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BOARD OF EDUCATION
BALTIMORE COUNTY

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
TOWSON, MARYLAND

NOVEMBER 19, 2019

Transcribed by:
Paul A. Gasparotti

Page 2

1 BOARD MEMBERS:

2

3 Kathleen S. Causey, Board Chair

4 Julie C. Henn, Vice Chair

5 Moalie S. Jose

6 Russell T. Kuehn

7 Lisa A. Mack

8 Rodney R. McMillion

9 John H. Offerman, Jr.

10 Cheryl E. Pasteur

11 Lily P. Rowe

12 Makeda Scott

13 Omer Reshid, Student Member

14

15

16

17

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19

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Page 4

1 Jessie Jaeger. 34

2 Dayana Bergman. 37

3 Dr. Bash Pharoan. 40

4 Melissa Rodola. 43

5 CTEAC 45

6 Tia Knott 48

7 Heather Ottenia 52

8 Glen Geelhaar 54

9 Public Comment on Policy 3250. 58

10 Dayana Bergman. 58

11 New Business, Actions Taken in Closed Session. 59

12 Submission of CAFR and Single Audit Report . . 61

13 Board Committee Reports. 65

14 Audit 65

15 Legislative and Government Relations. . . 65

16 Buildings and Contracts 67

17 Policy and Review 67

18 Curriculum. 67

19 Information. 68

20 Announcements. 69

21

Page 3

1 INDEX

2 Call to Order. 5

3 Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence . . . 5

4 Approval of Agenda 5

5 Closed Session Meeting Items 6

6 Selection of Speakers. 7

7 Special Business, Recognition of Student

8 Artwork 7

9 New Business, Personnel Matters. 10

10 New Business, Administrative Appointments. . 11

11 New Business, Board Policies 13

12 Advisory and Stakeholder Groups. 16

13 BCSC. 16

14 TABCO 18

15 BCABSE. 21

16 Southwest AEAC. 23

17 PTA Council of Baltimore County 26

18 CTEAC 45

19 Public Comment 29

20 Brandon Luzar. 29

21 Cara Pyles 32

Page 5

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Good evening. I call

3 to order the work session of the Board of

4 Education of Baltimore County for November 19th,

5 2019. I invite you to rise and recite the Pledge

6 of Allegiance to the Flag. Joining us is Brice

7 Purcell. We will then remain standing for a

8 moment of silence in recognition of those who

9 have served education in Baltimore County.

10 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

11 (Moment of silence.)

12 Thank you, that was wonderful.

13 Our first item on the agenda is

14 consideration of the November 19th, 2019 agenda.

15 Dr. Jones, are there any additions or changes to

16 tonight's agenda?

17 DR. JONES: Board Chairman Causey, there

18 are no additions or changes to tonight's agenda.

19 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Hearing none, the

20 agenda stands as presented.

21 Earlier this evening the board met in

Page 6

1 closed session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act
 2 for the following reasons: One, to discuss the
 3 appointment, employment, assignments, promotions,
 4 discipline, demotions, compensation, removal,
 5 resignations or performance evaluation of
 6 appointees, employees or officials over whom it
 7 has jurisdiction, or any other personnel matter
 8 that affects one or more specific individuals;
 9 seven, consult with counsel to obtain legal
 10 advice; and nine, to conduct collective
 11 bargaining negotiations or consider matters that
 12 relate to the negotiations. The minutes of the
 13 closed session and informational summary can be
 14 found on our website at
 15 www.bcps.org/board/informational-summaries.html.
 16 The next item on the agenda is selection
 17 of speakers. Signup cards were available to the
 18 public prior to the meeting for anyone wishing to
 19 speak at this evening's meeting. Board practice
 20 limits to ten the number of speakers at a
 21 regularly scheduled board meeting. Each speaker

Page 7

1 is allowed three minutes to address the board.
 2 The completed signup cards for this evening have
 3 been placed in this box and the first ten drawn
 4 from the box will be speakers for tonight during
 5 the public comment portion of the meeting.
 6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Our first speaker
 7 this evening is Brandon Luzar. Our second
 8 speaker is Cara Pyles. Our third speaker is
 9 Jessie Jaeger. Our fourth speaker is Dayana
 10 Bergman. Our fifth speaker is Dr. Bash Pharoan.
 11 Our sixth speaker is Melissa Rodola. Our seventh
 12 speaker is Tia Knott. Our eighth speaker is
 13 Heather Ottenia. And our final speaker is Glen
 14 Geelhaar. And they will speak later to us in the
 15 public comment portion.
 16 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Our next order of
 17 business is a special order of business,
 18 recognition of student artwork, and at this time
 19 I would like to ask Dr. Jones to join me up front
 20 for a presentation.
 21 Every year the Board of Education

Page 8

1 publishes the Comprehensive Annual Financial
 2 Report, and each year student artwork is included
 3 in the publication. The fiscal year 2019 CAFR,
 4 as we lovingly call it, includes the work of
 5 elementary school students. Later this evening
 6 the CAFR will be presented to the Board, and we
 7 would like to recognize those students whose
 8 artwork is included. Each participating student
 9 receives a gift card to Barnes & Noble Bookstore.
 10 The following students' artwork was
 11 selected. When I call your name, please join us
 12 up front and remain with us because we will take
 13 photos at the end. We have Alexa Branch from
 14 Randallstown Elementary School.
 15 (Applause.)
 16 Congratulations.
 17 The next student is Tyson Melvin from
 18 Lyons Mill Elementary School.
 19 (Applause.)
 20 Congratulations.
 21 The next student is Grace Raleigh from

Page 9

1 Honeygo Elementary School. She could not be with
 2 us tonight but we appreciate her artwork.
 3 And the next student is Erin Semblee
 4 from Cedarmere Elementary School.
 5 (Applause.)
 6 Congratulations.
 7 The next student is Niara Sharad from
 8 Cromwell Valley Elementary School.
 9 (Applause.)
 10 Congratulations.
 11 The next student is Kieran Vinkatisin
 12 from West Towson Elementary School.
 13 (Applause.)
 14 Apparently not able to join us this
 15 evening.
 16 So, the students were all given a
 17 certificate and their gift cards and we're going
 18 to take photos now, so let's give another round
 19 of applause to these students.
 20 (Applause.)
 21 We love when the students come to join

Page 10

1 us.

2 The next item on the business is new

3 business, personnel matters, and for that we call

4 forward Ms. Maria Lowery. Good evening.

5 MS. LOWERY: Good evening, Chairwoman

6 Causey, Vice Chairwoman Henn, Dr. Jones, and

7 members of the Board. I would like the Board's

8 consent for the following personnel matters,

9 retirements and resignations.

10 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to

11 approve the personnel matters as presented in

12 Exhibits F-1 and F-2?

13 MS. MACK: So move.

14 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Mack.

15 Is there a second?

16 MS. PASTEUR: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms.

18 Pasteur. Is there any discussion? All in favor,

19 please raise your hand.

20 (Show of hands.)

21 The motion carries unanimously, thank

Page 11

1 you.

2 The next item on the agenda is new

3 business, administrative appointments, and we now

4 call on Dr. Jones to present the administrative

5 appointments.

6 DR. JONES: Madam Chair, members of the

7 Board, on behalf of Dr. Williams I would like to

8 bring forward for your approval the following

9 administrative appointments: Senior fleet

10 supervisor in the Office of Transportation, and

11 specialist board certified behavior analyst in

12 the Office of Special Education.

13 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to

14 approve the administrative appointments as

15 presented in Exhibit G-1?

16 MR. OFFERMAN: So move.

17 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you, Mr.

18 Offerman. Do I have a second?

19 CHORUS OF VOICES: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you all of you.

21 Any discussion? All in favor, please raise your

Page 12

1 hand.

2 (Show of hands.)

3 The motion carries unanimously.

4 DR. JONES: Thank you. And joining us

5 this evening we had Mr. Michael Groff, would you

6 please stand?

7 (Applause.)

8 Mr. Groff is our senior fleet supervisor

9 in the Office of Transportation. His background

10 and experience includes a variety of experience

11 as a manager in the vehicle safety and compliance

12 division, the school vehicle safety inspection

13 and vehicle emissions inspection program with the

14 Maryland Department of Transportation, vehicle

15 compliance agent supervisor, vehicle compliance

16 agent I and II, and all of those experiences were

17 with the Department of Transportation, Maryland

18 Department of Transportation. He's a manager, or

19 has been a manager in the Country Club Automotive

20 field and a mechanic-inspector in Country Club

21 Automotive.

Page 13

1 Supporting Mr. Groff this evening is his

2 fiancée, Kristen McDonald; would you please

3 stand? Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 Thank you for joining us this evening.

6 We also have with us Hilary Mangi; would

7 you please stand? Specialist, board certified

8 behavior analyst, Office of Special Education.

9 Background experiences include behavior support

10 specialist in Carroll County Public Schools; ADA

11 consultant; clinical supervisor, lead ADA

12 therapist, ADA therapist, all with the Schaffer

13 Center for Early Intervention. Do you have

14 anyone joining you this evening? All right, so

15 we're all here to celebrate you this evening,

16 congratulations.

17 (Applause.)

18 And thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next

20 item of business is new business, board policies.

21 Members of the Board, the policy review committee

Page 14

1 asks that the Board accept this report of the
 2 committee's approved proposed changes to the
 3 following board policies:
 4 This is the first reading. Policy 3210,
 5 purchasing guidelines.
 6 Policy 3215, contract execution.
 7 Policy 3250, selection of design and
 8 construction consultants.
 9 These recommendations are presented to
 10 you on tonight's agenda as Exhibit H. Do I have
 11 a motion to accept the recommendation of the
 12 Board's policy review committee? No second is
 13 needed since they are, the recommendation comes
 14 from the committee. Do I have a motion?
 15 MS. MACK: So move.
 16 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Mack.
 17 Is there any discussion? All in favor, please
 18 raise your hands.
 19 (Show of hands.)
 20 Any opposed? The motion carries
 21 unanimously, thank you.

Page 15

1 Our next item is public comment. This
 2 is one of the opportunities the Board provides to
 3 hear the views and receive the advice of
 4 community members. The members of the Board
 5 appreciate hearing from interested citizens. As
 6 appropriate, we will refer your concerns to the
 7 superintendent for followup by staff. While we
 8 encourage public input on policy, programs or
 9 practices within the purview of this Board and
 10 this school system, this is not the proper forum
 11 to address specific student or employee matters,
 12 or to comment on matters not related to public
 13 education in Baltimore County. We encourage
 14 everyone to utilize existing dispute resolution
 15 processes as appropriate.
 16 I remind everyone that inappropriate
 17 personal remarks or other behavior that disrupts
 18 or interferes with the conduct of this meeting
 19 are out of order. I ask you to observe the
 20 three-minute clock which will let you know when
 21 your time is up. Please conclude your remarks

Page 16

1 when you hear the bell or see that time has
 2 expired. The microphone will be turned off at
 3 the end of your time and it could be turned off
 4 if a speaker addresses specific student or
 5 employee matters, or is commenting on matters not
 6 related to public education in Baltimore County.
 7 If not selected, the public may submit
 8 their comments to the Board members in hard copy
 9 or via email to boe@bcps.org.
 10 I will now call on our stakeholder
 11 groups to speak, and our first stakeholder for
 12 the evening is from the Baltimore County Student
 13 Council's superintendent's student advisory
 14 council, Ms. Ashley Cain. Good evening and
 15 welcome.
 16 MS. CAIN: Good evening, Chairman
 17 Causey, Vice Chair Henn, SMOB Omer and members of
 18 the Board. My name is Ashley Cain and I am the
 19 educational liaison for the Baltimore County
 20 Student Council, here on behalf of Angela Qian,
 21 president of BCSC.

Page 17

1 Tonight I would like to talk to you
 2 about what we've been doing. BCSC has been
 3 working with the county on our climate change and
 4 environmental initiatives. We recently had our
 5 first meeting of the Youth Climate Council, where
 6 we worked with government officials like
 7 Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski and
 8 Delegate Steve Lafferty to work on our
 9 initiatives to improve Baltimore County's
 10 environmental awareness and environmental
 11 activism. Through this initiative, Baltimore
 12 County students have been working with powerful
 13 groups from across the county from private and
 14 public schools, a truly intersectional effort and
 15 diverse conversation, including student
 16 organizers of the Baltimore Climate Strike last
 17 September.
 18 We have a lot to learn from our peers,
 19 including the idea that action begets action, so
 20 our action in sustainability goals will snowball
 21 to inspire other members of the community to

Page 18

1 create change. The push for sustainability might
 2 start with us but it will not end with us. We
 3 thank you for your continued support.
 4 BCSC has also been working, as always,
 5 to improve the lives of all students of Baltimore
 6 County. BCSC executive board, environmental
 7 committee, infrastructure committee, and general
 8 services committee have been working to improve
 9 school for all students and will continue to do
 10 so. As always, feel free to contact myself or
 11 Angela with any concerns or information you may
 12 have. We hope that you will continue working to
 13 ensure the best for all students in Baltimore
 14 County. Thank you.
 15 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. And our
 16 next speaker for the evening is Teachers
 17 Association of Baltimore County President Cindy
 18 Sexton. Good evening and welcome.
 19 MS. SEXTON: Good evening, Chairwoman
 20 Causey, Vice Chair Henn, Dr. Jones, and members
 21 of the Board. According to 2017-18 data the

Page 19

1 teacher shortage crisis, and it is a crisis, is
 2 at approximately 110,000 nationwide. The U.S.
 3 Department of Education reports that overall,
 4 roughly eight percent of teachers leave the
 5 profession each year. BCPS's numbers over the
 6 past three years are at or above that mark. It
 7 used to be much easier to fill teacher positions,
 8 but not so anymore.
 9 There is value in being taught by an
 10 experienced educator. We need to give our
 11 teachers time and support to develop into those
 12 experienced educators. Two weeks ago I spoke
 13 about the need for teachers to have more planning
 14 time; our newest teachers and our veterans need
 15 time to become experts in the curriculum they are
 16 teaching and that time is planning time. It's
 17 one of the items in our negotiations package and
 18 I can't stress the importance of it enough. Last
 19 week TABCO ran a social media blitz on Facebook
 20 where teachers shared what they would do with
 21 more planning time. Hundreds of teachers chimed

Page 20

1 in and almost all of them talked about how more
 2 planning time would help them better serve
 3 students.
 4 And while a great deal of time and
 5 effort goes into attracting new teachers, I urge
 6 the policy-makers in this room to concentrate
 7 their time and resources on developing and
 8 retaining high quality teachers. Instead of
 9 implementing interventions that yield minimal
 10 results in schools and are often costly,
 11 attention must be paid to what educators say they
 12 actually need to stay in our system and our
 13 profession, the repeated requests from teachers
 14 about how to support them in their daily work,
 15 well, because the money too.
 16 The U.S. Department of Labor
 17 conservatively estimates that attrition costs an
 18 employer 30 percent of the leaving employee's
 19 salary. If we take the salary scale at its
 20 lowest starting salary, \$49,472, times 30
 21 percent, the estimated cost of attrition times

Page 21

1 the number of resignations from August 1st
 2 through November 5th of this year, that's 154
 3 resignations, the cost to the system is over
 4 \$2.28 million since August 1st.
 5 I know members of this Board want to
 6 staff BCPS with highly qualified educators. As
 7 the voice of educators, I implore you to hear
 8 what we are saying. Planning time is key in
 9 recruiting us, key in retaining us, and key in
 10 helping us to create excellent student outcomes.
 11 Let's work together to find more planning time so
 12 we don't have to keep working to find replacement
 13 teachers every single year. Our kids can't wait.
 14 Thank you.
 15 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next
 16 speaker this evening is from the Baltimore County
 17 Alliance of Black School Educators, Ms. Kyria
 18 Joseph.
 19 MS. JOSEPH: Good evening, Board Chair
 20 Causey, Board Vice Chair Henn, and to our amazing
 21 West Zone Community Superintendent Dr. Jones, and

Page 22

1 board members. The Baltimore County Alliance of
 2 Black School Educators, fondly known as BCABSE,
 3 will hold our kickoff meeting this Thursday,
 4 November 21st, at five p.m. We are looking for
 5 BCPS staff, executive leadership, retired BCPS
 6 educators and parents who are ready to do the
 7 work to improve learning for students, especially
 8 students of color.

