share your priorities as we look ahead to our future together.

The sessions will run from 6 to 7PM at 10 high schools with two options in each area of the county. We’ll
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**Board of Education of Baltimore County**

1. county to welcome students, staff and families on the first official day of school. It was fun to see their excitement and anticipation on the faces of all of the folks, administrators, teachers, families and the students.

2. I'm excited and pleased that the County Executive recently announced last week that the county was allocating initial planning money for new schools for Towson High and Dulaney High. This is in addition to the planning and design money that was previously allocated for Lansdowne High. This planning money for Dulaney and Towson will allow for feasibility studies which will facilitate moving these projects forward as state monies become available.

3. BCPS looks forward to a continued partnership with Baltimore County in the development of an objective and equitable 10-year capital plan that will address the needs of all schools throughout the BCPS footprint.

4. While celebrating our good news, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the transportation issues that some families experienced last week. I am confident that Dr. Jess Grimm, BCPS's new Director of Transportation since late July, his two new senior operations supervisors who were appointed in

5. **Page 43**

6. August and the remainder of the transportation team are doing all they can to ensure the safe and timely transportation of every student in BCPS.

7. Out of our 115,000 or more students, we’ll know for sure on September 30th, about 84,000 of them are transported every day. In the interim, parents should contact school administration with emergent transportation problems or contact the Transportation Office at 443-809-4321.

8. In addition, the Board will receive a report on transportation at its September 24th, 2019 meeting. Please know that the school system is working diligently to resolve outstanding issues.

9. Today is World Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day.

10. I was given this t-shirt by a school counselor as BCPS kicks off Mind Over Matters campaign which is a systemwide campaign. Suicide prevention is an area of focus for BCPS's school safety and climate team.

11. The theme for September is Listening Matters. Designed to bring awareness to the issue of suicide and focus on resources and prevention. Our Student Member of the Board will speak more about this and we support all of his efforts on behalf of students.

12. Finally, I would like to publicly acknowledge all of the hard work of BCPS facilities and maintenance personnel throughout the county over the summer months. Their efforts resulted in students returning to clean, well-lit, freshly painted schools and classrooms and well-tended playgrounds and fields. Please know that your efforts did not go unnoticed and that they are most appreciated.

13. I will end by wishing our students, families, teachers and administrators the best school year ever.

14. Our next item is our Student Member of the Board's Report.

15. MR. RESHID: Good evening. Since our Board meeting on August 6th, I had the chance to dig deeper into BCPS and the work we are doing here. I had the chance to attend the Student Board Member orientation hosted by MABE, as well as our BCPS Board Retreat. These opportunities allowed me to connect with fellow Board members and our Superintendent.

16. We also had our Baltimore County Student Council's Executive Board meeting where we got to meet our Board members and have interactive activities where we learned more about each other and the roles we are doing here guided by our President, Angela, and got surprised by our Superintendent who came in and met each and every one of our Student Council members.

17. This month is Suicide Awareness Month. The Suicide Awareness Month work group also met to discuss our themes for the month for the 2019-2020 school year and are now promoting our Mind Over Matter campaign, which you can see Ms. Causey is wearing, to raise awareness about mental health and promote wellness for our students and staff.

18. September is Suicide Prevention Month and September 10th is World Suicide Prevention Day which is today. For anyone needing support, especially for students, the back of your BCPS ID, there is a hotline you can call if you need any help.

19. I attended my first Board curriculum meeting where we got in-depth data of programs like Avid in our curriculum. I had the honor to attend and introduce our Superintendent at the Administrative and Supervisory meeting where I met a lot of our great administrators who will lead us to success here in BCPS.

20. With the help of our BCSC President and Ms. Murray, we went to the ELA staff meeting to promote the SMOB position and the election process, to introduce our new partnership with...
the ELA and social studies so we have a strong candidacy for the coming years and also have time to provide an opportunity for every secondary student to have a chance to cast a vote for the next Student Board Member.

What an amazing first day of school. I hope every student felt that way. I finished class at 10:40 and was able to meet with fellow Board members, elected officials and the Superintendent to do school visits at Randallstown High School, Ridgely Middle School, who gave us a warm welcome. I got to see students learning and have a chance to interact with them. I plan on visiting a lot more schools with Dulaney, Catonsville, Carver Center and, tomorrow, I will be visiting Sparrows Point Middle and High School.

