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BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

PUBLIC SPECIAL WORK SESSION  
REMOTE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS LIVE

JANUARY 26, 2021

Transcribed by:  
Paul A. Gasparotti

Page 2

1 **BOARD MEMBERS:**

2

3 **Makeda Scott, Board Chair**

4 **Julie C. Henn, Vice Chair**

5 **Kathleen Causey**

6 **Moalie S. Jose**

7 **Erin R. Hager**

8 **Russell T. Kuehn**

9 **Lisa A. Mack**

10 **Rodney R. McMillion**

11 **John H. Offerman, Jr.**

12 **Cheryl E. Pasteur**

13 **Lily P. Rowe**

14 **Joshua Muhumuza, Student Member**

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1 **PROCEEDINGS**

2 **CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT:** Good evening, this is

3 Chairwoman Makeda Scott. I now call to order the

4 special work session of the Board of Education of

5 Baltimore County for Tuesday, January 26th, 2021.

6 I invite you to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

7 to the Flag. We will then have a moment of

8 silence in recognition of those who have served

9 education in Baltimore County.

10 Mr. Muhumuza, would you please lead us

11 in the Pledge of Allegiance?

12 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

13 (Moment of silence.)

14 Thank you. In accordance with the

15 mandated direction of the state superintendent,

16 Baltimore County Public Schools and offices are

17 currently closed to the public in order to

18 maintain the health and safety of our students

19 and staff. In accordance with the Board of

20 Education's amended resolution approved on the

21 October 13th, 2020 board meeting, in the event of

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1 **I N D E X**

2 Call to Order. . . . . 4

3 Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence . . . . 4

4 Work Session - Superintendent's Proposed

5 FY-2022 Operating Budget. . . . . 8

6 Unfinished Business, Reopening of Schools. . .82

7 Announcements. . . . . 170

8 Adjournment. . . . . 170

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1 a medical or health emergency related to

2 COVID-19, the board chair in consultation with

3 the vice chair and the superintendent may declare

4 that a board meeting or a board committee meeting

5 be held remotely in its entirety without the

6 physical presence of board members, or in a

7 hybrid manner with only some individual board

8 members participating remotely, subject to

9 establishment of a mechanism that would allow

10 each board member the opportunity to fully

11 participate in the meeting despite not being

12 physically present and that would allow the

13 public to also remotely attend those portions of

14 the meeting that are open pursuant to the

15 Maryland Open Meetings Act by being able to

16 listen and/or view those portions of the meeting.

17 As a result, tonight's Board of

18 Education meeting is being held virtually and

19 broadcasted through Microsoft Teams Live. In

20 order to efficiently conduct this meeting all

21 voting item this evening will be done by rollcall

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1 vote. Board members will say their names when  
 2 making and seconding a motion as applicable, as  
 3 well as when requesting discussion on an agenda  
 4 item.

5 Before we continue, I do have some  
 6 additional information. First, on January 19th,  
 7 2021, the Board approved to resume full high  
 8 school sports on February 13th, 2021. I have  
 9 been advised that this motion is contrary to the  
 10 county executive's order of 2021-01, which was  
 11 issued January 7th of 2021 and is effective until  
 12 February 28th, 2021. The executive order states  
 13 that outdoor social gatherings of more than 25  
 14 people are prohibited. This includes  
 15 nonprofessional sports gatherings and events.  
 16 Therefore, the school system is unable to  
 17 implement this. When the executive order is  
 18 amended, the Board will revisit this motion.

19 Second, at a January 5th meeting, the  
 20 Board unanimously approved adding reopening of  
 21 schools as a standing first item of unfinished

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1 business on all subsequent open session agendas  
 2 until all schools have fully reopened to all  
 3 students for full-time in-person instruction.  
 4 When tonight's work session was rescheduled from  
 5 the Board's January 19th, 2021 meeting and when  
 6 this agenda was created, its sole purpose was to  
 7 address budget questions, there were no other  
 8 items of business on the agenda and this issue  
 9 was not addressed on the 19th.

10 So what I would like to know, does the  
 11 Board wish to, does the Board wish this item of  
 12 school reopening to be added to tonight's agenda?

13 VICE CHAIR HENN: Madam Chair, point of  
 14 order.

15 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes, is that  
 16 Ms. Henn?

17 VICE CHAIR HENN: Thank you, yes,  
 18 Ms. Henn. As the Board has already voted to add  
 19 the reopening of schools as a standing first item  
 20 of unfinished business to all open session  
 21 agendas until all schools have fully reopened,

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1 then this item should have been added to the  
 2 agenda as this is an open session, so in that,  
 3 that was the direction provided by the Board that  
 4 has been given, and per the advice of legal  
 5 counsel, it should be added.

6 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay, so then with  
 7 that being the case and that we could add it, I  
 8 would then ask Ms. Gover if you can add it to  
 9 Item C. Okay.

10 All right. Ms. Gover, are you there?

11 MS. GOVER: Yes, ma'am, it has been  
 12 added.

13 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you so much.  
 14 So we can go on, I guess we were going to go  
 15 ahead to the 2022 operating budget work session.  
 16 So per the motion that passed at the  
 17 January 19th, 2021 board meeting, tonight's  
 18 meeting is scheduled as a designated work session  
 19 on the superintendent's proposed FY-2022  
 20 operating budget. At this time I call on  
 21 Dr. Scriven, Mr. Sarris and Mr. Tantleff.

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1 DR. SCRIVEN: Good evening, Madam Chair,  
 2 Superintendent Williams, Vice Chair Henn, members  
 3 of the Board. This evening we are gathered and  
 4 we want to first thank you for your flexibility  
 5 with working with us and allowing us to bring a  
 6 budget to your attention that is close to what we  
 7 have ultimately presented in the past. In terms  
 8 of meeting that directive, we are here tonight to  
 9 discuss two divisions with you, we will start  
 10 with schools and then we will also present  
 11 business services.

12 In addition to those two divisions, we  
 13 are prepared to provide any additional clarity  
 14 this needed to questions that have been submitted  
 15 for our responses, which have been posted, and  
 16 field any additional questions which we may or  
 17 may not be able to answer this evening. If we  
 18 are unable to do, we will definitely do our due  
 19 diligence to find the appropriate responses. I'm  
 20 joined this evening by Mr. Sarris and  
 21 Mr. Tantleff, who will be taking us through a

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1 presentation to go over the FY proposed 2022  
 2 budget, and then to go over the division update  
 3 for schools and the budgetary division update for  
 4 business services. So at this time I will yield  
 5 the floor to Mr. Sarris. Mr. Sarris, if you  
 6 could please take over?  
 7 MR. SARRIS: Thank you, Dr. Scriven.  
 8 The superintendent has asked us to present a  
 9 brief introduction to lend some structure to the  
 10 overall discussion, and we have a small Power  
 11 Point that I will skim through to give you a  
 12 sense of what you will, what will be presented  
 13 tonight. So the next slide, two is a --  
 14 Mr. Tantleff, could you advance one please, to  
 15 slide two? Okay. I don't see it yet. Should  
 16 I --  
 17 MR. TANTLEFF: Hold on. Sorry, George,  
 18 one second, it's not showing up as a slide show,  
 19 it looks like it should be. Give me ten seconds,  
 20 I apologize. Still can't see it?  
 21 MR. SARRIS: I can see it in the margins

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1 but I can't see it in the main frame.  
 2 MR. TANTLEFF: Got you.  
 3 MR. CORNS: Mr. Sarris, I'm going to  
 4 jump in and grab the slide slow to help out here,  
 5 so give me one second, I'll get it running.  
 6 MR. SARRIS: Okay.  
 7 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: This is Ms. Scott.  
 8 So what we're doing is we're waiting for the  
 9 slide show so that we can review along with  
 10 Mr. Sarris?  
 11 MR. SARRIS: Yes, ma'am.  
 12 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you.  
 13 MR. SARRIS: So I see the cover sheet.  
 14 Next slide. Good, there we are, thanks, Jim.  
 15 So this is a summary of the county,  
 16 state and federal revenues that comprise the  
 17 budget, and you'll see that we are asking for 5.1  
 18 percent over maintenance of effort from the  
 19 county, and we have assumed previously that the  
 20 state and county would both hold us harmless at  
 21 revenue levels for FY-21, the current year. We

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1 have already heard in the governor' proposed  
 2 budget that there is a hold harmless provision  
 3 and so that will provide \$20 million in state  
 4 revenue that was, that would have otherwise been  
 5 lost due to the declining enrollment. We will  
 6 wait to hear from county government, they are  
 7 about \$23 million below maintenance of effort  
 8 based on enrollment, and with this additional  
 9 16.3 million request we are at just under \$40  
 10 million in additional revenue we're requesting  
 11 from the county. And the other funds are  
 12 miscellaneous revenues in the general fund, the  
 13 largest piece of which is \$30 million in  
 14 re-appropriated fund balance. Next slide please.  
 15 So this slide and the next slide are  
 16 both just here as an illustration of the minimum  
 17 requirements that we are required to present on  
 18 or before March 1st to the county government, so  
 19 this would be the revenue summary for all funds  
 20 and the next slide would be the, if you would  
 21 advance, Mr. Corns, the next slide are the 13