9 BCABSE is an affiliate of the National
 10 Alliance of Black School Educators, NABSE. At
 11 the NABSE 47th annual conference last week, we
 12 had the opportunity to engage with over 1,000
 13 educators from around the country. We received
 14 training on leadership development. One session
 15 by Principal Kafali posed the question, is my
 16 school better because I lead it? John F. Kennedy
 17 said that efforts and courage are not enough
 18 without purpose and direction. I ask everyone
 19 this question, is BCPS better because you are a
 20 part of it?

21 We hope everyone has a happy

Page 23

1 Thanksgiving and a wonderful time with their
 2 family. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next
 4 speaker for the evening is from the Southwest
 5 Area Education Advisory Council, Ms. Marlena
 6 Pearsell. Good evening and welcome.

7 MS. PEARSELL: Good evening, everyone,
 8 and board members and Dr. Jones. My name is
 9 Marlena Pearsell, I am the chair of the Southwest
 10 Education Advisory Council. On Monday November
 11 11th we met at Woodmoor Elementary School and
 12 while there we had a meeting specifically related
 13 to bullying and cyber bullying. We didn't have
 14 the entire geographic area represented; however,
 15 we did have a healthy discussion and dialogue
 16 along with a board member, Ms. Mack, about
 17 bullying and school safety, and it was led by
 18 BCPS Dr. Ford.

19 But nevertheless, I just wanted to bring
 20 forth today an issue that the Board needs to be
 21 aware of and perhaps take consideration on.

Page 24

1 There seems to be a limited or lack of consistent
 2 policies as it relates to certain situations such
 3 as reporting with immediate timelines. For
 4 example, one parent indicated that there was an
 5 incident in the child's bathroom, in the bathroom
 6 of the school, in which the school did not call
 7 the parent on the day it happened. It happened
 8 on Friday, the parents were not notified on that
 9 Friday; therefore, the parent found out, came up
 10 to the school to talk, had a discussion with the
 11 principal on a Monday, because obviously it was
 12 closed.

13 The other issue that was brought before
 14 us was a parent in regards to digital content and
 15 social media specifically as it relates to her
 16 child, had a text message, a threat, a
 17 threatening text message. The counselor of
 18 course indicated, you know, how do you feel, are
 19 you okay? And the child to save face as they
 20 would say in the schools, they really just said
 21 yes, I'm okay. And because of yes, I'm okay, she

Page 25

1 went along her day, and something did happen.

2 And so while it is absolutely true that
 3 we can't have a policy that accurately covers and
 4 addresses every possible situation, I think it's
 5 definitely possible to identify the persons in
 6 the building who need to be advised and how the
 7 first steps should be taken, so that these can be
 8 handled more consistently in an across-the-board
 9 systematic way. I was really shocked to hear
 10 that, and I know Ms. Mack, you can fill me with
 11 that sentiment exactly, and I think that
 12 Dr. Ford, I thank Dr. Ford because he is working
 13 on that and will get back to me with the
 14 resolution.

15 As I close, I'd just like to say that I
 16 really am very proud to say that we've had a
 17 working relationship and we continue to work with
 18 all of you, and our next meeting is December, the
 19 second Monday of the month of December. Thank
 20 you so much.

21 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next

Page 26

1 speaker for the evening is from PTA Council of
 2 Baltimore County, Andy Heggins. Good evening and
 3 welcome.
 4 MR. HEGGINS: Hello to all the board
 5 members and everyone in attendance. My name is
 6 Andy Saleem Heggins, I'm the secretary for the
 7 New Town High School PTSA and -- well, let me
 8 back up.
 9 So in the summer of this year the
 10 executive board along with Principal Martin of
 11 New Town High School met, and one of the
 12 reoccurring themes from a lot of the parents in
 13 terms of their feedback, and staff as well, was
 14 they wanted to become better and more effective
 15 advocates for the students, for the community at
 16 large. And so the executive board, we took it
 17 upon ourselves and set a goal for ourselves to
 18 help facilitate that process, do our small part
 19 to help facilitate that process.
 20 So after the first school board meeting
 21 of the year, I spoke to Dr. Williams and our

Page 27

1 district rep, Ms. Makeda Scott, and invited them
 2 to come out to a meeting to address the idea of
 3 parents being better advocates. And so they told
 4 me email, send the contact information, and you
 5 know, a lot of times, that's sort of, you know,
 6 polite speech for yeah, we're definitely not
 7 going to show up, so you can email us or
 8 whatever. But Ms. Makeda, she confirmed the very
 9 next day. Dr. Williams took a little bit longer,
 10 but I'll try not to hold that against him, and he
 11 was, unfortunately he had a scheduling conflict
 12 so he wasn't able to attend, but in his stead he
 13 sent his Community Superintendent Dr. Jones and
 14 Executive Director of School Support Dr. Scriven.
 15 So along with them we also had Mr. Bazemore,
 16 Councilman Julian Jones, and of course Ms. Makeda
 17 Scott in attendance. And we're very thankful for
 18 that because what proceeded to happen is we had
 19 an incredibly engaging conversation about how to
 20 be advocates, how to engage. Not only did, were
 21 they able to speak to sort of the macro and some

Page 28

1 of the larger issues that as a school board you
 2 have to address, but they were also able to speak
 3 to specific things taking place in our schools,
 4 and what everybody walked away with was a sense
 5 of being energized because all of the
 6 representatives, they were so passionate and so
 7 engaging and thoughtful, and they were able to
 8 take complex situations and simplify them and
 9 make it real for us, and I think that was
 10 probably one of the things that we wanted to
 11 accomplish in a meeting is not just connecting
 12 people to how they can become advocates, but
 13 understanding that it's a partnership, and so not
 14 seeing you all as titles and, you know, sort of
 15 figureheads, but seeing you as people and knowing
 16 that you are very passionate, the reason that you
 17 got into this is because you felt like you could
 18 make a difference, and so that was one of the
 19 things that was communicated really well. And so
 20 I just want to thank, again, Dr. Williams, Makeda
 21 Scott, Ms. Jones, Mrs. Whitman who isn't here,

Page 29

1 Councilman Julian Jones, Mr. Bazemore, and our
 2 Principal Martin for facilitating.
 3 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Now is the opportunity
 4 for public comment, and our first speaker for the
 5 evening is Mr. Brandon Luzar. Good evening and
 6 welcome.
 7 MR. LUZAR: Hi, good evening. My name
 8 is Brandon Luzar, I apologize for standing out of
 9 turn there at the beginning, it's my first time
 10 here. I'm a Hampton parent, I'm a parent of two
 11 children, I'm very concerned about the boundary
 12 study currently being completed. The boundary
 13 study as presented is using erroneous data and is
 14 falsely constrained. The boundary study as
 15 presented, using only three schools, not
 16 including more schools that are within the
 17 central zone, and then using outdated data, is
 18 forcing a solution that, it's going to rely on
 19 transportation.
 20 The transportation solution is going to
 21 bus students to the eighth closest school to

Page 30

1 their homes. Many of these students currently
 2 are closer to seven other schools. The schools
 3 excluded from the study, many of them,
 4 Stoneleigh, Cromwell Valley. One of the primary
 5 guiding principles, or the two primary guiding
 6 principles of the study are capacity utilization,
 7 and increasing or creating diversity. The
 8 closest school to many of these homes is among
 9 the least diverse in the county.

10 Again, another school, Cromwell Valley,
 11 which lies about halfway in between these
 12 populations and Hampton, is without explanation,
 13 again, excluded from the study. It's kind of
 14 frustrating that the data as presented by using
 15 2018 numbers is grossly underestimating the
 16 impact on Hampton. The data suggests in the
 17 study that Hampton will be at 97 percent
 18 capacity. Current data sets suggest that if
 19 completed, Hampton will be somewhere between 110
 20 and 115 percent capacity.

21 Only a few years ago prior to the

Page 31

1 renovation, we had trailers at Hampton. Now we
 2 don't know where we're going to be, and it's
 3 insulting to feel that we don't know where we're
 4 going to be, and it's just frustrating.

5 With current development in the Hampton
 6 zone, none of it is included in the study. The
 7 study, while recognizing the fact that
 8 development is happening, also recognizes that
 9 the data is not going to be used based on the
 10 development that's happening. On top of that,
 11 the development that was recognized is about half
 12 of what's actually going to happen. A number of
 13 other concerned parents here, it's one of our
 14 first times being at a BCPS meeting. I thank you
 15 for your time, I just really hope that we can
 16 have more dialogue, search for a more
 17 comprehensive solution. I don't think it's just
 18 three schools, I think you have to include
 19 everything. I think you have to consider
 20 transportation, transportation should be a
 21 constraint, and I thank you for your time. If

Page 32

1 there's any way that we can help, let us know.
 2 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next
 3 speaker for the evening is Cara Pyles. Good
 4 evening and welcome.
 5 MS. PYLES: Good evening. I'm here
 6 tonight as a homeowner in both the Hampton and
 7 Pleasant Plains districts and because I'm gravely
 8 concerned about the impacts this Pleasant Plains
 9 boundary study will have on both communities.

10 Every school named in the study is
 11 either already over capacity or will be in the
 12 next few years. I'm angered and confused because
 13 despite this being such an important topic, old
 14 outdated student numbers were used completely
 15 skewing the study. I'm also frustrated that
 16 planned construction projects impacting the
 17 Hampton school zone have not been taken into
 18 consideration. I'm downright terrified at the
 19 thought of busing children on interstates in
 20 school buses without seatbelts, despite a
 21 well-known dire shortage of bus drivers, when

Page 33

1 there are other options that haven't been
 2 considered and when there are other schools that
 3 are closer and could help alleviate the problem.
 4 I'm here to ask that the existing
 5 boundary study as currently presented to us be
 6 halted to allow time for a more comprehensive and
 7 well thought out longer lasting plan to be
 8 considered.

9 Lastly, as a parent of a dyslexic child
 10 in an already overcrowded classroom who learns a
 11 little more each day how to hide her dyslexia and
 12 learning challenges from her teachers, I'm
 13 begging you to consider including additional
 14 schools to help alleviate the blatant
 15 overcrowding issue in all of these communities.
 16 The solution is not to move kids across town in
 17 unsafe modes of transportation to schools outside
 18 of their neighborhood, but instead to finally do
 19 what's right by our children, build another
 20 school, or at the very least update existing
 21 schools to allow for more children and educators

Page 34

1 to thrive and become future leaders of our
 2 wonderful community. Thank you.
 3 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next
 4 speaker for the evening is Jessie Jaeger. Good
 5 evening and welcome.
 6 MS. JAEGER: Good evening. I'm here
 7 tonight because I am disappointed and angered at
 8 the lack of foresight of Baltimore County and
 9 BCPS. The Pleasant Plains capacity relief study
 10 and the recent high school capacity study is
 11 clear evidence that BCPS is aware of the serious
 12 overcrowding problem. Every school named in the
 13 study if not currently overcrowded, is close
 14 enough that it certainly will be within the next
 15 few years. This is a countywide problem.
 16 All students, no matter where they live
 17 in the county, deserve a good education. A
 18 crowded school does not provide a safe or a good
 19 education. Using 2018 numbers completely skews
 20 this study. In addition to the fact that 2019
 21 numbers are already much higher, new construction

Page 35

1 is not even being taken into consideration. How
 2 and when will decision-makers take into account
 3 that there are several new construction projects
 4 in the area that will bring large numbers of new
 5 students to Hampton Elementary as soon as next
 6 year?
 7 During the recent Dulaney Valley Road
 8 apartment construction, our principal was told
 9 that Hampton could expect about 12 to 15 new
 10 students. Hampton actually received 80 students
 11 from that area. I would like to know exactly why
 12 Hampton and Halstead are the only schools
 13 considered in this study. Oakleigh and Harford
 14 Hills are much closer; why bus kids across
 15 boundaries on an interstate in buses without
 16 seatbelts past closer schools with space to get
 17 to Hampton?
 18 Why was an expansion of Cromwell Valley
 19 Elementary outside of its magnet program not
 20 considered? There are surrounding neighborhoods
 21 that Cromwell Valley could take on that would

Page 36

1 alleviate Pleasant Plains and reduce the need for
 2 extra busing, again, on highways.
 3 I also want to know why Loch Raven
 4 Elementary cannot be utilized and reinstated as a
 5 school.
 6 This boundary study is a tiny solution
 7 to an enormous problem. Our population will
 8 continue to grow. We already know we are facing
 9 catastrophic overcrowding in our high schools in
 10 the next eight years. If we only focus on three
 11 schools to alleviate a countywide problem, we
 12 fail to recognize other possibilities for
 13 facilitating a solution. It's essentially
 14 kicking the can down the road, just moving the
 15 problem from one area to the other. We need more
 16 schools. We need to expand, utilize and
 17 facilitate the use of all existing buildings and
 18 schools capable of alleviating this overcrowding
 19 problem. Stop development until this problem is
 20 completely addressed using current numbers and
 21 taking into consideration the vast projected

Page 37

1 growth and expansion to these areas. Baltimore
 2 County is building skyscrapers on sand.
 3 Let's work together to build a bigger
 4 picture and solve this problem. You cannot have
 5 a good community without good schools, and an
 6 overcrowded school is not a good school. I am
 7 here to fight with you, let's do it the right way
 8 the first time for our kids, for our neighbors --
 9 (Microphone cut off.)
 10 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next
 11 speaker for the evening is Ms. Dayana Bergman.
 12 MS. BERGMAN: Good evening, everybody,
 13 and today I am Mama Bear Bergman. So, I figure
 14 with my next three minutes let's talk about how
 15 we can help with the shortage that is driving
 16 Baltimore County insane, especially when it comes
 17 to our special education students. We have some
 18 serious concerns regarding our shortage for bus
 19 drivers and our special education support
 20 one-on-one staff that tend to help a lot of our
 21 students implement those IEPs and the 504 plans.