These schools have students who have reached out to me via social media, polls and asked me to come visit. Yesterday, we filmed our first episode of Chat Café where students come together to talk about different topics. So, be sure to check that out and students, let me know if you have any topics you would like to be discussed or if you would like to be on the show.

We had a splendid first week of school and hope to continue carrying the same positive energy. As always, students, feel free to reach out to me via social media and, remember, #iwilllisten. Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Rashid. Our next item of business is Item K, Action Taken in Closed Session. For that, we call on Mr. Nussbaum for consideration of those actions taken in closed session.

MR. NUSSBAUM: Thank you. Good evening. Earlier this evening, the Board considered two appeals regarding confidential student matters in your quasi-judicial capacity. Both of these appeals were considered on the record as no timely requests for oral arguments were made.

At this time, it would be appropriate to confirm the action that was taken in closed session, those matters were both summary affirmations. They were Hearing Examiner numbers 19-47 and 20-05.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to approve the actions taken in closed session?

MS. MACK: So moved.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Mack. Do I have a second?

MR. OFFERMAN: Second.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Offerman. Is there any discussion? All in favor, please raise your hand.

Any opposed? The motion carries unanimously.

MR. NUSSBAUM: Thank you. The two orders are on the table over there. Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Nussbaum. The next item of business is Item L, New Business, Contract Awards. For that, I call on Committee Chair, Ms. Henn.

VICE CHAIR HENN: Thank you. Members of the Board, the Board's Building and Contracts Committee met earlier this evening. Items L-1 and L-3 through L-8 are being forwarded to the full Board for approval. Item L-2 is being forwarded without recommendation.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to approve items L-1 and L-3 through L-8?

MS. ROWE: So moved.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Rowe. No second is needed since the recommendation comes from the committee. Is there any discussion? All in favor, please raise your hand.

Any opposed? The motion carries unanimously. Ms. Henn?
the quotes that reflect that for fencing and for the materials. In addition, the beds will be built by the Carver Center CTE program. This has gone through all of our normal channels and processes for approval.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to approve the Pot Spring Elementary School Edible Garden Project?

MS. ROWE: So moved.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Rowe. Do I have a second?

MS. PASTEUR: Second.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Pasteur. Is there any discussion? Mr. McMillion?

MR. MCMILLION: Believe it or not, I'm a gardener. So, I can't believe it either. I'm curious about the size of your garden and describe the fencing to secure this garden. Do you have that kind of data?

VOICE: I do. It's in your packet, actually. There are four beds. One of them is wheelchair accessible. They are 3.5 by 6 feet each. So, the fencing dimensions, I don't know off the top of my head.

MR. MCMILLION: But, is it, like, a 6-foot fence?

An 8-foot fence? Any idea? I was just curious.

VOICE: Thanks to Ms. Martin, principal of Pot Spring Elementary. It's an 8-foot fence.

MR. MCMILLION: Yeah, that will keep the deer and the hoodlums from jumping over it. Thank you very much.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: I think we have much more concern about the deer. And, the rabbits. I hear they are plentiful down there. I do want to acknowledge the principal, Ms. Martin, and the PTA President, Ms. Marie Depugh. Thank you for joining us this evening. Is there any other discussion?

All in favor, please raise your hand. Any opposed? The motion carries unanimously and we look forward to visiting the garden in the future and I invite Mr. McMillion to come with me and visit that and see how the students are learning. Thank you so much.

The next item is Item N, Consideration of Board Policies. First, I want to say that at its August 6, 2019 meeting, the Board of Education approved revisions to Policy 8130, Policy Formulation. As amended, the policy replaces the three reader approval of policies with a two reader process. This new process will begin with policies forwarded from the

Policy Review Committee for Board approval this school year starting with the committee's September 16th meeting.

Policies scheduled for a first reading will be available to the public when the Board agenda is released. Concurrent with the publishing of the Board agenda, the policies will also be available for public comment on the school system's policy webpage at

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com?url=https%3a%2f%2fbcps.org%2fsystem%2fpolicies%2fpolicies_rules%2fopenforcomment.asp&c=E,1,4&typo=1

Also, if you just want to look for it, go to the

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com?url=https%3a%2f%2fbcps.org&c=E,1,4&typo=1

E,1,4gMMLhbk3LJfr12t2q4y19F9ww9cqV60n7aWcETbthUHHbEULRYoePc
Qb7EH4-8uAYD00nXkZnCnHvYc7Ps2bB0Xx13be06-6-jbDak1nSiFUvT&
typo=1 website and you'll be able to find it when you query for policies.