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1 appropriations for the general fund that comprise  
 2 the budget. So I know that in a previous meeting  
 3 we talked about the very minimum requirements for  
 4 the budget due on or before March 1st, and  
 5 basically these two sheets represent that. Could  
 6 we go to the next slide Mr. Corns, I think the  
 7 schools budget, and I'm going to give you a brief  
 8 overview.  
 9 Thank you. As you can see, the schools  
 10 budget consists almost entirely of salaries and  
 11 wages, and the other categories listed there are  
 12 the discretionary budgets that each principal is  
 13 allocated based on their enrollment, and we'll  
 14 talk some more about that in the next slide.  
 15 Could we move on? Thanks.  
 16 We did want to summarize some of the  
 17 work that has been done this year, some of the  
 18 essential work and enhancements that our  
 19 community superintendents and school  
 20 administrators have focused on in this year. As  
 21 Dr. Williams reminds us, that instruction is

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1 based on highly qualified teachers and leaders in  
 2 every building, and in addition to that, he set  
 3 forth a goal for us to preserve and protect  
 4 school budgets and staffing ratios and that's an  
 5 important premise upon which the budget was built  
 6 and a different approach that we took with  
 7 non-instructional expenses. And there are some  
 8 of the enhancements that have been added to our  
 9 schools as a result of coping with the pandemic.  
 10 That included additional PPE and reengagement  
 11 programs that took place over the summer, the  
 12 additional instructional materials and tutoring  
 13 that we were able to provide throughout the fall  
 14 as a result of the CRF tutoring grant, and  
 15 finally an equity review of EDA allocations.  
 16 Next slide please.

17 So this is just our staffing ratio, it's  
 18 one of the pages in the initial document I  
 19 believe, and just to indicate here that none of  
 20 those ratios changed and that despite the loss of  
 21 enrollment this year, we're adequately staffed.

Page 15

1 Next slide please.

2 And same is true here, that we have  
 3 preserved school budgets by preserving the per  
 4 pupil funding, which when combined with  
 5 enrollment generates the school budgets that each  
 6 principal is allocated, and those funding levels  
 7 have also been preserved. Next slide please.

8 So this is a more focused summary of  
 9 what comprises the schools budget and you can see  
 10 that the largest sections are the per pupil  
 11 amounts and then there are additional allocations  
 12 for magnet schools and magnet allocations from  
 13 the magnet office, extended day and year learning  
 14 from the transition grant and other school  
 15 programs, so there's a formula that we follow  
 16 that provides this roughly \$15 million to the  
 17 schools.

18 Next is business services, and I just  
 19 wanted to review basically what we do. The  
 20 Department of Facilities Management and Strategic  
 21 Planning is responsible for the planning and

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1 design, construction and maintenance of all our  
 2 facilities. They have an energy management  
 3 program, they're primarily responsible for the  
 4 capital budget and now long-term planning, and  
 5 they provide logistical support through warehouse  
 6 and distribution. Business services operation is  
 7 comprised of food and nutrition services and  
 8 student transportation. Information technology  
 9 manages our network and communications  
 10 infrastructure, the student information system  
 11 and all enterprise applications. And fiscal  
 12 services includes budget, operating budget,  
 13 accounting, financial review and cash management  
 14 in payroll and purchasing, and administrative  
 15 services provides our enterprise resource system  
 16 management and directs the continuity of  
 17 operations planning. Next slide please.

18 And here is a breakdown of the entire  
 19 division's budget and I will jump right to the  
 20 purple and the red because that is a question  
 21 often that we talk about in our work sessions.

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1 Other charges consist primarily of three things,  
 2 about \$77 million in FICA and Medicare, which is  
 3 all budgeted in the payroll office, as well as  
 4 about \$30 million in utilities and a network  
 5 infrastructure lease. Contracted services  
 6 includes all of the vendors that provide  
 7 equipment and technology systems maintenance, all  
 8 of our device leases are in this section, and all  
 9 of our communications and software licensing fees  
 10 are here. Next slide please.

11 And I just want to go through some of  
 12 the efficiencies and realignments that we have  
 13 undertaken. Employees of integrated strategic  
 14 planning as an office within itself, they've  
 15 stood up automated maintenance systems and  
 16 developed a sustainability program, and they've  
 17 accelerated the construction and relocation of  
 18 three elementary schools to improve capacity, and  
 19 they've completed a ventilation inspection and  
 20 repairs at all schools in advance of school  
 21 reopening. Next slide please.

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1 The efficiencies achieved by food and  
 2 nutrition are obviously the heroic efforts in  
 3 providing almost 2.1 million meals during the  
 4 pandemic, and they are prepared for school  
 5 reopening and to further expand meals delivery to  
 6 even more students once we reopen. Next slide  
 7 please.  
 8 Department of Information Technology,  
 9 they have optimized bandwidth by managing network  
 10 traffic, provided more self service functions to  
 11 relieve the technical support systems,  
 12 implemented lots of cloud-based off-site hosted  
 13 systems, including student information, and  
 14 migrated all devices to a global management  
 15 platform.  
 16 In fiscal services on the next slide, I  
 17 can tell you that we've completed the software  
 18 upgrades that will allow us to provide electronic  
 19 procurements, automated ACH vendor payments and  
 20 improved P-card management. We're planning an  
 21 automated employment verification system and we

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1 have moved to our own hosted online catalog for  
 2 school supplies as well as expenditure tracking.  
 3 And our last slide is for administrative  
 4 services. That has restored the data in our  
 5 enterprise resource planning system since the  
 6 cyber attack and managed our continuity of  
 7 operations planning as well as working with  
 8 professional development on non-certificated  
 9 professional development.  
 10 And having gone quickly through that,  
 11 we're certainly happy to answer any questions  
 12 about this presentation or the budget materials  
 13 that the Board has.  
 14 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you for that,  
 15 Mr. Sarris. So that's the end of your  
 16 presentation, so now if any board members have  
 17 any questions, please let me know. Yes,  
 18 Mr. Kuehn? Oh excuse me, I'm sorry, Mr. Kuehn,  
 19 I'm trying to monitor this. It looks like  
 20 Ms. Pasteur first, and then Mr. Kuehn.  
 21 MS. PASTEUR: Thank you, Ms. Scott, and

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1 I will be quick. Mine is I guess to Dr. Williams  
 2 more, and I appreciate this Dr. Williams. When  
 3 we're looking at teacher to student ratio and  
 4 people see larger classes than the ratio would --  
 5 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: You're muted,  
 6 Ms. Pasteur.  
 7 MS. PASTEUR: Thank you. That was  
 8 Dr. Williams, to you. When we are looking at  
 9 teacher to student ratio, that we are looking at  
 10 the teaching staff within the school and that  
 11 sort of belies sometimes what we see in our math,  
 12 English and our core classes which seem to be  
 13 larger. But we know that number, and when we're  
 14 looking at the staff we're incorporating  
 15 electives, specials, and in magnet programs those  
 16 teachers, and that's why sometimes other classes  
 17 seem to balloon.  
 18 I would appreciate it, I would really  
 19 appreciate it if you would just address in light  
 20 of what we're seeing in this budget in terms of  
 21 what looks like a decrease, because I am worried

Page 21

1 about our staffing and our supporting our  
 2 teachers, so Dr. Williams, would you please  
 3 address your thoughts including how you're going  
 4 to use the CARES Act and other grants and funding  
 5 sources to make sure that those special programs,  
 6 particularly programs like IB and AVID are going  
 7 to be more than adequately covered, and that our  
 8 students who are going to need extra supports are  
 9 also going to be covered? So what is your  
 10 thinking, because clearly this budget as it looks  
 11 won't work. Thank you.  
 12 DR. WILLIAMS: So thank you,  
 13 Ms. Pasteur. If you recall last year when I came  
 14 to the Board with my proposed budget, I put in  
 15 staffing to address enrollment. I wanted to  
 16 reexamine our Title I and focused schools ratio,  
 17 and then I always look at our special ed program  
 18 support and ESOL program support. And as you  
 19 well know, those items were not funded and  
 20 actually we had to take some current positions  
 21 and put them back in the classrooms, we had to do

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1 some creative scheduling which, I'm so  
 2 appreciative of our partners in our central  
 3 office that we have to really work on that.  
 4 So the commitment then was to express  
 5 just our needs, but the funding just wasn't  
 6 there. And based on just what we're seeing now,  
 7 the funding as you see, I provided a small  
 8 increase from the maintenance of effort relief  
 9 targeting compensation for our staff. I really  
 10 feel that at this point that we should continue  
 11 to ask for additional staffing. I really want to  
 12 look at those classrooms, particularly where our  
 13 students may need additional support such as I  
 14 described, the Title I, and when I say focused  
 15 schools, those schools that last year those  
 16 schools that weren't identified as Title I but  
 17 close in terms of their free and reduced meals  
 18 ratios, and of course special ed and our English  
 19 language. So we will continue to look at our  
 20 staffing, we will continue to support our  
 21 programs.