Page 38

1 So, helpful tips with my three minutes.
 2 Let's talk about instruction. We talk about
 3 buildings, we talk about buses, but let's bring
 4 it back to what's important, educating our
 5 children and making sure they have access to
 6 their instruction.
 7 So Mama Bear's tip number one is
 8 preferential seating, what does that look like
 9 for our child? Well, preferential seating looks
 10 like for a child based on their individual needs.
 11 That doesn't mean in front of the classroom,
 12 behind the classroom, it's for the child, make
 13 that preferential seating for what that child
 14 needs.
 15 Extended time. Extended time is
 16 different for each individual child in their IEP
 17 or their 504 plan. It could be ten minutes, 30
 18 minutes, time and a half, or a few days if the
 19 child has a processing memory disorder which
 20 means they need constant reminders and
 21 organizational skills to have extended time to

Page 39

1 finish the process of turning in the work they
 2 did three days ago because they forgot.
 3 Oh, let's see. Oh, sensory frequent
 4 breaks. Frequent breaks looks very different for
 5 each individual child with an IEP. Why do we do
 6 frequent breaks? Frequent breaks is what we do
 7 to help a child get some of that sensory motor
 8 skill movement so that they can stay focused and
 9 have access to instruction. Frequent breaks does
 10 not mean that for nap time a child needed two
 11 breaks, but he needs two breaks for reading, for
 12 writing, for art or music. For each education
 13 environment, if the child is learning in that
 14 subject, that might require different frequent
 15 breaks.
 16 And why do we do the frequent breaks?
 17 Because if you do the frequent breaks, you don't
 18 have children eloping from the immediate area.
 19 Do you want that child to get their frequent
 20 movement and breaks by having it done in a
 21 structured way, or do you want to chase the child

Page 40

1 as they elope out of the classroom for 15, 20
 2 minutes? So, I know that it's a challenge, but I
 3 will be giving more helpful tips from Mama Bear
 4 Bergman moving forward. Thank you.
 5 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next
 6 speaker is Dr. Bash Pharoan. Good evening and
 7 welcome.
 8 DR. PHAROAN: Thank you, Madam
 9 President. Violence in Baltimore County is on
 10 the rise and I think the same thing in BCPS. So
 11 some communities like Franklin Middle School,
 12 Dundalk School, Lutherville Lab and others
 13 reported more bullying. Some of the communities
 14 are intimidated and not reporting, or maybe
 15 cooperating. I really want to make sure that the
 16 Board knows that such violent acts by students
 17 are behavior problems. They are a manifestation
 18 of underlying social problems and could be
 19 actually more than that.
 20 Reporting. I sit on this board for so
 21 many times, I feel it's underreported. Our goal

Page 41

1 I think should be really to look at the cause,
 2 why is it happening? There must be a cause if a
 3 student bullies somebody else or commits an act
 4 of violence. Knowing the etiology requires more
 5 staffing, and it's not really just about a
 6 numbers game, not about pouring money on the
 7 problem, it's about training teachers and staff
 8 to recognize bullying and to recognize the
 9 underlying reasons behind it. Smaller class is
 10 really well known, bigger classes will lead to
 11 students to have misbehavior, bullying and
 12 otherwise.
 13 So what I am calling on is really not to
 14 forget for the system to look at home
 15 environments. I know your task is really about
 16 BCPS, the school system, but these behavior
 17 problems with children starts at home and they
 18 could have underlying disease, so those need to
 19 be addressed.
 20 Our teachers need to be high quality
 21 teachers so they recognize the problem and treat

Page 42

1 it well, and of course they need to have adequate
 2 staffing.
 3 So why am I all of a sudden not talking
 4 about holidays, I'm talking to you about
 5 something else? Either we address the issue at
 6 the school level or we pay the price when they
 7 grow up and do mass shootings or killing because
 8 of a hamburger, or killing because of a
 9 girlfriend, or any of those silly reasons. I
 10 think the school system not only has the ability
 11 but has the duty to address these social issues
 12 as difficult as they are. And to remember my
 13 friend Roger Hayden, it's all about kids and you
 14 cannot pour money on the problem, you have to
 15 identify the factors and fix them, and money
 16 comes as an assistant to identifying the etiology
 17 of the issue. Thank you.
 18 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next
 19 speaker for the evening is Melissa Rodola. Did I
 20 say that right?
 21 MS. RODOLA: Yes.

Page 43

1 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Great. Good evening
 2 and welcome.
 3 MS. RODOLA: Good evening. I too am
 4 here as a Hampton Elementary School parent. I
 5 too am disappointed with the current Pleasant
 6 Plains capacity relief study. As you can see,
 7 there is an overcrowding problem. Each school
 8 mentioned in the study is overcrowded or close
 9 to, this countywide problem. All students
 10 deserve a good education. A crowded school does
 11 not provide for a safe or good education.
 12 The current 2018 numbers being used are
 13 not accurate. The 2019 numbers are much higher.
 14 As stated by other parents, new construction is
 15 not being taken into consideration. How and when
 16 will a decision be made to take into account the
 17 new construction projects that are in the area?
 18 This too will bring a large number of new
 19 students to Hampton Elementary School as soon as
 20 next year.
 21 Keep in mind, the recent Dulaney Valley

Page 44

1 Road apartment construction. Hampton Elementary
 2 School received 80 new students from that area.
 3 Why are Hampton and Halstead the only schools
 4 considered in this study? Again as other parents
 5 mentioned, busing kids across boundaries on an
 6 interstate past closer schools does not seem like
 7 a valuable or necessary solution.
 8 This boundary study is a tiny solution
 9 to an enormous problem. Again, I just want to
 10 repeat that. This boundary study is a tiny
 11 solution to an enormous problem. We need to
 12 think outside of these three schools. In short,
 13 as many of us have already said, we need more
 14 schools. I look forward to working with
 15 Baltimore County Schools and with all of you to
 16 solve this growing problem. Let's do right the
 17 first time, let's do right for these children.
 18 Thank you.
 19 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next
 20 speaker -- and actually I'm going to jump back.
 21 I have a, from our stakeholder group, I need to

Page 45

1 call on Mr. Ken Guttman, he's from the Career and
 2 Technology Education Advisory Council, so good
 3 evening and welcome.
 4 MR. GUTTMAN: Good evening. I'm Ken
 5 Guttman, thankful to be here today to have the
 6 opportunity to speak with you. A little
 7 background on me, I'm the chair of the Career and
 8 Technical Education Advisory Council. I'm a
 9 product of BCPS having gone to Loch Raven
 10 Elementary, Middle and High School, and I have
 11 three children currently in BCPS, one at each
 12 level.
 13 So I'm here again to highlight the CTE
 14 programs at BCPS. CTE provides 21st century
 15 career relevant education to our students, making
 16 them ready for productive careers or for college.
 17 There are currently 30 programs in ten career
 18 clusters. The programs provide employability
 19 skills, project-based learning, internship
 20 opportunities, industry apprenticeship programs
 21 and importantly, maybe most importantly, the

Page 46

1 opportunity to earn industry-recognized
 2 certifications while in high school.

3 CTE continues to form partnerships with
 4 local businesses and industry to enable students
 5 to receive hands-on training and internships.
 6 This is a critical part of CTE's success, working
 7 directly with our community employers.

8 So I have some good news to share and
 9 then some needs. Good news, a formal partnership
 10 with Tulkoff Food Products and Patapsco High
 11 School has been formed for our Apprenticeship
 12 Maryland program. Tulkoff is the first BCPS
 13 business partner to be approved by the Maryland
 14 Apprenticeship and Training Council. The content
 15 of this program is planned to be aligned with
 16 Tooling You, a manufacturing curriculum to
 17 produce future CNC operators.

18 So what does that mean? So, students
 19 coming out of Patapsco will have a certification
 20 or, more importantly, an apprenticeship to be
 21 able to maintain and service food manufacturing

Page 47

1 equipment. So this is a good program and we hope
 2 to expand in the future, and we're looking for
 3 new business partners.

4 Next up is PTECH, Pathways in Technology
 5 Early College and High School. Did anybody see
 6 PTECH's commercial in the World Series or Ravens
 7 games? PTECH is advertising on television these
 8 days, so keep an eye out for it. So PTECH is
 9 going to be starting at Owings Mills High School
 10 next year. As a reminder, PTECH is grades nine
 11 through 14, it's a school within a school.
 12 Students get their high school diploma, they also
 13 get a two-year associate's degree in six years.
 14 It includes one-on-one mentoring, workplace
 15 visits, skills instruction, paid internships in
 16 the summertime, workplace visits, so it's
 17 starting again next year in Owings Mills.

18 Already we have PTECH at Dundalk High,
 19 it's doing very well. There are 120 students
 20 there, 60 in ninth grade and 60 in tenth grade.
 21 And importantly, the companies that are

Page 48

1 supporting this at Owings Mills are Becton
 2 Dickinson, North American Millwright, Northrop
 3 Grumman and Potomac Photonics, and I'll save the
 4 rest for next month. Thank you for the
 5 opportunity.

6 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Great, thank you very
 7 much. Our next speaker for the evening is Tia
 8 Knott. Good evening and welcome.

9 MS. KNOTT: Hi, everyone. I'm here
 10 tonight to make a call to action for what has
 11 happened over the last, just in the past
 12 two-and-a-half months, the chaos, the fear of
 13 safety, and the lack of staffing for the
 14 implementation of a Special Initial Learning
 15 program, or SEL. I am here to call BCPS and the
 16 Board to action.

17 Countywide, the implementation and
 18 functionality of the SEL program is in need of
 19 severe overhaul. I have spoken with stakeholders
 20 in other schools with the SEL program and I
 21 encourage you all to speak with them as well, and

Page 49

1 speak with parents of SEL children. The program
 2 needs to be fixed. We need a thorough review of
 3 current policies, and more policies put in force
 4 for placement determination criteria for all IEPs
 5 prior to transferring students outside of their
 6 home schools. We need oversight of staffing and
 7 supports. We need to reevaluate the ratio of
 8 students to support staff for all SEL programs.
 9 We need oversight to include immediate coverage
 10 for any staffing shortages, no matter how
 11 temporary.

12 I ask that BCPS have strict
 13 qualifications and checks and balances for all
 14 IEPs that determine the placement of a student.
 15 I ask the Board to read clearly the intent of
 16 IDEA and COMAR's Education Article. I ask you to
 17 review your budget for special education,
 18 inclusive of state and federal funding under
 19 IDEA, to really optimize the use of funds to
 20 properly determine students capable of success
 21 upon placement into a SEL program, and to keep

Page 50

1 each program properly and fully staffed at all
 2 times.
 3 I think BCPS can do a better job of
 4 providing the least restrictive education to all
 5 children. I know technically LRE is only a
 6 legally protected right for children with
 7 disabilities, but I believe we all can agree that
 8 a goal of BCPS is for all students to have the
 9 least restrictive education. I can't tell you
 10 how many times our families have heard that
 11 violence or outbursts will just have to be
 12 tolerated because this or that SEL student
 13 deserves a least restrictive education.
 14 Actually, a critical qualifier of LRE is for the
 15 maximum extent possible.
 16 We need to do a better job of
 17 determining the best environment for each child
 18 that we allow, that will allow them to get an
 19 education in a surrounding that supports their
 20 emotional healing. I think it is pretty well
 21 known that not every child does well in a crowd

Page 51

1 or in a public setting. When an IEP team does
 2 not consider the emotional impact of a physical
 3 setting on a child but rather focuses on the
 4 misconception that a program within a general
 5 education system is least restrictive, they are
 6 setting that child up for failure -- in the
 7 meantime -- I'm sorry, I just lost my place.
 8 Sorry. For setting that child up for failure and
 9 potentially setting them back in any emotional
 10 growth they may have had by putting them into a
 11 large general setting.
 12 In the meantime, the course between a
 13 child being overwhelmed from their setting and
 14 the child acting out, all children within the
 15 school can potentially be put into the crossfire.
 16 I lost my place after that, I'm very
 17 sorry, I think I dropped my paper back at my
 18 chair, but I do thank you.
 19 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our next
 20 speaker for the evening is Heather Ottenia. Good
 21 evening and welcome.

Page 52

1 MS. OTTENIA: Good evening to everybody,
 2 I really appreciate your time, and I just want to
 3 take a few minutes to quickly kind of summarize
 4 and present some ideas and thoughts that I have
 5 as a Baltimore County parent of two. I have a
 6 kindergartner and a second grader in Baltimore
 7 County, and I come to you not just as a parent of
 8 Hampton Elementary but as a parent of the school
 9 system. I personally work in Baltimore City
 10 Schools so I have seen a lot of schools, I've
 11 seen lots of differences in all of these things.
 12 And yes, there is a boundary setting
 13 that has been on the table for Hampton, Halstead
 14 and Pleasant Plains, and while I do understand
 15 overcrowding, the concern that that brings up, my
 16 concern with Baltimore County in general over the
 17 years, because I have a student in another school
 18 in the county, is what from the parents side
 19 seems like a shortsighted, short thought out,
 20 short-term, nearsighted, whatever adjective you
 21 want to put, plan to alleviate a problem.