During the first reading, the public and Board members have an opportunity to comment on the policy proposal during the regular public meeting. Based on the comments received, the Policy Review Committee has the option of reviewing and incorporating in its proposal comments from the public and Board members. At the second reading, the Board takes final action on the policy.

This new process will be in effect with currently scheduled for a first reading on October 22nd, 2019.

Now, in line with our former process, we're considering unfinished business. Members of the Board, the Policy Review Committee asks that the Board accept this report of the committee's recommendations to amend the following Board policies. Policy 3710, Safety and Security Equipment. Policy 4102, Sexual Harassment. Policy 4201, Employees Insurance Benefits. Policy 5320, Student Organizations and Clubs. These recommendations are presented to you tonight's agenda as Exhibit N. Do I have a motion to adopt the recommendation of the Board's Policy Review Committee?

MS. ROWE: So moved.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Rowe. No second is needed since the recommendation comes from the committee. Is there any discussion? All in favor, please raise your hand.

Any opposed? Any abstentions? The motion carries unanimously. Thank you.
Our next item is Item O, Unfinished Business, Fiscal Year 20-21 State Capital Budget. The proposed state capital budget was introduced at the Board meeting on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 and discussed at the Board work session on Tuesday, August 20, 2019.

State funded project requests require verification of county matching funds before final state approval. We call on Mr. Saris and Mr. Dixit to provide any additional information on the proposed fiscal year 20-21 State Capital Budget. We will then allow time for questions and discussions, if needed and desired by the Board. Good evening and welcome.

MR. SMITH: Good evening, Chairwoman Causey, Vice Chair Henn, Dr. Williams and members of the Board. As Ms. Causey previously stated, this item was brought to you on April 6th, we had a work session on April 20th and there has been a series of questions that the team has received from the Board, as well as community members, relating to the state capital request that is before you today that we are seeking your approval to move forward with. There has been quite a bit of discussion and we are here tonight to address any additional follow-up questions before the vote is taken.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Smith. Just for our audience and stakeholders, I want to say that the questions and answers are posted on our website. So, all of the questions that were submitted and the answers developed by staff and we thank Dr. Williams for having staff thoroughly answer those questions and make that available on our website.

Do I have a motion to approve the proposed fiscal year 20-21 state capital budget request as presented in Exhibit O?

MS. ROWE: So moved.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Rowe. Do I have a second?

VICE CHAIR HENN: Second.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Henn. Is there any discussion? All in favor, please raise your hand. Any opposed? Any abstain? Thank you. The motion carries. I do just want to point out that the Student Member was not eligible to vote on this item. Thank you very much.

Our next item is Item P, Board Member Comments. For members. Mr. Offerman, would you like to start us off?

MR. OFFERMAN: Yes. As a former Baltimore County counselor for 27 years, I’d like to comment that the teachers, the counselors, cafeteria workers, bus drivers, maintenance people, custodial staff, are all on the front line when it comes to getting information about children. Often, things are not said at home or things that should trigger a warning are not noticed. But, sometimes in school, they become noticed. If not by the student, by the student’s friends.

So, I ask everyone in BCPS, all the shareholders, everyone involved, to understand. This is not just a one-day event or a one-month warning. This is such a critical piece of what we need to do in order to ensure the safety and the healthy development of all of our kids. I’ve seen so many people do such a great job, when I was in schools, when I was a counselor in the schools I was in. I commend them for that and I commend the parents who have the courage to seek help when sometimes people consider it an embarrassment to the family. I think you have to go beyond that. I think you must keep in mind what this is all about and this is about the welfare of the most important resource we will ever have. That’s our children. Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Offerman. Mr. Kuehn?

MR. KUEHN: I just wanted to say welcome back to school to all the children. I have children in high school, middle school and elementary school in the system. I actually missed the back-to-school night at West Towson, across the street. Hopefully, my wife was able to attend. That was the plan.

I had the opportunity and the pleasure to go to Towson High School’s back-to-school night recently and that was well-run and very informative. I look forward to going to Dunbarton’s back-to-school night which I believe is tomorrow night.

So, a lot going on. A lot of activity. I hope everybody is adjusting and transitioning back to school well and I just want to wish everyone a fantastic school year. Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. Ms. Pasteur?

MS. PASTEUR: Good evening and I, too, want to say thank you for everything that everyone has done with staff in terms of getting us to this point, coming out of last year and...
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beginning anew. I'm sort of taken here because I have a
completely new vision and direction as I go into my second year.