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1 You had another question there about the  
 2 AVID and magnet programs. We will continue to  
 3 provide that kind of support. We've seen success  
 4 even hearing from our staff and students who are  
 5 part of our AVID or special programs and how do  
 6 we continue to do that, especially if it's funded  
 7 by a grant that may end in a year or two. We  
 8 would have to look at how we will then put that  
 9 into our budget just to sustain those programs.  
 10 And there was another part you asked.  
 11 Oh, in terms of the CARES Act, as I mentioned  
 12 before as we're looking at our reopening plan, we  
 13 had success last spring and summer, late spring  
 14 and summer, we had reengagement programs where  
 15 schools got to do, they had to be very creative  
 16 about really reaching out to those students who  
 17 may have not been engaged for a variety of  
 18 reasons. We want to continue to use funds to  
 19 provide those opportunities for our schools as  
 20 we're moving into second semester, whether it's  
 21 during the day, whether it's a weekend, looking

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1 at your our summer program, we are really trying  
 2 to develop what that may look like. That will  
 3 extend potentially the school year for our  
 4 learners and opportunities to be engaged and  
 5 again, I want to focus on English language and  
 6 mathematics. So I think to your point as I  
 7 reported when I shared the initial, my proposed  
 8 budget, at the time we, I just saw the reality  
 9 of, didn't see how we could then have the funding  
 10 to support what I wanted to do a year ago, which  
 11 I thought was pretty aggressive but it was really  
 12 showing the needs. Now we just have to figure  
 13 out what we can do each year to try to address  
 14 these needs with the financial support that we  
 15 get.  
 16 So I believe in staffing, I believe in  
 17 our professional development, that's key, and the  
 18 team and I are working on an overview of our  
 19 systemic professional development, because once  
 20 you become a part of team BCPS, we want to make  
 21 sure you have the tools and resources to be

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1 successful. And then even if you have  
 2 aspirations to move into a different position or  
 3 a different field, again, business services has  
 4 started some great work around that and of course  
 5 on the instruction side whether folks want to go  
 6 back to school, whether folks want to get their  
 7 certification, whether they want to go from a  
 8 classroom teacher to assistant principal or  
 9 principal, we like to build within and we like to  
 10 build that pool. So it's a lot in that response,  
 11 but again, I think it's worthy to say we really  
 12 have to tackle the staffing and make sure we have  
 13 our schools well staffed, and it's well staffed  
 14 with highly qualified staff members. That  
 15 includes teachers, our paras, looking at our  
 16 counselors, you name it, it's to make sure we  
 17 have highly qualified staff in all buildings, in  
 18 all classrooms, as well as strong instructional  
 19 leaders.  
 20 MS. PASTEUR: And that will start this  
 21 year, right, with this budget, you're going to

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1 start nailing and making sure that it's not just  
 2 by the numbers, but it's by the reality and the  
 3 needs. Thank you.

4 DR. WILLIAMS: Yes. Each year we learn,  
 5 or I learn more and more about our programs, and  
 6 working with the incredible staff that can  
 7 provide that historical perspective, so you know,  
 8 I don't know what June may bring, but I really  
 9 feel we have to focus on that professional  
 10 learning, you know, and it will be great to get  
 11 additional facts to look at our ratios, our  
 12 special programs, we're going to continue to look  
 13 at that, but I also want to look at and make sure  
 14 we have a systemic overall professional learning  
 15 plan, so if ever questioned we can say here's our  
 16 plan. And it's tied to, I always have to put in  
 17 a plug, it's tied to our new strategic plan, The  
 18 Compass: Our Pathway to Excellence, really  
 19 around that focus area three about the human  
 20 capital.

21 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you for that,

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1 Dr. Williams.

2 MS. PASTEUR: Thank you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay. Next we have  
 4 Mr. Kuehn.

5 MR. KUEHN: Thank you, Ms. Scott.  
 6 Mr. Sarris, I would like you to explain the  
 7 comment you made about \$30 million being  
 8 re-appropriated from our fund balance; can you  
 9 explain that?

10 MR. SARRIS: Yes, that's something that  
 11 we've done historically. It comprises the  
 12 largest single item under other revenue and our  
 13 fund balance reverts to county government at the  
 14 end of each fiscal year, we have no independent  
 15 control over it, and the county government has  
 16 consistently used those funds as current revenue  
 17 in the following year, and so that is something  
 18 that we have included here because of its  
 19 consistent use in that manner over decades.

20 MR. KUEHN: So just to follow on, I  
 21 think I do recall this, but I thought it was

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1 around \$10 million last year; is that accurate?  
 2 MR. SARRIS: I think it was about the  
 3 same, \$30 million last year --  
 4 MR. TANTLEFF: 31.3 both years.  
 5 MR. KUEHN: Okay, great. I guess my  
 6 next follow-on question is, revenue that we don't  
 7 spend, and I would expect it to be higher than  
 8 that this year, would that all be or would we  
 9 attempt to repurpose all that money into next  
 10 year's budget?

11 MR. SARRIS: It will go into the fund  
 12 balance and we, because this is ultimately a  
 13 county decision, we just anticipated using at  
 14 least the same amount as we did this year, but I  
 15 would say over the past five years, it has  
 16 gradually increased. I can remember when it was  
 17 13 million and 20 million and 25 million and it's  
 18 currently at, as Mr. Tantleff said, 31.3, so that  
 19 will be a decision that follows the Board's  
 20 adoption of the budget.

21 MR. KUEHN: Okay, thank you. Just to

Page 29

1 follow up, I'm limited on time, page 30 talks  
 2 about the executive director of information  
 3 technology, and I don't know if I missed this in  
 4 your slides, but the budget changed significantly  
 5 for this group, it was \$40 million last year and  
 6 it's \$900,000 this coming year. Can you explain  
 7 that?

8 MR. TANTLEFF: Mr. Kuehn, the difference  
 9 there is one of the groups under Mr. Corns just  
 10 moved to its own, it doesn't roll up under  
 11 Mr. Corns anymore, so Ms. Obenstein, who kind of  
 12 does all the ordering and management of the  
 13 devices and that's where those expenses are  
 14 sitting, it just broke into its own line item.  
 15 So you can see the totals there are consistent,  
 16 it's just on its own line, and I can tell you  
 17 what page if I can switch over to that. You  
 18 should be able to see it right on the page there.

19 MR. KUEHN: So I can see the contracted  
 20 services is where the big change is from what I  
 21 can understand here, and you're saying that

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1 that's all device related, and now where would I  
 2 find that, it wouldn't be under information  
 3 technology anymore?  
 4 MR. TANTLEFF: No, it is, it's just on  
 5 its own line item. Let me just find the page  
 6 where it's --  
 7 MR. KUEHN: 43, I see it.  
 8 MR. TANTLEFF: Yes, thank you.  
 9 MR. KUEHN: So now it's considered  
 10 technology support services, all right, thank  
 11 you.  
 12 MR. SARRIS: Most of it is leases, the  
 13 device leases.  
 14 MR. KUEHN: And I wanted to follow up  
 15 with that because due to CARES Act funding, we  
 16 went out and we bought a number of devices,  
 17 correct? And I want to understand the breakdown  
 18 of what we have that's leased and then what we  
 19 own outright based on the CARES Act funding.  
 20 MR. SARRIS: So all -- if Jim is ready,  
 21 I can --

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1 DR. SCRIVEN: Yeah, Jim, why don't you  
 2 go ahead and field that one please?  
 3 MR. CORNS: Yes, sir. So we have  
 4 through the CARES Act, we had to outfit the  
 5 pre-K, K, one and two to a one-to-one ratio, so  
 6 many of the devices that were ordered through the  
 7 CARES Act were through that, or were purposed for  
 8 that. Our middle school replacement is in the  
 9 current FY-21 budget, and so the remaining leases  
 10 that we have are going to be on the high school  
 11 PCs that we have one more year on, in addition to  
 12 the Chromebook leases that we've already entered  
 13 into.  
 14 MR. KUEHN: Just for clarification, did  
 15 we purchase laptops and Chromebooks with the  
 16 CARES Act money or did we enter into leases?  
 17 MR. CORNS: No, Mr. Kuehn, we purchased  
 18 the Chromebooks outright with the CARES Act money  
 19 because it's a one-time, so it would have, it  
 20 wouldn't have been responsible for us to enter  
 21 into a lease over that, so the CARES Act money