Page 53

1 Everything is a very pressing issue. We need new
 2 high schools, we need new this, new that, and
 3 it's impossible to kind of figure out a solution
 4 that solves everything. But I would just really
 5 implore the Board to work with families, schools,
 6 principals, stakeholders, everyone that they can
 7 possibly get their hands on, to look for
 8 solutions to solve these overcrowding, these
 9 disproportionate groupings of students, period,
 10 and solve them in a way that actually makes a
 11 real solution for more than just one, two or
 12 three schools.
 13 It's terrifying to me that my kid, as
 14 close as he lives to school, does go on 695 in a
 15 bus in the afternoon at four o'clock with no
 16 seatbelt, my kindergartner, and they think it's
 17 fun but it terrifies me. And you have a kid on a
 18 bus from longer time, coming from farther
 19 distances past schools that could possibly house
 20 those kids in neighborhoods, with kids from
 21 neighborhoods closer to them, seems like a much

Page 54

1 more reasonable idea than shifting and shuffling
 2 and solving one quick solution.
 3 Again, I think it's shortsighted and I
 4 think there's definitely a lot of very talented
 5 and educated and very insightful and creative
 6 people who might be able to come up with better
 7 solutions for this that would be a long-term
 8 solution and be more impactful than just right
 9 now for a little bitty situation. I thank you
 10 for your time and hope you will have a lovely
 11 Thanksgiving. Thank you.
 12 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Our final
 13 speaker for the evening is Mr. Glen Geelhaar.
 14 Good evening and welcome.
 15 MR. GEELHAAR: Good evening, Chairwoman
 16 Causey, Vice Chair Henn, distinguished members of
 17 the Board of Education, thank you all for your
 18 service. So earlier tonight you had a visit from
 19 Mama Bear Bergman. Tonight I'd like to present
 20 to you the Lorax. My daughter made this by
 21 freehand, my daughter Brittany, and it's got the

Page 55

1 little don't sign, and it says cut down trees,
 2 and I guess I would add to that, unless it's
 3 absolutely necessary.
 4 Earlier tonight a number of people
 5 commented about overcrowding in schools like
 6 Pleasant Plains and, you know, one of the reasons
 7 that a lot of these schools around the Parkville
 8 area are overcrowded is because this Board, not
 9 this Board, but the Board of Education decided to
 10 close Loch Raven Elementary School, Parkville
 11 Elementary School, they did a big consolidation
 12 and now we're paying, our children are paying the
 13 price.
 14 A few years back one of the previous
 15 superintendents had a town hall meeting, some of
 16 you were probably there, it was at Perry Hall
 17 High School, it had a follow-up meeting at Loch
 18 Raven High School. And the superintendent said,
 19 you know, do you, the people in attendance, know
 20 of any county-owned properties that, you know,
 21 would be suitable for a new elementary school to

Page 56

1 bring relief? And me as a graduate of Parkville
 2 Elementary School, which was on Hiss Avenue, I
 3 said hey, I know a spot. I said right down at
 4 the end of the same street is a property that was
 5 a private house, a private residence up until
 6 1975 when the county bought it, next to a park,
 7 it was a private residence. And I said well,
 8 hey, this is over a 20-acre property, why not
 9 take a look at that. It would have brought
 10 relief to Pleasant Plains, it would have brought
 11 relief to a lot of the Parkville area because it
 12 would have replaced the old Parkville Elementary
 13 School.
 14 More recently I received some emails to
 15 this Board that I was copied on, and also to the
 16 county executive, saying hey, why not look at the
 17 old Rosedale Elementary School. We have, it's
 18 been a temporary home to, I think Colgate
 19 currently, and to Victory Villa, so you know,
 20 that building has proven to be a viable place for
 21 an elementary school. So when your budget is

Page 57

1 approved, or capital budget is approved, there's
 2 a plan right now to build a new northeast
 3 elementary school at Ridge Road, Gum Springs and
 4 Rossville Boulevard. And this is a 20-acre
 5 wooded property, and don't get me wrong, we
 6 really do need a new northeast school, but my
 7 question is, and this guy's question is, is this
 8 the best place for the school?
 9 I mentioned Hiss Avenue. It would have
 10 certainly brought a lot more relief over to
 11 places like Pleasant Plains. You know, looking
 12 at Rosedale, maybe a combination of school
 13 projects, but you know, my hope is that perhaps
 14 you can take the pause button or hit the pause
 15 button and revisit the location for this school
 16 and just see, you know, is this really the best
 17 spot to give you the most relief for the least
 18 amount of money.
 19 Thanks again for your service.
 20 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you.
 21 The next item on the agenda is new

Page 58

1 business, action taken in closed session, and for
 2 that I call on Mr. Nussbaum. Excuse me. I'm
 3 sorry, there is one additional public speaking
 4 spot. At first reader we have, citizens have the
 5 ability to provide public comment on proposed
 6 changes to policies, and for Policy 3250 I call
 7 on Ms. Dayana Bergman, who signed up earlier this
 8 evening.
 9 MS. BERGMAN: So, Policy 3250 is going
 10 to set some guidelines to understand how we do
 11 the contracts, and the only thing that I wanted
 12 to see if it was considered, that I brought up in
 13 the past and I'm not exactly sure if this is the
 14 policy that pertains to it, but when a contract
 15 goes out for bid for either a construction job
 16 for building new schools or renovation job
 17 project, each company that's going for that bid,
 18 some of them could use certain grants that are
 19 available, and I wanted the opportunity if
 20 somebody was bringing in a lower estimate of
 21 construction of a building, to share that

Page 59

1 information, how that was possible because they
 2 possibly qualified for a grant. So that was
 3 something that I had mentioned in the past about
 4 not leaving any money on the table, and sometimes
 5 the companies that qualify for those grants for
 6 construction or renovation projects, they could
 7 come in with a lower number to complete the job
 8 because they qualified. So I wanted that option
 9 to be available for them to disclose, if a
 10 company does qualify, and that's why they're
 11 bringing that lower number, so they don't get
 12 bypassed on those construction projects. So,
 13 yeah, that was it. Thank you.
 14 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. Now we are
 15 going to item J, new business, action taken in
 16 closed session, and for that we have
 17 Mr. Nussbaum.
 18 MR. NUSSBAUM: Thank you. Earlier this
 19 evening the Board considered an appeal regarding
 20 a confidential student matter in your
 21 quasi-judicial capacity. That matter was

Page 60

1 considered on the record because there was no
 2 request for an oral argument made, so at this
 3 time it would be appropriate to confirm the
 4 action that was taken by the Board in closed
 5 session in that matter, which was summary --
 6 which was, excuse me, Hearing Examiner Number
 7 20-27.
 8 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Do I have a motion to
 9 approve the action taken in closed session?
 10 MS. MACK: So move.
 11 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Mack.
 12 Do I have a second?
 13 MR. OFFERMAN: Second.
 14 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you,
 15 Mr. Offerman. Is there any discussion? All in
 16 favor, please raise your hand.
 17 (Show of hands.)
 18 The motion carries unanimously.
 19 MR. NUSSBAUM: Thank you, and the order
 20 is on the table to be signed before you leave.
 21 Thank you.

Page 61

1 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. The next
 2 item is new business reports, and we call on
 3 Mr. Kuehn from the audit committee to introduce
 4 the fiscal year 2019 Comprehensive Annual
 5 Financial Report and Audit.
 6 MR. KUEHN: All right, hold onto your
 7 seats, there's going to be some exciting stuff
 8 coming up. Mr. George Sayers, can you please
 9 come up and talk to us about this or, just to
 10 give a little background, the Comprehensive
 11 Annual Financial Report is prepared annually in
 12 compliance with the public school laws in the
 13 State of Maryland. All funds and accounts of the
 14 Board are included in this. While the Board is
 15 an entity created and governed by state law, it
 16 has been defined as a component unit of the
 17 Baltimore County Government for financial
 18 reporting purposes.
 19 The financial statements for fiscal year
 20 2019 have been audited by Clifton Larson Allen
 21 LLP in accordance with state law. The

Page 62

1 independent auditor's report is included in the
 2 financial section of the CAFR. As required as a
 3 condition of receipt of federal funds, Clifton
 4 Larson Allen LLP also conducted an annual audit
 5 of federal funds. The fiscal year 2019 single
 6 audit of federal funds is also provided. This
 7 can be found on BoardDocs under this section
 8 electronically, and I'm guessing at some point it
 9 will be put online, just like 2018.

10 MR. SAYERS: It will immediately as soon
 11 as possible after this meeting, yes.

12 Thank you very much for those comments.
 13 I would like to just add that on September 27th,
 14 Clifton Larson Allen issued their most favorable
 15 unmodified opinion on our financial statements,
 16 indicating that the statements fairly present in
 17 all material aspects the financial position of
 18 the Board, and that we have complied with all
 19 federal requirements for our major grant
 20 programs.

21 The CAFR and single audit were then

Page 63

1 filed as required on September 30th with MSDE,
 2 with Baltimore County Government, and the
 3 Department of Legislative Services.

4 And last month on October 15th we met
 5 with the Board's audit committee, my staff and a
 6 director from Clifton Larson Allen, to discuss
 7 the statements and answer questions.

8 And I just wanted to also add that the
 9 Office of Financial Reporting and the Department
 10 of Fiscal Services has been awarded, has been
 11 recognized by both the Government Finance
 12 Officers Association and the Association of
 13 School Business Officials for putting together
 14 the document and receiving, and being awarded and
 15 recognized for that effort, and simply ask that
 16 the Board accept these reports tonight.

17 MR. KUEHN: Are there any sections or
 18 areas of the report that you would want to, you
 19 know, focus our attention on or, you know, share,
 20 to call out besides the fact that you guys did
 21 such a fine job that you got an award for it?

Page 64

1 MR. SAYERS: Well, I think what's, maybe
 2 I'll call attention to what is not here, which
 3 are any management comments that were, when the
 4 auditors find areas of deficiency, they would
 5 bring those to the superintendent's attention and
 6 we would take corrective actions, and in this
 7 issue there are no such comments, so we're very
 8 proud of that. But other than that, I don't. If
 9 there's any questions, I'm happy to answer them.

10 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Board members? Well,
 11 hearing no questions, I'll just highlight a few
 12 pages from earlier this evening: We talked about
 13 our amazing student artwork and we have one
 14 example here from our Cedarmere Elementary
 15 School, so even those of you who don't want to
 16 pore over this as we do, you can go online and
 17 look at the student artwork, and the last one
 18 I'll leave you with is this one.

19 MR. SAYERS: That's page 41.

20 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Page 41, wishing
 21 everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. So thank you very

Page 65

1 much, Mr. Sayers.

2 MR. SAYERS: Thank you all very much.
 3 Good evening.

4 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: The next item on the
 5 agenda is Item L, board committee updates, and
 6 the board chair will go around the room seeking
 7 comments from committee chairs, and I started on
 8 that side, so I can start on this side?
 9 Mr. Offerman? Or, I'm sorry, I'll take that one.
 10 Mr. Kuehn?

11 MR. KUEHN: Just for the last audit
 12 committee, I was absent, so I will defer to
 13 Ms. Causey, who's the vice chair, and I believe
 14 ran the meeting.

15 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. We had a
 16 great meeting, they presented the CAFR to us, as
 17 well as giving updates on the work plan, and we
 18 look forward to the next meeting coming up in
 19 December. Thank you.

20 Ms. Pasteur, for legislative and
 21 government relations committee.

Page 66	Page 68
<p>1 MS. PASTEUR: Yes, good day. 2 Mr. Bazemore and I attended the May legislative 3 meeting, a lot was discussed from Kirwan to the 4 building funding committee to the Build to Learn. 5 Just pointing out that when the session begins, 6 House and Senate Bill Number 1 for both will be 7 the Build to Learn bills. That was redundant, 8 but that's good news, that both the Senate and 9 the legislature will be taking a look at that, 10 that is real good news, so we're very hopeful 11 with that. 12 Also know that on February 13th, we will 13 have Legislative Day in Annapolis, and so I 14 encourage board members and TABCO members and 15 parents and friends, and everyone to come to 16 Annapolis, and Sharon and Dayana, come to 17 Annapolis and meet with our elected officials and 18 talk about what we need, and Dr. McComas, come 19 too. Thank you. 20 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Ms. Henn, for 21 buildings and contracts.</p>	<p>1 bringing topics to the curriculum committee that 2 helped the curriculum committee board members 3 have a better understanding of policies and 4 procedures that affect our students and 5 different curriculum offerings, and we 6 appreciate that. 7 Most recently, board members made 8 specific requests of Dr. McComas's team and as a 9 result, during this week's curriculum committee 10 meeting, staff will provide an overview of BCPS's 11 social emotional learning programs to the 12 committee members. In January staff will provide 13 an overview of magnet programs, and then in 14 February, Dr. McComas's staff will speak to 15 BCPS's use of bridge projects to meet graduation 16 requirements, and we appreciate taking those 17 topics on. 18 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. That 19 concludes our committee reports. The next item 20 is Item M, information, and on BoardDocs is a 21 number of pieces of information, including</p>
Page 67	Page 69
<p>1 MS. HENN: There are no updates for 2 buildings and contracts. 3 CHAIRMAN CAUSEY: Thank you. And policy 4 review committee, we met November 11th and we 5 discussed several policies, including Policy 6 5110, admissions; Policy 8120, purpose, role and 7 responsibilities of the Board of Education. We 8 also discussed Policy 2310, organizational 9 charts, and Policy 4009, emergency closings, 10 employee attendance. All of our committee 11 meetings are available on line under the Board of 12 Education leadership tab, so you can find out 13 when the next meetings are. You can also go 14 there and see the agenda for the upcoming 15 meetings, and you can also go there to find the 16 minutes for the meetings, both in educational 17 summary, educational transparency summary as well 18 as the full video. That's my report. Thank you. 19 Ms. Mack, for curriculum. 20 MS. MACK: Yes, thank you. For almost a 21 year now, Dr. McComas and her team have been</p>	<p>1 Revised Superintendent's Rule 6301, instruction, 2 schools and school calendar; Revised 3 Superintendent's Rule 6702, instruction, 4 extracurricular activities, intramural, 5 interscholastic and corollary athletic programs; 6 also Revised Superintendent's Rule 7530, new 7 construction, naming or renaming area of a school 8 or its grounds. Additionally, there are 9 financial reports for the months ending in 10 September 2018 and 2019. We also have our 11 Central Area Advisory Council minutes, Northwest 12 Area Education Advisory Council minutes, and 13 Southeast Area Education Advisory Council minutes 14 for October, and also Southwest Area Education 15 Advisory Council minutes of October, are all in 16 BoardDocs. 17 The next item is announcements. The 18 next board meeting is going to be Tuesday, 19 December 3rd, 2019, right here at 6:30. 20 And with that, our meeting is 21 complete. We wish everyone a happy and healthy</p>

1 and safe Thanksgiving. The meeting is
2 adjourned.

3 (Meeting adjourned.)
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1 STATE OF MARYLAND SS:

2 I, Paul A. Gasparotti, a Notary Public of the
3 State of Maryland, do hereby certify that these
4 proceedings were transcribed by me and this
5 transcript is a true record of what's audible on
6 the recording.

7 I further certify that I am not of counsel to
8 any of the parties nor an employee of counsel nor
9 related to any of the parties nor in any way
10 interested in the outcome of this action.

11
12 As witness my hand and notarial seal this 22nd
13 day of November, 2019.