Last year, it was about learning. This year, I am
really on kind of a mission about making sure that our
underserved children are not just adequately served but that we
are moving rigorously to a level playing field.

I want to start with Ms. Christine Byers because I
know from where she came and I'm going to hit on that in a
second. So, I'm real happy with money that has been found to
serve our children in the high schools. Always happy to see
when our children are served as Mr. Kuehn and Mr. Offerman have just said.

I am brought to this line from Gwendolyn Brooks' poem, For My People. For the cram, bewildered years we went to
school to learn to know the reasons why the people who and the places where, in memory of the bitter hours we discovered we
were black and small and poor and different and nobody cared and nobody understood.

Listening to some of the things that have been said
tonight by our parents, so all of this brings me to Milbrook Elementary School as we find money and work with funds in this
county and in this state and I started with Ms. Byers because
they have a history of having principals and teachers who have
worked against the odds because, when Milbrook was built in 1967, I was 18. That was 52 years ago. So, if that's a long
time, I'm old, that means it's old and it means that while it
does not appear on any list, there's something wrong in that
configuration.

But, I do want to thank Mr. Smith because I went in there Friday, as the children used to say, feeling some kind of
way. I went in and saw that the lockers had been painted and the rooms had been painted and there's a new gym floor and that the principal is working on doing what is necessary to make the acoustics in that cafeteria what they should be.

So, we are not disabling our young people. That is
going to be one of my missions this year. So, get ready to be sick of me talking about it, sick of hearing it and I really
don't care because none of our children, for any reason, should be disenfranchised in this system because maybe the parents are too quiet or the corner on which it sits is not a real popular corner and it has a number of populations that no one has seen to care about. But, I care about it and I'm going to make sure
that we pay attention to that.

I will say, as I conclude, that I said everything I
just said to the County Executive yesterday and he said, well,
let's go take a visit and we will. Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Pasteur. Mr. Hayden?

MR. HAYDEN: About all I can say to that is, ditto.

That would put me off here. But, I think one of the things that all of us, particular as parents, as educators, have to keep in mind as we move forward, I like to talk about sustainability.

It's very easy to get started with a lot of vim and
vigor at the start of the school year. We have all of this
enthusiasm and, I know this is not a word, but this gung ho-ness
of being into it and let's get it going and, like many things in life, you just sort of tail off.

So, I think it's important that all of us consider,
as we move forward throughout the school year, how do we sustain the enthusiasm? We want to sustain the enthusiasm for our young people. We want to sustain the enthusiasm for our staff and our teachers. We, on the Board, have to work on that for ourselves.

So, I think it's going to be a great school year.

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BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr. Hayden. Ms. Henn?

VICE CHAIR HENN: Thank you. So, what Mr. Hayden said. No. I'm particularly excited about this year. Back to
school time is my absolute favorite time of year. Some feel rejuvenated when spring comes along. For me, it's fall. School supplies, backpacks, the new supplies. I was the geeky kid who couldn't wait to get back to school. Let me tell you, I feel like a kid again this year. It's the newness. It's the
gentleman two seats away from me at the dais. Dr. Williams, your enthusiasm, your excitement, it's contagious. It absolutely is. Every school I've visited, every person on Team BCPS I've talked to, they cannot say enough.

Keep doing what you're doing because it absolutely is contagious. Our kids feel it and those that work with our kids are spreading it. I can't say much more about that. Like Mr. Hayden said, let's sustain it. Let's keep it going.

As Ms. Causey said, I'd be remiss that there weren't some challenges the first week, particularly in the northeast with transportation.

But, you know what? We've got parents who are
there is money to meet the needs of all schools and all
direction. Like Ms. Pasteur, I look forward to the day when
and let their voices be heard. Thank you very much.

There's much work ahead but this is a huge step in the right
direction. Like Ms. Pasteur, I look forward to the day when
there is money to meet the needs of all schools and all

I would also like to send a shout-out to Arbutus
Elementary, Baltimore Highlands Elementary, Lansdowne
Elementary, Relay and Westchester Elementary, which are district

I am hopeful that all back-to-school initiatives
throughout BCPS are packed with parents and caregivers ready to
partner with BCPS to ensure that their children have an

I'm excited about the
education of Baltimore County

I'm very excited about the
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I just would like to highlight the exceptional staff
and student body at Randallstown High School led by their

development on our overcrowded schools. Specifically, Sparrows
Point Middle and Sparrows Point High School. I've become aware
that there's a school input analysis that the developers submit
to the county for review. I'm really concerned about the
accuracy of this document, the information that they get from us
and how they use that information and even the accuracy of our
information that we're presenting to them.