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1 was used to procure or purchase outright the  
 2 Chromebooks that we needed for both the  
 3 elementary schools, as well as implementing them  
 4 in areas like our paras and AAs.  
 5 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay, thank you,  
 6 Mr. Kuehn. Next it looks like we have Ms. Rowe.  
 7 MS. ROWE: Thank you, Ms. Scott. Can  
 8 you hear me?  
 9 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: We can hear you, you  
 10 sound quiet, but yes, we can hear you.  
 11 MS. ROWE: So my first question is, it  
 12 appears from this budget because of declining  
 13 enrollment that we have declining funding because  
 14 the declining enrollment has led to fewer  
 15 absentees in the school system, but we're asking  
 16 for money based on current enrollment. And what  
 17 I would like to know is if we only get what the  
 18 county and state are legally obligated to give  
 19 us, which would be the maintenance of effort  
 20 based on the declining enrollment, what in the  
 21 current budget is going to have to be shuffled

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1 around to account for the fact that we don't have  
 2 that money?  
 3 MR. SARRIS: So Ms. Rowe, this is George  
 4 Sarris. Yes, as you mentioned, we're planning,  
 5 we planned on 43 million to make up that  
 6 difference, 20 from the state has been provided,  
 7 we will await to see what county government can  
 8 provide. My, the most direct response I can give  
 9 you is that if we were not, if the county were  
 10 not able to provide that 23 million, that we have  
 11 a couple options, the first of which would be to,  
 12 we would be unable to consider increased salaries  
 13 for staff or we would find a way to utilize the  
 14 CARES Act II grant in some combination to  
 15 preserve all of the positions and all of the  
 16 services that are in this budget.  
 17 MS. ROWE: Okay. Can you tell me  
 18 besides purchasing Chromebooks, what else was the  
 19 CARES Act money used for?  
 20 MR. SARRIS: Well, there were basically  
 21 three grants. There was the CARES grant, the

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1 biggest use of which so far has been to provide  
 2 food services and sanitation and hygiene in the  
 3 schools. And we had two additional grants, the  
 4 tutoring grant and the technology grant, both of  
 5 which were about \$12 million, and so all of the  
 6 technology spending and much of the curriculum  
 7 spending that was in our original CARES  
 8 application was moved over to those two  
 9 short-term grants that expired December 30th. So  
 10 we still have about 17 million left on the  
 11 original CARES grant and all of the technology,  
 12 most of the technology ended up coming out of the  
 13 separate technology grant and most of the  
 14 instructional materials and professional  
 15 development ended up coming out of the tutoring  
 16 grant to allow us to have those remaining funds  
 17 in Cares, because those are two-year funds and we  
 18 were directed by the state and the federal  
 19 government to use up these other two grants  
 20 first, and we can now carry over the remaining  
 21 CARES Act grant I to FY-22.

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1 MS. ROWE: Okay. Can you tell me in the  
 2 other instruction costs, can you explain to me  
 3 how much of those software licensing fees that  
 4 you mentioned before are related to instructional  
 5 materials or curriculum materials, or is the  
 6 software licensing for that in curriculum  
 7 materials and curriculum instruction, where is  
 8 that money?  
 9 MR. SARRIS: I think most of the  
 10 software licensing is in the curriculum budget, a  
 11 portion of it might be in Mr. Corns' technology  
 12 budget but under enterprise applications, but  
 13 Mr. Corns, do you want to correct me?  
 14 MR. CORNS: Sure, Mr. Sarris. So the  
 15 two big expenditures that we have that are  
 16 directly related to curriculum and instruction  
 17 through my office are the Schoology bill for our  
 18 learning management system, it's funded through  
 19 the Office of Enterprise Applications, as well as  
 20 our SPS software which is our special education  
 21 software. And in addition through our network

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1 support team, we also have a fee for our  
 2 supporting montage system. There are smaller  
 3 line items for certain pieces of software but by  
 4 in large most of the instructional materials  
 5 software are housed underneath of curriculum and  
 6 instruction with those two, those three notable  
 7 exceptions.  
 8 MS. ROWE: Okay, and those three  
 9 exceptions are under the other costs or are they  
 10 under the technology budget?  
 11 MR. SARRIS: The items that Mr. Corns  
 12 was referring to are on page 45 under contracted  
 13 services, so if there's another page that you had  
 14 in mind, Ms. Rowe, let us know. When we --  
 15 MS. ROWE: I'll see if I can formulate a  
 16 more detailed question and email it to you.  
 17 My last question is, I'm aware that  
 18 school systems have to compensate for special  
 19 education compensatory services and that these  
 20 things are usually negotiated out in litigation  
 21 or due process hearings. And what I would like

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1 to know is last year, how much money did we spend  
 2 for compensatory services that were not agreed to  
 3 ahead of time with parents?  
 4 MR. SARRIS: I think Mr. Tantleff is  
 5 well voiced on that number.  
 6 MR. TANTLEFF: Let me just get the total  
 7 figures, just a second. I wanted to get the  
 8 exact amount. Ms. Rowe, we had in FY-20 actual  
 9 was just over \$3 million, which is what we're  
 10 planning to budget for FY-22.  
 11 MS. ROWE: And that three million is  
 12 just the results of litigation and due process  
 13 negotiations, or is that the full compensatory  
 14 services, including what's negotiated with  
 15 parents ahead of time as part of their IEPs?  
 16 MR. TANTLEFF: I can't answer those,  
 17 that particular question. Our nonpublic  
 18 placement, which is how most of the children get  
 19 placed, we spent almost 49 million in FY-20.  
 20 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you for that.  
 21 Next we have Mr. Offerman.

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1 MR. OFFERMAN: Thank you. A question:  
 2 As we, or when we rebuild our various platforms  
 3 and we put in for next year, is there an increase  
 4 in the amount of funds that we need to make sure  
 5 that we have superior cyber security and/or and  
 6 if that is necessary, we're looking in this  
 7 budget? Thank you.  
 8 MR. SARRIS: So I can tell you that  
 9 those types of costs were initially provided in  
 10 the, by our insurance coverage, and that those  
 11 consultants have advised us to implement or to  
 12 maintain that coverage and we have done so, and  
 13 been able to cover that with this year's budget,  
 14 and it, I'll let Mr. Corns add to that, but we're  
 15 hoping that the amount of those expenses that  
 16 carry over to FY-22 will be much less than they  
 17 are this year.  
 18 MR. CORNS: And so Mr. Offerman, to add  
 19 to that, we have both costs that are already in  
 20 our budget where we're examining places where we  
 21 can find efficiencies. As an example, in this

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1 pandemic we've shifted from a web conferencing  
 2 system to one that was included in Microsoft for  
 3 net savings, so all the monies that are  
 4 underneath particularly our network services  
 5 areas, we're realigning to move things both to  
 6 cloud based, as well as leveraging in a much more  
 7 expedited process changes that had already been  
 8 designed to go in place. So from the standpoint  
 9 of ongoing and recurring costs, the changes that  
 10 we've had to put into place due to our recent  
 11 ransomware attack are going to be able to be  
 12 covered underneath of the current budget ask that  
 13 we have.  
 14 MR. OFFERMAN: Thank you.  
 15 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you,  
 16 Mr. Offerman. Next we have Dr. Hager.  
 17 DR. HAGER: Hi, everyone. I submitted a  
 18 number of questions that I thank you for the  
 19 responses you provided in writing. I do want to  
 20 go back to two of those questions, though, and  
 21 they're similar to ones that have been asked

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1 already, numbers 35 and 36 in the, I believe they  
 2 were numbered when they were responded to.  
 3 And so one is, we have this maintenance  
 4 of effort budget that also we're asking for five  
 5 percent over, knowing that we have a reduced  
 6 enrollment, and yet we're reducing our number of  
 7 teaching positions by 122, and that really  
 8 concerns me. I know that we're doing that to  
 9 maintain our ratios, but I would think that we  
 10 would want smaller group sizes and smaller  
 11 classroom sizes post pandemic when kids are  
 12 coming back at differing levels and I just wish,  
 13 I still don't understand that rationale. If  
 14 someone could explain that, that would be great,  
 15 and then I'll ask my other question, since I know  
 16 I only have two minutes, and that is related to  
 17 number 36, which has to do with the special  
 18 education positions and in the budget it says no  
 19 additional special education positions are funded  
 20 in the proposed budget.  
 21 And Dr. Williams just said in response

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1 to Ms. Pasteur's question that that's a priority,  
 2 so why are we not hiring more teachers, and if  
 3 we're cutting teachers, we're not hiring more  
 4 teachers and we're not hiring any additional  
 5 staff in special education, these are areas that  
 6 are, again, great concern post pandemic.  
 7 DR. WILLIAMS: Let me respond to  
 8 Dr. Hager and then you all can take it from  
 9 there. What I was describing is what I proposed  
 10 last year in my budget and those line items were  
 11 eliminated. So you know, I saw the need not for  
 12 only for special ed, English language learners  
 13 and again looking at Title I, but looking at the  
 14 financial outlook at the time in which I  
 15 presented my proposed budget, and having a  
 16 maintenance of effort I really just focused on  
 17 the compensation and then as I shared with  
 18 Ms. Pasteur, looking at professional development,  
 19 beefing that up. So I just wanted to clarify  
 20 that comment that was made earlier, but  
 21 Mr. Tantleff or Mr. Sarris may want to take it

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1 from there.