14
15 My commission expires: September 3, 2022
16

17 _____
18 Notary Public
19
20
21

WORD INDEX

<p>< \$ > \$2.28 21:4 \$49,472 20:20</p> <p>< 1 > 1 66:6 1,000 22:12 10 3:9 11 3:10 110 30:19 110,000 19:2 115 30:20 11th 23:11 67:4 12 35:9 120 47:19 13 3:11 13th 66:12 14 47:11 15 35:9 40:1 154 21:2 15th 63:4 16 3:12, 13 18 3:14 19 1:10 1975 56:6 19th 5:4, 14 1st 21:1, 4</p> <p>< 2 > 20 40:1 2017-18 18:21 2018 30:15 34:19 43:12 62:9 69:10 2019 1:10 5:5, 14 8:3 34:20 43:13 61:4, 20 62:5 69:10, 19 71:13 2022 71:15 20-27 60:7 20-acre 56:8 57:4 21 3:15 21st 22:4 45:14 22nd 71:12 23 3:16</p>	<p>2310 67:8 26 3:17 27th 62:13 29 3:19, 20</p> <p>< 3 > 3 71:15 30 20:18, 20 38:17 45:17 30th 63:1 32 3:21 3210 14:4 3215 14:6 3250 4:9 14:7 58:6, 9 34 4:1 37 4:2 3rd 69:19</p> <p>< 4 > 40 4:3 4009 67:9 41 64:19, 20 43 4:4 45 3:18 4:5 47th 22:11 48 4:6</p> <p>< 5 > 5 3:2, 3, 4 504 37:21 38:17 5110 67:6 52 4:7 54 4:8 58 4:9, 10 5th 21:2</p> <p>< 6 > 6 3:5 6:30 69:19 60 47:20, 20 61 4:12 6301 69:1 65 4:13, 14, 15 67 4:16, 17, 18 6702 69:3 68 4:19 69 4:20</p>	<p>695 53:14</p> <p>< 7 > 7 3:6, 8 7530 69:6</p> <p>< 8 > 80 35:10 44:2 8120 67:6</p> <p>< 9 > 97 30:17</p> <p>< A > ability 42:10 58:5 able 9:14 27:12, 21 28:2, 7 46:21 54:6 absent 65:12 absolutely 25:2 55:3 accept 14:1, 11 63:16 access 38:5 39:9 accomplish 28:11 account 35:2 43:16 accounts 61:13 accurate 43:13 accurately 25:3 across-the-board 25:8 Act 6:1 41:3 acting 51:14 action 17:19, 19, 20 48:10, 16 58:1 59:15 60:4, 9 71:10 Actions 4:11 64:6 activism 17:11 activities 69:4 acts 40:16 ADA 13:10, 11, 12 add 55:2 62:13</p>	<p>63:8 addition 34:20 additional 33:13 58:3 Additionally 69:8 additions 5:15, 18 address 7:1 15:11 27:2 28:2 42:5, 11 addressed 36:20 41:19 addresses 16:4 25:4 adequate 42:1 adjective 52:20 adjourned 70:2, 3 Administrative 3:10 11:3, 4, 9, 14 admissions 67:6 advertising 47:7 advice 6:10 15:3 advised 25:6 Advisory 3:12 16:13 23:5, 10 45:2, 8 69:11, 12, 13, 15 advocates 26:15 27:3, 20 28:12 AEAC 3:16 affect 68:4 affiliate 22:9 afternoon 53:15 Agenda 3:4 5:13, 14, 16, 18, 20 6:16 11:2 14:10 57:21 65:5 67:14 agent 12:15, 16 ago 19:12 30:21 39:2 agree 50:7 Alexa 8:13 aligned 46:15 Allegiance 3:3 5:6, 10</p>	<p>Allen 61:20 62:4, 14 63:6 alleviate 33:3, 14 36:1, 11 52:21 alleviating 36:18 Alliance 21:17 22:1, 10 allow 33:6, 21 50:18, 18 allowed 7:1 amazing 21:20 64:13 American 48:2 amount 57:18 analyst 11:11 13:8 Andy 26:2, 6 Angela 16:20 18:11 angered 32:12 34:7 Annapolis 66:13, 16, 17 Announcements 4:20 69:17 Annual 8:1 22:11 61:4, 11 62:4 annually 61:11 answer 63:7 64:9 anybody 47:5 anymore 19:8 apartment 35:8 44:1 apologize 29:8 Apparently 9:14 appeal 59:19 Applause 8:15, 19 9:5, 9, 13, 19, 20 12:7 13:4, 17 appointees 6:6 appointment 6:3 Appointments 3:10 11:3, 5, 9, 14</p>
--	---	---	---	--

appreciate 9:2
15:5 52:2 68:6,
16
apprenticeship
45:20 46:11, 14,
20
appropriate
15:6, 15 60:3
Approval 3:4
11:8
approve 10:11
11:14 60:9
approved 14:2
46:13 57:1, 1
approximately
19:2
Area 23:5, 14
35:4, 11 36:15
39:18 43:17
44:2 55:8
56:11 69:7, 11,
12, 13, 14
areas 37:1
63:18 64:4
argument 60:2
art 39:12
Article 49:16
Artwork 3:8
7:18 8:2, 8, 10
9:2 64:13, 17
Ashley 16:14, 18
asks 14:1
aspects 62:17
assignments 6:3
assistant 42:16
associate's 47:13
Association
18:17 63:12, 12
athletic 69:5
attend 27:12
attendance 26:5
27:17 55:19
67:10
attended 66:2
attention 20:11
63:19 64:2, 5
attracting 20:5
attrition 20:17,
21
audible 71:5

Audit 4:12, 14
61:3, 5 62:4, 6,
21 63:5 65:11
audited 61:20
auditors 64:4
auditor's 62:1
August 21:1, 4
Automotive
12:19, 21
available 6:17
58:19 59:9
67:11
Avenue 56:2
57:9
award 63:21
awarded 63:10,
14
aware 23:21
34:11
awareness 17:10

< B >
back 25:13
26:8 38:4
44:20 51:9, 17
55:14
background
12:9 13:9 45:7
61:10
balances 49:13
BALTIMORE
1:2 3:17 5:4, 9
15:13 16:6, 12,
19 17:7, 9, 11,
16 18:5, 13, 17
21:16 22:1
26:2 34:8 37:1,
16 40:9 44:15
52:5, 6, 9, 16
61:17 63:2
bargaining 6:11
Barnes 8:9
based 31:9
38:10
Bash 4:3 7:10
40:6
bathroom 24:5,
5

Bazemore
27:15 29:1
66:2
BCABSE 3:15
22:2, 9
BCPS 21:6
22:5, 5, 19
23:18 31:14
34:9, 11 40:10
41:16 45:9, 11,
14 46:12 48:15
49:12 50:3, 8
BCPS's 19:5
68:10, 15
BCSC 3:13
16:21 17:2
18:4, 6
Bear 37:13
40:3 54:19
Bear's 38:7
Becton 48:1
begets 17:19
begging 33:13
beginning 29:9
begins 66:5
behalf 11:7
16:20
behavior 11:11
13:8, 9 15:17
40:17 41:16
believe 50:7
65:13
bell 16:1
Bergman 4:2,
10 7:10 37:11,
12, 13 40:4
54:19 58:7, 9
best 18:13
50:17 57:8, 16
better 20:2
22:16, 19 26:14
27:3 50:3, 16
54:6 68:3
bid 58:15, 17
big 55:11
bigger 37:3
41:10
Bill 66:6
bills 66:7

bit 27:9
bitty 54:9
Black 21:17
22:2, 10
blatant 33:14
blitz 19:19
BOARD 1:1, 6
2:1, 3 3:11
4:13 5:3, 17, 21
6:15, 19, 21 7:1,
21 8:6 10:7
11:7, 11 13:7,
20, 21 14:1, 3
15:2, 4, 9 16:8,
18 18:6, 21
21:5, 19, 20
22:1 23:8, 16,
20 26:4, 10, 16,
20 28:1 40:16,
20 48:16 49:15
53:5 54:17
55:8, 9, 9 56:15
59:19 60:4
61:14, 14 62:18
63:16 64:10
65:5, 6 66:14
67:7, 11 68:2, 7
69:18
BoardDocs 62:7
68:20 69:16
Board's 10:7
14:12 63:5
boe@bcps.org
16:9
Bookstore 8:9
bought 56:6
Boulevard 57:4
boundaries
35:15 44:5
boundary 29:11,
12, 14 32:9
33:5 36:6 44:8,
10 52:12
box 7:3, 4
Branch 8:13
Brandon 3:20
7:7 29:5, 8
breaks 39:4, 4,
6, 6, 9, 11, 11, 15,

16, 17, 20
Brice 5:6
bridge 68:15
bring 11:8
23:19 35:4
38:3 43:18
56:1 64:5
bringing 58:20
59:11 68:1
brings 52:15
Brittany 54:21
brought 24:13
56:9, 10 57:10
58:12
budget 49:17
56:21 57:1
build 33:19
37:3 57:2 66:4,
7
building 25:6
37:2 56:20
58:16, 21 66:4
Buildings 4:16
36:17 38:3
66:21 67:2
bullies 41:3
bullying 23:13,
13, 17 40:13
41:8, 11
bus 29:21
32:21 35:14
37:18 53:15, 18
buses 32:20
35:15 38:3
Business 3:7, 9,
10, 11 4:11
7:17, 17 10:2, 3
11:3 13:20, 20
46:13 47:3
58:1 59:15
61:2 63:13
businesses 46:4
busing 32:19
36:2 44:5
button 57:14, 15
bypassed 59:12

< C >

CAFR 4:12
8:3, 6 62:2, 21
65:16
Cain 16:14, 16,
18
calendar 69:2
Call 3:2 5:2
8:4, 11 10:3
11:4 16:10
24:6 45:1
48:10, 15 58:2,
6 61:2 63:20
64:2
calling 41:13
capable 36:18
49:20
capacity 30:6,
18, 20 32:11
34:9, 10 43:6
59:21
capital 57:1
Cara 3:21 7:8
32:3
card 8:9
cards 6:17 7:2
9:17
Career 45:1, 7,
15, 17
careers 45:16
carries 10:21
12:3 14:20
60:18
Carroll 13:10
catastrophic
36:9
cause 41:1, 2
Causey 2:3 5:2,
17, 19 7:16
10:6, 10, 14, 17
11:13, 17, 20
13:19 14:16
16:17 18:15, 20
21:15, 20 23:3
25:21 29:3
32:2 34:3
37:10 40:5
42:18 43:1
44:19 48:6
51:19 54:12, 16
57:20 59:14

60:8, 11, 14
61:1 64:10, 20
65:4, 13, 15
66:20 67:3
68:18
Cedarmere 9:4
64:14
celebrate 13:15
Center 13:13
central 29:17
69:11
century 45:14
certain 24:2
58:18
certainly 34:14
57:10
certificate 9:17
certification
46:19
certifications
46:2
certified 11:11
13:7
certify 71:3, 7
Chair 2:3, 4
11:6 16:17
18:20 21:19, 20
23:9 45:7
51:18 54:16
65:6, 13
CHAIRMAN
5:2, 17, 19 7:16
10:10, 14, 17
11:13, 17, 20
13:19 14:16
16:16 18:15
21:15 23:3
25:21 29:3
32:2 34:3
37:10 40:5
42:18 43:1
44:19 48:6
51:19 54:12
57:20 59:14
60:8, 11, 14
61:1 64:10, 20
65:4, 15 66:20
67:3 68:18
chairs 65:7

Chairwoman
10:5, 6 18:19
54:15
challenge 40:2
challenges 33:12
change 17:3
18:1
changes 5:15,
18 14:2 58:6
chaos 48:12
charts 67:9
chase 39:21
checks 49:13
Cheryl 2:10
child 24:16, 19
33:9 38:9, 10,
12, 13, 16, 19
39:5, 7, 10, 13,
19, 21 50:17, 21
51:3, 6, 8, 13, 14
children 29:11
32:19 33:19, 21
38:5 39:18
41:17 44:17
45:11 49:1
50:5, 6 51:14
55:12
child's 24:5
chimed 19:21
CHORUS 11:19
Cindy 18:17
citizens 15:5
58:4
City 52:9
class 41:9
classes 41:10
classroom
33:10 38:11, 12
40:1
clear 34:11
clearly 49:15
Clifton 61:20
62:3, 14 63:6
climate 17:3, 5,
16
clinical 13:11
clock 15:20
close 25:15
34:13 43:8
53:14 55:10

Closed 3:5
4:11 6:1, 13
24:12 58:1
59:16 60:4, 9
closer 30:2
33:3 35:14, 16
44:6 53:21
closest 29:21
30:8
closings 67:9
Club 12:19, 20
clusters 45:18
CNC 46:17
Colgate 56:18
collective 6:10
college 45:16
47:5
color 22:8
COMAR's
49:16
combination
57:12
come 9:21
27:2 52:7 54:6
59:7 61:9
66:15, 16, 18
comes 14:13
37:16 42:16
coming 46:19
53:18 61:8
65:18
Comment 3:19
4:9 7:5, 15
15:1, 12 29:4
58:5
commented 55:5
commenting
16:5
comments 16:8
62:12 64:3, 7
65:7
commercial
47:6
commission
71:15
commits 41:3
Committee 4:13
13:21 14:12, 14
18:7, 7, 8 61:3
63:5 65:5, 7, 12,

21 66:4 67:4,
10 68:1, 2, 9, 12,
19
committee's
14:2
communicated
28:19
communities
32:9 33:15
40:11, 13
community
15:4 17:21
21:21 26:15
27:13 34:2
37:5 46:7
companies
47:21 59:5
company 58:17
59:10
compensation
6:4
complete 59:7
69:21
completed 7:2
29:12 30:19
completely
32:14 34:19
36:20
complex 28:8
compliance
12:11, 15, 15
61:12
complied 62:18
component
61:16
Comprehensive
8:1 31:17 33:6
61:4, 10
concentrate
20:6
concern 52:15,
16
concerned
29:11 31:13
32:8
concerns 15:6
18:11 37:18
conclude 15:21
concludes 68:19
condition 62:3

<p>conduct 6:10 15:18 conducted 62:4 conference 22:11 confidential 59:20 confirm 60:3 confirmed 27:8 conflict 27:11 confused 32:12 Congratulations 8:16, 20 9:6, 10 13:16 connecting 28:11 consent 10:8 conservatively 20:17 consider 6:11 31:19 33:13 51:2 consideration 5:14 23:21 32:18 35:1 36:21 43:15 considered 33:2, 8 35:13, 20 44:4 58:12 59:19 60:1 consistent 24:1 consistently 25:8 consolidation 55:11 constant 38:20 constrained 29:14 constraint 31:21 construction 14:8 32:16 34:21 35:3, 8 43:14, 17 44:1 58:15, 21 59:6, 12 69:7 consult 6:9 consultant 13:11 consultants 14:8 contact 18:10 27:4</p>	<p>content 24:14 46:14 continue 18:9, 12 25:17 36:8 continued 18:3 continues 46:3 contract 14:6 58:14 Contracts 4:16 58:11 66:21 67:2 conversation 17:15 27:19 cooperating 40:15 copied 56:15 copy 16:8 corollary 69:5 corrective 64:6 cost 20:21 21:3 costly 20:10 costs 20:17 Council 3:17 16:14, 20 17:5 23:5, 10 26:1 45:2, 8 46:14 69:11, 12, 13, 15 Councilman 27:16 29:1 Council's 16:13 counsel 6:9 71:7, 8 counselor 24:17 Country 12:19, 20 22:13 COUNTY 1:2 3:17 5:4, 9 13:10 15:13 16:6, 12, 19 17:3, 7, 12, 13 18:6, 14, 17 21:16 22:1 26:2 30:9 34:8, 17 37:2, 16 40:9 44:15 52:5, 7, 16, 18 56:6, 16 61:17 63:2 county-owned</p>	<p>55:20 County's 17:9 countywide 34:15 36:11 43:9 48:17 courage 22:17 course 24:18 27:16 42:1 51:12 coverage 49:9 covers 25:3 create 18:1 21:10 created 61:15 creating 30:7 creative 54:5 crisis 19:1, 1 criteria 49:4 critical 46:6 50:14 Cromwell 9:8 30:4, 10 35:18, 21 crossfire 51:15 crowd 50:21 crowded 34:18 43:10 CTE 45:13, 14 46:3 CTEAC 3:18 4:5 CTE's 46:6 Current 30:18 31:5 36:20 43:5, 12 49:3 currently 29:12 30:1 33:5 34:13 45:11, 17 56:19 Curriculum 4:18 19:15 46:16 67:19 68:1, 2, 5, 9 cut 37:9 55:1 cyber 23:13 < D > daily 20:14</p>	<p>data 18:21 29:13, 17 30:14, 16, 18 31:9 daughter 54:20, 21 day 24:7 25:1 27:9 33:11 66:1, 13 71:13 Dayana 4:2, 10 7:9 37:11 58:7 66:16 days 38:18 39:2 47:8 deal 20:4 December 25:18, 19 65:19 69:19 decided 55:9 decision 43:16 decision-makers 35:2 defer 65:12 deficiency 64:4 defined 61:16 definitely 25:5 27:6 54:4 degree 47:13 Delegate 17:8 demotions 6:4 Department 12:14, 17, 18 19:3 20:16 63:3, 9 deserve 34:17 43:10 deserves 50:13 design 14:7 despite 32:13, 20 determination 49:4 determine 49:14, 20 determining 50:17 develop 19:11 developing 20:7 development 22:14 31:5, 8, 10, 11 36:19</p>	<p>dialogue 23:15 31:16 Dickinson 48:2 difference 28:18 differences 52:11 different 38:16 39:4, 14 68:5 difficult 42:12 digital 24:14 diploma 47:12 dire 32:21 direction 22:18 directly 46:7 Director 27:14 63:6 disabilities 50:7 disappointed 34:7 43:5 discipline 6:4 disclose 59:9 discuss 6:2 63:6 discussed 66:3 67:5, 8 discussion 10:18 11:21 14:17 23:15 24:10 60:15 disease 41:18 disorder 38:19 disproportionate 53:9 dispute 15:14 disrupts 15:17 distances 53:19 distinguished 54:16 district 27:1 districts 32:7 diverse 17:15 30:9 diversity 30:7 division 12:12 document 63:14 doing 17:2 47:19 downright 32:18 Dr 4:3 5:15, 17 7:10, 19 10:6</p>
--	--	--	---	--