On Friday, September 13th, I encourage the residents
of the southeast area to go to the Jefferson building at 10:00AM
and be part of this review process. It's in room 205. This is
the opportunity for the people of the southeast area to step up
and let their voices be heard. Thank you very much.

I became aware recently of the impact of residential
development on our overcrowded schools. Specifically, Sparrows
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the opportunity for the people of the southeast area to step up
and let their voices be heard. Thank you very much.
MS. ROWE: There's a couple things I want to say.
The first thing is to the parents who are watching. This
administration and this staff, as you saw happened with the
Burgess family, they had a situation. They didn't feel like
got a resolution within their schoolhouse and they weren't
satisfied.

So, what did they do? They reached out to the
administration. Parents should understand that when you reach
out to the administration, the administration is going to reach
back and they're going to find a solution to help you.

But, one of the things I hear from people who
initially, sometimes, reach out to me, when I tell them to fill
out the bullying, intimidation and harassment form online, there
is a response I get that makes me feel like they think we're
just pushing them off to another form.

So, I wanted to explain that that form is not just
another form for parents to fill out or get pushed off to
another form. That form triggers a series of actions. It goes
to the Office of School Climate and Safety, it goes to the
principal, I believe it may go to the area Superintendent. But,
it goes to people outside the schoolhouse whose responsibility
it is to provide the schoolhouse with professional development,
with guidance and assistance on how to deal with different
things and with accountability to follow-up on these kinds of
situations.

So, to parents, it's important that you fill out the
form if there's something that occurs in your schoolhouse.
Particularly, something like bullying or harassment. Whether
it's racial, whether it's sexual. It doesn't matter. Whether
it's violence, whatever it is, it is important that you fill out
the form because if you don't fill out the form, how are we
going to know what's going on? So, please fill out the form.

The other thing I wanted to say is that we just
approved our budget and for this year's capital improvement
plan. I understand that there are a lot of needs all over the
county that aren't on any list. I have plenty of schools in my
district and there's plenty of schools in every single district
that have facilities issues but not overcrowding, overcrowding
but not facilities issues and some of them have both facilities
issues and overcrowding. A lot of those schools aren't on the
list.

But, in working on a 10-year capital plan and being

patient with that and getting that done over the next year, then
we can have a list that truly means something and that doesn't
change with every political administration, with every new
election every four years, every 8 years, and that list can mean
something.

So, I'd just like to ask the community to be patient
as we work through, as a county, as a school system, as a state,
looking for the funding because we have needs that far outweigh
the available funding. How we're going to do this and to just
be patient and know that we are working on how to fix all the
other schools that have needs. But, that takes time and it
takes a conscientious plan and that plan was funded by the
county. The county is working on the RFP and we'll get there.

Thank you.

BOARD CHAIR CAUSEY: Thank you. I really appreciate
the work and engagement of all the Board members. It's really
just fantastic to work with each of you.

The next item on our agenda for this evening is Item
Q, Information. Attached to BoardDocs is the revised
Superintendent's Rule 3720, Non-Instructional Services, Safety
and Security Behavior Threat Assessment. So, that's available
for everyone to review on BoardDocs.

Finally, this evening, Item R is Announcement. Our
next Board meeting is Tuesday, September 24th, 6:30 p.m. right
here in Greenwood Building E. Again, it starts at 6:30 p.m.
Again, we welcome everyone back to the school year and we wish
everyone a healthy and happy and academically rigorous year.

Thank you very much. Our meeting is adjourned.

(PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED.)
STATE OF MARYLAND

SS:

I, Dawn L. Brown, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript of a Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners proceeding was transcribed under my supervision as herein appears and is an accurate transcript of what is recorded and audible on the recording.

I further certify that I am not of counsel to any of the parties, nor an employee of counsel, nor in any way interested in the outcome of this action.

As witness my hand and notarial seal this 30th day of September, 2019.

______________________________
Notary Public

My commission expires September 21, 2022
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CGC Salomon, Inc.
Office (410) 821-4888
www.crcsalomon.com - info@crcsalomon.com
2201 Old Court Road, Baltimore, MD 21208
Facsimile (410) 821-4889
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