2 MR. SARRIS: Yeah. I know that -- well,

3 Rick, go ahead.

4 MR. TANTLEFF: All I was going to say is

5 it was really just a situation we were facing

6 because just as a reminder, our student count

7 this year 100 percent drives our revenue next

8 year, and because our decline was so severe, as

9 far as what we knew putting the budget together

10 our revenue could have potentially dropped tens

11 of millions of dollars. So we were just kind of

12 making the best of bad choices honestly when

13 you're just trying to make the budget foot and do

14 it in a way that impacts the students the least.

15 So it's not at all what we would have wanted to

16 present initially, but we thought it was the best

17 under the circumstances.

18 You know, as me know now, we know that

19 we'll get the state revenue that we had put in

20 the budget and hopefully we'll get the county

21 revenue, the CARES grant is available now, so

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1 that may help us in that regard. But to answer

2 your questions, when we put the budget together

3 we were faced with the loss of tens of millions

4 of dollars, so quite frankly, something has to

5 give in that scenario.

6 DR. HAGER: And that a little bit alarms

7 me because what gave were teachers and special

8 educators and again, I think that that is

9 probably the most important thing post pandemic

10 for our supported kids is to have those smaller

11 group settings and the one-on-one attention. And

12 so are you suggesting that now that the governor

13 has made his statement and we know additional

14 funding will come that there will be an updated

15 budget, or is this still the proposed budget that

16 stands in front of us?

17 MR. SARRIS: Well, the budget already

18 anticipates both the state and the county coming

19 through with what we called hold harmless

20 funding, and the Office of Strategic Planning is

21 looking at additional enrollment possibilities

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1 for next year, but next year's funding is based

2 on this year's enrollment under the state's

3 funding formulas. So we are looking to other

4 sources of revenue, including possibly the CARES

5 Act that could be used for instance, let's say

6 more students show up next year as we expect they

7 will, it's not realistic to reduce staffing, so

8 that would be a situation in which we would

9 certainly consider the CARES Act to support those

10 additional positions.

11 DR. HAGER: So if there's a hold

12 harmless, though, why cut 122 teacher positions?

13 MR. SARRIS: Because everything was

14 based on actual enrollment this year and we had

15 no projected data to work with, so being

16 conservative we started out here and as you

17 mentioned, we probably will be revising these

18 estimates and making recommendations accordingly

19 going forward.

20 MR. TANTLEFF: And Dr. Hager, just to

21 clarify, hold harmless doesn't mean there's no

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1 impact on operations. In this regard it means

2 keeping funding flat to a year ago, but we have

3 benefit inflation, we're trying to fund a step

4 increase for all of our employees, we have

5 contract inflation. So a flat budget can only

6 support those things if certain things get

7 reduced, so if it had gone down tens of millions

8 obviously it would be a really dire situation, so

9 keeping us held harmless at least gets us to

10 something we can foot and manage.

11 DR. HAGER: Thank you, I appreciate it.

12 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. Next it

13 looks like we have Ms. Lisa Mack.

14 MS. MACK: Yes, thank you. Dr. Williams

15 has said in the past what matters is what happens

16 in the classroom. Since I'm in full agreement

17 with that sentiment, I'd like to know what money

18 is included in this budget to retain schoolhouse

19 staff and to reward them for going above and

20 beyond to make virtual learning at least tenable

21 for some students and beneficial for others. I

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1 would specifically like to know if this budget  
 2 includes a COLA and I'd like confirmation that  
 3 healthcare costs for union-represented employees  
 4 has increased. I'd like to confirm that teachers  
 5 did not get a step in last year's budget, and I  
 6 would also like to confirm that personnel at the  
 7 top of pay scales do not qualify for steps.

8 MR. TANTLEFF: I can take that. So this  
 9 last year's budget, Dr. Williams was able to fund  
 10 a one percent, his FY-21 being last year, all  
 11 employees except for senior staff that's  
 12 unaffiliated got a one percent COLA and no step.  
 13 In this year's budget we have proposed a step but  
 14 no COLA for all employees who were eligible for a  
 15 step increase.

16 MS. MACK: But the people at the top of  
 17 the pay scale would not be eligible, is that  
 18 correct?

19 MR. TANTLEFF: Right now if they're on a  
 20 step scale they would be, but the most senior  
 21 employees are not on a scale with steps.

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1 MS. MACK: Okay, thank you for that  
 2 confirmation.

3 I'd like to kind of move to where  
 4 Dr. Hager was but with a different group of  
 5 employees. Ms. White had a budget that was  
 6 trying to close the gap of school counselors,  
 7 social workers and psychologists. Last year I  
 8 think Dr. Williams' proposed budget also included  
 9 an increase in those positions and I believe it's  
 10 critical this year when we return to school to  
 11 have wraparound services for our students who  
 12 need them. What positions specifically like  
 13 school counselors, social workers, school  
 14 psychologists and PPWs are included in this  
 15 budget?

16 MR. TANTLEFF: Well, right now the  
 17 budget you have before you does not have any  
 18 increased positions in those areas. We did get  
 19 both the blueprint and state aid funding this  
 20 week, and the concentration of poverty grant  
 21 which does have some school counselors, did

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1 increase by almost \$3 million, so that would --  
 2 and that just came out this week -- that would  
 3 allow several more counselors to be funded by  
 4 that grant, but unfortunately as critical as they  
 5 are, because if we, you know, the conversations  
 6 we had with Dr. Hager, there just were not funds  
 7 to add more of those positions due to the  
 8 enrollment situation.

9 MS. MACK: I guess, Mr. Tantleff, where  
 10 I struggle with this is we're talking about a  
 11 \$1.7 billion budget and if we don't have  
 12 appropriate personnel to help our children  
 13 succeed, we don't need anything else, we don't  
 14 need IT, we don't need a Board, we don't need a  
 15 superintendent, we don't need staff. And I am  
 16 concerned that we have not given adequate  
 17 consideration to the importance of bodies in the  
 18 schoolhouse.

19 DR. WILLIAMS: So Ms. Mack, Darryl  
 20 Williams. I just want to respond. Again, last  
 21 year we put forth a very very aggressive budget,

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1 I did, as well as the Board, and it included ten  
 2 counselors, or a recommendation for ten  
 3 counselors, social workers, psychologists, I  
 4 believe nursing and health assistant Georgian and  
 5 Witt. Those items were not, all of those items  
 6 were not funded. And so again, looking at the  
 7 financial state we were in at the time and  
 8 getting a maintenance of effort for this year, I  
 9 just moved forward with a maintenance of effort,  
 10 acknowledging the staff with a step based on  
 11 where we are, or where we were back then. So I  
 12 recognize that absolutely, what we do when our  
 13 students return, as well as our staff returning,  
 14 we do have to focus on the social-emotional  
 15 wellbeing, and to commend the staff and our  
 16 administrators for all the work that they have  
 17 done this year to address that. So I understand  
 18 your point about looking at and providing that  
 19 kind of support to our students and staff.

20 MS. MACK: Thank you. I'm waiting to  
 21 find out how much time I have left.

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1 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Ten seconds.  
 2 MS. MACK: Okay. So what number of BCPS  
 3 staff receive a monthly car allowance, and what  
 4 is the average dollar amount of that car  
 5 allowance? Has BCPS evaluated the cost savings  
 6 of eliminating car allowances and moving all  
 7 employees ease to vouchers as needed?  
 8 MR. SARRIS: I believe -- I don't know  
 9 the number of positions, Ms. Mack, but I believe  
 10 that the annual expenditure is approximately  
 11 \$200,000 for those stipends.  
 12 MR. TANTLEFF: It's in that area. If  
 13 you like, we can double check it.  
 14 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay, thank you. Can  
 15 that information be followed up and send an email  
 16 perhaps to Ms. Mack?  
 17 MR. SARRIS: Yes, certainly.  
 18 MS. MACK: Thank you, Ms. Scott.  
 19 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. Next we  
 20 have Mr. Muhumuza.  
 21 MR. MUHUMUZA: Yes, good evening.