<p>11:4, 6, 7 12:4 18:20 21:21 23:8, 18 25:12, 12 26:21 27:9, 13, 14 28:20 40:6, 8 66:18 67:21 68:8, 14 drawn 7:3 drivers 32:21 37:19 driving 37:15 dropped 51:17 Dulaney 35:7 43:21 Dundalk 40:12 47:18 duty 42:11 dyslexia 33:11 dyslexic 33:9</p> <p>< E > Earlier 5:21 54:18 55:4 58:7 59:18 64:12 Early 13:13 47:5 earn 46:1 easier 19:7 educated 54:5 educating 38:4 EDUCATION 1:1 5:4, 9 7:21 11:12 13:8 15:13 16:6 19:3 23:5, 10 34:17, 19 37:17, 19 39:12 43:10, 11 45:2, 8, 15 49:16, 17 50:4, 9, 13, 19 51:5 54:17 55:9 67:7, 12 69:12, 13, 14 educational 16:19 67:16, 17 educator 19:10 educators 19:12 20:11 21:6, 7,</p>	<p>17 22:2, 6, 10, 13 33:21 effective 26:14 effort 17:14 20:5 63:15 efforts 22:17 eight 19:4 36:10 eighth 7:12 29:21 either 32:11 42:5 58:15 elected 66:17 electronically 62:8 elementary 8:5, 14, 18 9:1, 4, 8, 12 23:11 35:5, 19 36:4 43:4, 19 44:1 45:10 52:8 55:10, 11, 21 56:2, 12, 17, 21 57:3 64:14 elope 40:1 eloping 39:18 email 16:9 27:4, 7 emails 56:14 emergency 67:9 emissions 12:13 emotional 50:20 51:2, 9 68:11 employability 45:18 employee 15:11 16:5 67:10 71:8 employees 6:6 employee's 20:18 employer 20:18 employers 46:7 employment 6:3 enable 46:4 encourage 15:8, 13 48:21 66:14 energized 28:5 engage 22:12 27:20</p>	<p>engaging 27:19 28:7 enormous 36:7 44:9, 11 ensure 18:13 entire 23:14 entity 61:15 environment 39:13 50:17 environmental 17:4, 10, 10 18:6 environments 41:15 equipment 47:1 Erin 9:3 erroneous 29:13 especially 22:7 37:16 essentially 36:13 estimate 58:20 estimated 20:21 estimates 20:17 etiology 41:4 42:16 evaluation 6:5 evening 5:2, 21 7:2, 7 8:5 9:15 10:4, 5 12:5 13:1, 5, 14, 15 16:12, 14, 16 18:16, 18, 19 21:16, 19 23:4, 6, 7 26:1, 2 29:5, 5, 7 32:3, 4, 5 34:4, 5, 6 37:11, 12 40:6 42:19 43:1, 3 45:3, 4 48:7, 8 51:20, 21 52:1 54:13, 14, 15 58:8 59:19 64:12 65:3 evening's 6:19 everybody 28:4 37:12 52:1 evidence 34:11 exactly 25:11 35:11 58:13 Examiner 60:6</p>	<p>example 24:4 64:14 excellent 21:10 exciting 61:7 excluded 30:3, 13 Excuse 58:2 60:6 execution 14:6 Executive 17:7 18:6 22:5 26:10, 16 27:14 56:16 Exhibit 11:15 14:10 Exhibits 10:12 existing 15:14 33:4, 20 36:17 expand 36:16 47:2 expansion 35:18 37:1 expect 35:9 experience 12:10, 10 experienced 19:10, 12 experiences 12:16 13:9 experts 19:15 expired 16:2 expires 71:15 explanation 30:12 Extended 38:15, 15, 21 extent 50:15 extra 36:2 extracurricular 69:4 eye 47:8</p> <p>< F > F-1 10:12 F-2 10:12 face 24:19 Facebook 19:19 facilitate 26:18, 19 36:17</p>	<p>facilitating 29:2 36:13 facing 36:8 fact 31:7 34:20 63:20 factors 42:15 fail 36:12 failure 51:6, 8 fairly 62:16 falsely 29:14 families 50:10 53:5 family 23:2 farther 53:18 favor 10:18 11:21 14:17 60:16 favorable 62:14 fear 48:12 February 66:12 68:14 federal 49:18 62:3, 5, 6, 19 feedback 26:13 feel 18:10 24:18 31:3 40:21 felt 28:17 fiancee 13:2 field 12:20 fifth 7:10 fight 37:7 figure 37:13 53:3 figureheads 28:15 filed 63:1 fill 19:7 25:10 final 7:13 54:12 finally 33:18 Finance 63:11 Financial 8:1 61:5, 11, 17, 19 62:2, 15, 17 63:9 69:9 find 21:11, 12 64:4 67:12, 15 fine 63:21 finish 39:1</p>
--	---	--	--	---

first 5:13 7:3,
6 14:4 16:11
17:5 25:7
26:20 29:4, 9
31:14 37:8
44:17 46:12
58:4
fiscal 8:3 61:4,
19 62:5 63:10
five 22:4
fix 42:15
fixed 49:2
Flag 5:6
fleet 11:9 12:8
focus 36:10
63:19
focused 39:8
focuses 51:3
following 6:2
8:10 10:8 11:8
14:3
followup 15:7
follow-up 55:17
fondly 22:2
Food 46:10, 21
force 49:3
forcing 29:18
Ford 23:18
25:12, 12
foresight 34:8
forget 41:14
forgot 39:2
form 46:3
formal 46:9
formed 46:11
forth 23:20
forum 15:10
forward 10:4
11:8 40:4
44:14 65:18
found 6:14
24:9 62:7
four 53:15
fourth 7:9
Franklin 40:11
free 18:10
freehand 54:21
frequent 39:3, 4,
6, 6, 9, 14, 16, 17,

19
Friday 24:8, 9
friend 42:13
friends 66:15
front 7:19 8:12
38:11
frustrated 32:15
frustrating
30:14 31:4
full 67:18
fully 50:1
fun 53:17
functionality
48:18
funding 49:18
66:4
funds 49:19
61:13 62:3, 5, 6
further 71:7
future 34:1
46:17 47:2

< G >
G-1 11:15
game 41:6
games 47:7
Gasparotti 1:21
71:2
Geelhaar 4:8
7:14 54:13, 15
general 18:7
51:4, 11 52:16
geographic
23:14
George 61:8
gift 8:9 9:17
girlfriend 42:9
give 9:18
19:10 57:17
61:10
given 9:16
giving 40:3
65:17
Glen 4:8 7:13
54:13
go 53:14 64:16
65:6 67:13, 15
goal 26:17
40:21 50:8

goals 17:20
goes 20:5 58:15
going 9:17
27:7 29:18, 20
31:2, 4, 9, 12
44:20 47:9
58:9, 17 59:15
61:7 69:18
Good 5:2 10:4,
5 16:14, 16
18:18, 19 21:19
23:6, 7 26:2
29:5, 7 32:3, 5
34:4, 6, 17, 18
37:5, 5, 6, 12
40:6 43:1, 3, 10,
11 45:2, 4 46:8,
9 47:1 48:8
51:20 52:1
54:14, 15 65:3
66:1, 8, 10
governed 61:15
Government
4:15 17:6
61:17 63:2, 11
65:21
Grace 8:21
grade 47:20, 20
grader 52:6
grades 47:10
graduate 56:1
graduation
68:15
grant 59:2
62:19
grants 58:18
59:5
gravely 32:7
great 20:4
43:1 48:6
65:16
Groff 12:5, 8
13:1
grossly 30:15
grounds 69:8
group 44:21
groupings 53:9
Groups 3:12
16:11 17:13

grow 36:8 42:7
growing 44:16
growth 37:1
51:10
Grumman 48:3
guess 55:2
guessing 62:8
guidelines 14:5
58:10
guiding 30:5, 5
Gum 57:3
Guttman 45:1,
4, 5
guys 63:20
guy's 57:7

< H >
half 31:11
38:18
halfway 30:11
hall 55:15, 16
Halstead 35:12
44:3 52:13
halted 33:6
hamburger 42:8
Hampton 29:10
30:12, 16, 17, 19
31:1, 5 32:6, 17
35:5, 9, 10, 12,
17 43:4, 19
44:1, 3 52:8, 13
hand 10:19
12:1 60:16
71:12
handled 25:8
hands 10:20
12:2 14:18, 19
53:7 60:17
hands-on 46:5
happen 25:1
27:18 31:12
happened 24:7,
7 48:11
happening 31:8,
10 41:2
happy 22:21
64:9, 21 69:21
hard 16:8
Harford 35:13

Hayden 42:13
healing 50:20
healthy 23:15
69:21
hear 15:3 16:1
21:7 25:9
heard 50:10
Hearing 5:19
15:5 60:6
64:11
Heather 4:7
7:13 51:20
Heggins 26:2, 4,
6
Hello 26:4
help 20:2
26:18, 19 32:1
33:3, 14 37:15,
20 39:7
helped 68:2
helpful 38:1
40:3
helping 21:10
Henn 2:4 10:6
16:17 18:20
21:20 54:16
66:20 67:1
hey 56:3, 8, 16
Hi 29:7 48:9
hide 33:11
high 20:8 26:7,
11 34:10 36:9
41:20 45:10
46:2, 10 47:5, 9,
12, 18 53:2
55:17, 18
higher 34:21
43:13
highlight 45:13
64:11
highly 21:6
highways 36:2
Hilary 13:6
Hills 35:14
Hiss 56:2 57:9
hit 57:14
hold 22:3
27:10 61:6
holidays 42:4

home 41:14, 17
49:6 56:18
homeowner
32:6
homes 30:1, 8
Honeygo 9:1
hope 18:12
22:21 31:15
47:1 54:10
57:13
hopeful 66:10
house 53:19
56:5 66:6
Hundreds 19:21

< I >
idea 17:19
27:2 49:16, 19
54:1
ideas 52:4
identify 25:5
42:15
identifying
42:16
IEP 38:16 39:5
51:1
IEPs 37:21
49:4, 14
II 12:16
immediate 24:3
39:18 49:9
immediately
62:10
impact 30:16
51:2
impactful 54:8
impacting 32:16
impacts 32:8
implement
37:21
implementation
48:14, 17
implementing
20:9
implore 21:7
53:5
importance
19:18
important
32:13 38:4

importantly
45:21, 21 46:20
47:21
impossible 53:3
improve 17:9
18:5, 8 22:7
inappropriate
15:16
incident 24:5
include 13:9
31:18 49:9
included 8:2, 8
31:6 61:14
62:1
includes 8:4
12:10 47:14
including 17:15,
19 29:16 33:13
67:5 68:21
inclusive 49:18
increasing 30:7
incredibly 27:19
independent
62:1
indicated 24:4,
18
indicating 62:16
individual
38:10, 16 39:5
individuals 6:8
industry 45:20
46:4
industry-recogni
zed 46:1
Information
4:19 18:11
27:4 59:1
68:20, 21
informational
6:13
informational-su
mmaries.html
6:15
infrastructure
18:7
Initial 48:14
initiative 17:11
initiatives 17:4,
9

input 15:8
insane 37:16
insightful 54:5
inspection
12:12, 13
inspire 17:21
instruction 38:2,
6 39:9 47:15
69:1, 3
insulting 31:3
intent 49:15
interested 15:5
71:10
interferes 15:18
internship 45:19
internships
46:5 47:15
interscholastic
69:5
intersectional
17:14
interstate 35:15
44:6
interstates 32:19
Intervention
13:13
interventions
20:9
intimidated
40:14
intramural 69:4
introduce 61:3
invite 5:5
invited 27:1
issue 23:20
24:13 33:15
42:5, 17 53:1
64:7
issued 62:14
issues 28:1
42:11
item 5:13 6:16
10:2 11:2
13:20 15:1
57:21 59:15
61:2 65:4, 5
68:19, 20 69:17
Items 3:5 19:17
its 20:19 35:19

69:8

< J >
Jaeger 4:1 7:9
34:4, 6
January 68:12
Jessie 4:1 7:9
34:4
job 50:3, 16
58:15, 16 59:7
63:21
John 2:9 22:16
Johnny 17:7
join 7:19 8:11
9:14, 21
Joining 5:6
12:4 13:5, 14
Jones 5:15, 17
7:19 10:6 11:4,
6 12:4 18:20
21:21 23:8
27:13, 16 28:21
29:1
Jose 2:5
Joseph 21:18, 19
Jr 2:9
Julian 27:16
29:1
Julie 2:4
jump 44:20
jurisdiction 6:7

< K >
Kafali 22:15
Kathleen 2:3
keep 21:12
43:21 47:8
49:21
Ken 45:1, 4
Kennedy 22:16
key 21:8, 9, 9
kicking 36:14
kickoff 22:3
kid 53:13, 17
kids 21:13
33:16 35:14
37:8 42:13
44:5 53:20, 20
Kieran 9:11
killing 42:7, 8

kind 30:13
52:3 53:3
kindergartner
52:6 53:16
Kirwan 66:3
Knott 4:6 7:12
48:8, 9
know 15:20
21:5 24:18
25:10 27:5, 5
28:14 31:2, 3
32:1 35:11
36:3, 8 40:2
41:15 50:5
55:6, 19, 19, 20
56:3, 19 57:11,
13, 16 63:19, 19
66:12
knowing 28:15
41:4
known 22:2
41:10 50:21
knows 40:16
Kristen 13:2
Kuehn 2:6
61:3, 6 63:17
65:10, 11
Kyria 21:17