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1 Mr. Tantleff, I guess my first question  
 2 (inaudible, low volume) Ms. Shield, our  
 3 counselor, her experience in high school, how  
 4 does that compare to the recommendations of  
 5 national, by the state, and how does that compare  
 6 also to other jurisdictions?  
 7 MR. TANTLEFF: Did you -- I had trouble  
 8 hearing you. Were you asking how does our actual  
 9 ratio of counselors compare to other LEAs and  
 10 jurisdictions?  
 11 MR. MUHUMUZA: Yes, and to the  
 12 recommendations from national positions.  
 13 MR. TANTLEFF: Dr. Zarchin would have to  
 14 speak to that, but I know when it's come up in  
 15 the past, the ideal numbers that are recommended,  
 16 there's, I don't believe anyone who actually has  
 17 that number, but I would need to defer to the  
 18 experts on that question.  
 19 MR. SARRIS: Yeah. I'm fairly sure,  
 20 Mr. Muhumuza, that it's around 250 as opposed to  
 21 our standards, and most systems are striving to

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1 get there, and I think we compare favorably  
 2 statewide, but that is something we will follow  
 3 up with a written response and at the next work  
 4 session Dr. Zarchin would be able to provide more  
 5 on it.  
 6 MR. MUHUMUZA: My second question is, do  
 7 we pay for the BCPS-1 system, the one that is  
 8 currently in effect down?  
 9 MR. SARRIS: Yes. I think it's part of  
 10 our overall network, but Mr. Corns might have a  
 11 more precise answer.  
 12 MR. CORNS: So Mr. Muhumuza, was the  
 13 question that the BCPS-1 system that is not  
 14 accessible currently, do we pay for it, is that  
 15 your question?  
 16 MR. MUHUMUZA: Yes.  
 17 MR. CORNS: No, sir, we do not. That  
 18 was created in house and so there is no annual  
 19 revenue being expended on it, and so it being  
 20 down is not costing us funding for paying for  
 21 something that's not available.

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1 MR. MUHUMUZA: Okay. And for the  
 2 websites, I believe it's the home wide learning  
 3 instructions that you go through BCPS-1 to  
 4 access, like the -- shoot, I use these all the  
 5 time but I forgot the names, but the digital  
 6 resources, do we pay for those?  
 7 MR. CORNS: So that would be, yes, we do  
 8 pay for many of those, that funding coming  
 9 through our curriculum and instruction. The ones  
 10 that were listed on that page, with the exception  
 11 of Office 365, which I believe was linked through  
 12 there as well, that does also come out of my  
 13 budget.  
 14 MR. MUHUMUZA: So since they have been  
 15 ineffective, or many students have been unable to  
 16 access them, are we still going to be paying for  
 17 those in this budget?  
 18 MR. CORNS: So Mr. Muhumuza, most all of  
 19 those systems have been linked through our  
 20 curriculum in multiple ways and accessible  
 21 through our Schoology environment. So the use of

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1 those tools has experienced an interruption but  
 2 we are rapidly bringing back most but not all of  
 3 them at this point.  
 4 MR. MUHUMUZA: Thank you, I appreciate  
 5 the clarification.  
 6 My next question is about  
 7 transportation. I've been researching other  
 8 jurisdictions, I know that jurisdictions that,  
 9 like Baltimore City has a contract with the  
 10 Maryland Transit Authority to provide bus passes  
 11 for students to ride on the public bus, and these  
 12 are all students who live near the city or other  
 13 bus routes. Has BCPS looked into that as an  
 14 alternative to bus drivers and those students who  
 15 don't have access to constant school buses?  
 16 MR. TANTLEFF: The one difference is in  
 17 the city it's much more feasible to get from  
 18 almost anywhere in the city to anywhere else in  
 19 the city, either through bus, light rail,  
 20 et cetera, and the city does not have a yellow  
 21 bus system, other than for special ed children

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1 and some elementary kids, so all middle and high  
 2 schoolers have to take the MTA, that's the model  
 3 they built.  
 4 But it's a lot easier to do within the  
 5 city. If you think about how the transit runs,  
 6 it gets much more spread out once you leave the  
 7 city, so there are places you can get to within  
 8 Baltimore County obviously, but it's much much  
 9 more limited. I know we do have some use of mass  
 10 transit, especially for homeless children where  
 11 that is an option that works, but I think it's  
 12 just not as feasible and it's certainly not as  
 13 time efficient as the school buses on a  
 14 traditional route.  
 15 MR. MUHUMUZA: Okay. So I guess my  
 16 question would be for like extracurricular  
 17 activities where students say they cannot  
 18 participate because they -- sorry, I'm out of  
 19 time. Thank you.  
 20 MR. SARRIS: Thank you. If Mr. Patillo  
 21 or Dr. Grim are available, they may -- we do have

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1 after school transportation for certain  
 2 activities, it's sometimes limited, but it is a  
 3 program that we offer.  
 4 MR. MUHUMUZA: Again, that was basically  
 5 my question, so I'll email it to you. Thank you.  
 6 MR. SARRIS: Okay.  
 7 CHAIRWOMAN CAUSEY: Thank you so much  
 8 for that. Next we have Ms. Causey. Ms. Causey,  
 9 are you there?  
 10 MS. CAUSEY: Good evening and thank you.  
 11 First I just want to dovetail with my colleague  
 12 board members, there's so many needs in our  
 13 school system, there were before the pandemic and  
 14 now we know that there's even more after the  
 15 pandemic.  
 16 I wanted to understand about the  
 17 financial impact of the ransom attack. Has there  
 18 been an analysis of the costs and the payment by  
 19 cyber insurance and then what additional costs  
 20 would be out of pocket?  
 21 DR. WILLIAMS: So Ms. Causey, we are

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1 still in the midst of that work and so when we're  
 2 able to report that, the cost as you requested,  
 3 we will be able to report that to the Board.  
 4 MS. CAUSEY: Thank you. Is there an  
 5 estimated timeline as the Board is working  
 6 through these budget work sessions?  
 7 DR. WILLIAMS: Just what you've heard  
 8 before about the work. All I know at this point  
 9 is the team is working through all of the next  
 10 steps and so I can't say it coincides with the  
 11 budget approval, but at this point what we have  
 12 shared before is just what we know at this time.  
 13 MS. CAUSEY: So I would request that  
 14 there would be at least an estimate, that the  
 15 Board has not received information to know  
 16 whether we're talking about tens of thousands,  
 17 hundreds of thousands or millions of dollars.  
 18 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Point of order.  
 19 Ms. Causey, is this in regards to the operating  
 20 budget or is it ransomware? This seems like  
 21 something you could email and then Dr. Williams

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1 could respond back to that?

2 MS. CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Scott. Yes,

3 it does affect the operating budget if the cyber

4 insurance doesn't cover all of the expenses and I

5 would like information about that.

6 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: That seems like

7 something Dr. Williams can email to you, but it

8 doesn't seem pertinent to the operating budget

9 that we're discussing right now.

10 MS. CAUSEY: So it potentially directly

11 relates to the operating budget.

12 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: So the timeline, so

13 Dr. Williams, if you could email Ms. Causey the

14 timeline of when you would let us know, I believe

15 you spoke on that before, but if you could follow

16 up with her and let us know the timeline, that

17 would be great.

18 MS. CAUSEY: Madam Chair, I'm curious.

19 Why wouldn't this be addressed as all of the

20 other operating budget questions are addressed?

21 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Well, it seems there

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1 is not the answer for that right now, so he will

2 get back to you when he has the timeline for

3 that, so if you have additional questions, please

4 proceed.

5 MS. CAUSEY: I do have additional

6 questions, but I would, Madam Chair, ask that

7 those questions be put in with the other

8 operating budget questions in BoardDocs and then

9 the answers made available, or the answer is it's

10 not yet available.

11 The other question I had was related to,

12 we understand that there were pivot points to be

13 made and to have Dr. Williams' staff provide the

14 outline of what positions shifted from where in

15 the system to where else in the system, so that

16 the Board can understand what happened to the

17 operating budget for this year, and then how

18 that's going to potentially impact for next year.

19 MR. TANTLEFF: Was that a question? I'm

20 sorry, Ms. Causey, I wasn't completely clear on

21 what you were saying or asking with that last

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1 statement.

2 MS. CAUSEY: I will be happy to restate.

3 Dr. Williams said earlier that in the pivots of

4 the pandemic and given that the budget, operating

5 budget changed from what the Board approved based

6 on his recommendations because of the pandemic to

7 an MOE, maintenance of effort, so there were

8 shifts that were happening in personnel, he

9 appreciated staff that were flexible. And so it

10 would be helpful to the Board to understand what

11 those pivots were and are they likely to be

12 maintained for next year's operating budget?

13 MR. SARRIS: So I'll jump in here. We

14 reduced ten non-instructional FBEs this year in

15 FY-21 as part of our cost saving measures and

16 efficiencies, and I think in the highlights on

17 each of the pages we indicate what position was

18 reduced, and if the question is a comprehensive

19 list, that's something we can provide.

20 MS. CAUSEY: Yes, thank you, that would

21 be helpful.

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1 MR. SARRIS: Sure.

2 MS. CAUSEY: At this point, Madam Chair,

3 I would like to make a motion for the Board --

4 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Point of order,

5 Ms. Causey. As you've stated before under your

6 chairwomanship, we don't do motions during work

7 sessions, so I'm not sure that a motion is

8 appropriate at this time.

9 MS. CAUSEY: So Madam Chair, I believe

10 it is appropriate at this time. You mentioned in

11 your opening remarks that board members are to

12 state their name before making motions, so that's

13 why I'm prepared to make a motion and --

14 (Unintelligible, multiple speakers.)

15 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: -- made during a work

16 session, as you have stated multiple times we

17 don't during a work session, we don't do motions.

18 So I'm not sure. What I stated in my open

19 session is that we would do votes by a rollcall,

20 so -- but we as a practice, and as you have

21 stated multiple times during your chairwomanship

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1 that we don't make motions during the work  
 2 sessions, so at this time it would not be  
 3 appropriate to make a motion.  
 4 MS. CAUSEY: So I'm sorry, Madam Chair,  
 5 if you stated about that, and what I would like  
 6 to do is make the motion and see what the Board  
 7 feels the motion would be for, to direct the  
 8 superintendent and the collective bargaining, the  
 9 negotiating team to prioritize finding funding  
 10 for 15 minutes a day.  
 11 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: So considering we  
 12 don't do motions during work sessions, then, I  
 13 would say that we would postpone that motion  
 14 until February 23rd.  
 15 MS. CAUSEY: So Madam Chair, we actually  
 16 did make motions last year in the budget work  
 17 sessions, specifically to prevent the final  
 18 meeting from taking a very long time. Also the  
 19 Board is in the midst of, excuse me, the  
 20 negotiating team is in the midst of bargaining  
 21 with our master agreement, with our bargaining

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1 units, excuse me, and TABCO has said that that is  
 2 a priority for their members. We've also  
 3 received hundreds --  
 4 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay, so let me cut  
 5 to the chase. We have a meeting on February 9th  
 6 and we have a meeting also on February 23rd, so  
 7 you made your motion. Is there a second for the  
 8 motion? Okay, hearing none, then we're moving  
 9 on. Ms. Henn, you're next.  
 10 VICE CHAIR HENN: Thank you, Madam  
 11 Chair. Have we benchmarked the proposed budget  
 12 against other state LEAs, and what were the  
 13 results?  
 14 MR. TANTLEFF: We would not know what  
 15 other LEAs are proposing for next year for FY-22,  
 16 none of that information would be available.  
 17 VICE CHAIR HENN: Expenditures against  
 18 prior years' expenditures for other LEAs?  
 19 MR. TANTLEFF: I can't point to a  
 20 specific comparison. We do look at things,  
 21 different aspects of a budget at times when the

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1 questions come up or when we want to see how we  
 2 compare, but I don't have, I don't have a  
 3 comprehensive comparison I could show you.  
 4 MR. SARRIS: We rely on MSDE for that  
 5 information that they publish on their website.  
 6 VICE CHAIR HENN: And can you speak to  
 7 any information you've gleaned from that  
 8 information on the website?  
 9 MR. SARRIS: Well, it's usually a year  
 10 or two old so it's not helpful in developing our  
 11 budget.  
 12 MR. TANTLEFF: There was a link to that  
 13 page, Ms. Henn, in the second set of questions,  
 14 we do include a link if you care to view that  
 15 page at MSDE.  
 16 VICE CHAIR HENN: So I have analyzed  
 17 that data and I'm not a financial analyst by any  
 18 stretch of the imagination, but one observation  
 19 that I made was that BCPS's expenditures\* for  
 20 administration or for all categories, I should  
 21 say, with the exception of instructional

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1 salaries, is at or above state average, whereas  
 2 we fall short on instructional salaries as well  
 3 as student transportation. So in looking at the  
 4 proposed budget, I'm interested in knowing of any  
 5 trends and what we are doing to insure that our  
 6 budget reflect our priorities, which is our  
 7 schoolhouse.  
 8 So my second question is, do you have  
 9 available the budgeted per student expenditures  
 10 by general fund category, and is that a breakdown  
 11 you can provide either now, or when can that be  
 12 provided to the Board?  
 13 MR. SARRIS: The most current  
 14 information for the most currently end of fiscal  
 15 year is in the comprehensive annual financial  
 16 report, and that's just for BCPS, not our other  
 17 jurisdictions.  
 18 VICE CHAIR HENN: Thank you. To  
 19 clarify, I'm looking for the budgeted  
 20 expenditures and what that would look like on a  
 21 per student breakdown, so that we can benchmark

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1 that against other LEAs to see where we are  
 2 trending, and if there is a shift as we say  
 3 towards our priorities of moving resources to our  
 4 schools.  
 5 DR. SCRIVEN: So Ms. Henn, this is  
 6 Dr. Scriven. We thank you for that question,  
 7 that's a very complex question. If you could  
 8 email us that question, we will definitely  
 9 research it and prepare a response for you and  
 10 the full board.  
 11 VICE CHAIR HENN: Thank you,  
 12 Dr. Scriven, and to clarify, it's a followup to  
 13 question 25 on the first set of questions that I  
 14 did submit.  
 15 DR. SCRIVEN: Okay.  
 16 VICE CHAIR HENN: It was the chart  
 17 showing the total cost per student by general  
 18 fund category for the current proposal.  
 19 DR. SCRIVEN: Okay.  
 20 VICE CHAIR HENN: Broken out by those  
 21 general fund categories, what the per student

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1 expenditures would be. Thank you.  
 2 DR. SCRIVEN: Yes, ma'am.  
 3 VICE CHAIR HENN: And my final question  
 4 is on that same vein. It's what percent changes  
 5 are proposed for each category, so in other words  
 6 by category, what changes are proposed. In other  
 7 words, which direction are we moving, are we  
 8 seeing a shift from administration to  
 9 instructional salaries and wages for instance, on  
 10 a percent basis?  
 11 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you.  
 12 MR. TANTLEFF: We will, as the Board  
 13 requested, provide a full budget book so you will  
 14 be able to compare the activities across years.  
 15 VICE CHAIR HENN: Great, and this  
 16 information generally isn't provided in that, I  
 17 do that analysis on my own, but that would be  
 18 very helpful, Mr. Tantleff, so thank you. I  
 19 appreciate everyone's hard work.  
 20 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you for that,  
 21 and next we have Mr. Kuehn, who had a follow-up

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1 question.  
 2 MR. KUEHN: Thank you, Ms. Scott. I'm  
 3 going to just quickly focus on the new energy  
 4 management group and the spending associated with  
 5 that. It used to be part of facilities  
 6 operations. I'm looking at page 34 and page 32.  
 7 So, I have limited time. Could you please just  
 8 explain what the \$6.7 million in equipment is and  
 9 what the other charges of \$30 million are?  
 10 MR. TANTLEFF: Most of the expenditures  
 11 in there are for energy, fuel, et cetera, and the  
 12 group is not any different, similar to your  
 13 question earlier, they just split into an energy  
 14 only group as opposed to being part of a  
 15 different part, piece of facilities.  
 16 MR. SARRIS: And I believe that the  
 17 equipment line, and if Mr. Dixit wishes to  
 18 correct me, is the capital investment costs that  
 19 were made in association with energy performance  
 20 contracting and the long-term agreements that we  
 21 entered into for refitting our lighting and our

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1 boiler and heating systems and other utility  
 2 supplies, about a \$150 million investment that  
 3 was supported by the county government and  
 4 financed through this performance contracting  
 5 program.  
 6 MR. KUEHN: Are you waiting for  
 7 Mr. Dixit to answer or is that the answer?  
 8 MR. SARRIS: If he is, or I will verify  
 9 that and follow up with you, Mr. Kuehn.  
 10 MS. HEGBERG: This is Diane Hegberg,  
 11 fiscal officer that reports to Pete. On behalf  
 12 of Pete Dixit, I am in agreement with your  
 13 statement, Mr. Sarris. That is the cost that's  
 14 the basis of that cost.  
 15 MR. SARRIS: Thanks, Ms. Hegberg.  
 16 MR. DIXIT: George, I'm back, this is  
 17 Pete Dixit. If there's anything you want me to  
 18 say, I didn't hear the part of the question, I  
 19 just came back.  
 20 MR. SARRIS: It's page 34, the equipment  
 21 line item which I think I and Ms. Hegberg felt

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1 was associated with performance contracting  
 2 obligations.  
 3 MR. DIXIT: And that is absolutely  
 4 correct.  
 5 MR. SARRIS: Thank you very much.  
 6 MR. KUEHN: So just so I'm clear, and I  
 7 guess I will be forced to submit a written  
 8 question here, but a performance contract was  
 9 entered into to cover capital expenses over \$150  
 10 million and the \$6 million expenditure that we  
 11 have year in and year out is to cover that?  
 12 MR. SARRIS: Yes, sir, it was done in  
 13 three phases. It's a 20-year obligation and the  
 14 system, or the program was designed to generate a  
 15 designated level of savings in utility costs that  
 16 would be adequate to pay the debt on the  
 17 investment. And we can provide a lot more data  
 18 if you're interested in the program, but it was,  
 19 it's funded basically by cost avoidance and with  
 20 the air conditioning improvements, along with all  
 21 the other infrastructure improvements has met its