< L >
Lab 40:12
Labor 20:16
lack 24:1 34:8
48:13
Lafferty 17:8
large 26:16
35:4 43:18
51:11
larger 28:1
Larson 61:20
62:4, 14 63:6
lasting 33:7
Lastly 33:9
law 61:15, 21
laws 61:12
lead 13:11
22:16 41:10
leaders 34:1
leadership 22:5,
14 67:12

learn 17:18
66:4, 7
learning 22:7
33:12 39:13
45:19 48:14
68:11
learns 33:10
leave 19:4
60:20 64:18
leaving 20:18
59:4
led 23:17
legal 6:9
legally 50:6
Legislative 4:15
63:3 65:20
66:2, 13
legislature 66:9
level 42:6
45:12
liaison 16:19
lies 30:11
Lily 2:11
limited 24:1
limits 6:20
line 67:11
Lisa 2:7
little 27:9
33:11 45:6
54:9 55:1
61:10
live 34:16
lives 18:5 53:14
LLP 61:21
62:4
local 46:4
location 57:15
Loch 36:3 45:9
55:10, 17
longer 27:9
33:7 53:18
long-term 54:7
look 38:8 41:1,
14 44:14 53:7
56:9, 16 64:17
65:18 66:9
looking 22:4
47:2 57:11
looks 38:9 39:4

Lorax 54:20
lost 51:7, 16
lot 17:18 26:12
27:5 37:20
52:10 54:4
55:7 56:11
57:10 66:3
lots 52:11
love 9:21
lovely 54:10
lovingly 8:4
lower 58:20
59:7, 11
Lowery 10:4, 5
lowest 20:20
LRE 50:5, 14
Lutherville
40:12
Luzar 3:20 7:7
29:5, 7, 8
Lyons 8:18

< M >
Mack 2:7
10:13, 14 14:15,
16 23:16 25:10
60:10, 11 67:19,
20
macro 27:21
Madam 11:6
40:8
magnet 35:19
68:13
maintain 46:21
major 62:19
Makeda 2:12
27:1, 8, 16
28:20
making 38:5
45:15
Mama 37:13
38:7 40:3
54:19
management
64:3
manager 12:11,
18, 19
Mangi 13:6
manifestation
40:17

manufacturing
46:16, 21
Maria 10:4
mark 19:6
Marlena 23:5, 9
Martin 26:10
29:2
MARYLAND
1:7 12:14, 17
46:12, 13 61:13
71:1, 3
mass 42:7
material 62:17
matter 6:7
34:16 49:10
59:20, 21 60:5
Matters 3:9
6:11 10:3, 8, 11
15:11, 12 16:5,
5
maximum 50:15
McComas
66:18 67:21
McComas's
68:8, 14
McDonald 13:2
McMillion 2:8
mean 38:11
39:10 46:18
means 38:20
mechanic-inspect
or 12:20
media 19:19
24:15
meet 66:17
68:15
MEETING 1:6
3:5 6:18, 19, 21
7:5 15:18 17:5
22:3 23:12
25:18 26:20
27:2 28:11
31:14 55:15, 17
62:11 65:14, 16,
18 66:3 68:10
69:18, 20 70:1,
3
Meetings 6:1
67:11, 13, 15, 16

Melissa 4:4
7:11 42:19
Melvin 8:17
Member 2:13
23:16
MEMBERS 2:1
10:7 11:6
13:21 15:4, 4
16:8, 17 17:21
18:20 21:5
22:1 23:8 26:5
54:16 64:10
66:14, 14 68:2,
7, 12
memory 38:19
mentioned 43:8
44:5 57:9 59:3
mentoring 47:14
message 24:16,
17
met 5:21 23:11
26:11 63:4
67:4
Michael 12:5
microphone
16:2 37:9
Middle 40:11
45:10
Mill 8:18
million 21:4
Mills 47:9, 17
48:1
Millwright 48:2
mind 43:21
minimal 20:9
minutes 6:12
7:1 37:14 38:1,
17, 18 40:2
52:3 67:16
69:11, 12, 13, 15
misbehavior
41:11
misconception
51:4
Moalie 2:5
modes 33:17
Moment 3:3
5:8, 11
Monday 23:10
24:11 25:19

money 20:15
41:6 42:14, 15
57:18 59:4
month 25:19
48:4 63:4
months 48:12
69:9
motion 10:10,
21 11:13 12:3
14:11, 14, 20
60:8, 18
motor 39:7
move 10:13
11:16 14:15
33:16 60:10
movement 39:8,
20
moving 36:14
40:4
MSDE 63:1
music 39:12

< N >
NABSE 22:10,
11
name 8:11
16:18 23:8
26:5 29:7
named 32:10
34:12
naming 69:7
nap 39:10
National 22:9
nationwide 19:2
nearsighted
52:20
necessary 44:7
55:3
need 19:10, 13,
14 20:12 25:6
36:1, 15, 16
38:20 41:18, 20
42:1 44:11, 13,
21 48:18 49:2,
6, 7, 9 50:16
53:1, 2 57:6
66:18
needed 14:13
39:10

needs 23:20
38:10, 14 39:11
46:9 49:2
negotiations
6:11, 12 19:17
neighborhood
33:18
neighborhoods
35:20 53:20, 21
neighbors 37:8
nevertheless
23:19
New 3:9, 10, 11
4:11 10:2 11:2
13:20 20:5
26:7, 11 34:21
35:3, 4, 9 43:14,
17, 18 44:2
47:3 53:1, 2, 2
55:21 57:2, 6,
21 58:16 59:15
61:2 69:6
newest 19:14
news 46:8, 9
66:8, 10
Niara 9:7
nine 6:10 47:10
ninth 47:20
Noble 8:9
North 48:2
northeast 57:2,
6
Northrop 48:2
Northwest 69:11
notarial 71:12
Notary 71:2, 18
notified 24:8
NOVEMBER
1:10 5:4, 14
21:2 22:4
23:10 67:4
71:13
number 6:20
21:1 31:12
38:7 43:18
55:4 59:7, 11
60:6 66:6
68:21
numbers 19:5
30:15 32:14

34:19, 21 35:4
36:20 41:6
43:12, 13
Nussbaum 58:2
59:17, 18 60:19
< O >
Oakleigh 35:13
observe 15:19
obtain 6:9
obviously 24:11
o'clock 53:15
October 63:4
69:14, 15
offerings 68:5
Offerman 2:9
11:16, 18 60:13,
15 65:9
Office 11:10, 12
12:9 13:8 63:9
Officers 63:12
officials 6:6
17:6 63:13
66:17
Oh 39:3, 3
okay 24:19, 21,
21
old 32:13
56:12, 17
Olszewski 17:7
Omer 2:13
16:17
one-on-one
37:20 47:14
online 62:9
64:16
Open 6:1
operators 46:17
opinion 62:15
opportunities
15:2 45:20
opportunity
22:12 29:3
45:6 46:1 48:5
58:19
opposed 14:20
optimize 49:19
option 59:8
options 33:1
oral 60:2

Order 3:2 5:3
7:16, 17 15:19
60:19
organizational
38:21 67:8
organizers
17:16
Ottenia 4:7
7:13 51:20
52:1
outbursts 50:11
outcome 71:10
outcomes 21:10
outdated 29:17
32:14
outside 33:17
35:19 44:12
49:5
overall 19:3
overcrowded
33:10 34:13
37:6 43:8 55:8
overcrowding
33:15 34:12
36:9, 18 43:7
52:15 53:8
55:5
overhaul 48:19
oversight 49:6, 9
overview 68:10,
13
overwhelmed
51:13
Owings 47:9,
17 48:1
< P >
p.m 22:4
package 19:17
page 64:19, 20
pages 64:12
paid 20:11
47:15
paper 51:17
parent 24:4, 7,
9, 14 29:10, 10
33:9 43:4 52:5,
7, 8
parents 22:6
24:8 26:12

27:3 31:13
43:14 44:4
49:1 52:18
66:15
park 56:6
Parkville 55:7,
10 56:1, 11, 12
part 22:20
26:18 46:6
participating
8:8
parties 71:8, 9
partner 46:13
partners 47:3
partnership
28:13 46:9
partnerships
46:3
passionate 28:6,
16
Pasteur 2:10
10:16, 18 65:20
66:1
Patapsco 46:10,
19
Pathways 47:4
Paul 1:21 71:2
pause 57:14, 14
pay 42:6
paying 55:12, 12
Pearsell 23:6, 7,
9
peers 17:18
people 28:12,
15 54:6 55:4,
19
percent 19:4
20:18, 21 30:17,
20
performance
6:5
period 53:9
Perry 55:16
personal 15:17
personally 52:9
Personnel 3:9
6:7 10:3, 8, 11
persons 25:5
pertains 58:14

Pharoan 4:3
7:10 40:6, 8
Photonics 48:3
photos 8:13
9:18
physical 51:2
picture 37:4
pieces 68:21
place 28:3
51:7, 16 56:20
57:8
placed 7:3
placement 49:4,
14, 21
places 57:11
Plains 32:7, 8
34:9 36:1 43:6
52:14 55:6
56:10 57:11
plan 33:7
38:17 52:21
57:2 65:17
planned 32:16
46:15
planning 19:13,
16, 21 20:2
21:8, 11
plans 37:21
Pleasant 32:7, 8
34:9 36:1 43:5
52:14 55:6
56:10 57:11
please 8:11
10:19 11:21
12:6 13:2, 7
14:17 15:21
60:16 61:8
Pledge 3:3 5:5,
10
point 62:8
pointing 66:5
Policies 3:11
13:20 14:3
24:2 49:3, 3
58:6 67:5 68:3
Policy 4:9, 17
13:21 14:4, 6, 7,
12 15:8 25:3
58:6, 9, 14 67:3,
5, 6, 8, 9

policy-makers 20:6
polite 27:6
population 36:7
populations 30:12
pore 64:16
portion 7:5, 15
posed 22:15
position 62:17
positions 19:7
possibilities 36:12
possible 25:4, 5
 50:15 59:1
 62:11
possibly 53:7,
 19 59:2
potentially 51:9,
 15
Potomac 48:3
pour 42:14
pouring 41:6
powerful 17:12
practice 6:19
practices 15:9
preferential 38:8, 9, 13
prepared 61:11
present 11:4
 52:4 54:19
 62:16
presentation 7:20
presented 5:20
 8:6 10:11
 11:15 14:9
 29:13, 15 30:14
 33:5 65:16
president 16:21
 18:17 40:9
pressing 53:1
pretty 50:20
previous 55:14
price 42:6
 55:13
primary 30:4, 5
Principal 22:15
 24:11 26:10

29:2 35:8
principals 53:6
principles 30:5,
 6
prior 6:18
 30:21 49:5
private 17:13
 56:5, 5, 7
probably 28:10
 55:16
problem 33:3
 34:12, 15 36:7,
 11, 15, 19, 19
 37:4 41:7, 21
 42:14 43:7, 9
 44:9, 11, 16
 52:21
problems 40:17,
 18 41:17
procedures 68:4
proceeded 27:18
PROCEEDINGS 5:1 71:4
process 26:18,
 19 39:1
processes 15:15
processing 38:19
produce 46:17
product 45:9
productive 45:16
Products 46:10
profession 19:5
 20:13
program 12:13
 35:19 46:12, 15
 47:1 48:15, 18,
 20 49:1, 21
 50:1 51:4
programs 15:8
 45:14, 17, 18, 20
 49:8 62:20
 68:11, 13 69:5
project 58:17
project-based 45:19
projected 36:21

projects 32:16
 35:3 43:17
 57:13 59:6, 12
 68:15
promotions 6:3
proper 15:10
properly 49:20
 50:1
properties 55:20
property 56:4,
 8 57:5
proposed 14:2
 58:5
protected 50:6
proud 25:16
 64:8
proven 56:20
provide 34:18
 43:11 45:18
 58:5 68:10, 12
provided 62:6
provides 15:2
 45:14
providing 50:4
PTA 3:17 26:1
PTECH 47:4, 7,
 8, 10, 18
PTECH's 47:6
PTSA 26:7
PUBLIC 1:6
 3:19 4:9 6:18
 7:5, 15 13:10
 15:1, 8, 12 16:6,
 7 17:14 29:4
 51:1 58:3, 5
 61:12 71:2, 18
publication 8:3
publishes 8:1
Purcell 5:7
purchasing 14:5
purpose 22:18
 67:6
purposes 61:18
pursuant 6:1
purview 15:9
push 18:1
put 49:3 51:15
 52:21 62:9
putting 51:10
 63:13

Pyles 3:21 7:8
 32:3, 5
 < Q >
Qian 16:20
qualifications 49:13
qualified 21:6
 59:2, 8
qualifier 50:14
qualify 59:5, 10
quality 20:8
 41:20
quasi-judicial 59:21
question 22:15,
 19 57:7, 7
questions 63:7
 64:9, 11
quick 54:2
quickly 52:3
 < R >
raise 10:19
 11:21 14:18
 60:16
Raleigh 8:21
ran 19:19
 65:14
Randallstown 8:14
ratio 49:7
Raven 36:3
 45:9 55:10, 18
Ravens 47:6
read 49:15
reader 58:4
reading 14:4
 39:11
ready 22:6
 45:16
real 28:9 53:11
 66:10
really 24:20
 25:9, 16 28:19
 31:15 40:15
 41:1, 5, 10, 13,
 15 49:19 52:2
 53:4 57:6, 16

reason 28:16
reasonable 54:1
reasons 6:2
 41:9 42:9 55:6
receipt 62:3
receive 15:3
 46:5
received 22:13
 35:10 44:2
 56:14
receives 8:9
receiving 63:14
recite 5:5
Recognition 3:7
 5:8 7:18
recognize 8:7
 36:12 41:8, 8,
 21
recognized 31:11 63:11, 15
recognizes 31:8
recognizing 31:7
recommendation 14:11, 13
recommendation s 14:9
record 60:1
 71:5
recording 71:6
recruiting 21:9
reduce 36:1
redundant 66:7
reevaluate 49:7
refer 15:6
regarding 37:18
 59:19
regards 24:14
regularly 6:21
reinstated 36:4
relate 6:12
related 15:12
 16:6 23:12
 71:9
relates 24:2, 15
Relations 4:15
 65:21
relationship 25:17
relevant 45:15

<p>relief 34:9 43:6 56:1, 10, 11 57:10, 17 rely 29:18 remain 5:7 8:12 remarks 15:17, 21 remember 42:12 remind 15:16 reminder 47:10 reminders 38:20 removal 6:4 renaming 69:7 renovation 31:1 58:16 59:6 reoccurring 26:12 rep 27:1 repeat 44:10 repeated 20:13 replaced 56:12 replacement 21:12 Report 4:12 8:2 14:1 61:5, 11 62:1 63:18 67:18 reported 40:13 reporting 24:3 40:14, 20 61:18 63:9 Reports 4:13 19:3 61:2 63:16 68:19 69:9 representatives 28:6 represented 23:14 request 60:2 requests 20:13 68:8 require 39:14 required 62:2 63:1 requirements 62:19 68:16 requires 41:4 Reshid 2:13</p>	<p>residence 56:5, 7 resignations 6:5 10:9 21:1, 3 resolution 15:14 25:14 resources 20:7 responsibilities 67:7 rest 48:4 restrictive 50:4, 9, 13 51:5 result 68:9 results 20:10 retaining 20:8 21:9 retired 22:5 retirements 10:9 Review 4:17 13:21 14:12 49:2, 17 67:4 Revised 69:1, 2, 6 revisit 57:15 Ridge 57:3 right 13:14 33:19 37:7 42:20 44:16, 17 50:6 54:8 56:3 57:2 61:6 69:19 rise 5:5 40:10 Road 35:7 36:14 44:1 57:3 Rodney 2:8 Rodola 4:4 7:11 42:19, 21 43:3 Roger 42:13 role 67:6 room 20:6 65:6 Rosedale 56:17 57:12 Rossville 57:4 roughly 19:4 round 9:18 Rowe 2:11 Rule 69:1, 3, 6</p>	<p>Russell 2:6 < S > safe 34:18 43:11 70:1 safety 12:11, 12 23:17 48:13 salary 20:19, 19, 20 Saleem 26:6 sand 37:2 save 24:19 48:3 Sayers 61:8 62:10 64:1, 19 65:1, 2 saying 21:8 56:16 says 55:1 scale 20:19 Schaffer 13:12 scheduled 6:21 scheduling 27:11 school 8:5, 14, 18 9:1, 4, 8, 12 12:12 15:10 18:9 21:17 22:2, 10, 16 23:11, 17 24:6, 6, 10 26:7, 11, 20 27:14 28:1 29:21 30:8, 10 32:10, 17, 20 33:20 34:10, 12, 18 36:5 37:6, 6 40:11, 12 41:16 42:6, 10 43:4, 7, 10, 19 44:2 45:10 46:2, 11 47:5, 9, 11, 11, 12 51:15 52:8, 17 53:14 55:10, 11, 17, 18, 21 56:2, 13, 17, 21 57:3, 6, 8, 12, 15 61:12 63:13 64:15 69:2, 7 Schools 13:10 17:14 20:10 24:20 28:3</p>	<p>29:15, 16 30:2, 2 31:18 33:2, 14, 17, 21 35:12, 16 36:9, 11, 16, 18 37:5 44:3, 6, 12, 14, 15 48:20 49:6 52:10, 10 53:2, 5, 12, 19 55:5, 7 58:16 69:2 Scott 2:12 27:1, 17 28:21 Scriven 27:14 seal 71:12 search 31:16 seatbelt 53:16 seatbelts 32:20 35:16 seating 38:8, 9, 13 seats 61:7 second 7:7 10:15, 16 11:18, 19 14:12 25:19 52:6 60:12, 13 secretary 26:6 section 58:1 62:2, 7 sections 63:17 see 16:1 39:3 43:6 47:5 57:16 58:12 67:14 seeing 28:14, 15 seeking 65:6 seen 52:10, 11 SEL 48:15, 18, 20 49:1, 8, 21 50:12 selected 8:11 16:7 Selection 3:6 6:16 14:7 Semblee 9:3 Senate 66:6, 8 send 27:4 Senior 11:9 12:8 sense 28:4</p>	<p>sensory 39:3, 7 sent 27:13 sentiment 25:11 September 17:17 62:13 63:1 69:10 71:15 Series 47:6 serious 34:11 37:18 serve 20:2 served 5:9 service 46:21 54:18 57:19 services 18:8 63:3, 10 Session 3:5 5:3 6:1, 13 22:14 59:16 60:5, 9 66:5 Session.59 4:11 set 26:17 58:10 sets 30:18 setting 51:1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13 52:12 seven 6:9 30:2 seventh 7:11 severe 48:19 Sexton 18:18, 19 Sharad 9:7 share 46:8 58:21 63:19 shared 19:20 Sharon 66:16 shifting 54:1 shocked 25:9 shootings 42:7 short 44:12 52:19 shortage 19:1 32:21 37:15, 18 shortages 49:10 shortsighted 52:19 54:3 short-term 52:20 Show 10:20 12:2 14:19</p>
---	---	---	---	---

<p>27:7 60:17 shuffling 54:1 side 52:18 65:8, 8 sign 55:1 signed 58:7 60:20 Signup 6:17 7:2 Silence 3:3 5:8, 11 silly 42:9 simplify 28:8 simply 63:15 Single 4:12 21:13 62:5, 21 sit 40:20 situation 25:4 54:9 situations 24:2 28:8 six 47:13 sixth 7:11 skewing 32:15 skews 34:19 skill 39:8 skills 38:21 45:19 47:15 skyscrapers 37:2 small 26:18 Smaller 41:9 SMOB 16:17 snowball 17:20 social 19:19 24:15 40:18 42:11 68:11 solution 29:18, 20 31:17 33:16 36:6, 13 44:7, 8, 11 53:3, 11 54:2, 8 solutions 53:8 54:7 solve 37:4 44:16 53:8, 10 solves 53:4 solving 54:2 somebody 41:3 58:20</p>	<p>soon 35:5 43:19 62:10 sorry 51:7, 8, 17 58:3 65:9 sort 27:5, 21 28:14 Southeast 69:13 Southwest 3:16 23:4, 9 69:14 space 35:16 speak 6:19 7:14 16:11 27:21 28:2 45:6 48:21 49:1 68:14 speaker 6:21 7:6, 6, 8, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12, 13 16:4 18:16 21:16 23:4 26:1 29:4 32:3 34:4 37:11 40:6 42:19 44:20 48:7 51:20 54:13 Speakers 3:6 6:17, 20 7:4 speaking 58:3 Special 3:7 7:17 11:12 13:8 37:17, 19 48:14 49:17 specialist 11:11 13:7, 10 specific 6:8 15:11 16:4 28:3 68:8 specifically 23:12 24:15 speech 27:6 spoke 19:12 26:21 spoken 48:19 spot 56:3 57:17 58:4 Springs 57:3 SS 71:1 staff 15:7 21:6 22:5 26:13 37:20 41:7</p>	<p>49:8 63:5 68:10, 12, 14 staffed 50:1 staffing 41:5 42:2 48:13 49:6, 10 Stakeholder 3:12 16:10, 11 44:21 stakeholders 48:19 53:6 stand 12:6 13:3, 7 standing 5:7 29:8 stands 5:20 start 18:2 65:8 started 65:7 starting 20:20 47:9, 17 starts 41:17 state 49:18 61:13, 15, 21 71:1, 3 stated 43:14 statements 61:19 62:15, 16 63:7 stay 20:12 39:8 stead 27:12 steps 25:7 Steve 17:8 Stoneleigh 30:4 Stop 36:19 street 56:4 stress 19:18 strict 49:12 Strike 17:16 structured 39:21 Student 2:13 3:7 7:18 8:2, 8, 17, 21 9:3, 7, 11 15:11 16:4, 12, 13, 20 17:15 21:10 32:14 41:3 49:14 50:12 52:17 59:20 64:13, 17</p>	<p>students 8:5, 7, 10 9:16, 19, 21 17:12 18:5, 9, 13 20:3 22:7, 8 26:15 29:21 30:1 34:16 35:5, 10, 10 37:17, 21 40:16 41:11 43:9, 19 44:2 45:15 46:4, 18 47:12, 19 49:5, 8, 20 50:8 53:9 68:4 study 29:12, 13, 14 30:3, 6, 13, 17 31:6, 7 32:9, 10, 15 33:5 34:9, 10, 13, 20 35:13 36:6 43:6, 8 44:4, 8, 10 stuff 61:7 subject 39:14 Submission 4:12 submit 16:7 success 46:6 49:20 sudden 42:3 suggest 30:18 suggests 30:16 suitable 55:21 summarize 52:3 summary 6:13 60:5 67:17, 17 summer 26:9 summertime 47:16 superintendent 15:7 21:21 27:13 55:18 superintendents 55:15 superintendent's 16:13 64:5 69:1, 3, 6 supervisor 11:10 12:8, 15 13:11 support 13:9 18:3 19:11</p>	<p>20:14 27:14 37:19 49:8 Supporting 13:1 48:1 supports 49:7 50:19 sure 38:5 40:15 58:13 surrounding 35:20 50:19 sustainability 17:20 18:1 system 15:10 20:12 21:3 41:14, 16 42:10 51:5 52:9 systematic 25:9 < T > tab 67:12 TABCO 3:14 19:19 66:14 table 52:13 59:4 60:20 take 8:12 9:18 20:19 23:21 28:8 35:2, 21 43:16 52:3 56:9 57:14 64:6 65:9 Taken 4:11 25:7 32:17 35:1 43:15 58:1 59:15 60:4, 9 talented 54:4 talk 17:1 24:10 37:14 38:2, 2, 3 61:9 66:18 talked 20:1 64:12 talking 42:3, 4 task 41:15 taught 19:9 teacher 19:1, 7 Teachers 18:16 19:4, 11, 13, 14, 20, 21 20:5, 8, 13 21:13 33:12</p>
---	--	---	--	--

<p>41:7, 20, 21 teaching 19:16 team 51:1 67:21 68:8 Technical 45:8 technically 50:5 Technology 45:2 47:4 television 47:7 tell 50:9 temporary 49:11 56:18 ten 6:20 7:3 38:17 45:17 tend 37:20 tenth 47:20 terms 26:13 terrified 32:18 terrifies 53:17 terrifying 53:13 text 24:16, 17 Thank 5:12 10:14, 17, 21 11:17, 20 12:4 13:3, 5, 18, 19 14:16, 21 18:3, 14, 15 21:14, 15 23:2, 3 25:12, 19, 21 28:20 31:14, 21 32:2 34:2, 3 37:10 40:4, 5, 8 42:17, 18 44:18, 19 48:4, 6 51:18, 19 54:9, 11, 12, 17 57:20 59:13, 14, 18 60:11, 14, 19, 21 61:1 62:12 64:21 65:2, 15, 19 66:19 67:3, 18, 20 68:18 thankful 27:17 45:5 Thanks 57:19 Thanksgiving 23:1 54:11 64:21 70:1 themes 26:12</p>	<p>therapist 13:12, 12 thing 40:10 58:11 things 28:3, 10, 19 52:11 think 25:4, 11 28:9 31:17, 18, 19 40:10 41:1 42:10 44:12 50:3, 20 51:17 53:16 54:3, 4 56:18 64:1 third 7:8 thorough 49:2 thought 32:19 33:7 52:19 thoughtful 28:7 thoughts 52:4 threat 24:16 threatening 24:17 three 7:1 19:6 29:15 31:18 36:10 37:14 38:1 39:2 44:12 45:11 53:12 three-minute 15:20 thrive 34:1 Thursday 22:3 Tia 4:6 7:12 48:7 time 7:18 15:21 16:1, 3 19:11, 14, 15, 16, 16, 21 20:2, 4, 7 21:8, 11 23:1 29:9 31:15, 21 33:6 37:8 38:15, 15, 18, 21 39:10 44:17 52:2 53:18 54:10 60:3 timelines 24:3 times 20:20, 21 27:5 31:14 40:21 50:2, 10</p>	<p>tiny 36:6 44:8, 10 tip 38:7 tips 38:1 40:3 titles 28:14 today 23:20 37:13 45:5 told 27:3 35:8 tolerated 50:12 tonight 7:4 9:2 17:1 32:6 34:7 48:10 54:18, 19 55:4 63:16 tonight's 5:16, 18 14:10 Tooling 46:16 top 31:10 topic 32:13 topics 68:1, 17 Town 26:7, 11 33:16 55:15 TOWSON 1:7 9:12 trailers 31:1 training 22:14 41:7 46:5, 14 Transcribed 1:20 71:4 transcript 71:5 transferring 49:5 transparency 67:17 Transportation 11:10 12:9, 14, 17, 18 29:19, 20 31:20, 20 33:17 treat 41:21 trees 55:1 true 25:2 71:5 truly 17:14 try 27:10 Tuesday 69:18 Tulkoff 46:10, 12 turn 29:9 turned 16:2, 3 turning 39:1 Two 19:12 29:10 30:5</p>	<p>39:10, 11 52:5 53:11 two-and-a-half 48:12 two-year 47:13 Tyson 8:17 < U > U.S 19:2 20:16 unanimously 10:21 12:3 14:21 60:18 underestimating 30:15 underlying 40:18 41:9, 18 underreported 40:21 understand 52:14 58:10 understanding 28:13 68:3 unfortunately 27:11 UNIDENTIFIED 7:6 unit 61:16 unmodified 62:15 unsafe 33:17 upcoming 67:14 update 33:20 updates 65:5, 17 67:1 urge 20:5 use 36:17 49:19 58:18 68:15 utilization 30:6 utilize 15:14 36:16 utilized 36:4 < V > Valley 9:8 30:4, 10 35:7, 18, 21 43:21 valuable 44:7</p>	<p>value 19:9 variety 12:10 vast 36:21 vehicle 12:11, 12, 13, 14, 15 veterans 19:14 viable 56:20 Vice 2:4 10:6 16:17 18:20 21:20 54:16 65:13 Victory 56:19 video 67:18 views 15:3 Villa 56:19 Vinkatisin 9:11 Violence 40:9 41:4 50:11 violent 40:16 visit 54:18 visits 47:15, 16 voice 21:7 VOICES 11:19 < W > wait 21:13 walked 28:4 want 21:5 28:20 36:3 39:19, 21 40:15 44:9 52:2, 21 63:18 64:15 wanted 23:19 26:14 28:10 58:11, 19 59:8 63:8 way 25:9 32:1 37:7 39:21 53:10 71:9 website 6:14 week 19:19 22:11 weeks 19:12 week's 68:9 welcome 16:15 18:18 23:6 26:3 29:6 32:4 34:5 40:7 43:2 45:3 48:8 51:21 54:14</p>
---	---	--	--	---

well 20:15
 26:7, 13 28:19
 33:7 38:9
 41:10 42:1
 47:19 48:21
 50:20, 21 56:7
 64:1, 10 65:17
 67:17
well-known
 32:21
went 25:1
we're 9:17
 13:15 27:6, 17
 31:2, 3 47:2
 55:12 64:7
 66:10
West 9:12
 21:21
we've 17:2
 25:16
Whitman 28:21
Williams 11:7
 26:21 27:9
 28:20
wish 69:21
wishing 6:18
 64:20
witness 71:12
wonderful 5:12
 23:1 34:2
wooded 57:5
Woodmoor
 23:11
work 5:3 8:4
 17:8 20:14
 21:11 22:7
 25:17 37:3
 39:1 52:9 53:5
 65:17
worked 17:6
working 17:3,
 12 18:4, 8, 12
 21:12 25:12, 17
 44:14 46:6
workplace
 47:14, 16
World 47:6
writing 39:12
wrong 57:5

www.bcps.org
 6:15

 < **Y** >
yeah 27:6
 59:13
year 7:21 8:2,
 3 19:5 21:2, 13
 26:9, 21 35:6
 43:20 47:10, 17
 61:4, 19 62:5
 67:21
years 19:6
 30:21 32:12
 34:15 36:10
 47:13 52:17
 55:14
yield 20:9
Youth 17:5

 < **Z** >
Zone 21:21
 29:17 31:6
 32:17