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1 obligations to generate cost avoidance adequate  
 2 to fund the investments.  
 3 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you,  
 4 Mr. Sarris, and Mr. Kuehn. It looks like  
 5 Ms. Causey has a question.  
 6 MS. CAUSEY: Thank you, Madam Chair. I  
 7 have a process question. The work session was  
 8 scheduled from 6:30 to 9:30 and it seems that  
 9 most of the board members have utilized their  
 10 time, so would it appropriate to entertain a  
 11 motion for every board member to have another  
 12 three minutes for this work session to ask  
 13 questions or make comments?  
 14 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Again, we don't do  
 15 motions during work sessions, so it would not be  
 16 appropriate.  
 17 MS. CAUSEY: Well, this is a process  
 18 question, it's not related to the subject matter  
 19 of --  
 20 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: It's a process  
 21 question during a work session which we are in

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1 now where we are discussing the budget, so it  
 2 would not be appropriate to entertain a motion at  
 3 this time.  
 4 MS. CAUSEY: Madam Chair, I would  
 5 request that board counsel weigh in on that.  
 6 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Mr. Brousaides, is it  
 7 appropriate, as a rule at our previous work  
 8 sessions we've not done motions, so is it  
 9 appropriate, then, to change that for this work  
 10 session?  
 11 MR. BROUSAIDES: I would say that the  
 12 Board should adhere to its prior practices and  
 13 past practices.  
 14 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay. And so since  
 15 our past practices are that, as Ms. Causey has  
 16 stated in several previous work sessions, that we  
 17 don't do motions during work sessions, then we  
 18 would not do a motion during this work session.  
 19 We talked about it, we've asked questions,  
 20 members can submit additional questions, and we  
 21 also have a meeting on February 9th as well, so

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1 if there are any additional questions or anyone  
 2 has any questions as far as the budget, please  
 3 let me know and we can address those now. So are  
 4 there any additional questions from board  
 5 members?  
 6 MR. MCMILLION: Mrs. Scott, this is Rod  
 7 McMillion. I have a comment.  
 8 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you,  
 9 Mr. McMillion. Please go ahead.  
 10 MR. MCMILLION: I think Mr. Muhumuza had  
 11 an excellent idea about the MTA bus pass. I've  
 12 been in a high school situation where there's  
 13 been an activity bus that ran three days a week  
 14 after school primarily for academic support, for  
 15 kids that stayed after school for academic  
 16 support and/or club engagements. We tried to  
 17 keep athletes off that bus because it oftentimes  
 18 would overcrowd the bus. Some bus line lines run  
 19 right near schools and that might be an excellent  
 20 way for students to get home after the school  
 21 activities close down.

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1 And back to the activity bus, that came  
 2 out of local schoolhouse funds, so when those  
 3 funds dried up that was over, and/or if the  
 4 principal, you know, didn't make the  
 5 recommendation to do that, then that school  
 6 wouldn't have that opportunity, so I think this  
 7 is something to discuss and converse. Thank you.  
 8 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you for that.  
 9 And does staff have any follow-up information to  
 10 add to what Mr. McMillion said?  
 11 Okay. If not, it looks like we have an  
 12 additional question, it looks like Ms. Rowe and  
 13 Ms. Pasteur, so Ms. Pasteur, you can go ahead,  
 14 and after that is Ms. Rowe.  
 15 MS. PASTEUR: Thank you. I would like  
 16 to piggyback on what Mr. McMillion and  
 17 Mr. Muhumuza said about the bus. Mr. McMillion  
 18 is correct, we are paying for that bus out of our  
 19 school funds, and I received a number of requests  
 20 from students, and I think that that is something  
 21 that we need to examine, especially now in light

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1 of our students hopefully going back soon at some  
 2 point and all that they are going through this  
 3 year, that we take a different look at getting  
 4 that after school bus so that students can  
 5 continue in their extra activities, especially  
 6 those who've never participated until now. Thank  
 7 you.  
 8 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you,  
 9 Ms. Pasteur. And also, Ms. Rowe, you had a  
 10 question?  
 11 MS. ROWE: So, I just wanted to speak to  
 12 this idea. I think that if we wanted to add the  
 13 option of public bus passes in addition to the  
 14 other bus options we already have that would be  
 15 okay, but one of the things that I think people  
 16 don't realize in Baltimore County, which is  
 17 actually in fact a longstanding legacy of  
 18 structural racism in Baltimore County as far as  
 19 how transportation is allocated, is that there  
 20 are very many neighborhoods that do not have bus  
 21 or public transportation of any kind to other

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1 schools. And with the degree to which we use  
 2 magnet programs in our middle and high schools,  
 3 we could end up with a situation where sure,  
 4 maybe there's a bus, but in Baltimore County it  
 5 can take you two hours to get somewhere by bus  
 6 that it take 15 minutes to get by car or  
 7 whatever. So because of the inefficiency of  
 8 public transportation in Baltimore County, I  
 9 would not like to see a child say they can't  
 10 participate in a sport or they can't do something  
 11 because they have a bus pass but the bus is  
 12 unreliable or takes them two hours to get from  
 13 there house. I mean, I know to get from  
 14 Hillendale to Rosedale takes an hour and a half  
 15 by bus and you have to change buses twice. So  
 16 while in theory while this sounds like a good  
 17 idea, to link the time it takes to use the bus is  
 18 prohibitive, we could actually be creating an  
 19 actual issue.  
 20 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you for that.  
 21 MR. MCMILLION: This is Rod McMillion,

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1 can I respond to that?  
 2 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes, sir.  
 3 Mr. McMillion, are you there?  
 4 MR. MCMILLION: Yeah, I was on mute,  
 5 just a second. Wait a minute, I'm messed up  
 6 technologically, hold on.  
 7 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Are you there?  
 8 Mr. McMillion, you can go ahead and respond.  
 9 MR. MCMILLION: This is an option, it's  
 10 not to replace the school bus, but it's an option  
 11 rather than a kid waling up the highway. In my  
 12 situation with 702, so if a kid didn't have a  
 13 ride home, which often times they didn't in the  
 14 evening, so they had to walk up the road. This  
 15 would be an option to look at, you know, for some  
 16 other way to get home rather than walk up a  
 17 highway or up a busy street. Thank you.  
 18 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you,  
 19 Mr. McMillion. It looks like we have heard from  
 20 everyone, and Ms. Pasteur, you had a brief  
 21 comment?

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1 MS. PASTEUR: Yes, brief. In equity  
 2 last week we talked about that way to get that  
 3 door open and Mr. McMillion is right, it's an  
 4 option, just an option. Schools can pay for  
 5 their own buses or it can be a transfer. A lot  
 6 of children do live on bus lines and to not make  
 7 an option like that is excluding children, so it  
 8 goes against equity. Thank you.  
 9 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you,  
 10 Ms. Pasteur.  
 11 MR. SARIS: Madam Chair, could I just  
 12 offer some information?  
 13 CHAIRMAN SCOTT: Oh yes, certainly.  
 14 MR. SARRIS: The Office of  
 15 Transportation has a lot of options, mostly used  
 16 for getting kids to and from school, but we also  
 17 do purchase a number of discounted bus tokens  
 18 every year and those are provided and I just, my  
 19 guess is that they have other designated primary  
 20 uses, but it's definitely something that the  
 21 Office of Transportation could provide some

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1 additional background on.  
 2 DR. SCRIVEN: Yes, Mr. Sarris, thank you  
 3 for that. That's what I was going to recommend,  
 4 Madam Chair. We can look at what options we  
 5 currently have in place and present to the Board,  
 6 and then once we all have a full understanding of  
 7 what is currently in existence, we can then take  
 8 a deeper dive, if that's okay.  
 9 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: I think that would be  
 10 appropriate. Thank you for that, and I thank you  
 11 all for your time and what you've offered to us  
 12 this evening to help us understand the budget and  
 13 to go over everything.  
 14 It looks like Ms. Causey, you said you  
 15 have a clarifying question?  
 16 MS. CAUSEY: Thank you, Madam Chair. I  
 17 just wanted to point out, I looked up in  
 18 BoardDocs January 5th, the work session on the  
 19 fiscal year 2022 county capital budget in which I  
 20 did make a motion which was seconded by Ms. Henn  
 21 and then approved by the Board, so it has been

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1 our practice to make motions during the work  
 2 session. So, I also believe it's appropriate to  
 3 make motions according to the process. So, the  
 4 meeting was scheduled to go to 9:30 to discuss  
 5 the budget, and I would like to make a motion  
 6 that each board member would have an additional  
 7 two minutes for questions or comments to utilize  
 8 the time that has been allotted to us, if  
 9 there's --  
 10 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Now, okay. So that  
 11 was the first meeting and we as a practice do not  
 12 make motions, as you have said so yourself, we do  
 13 not make motions at work sessions, so it's just  
 14 curious that you are bringing it up. I mean,  
 15 that was the first meeting, it was a business  
 16 meeting, so at our work sessions we do not, it's  
 17 our practice not to make motions, so I choose not  
 18 to bring that motion to the floor.  
 19 MS. CAUSEY: Madam Chair, it is labeled  
 20 in the Education Transparency Act as a work  
 21 session, so we do, there have been some work

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1 sessions where we have specifically said we are  
 2 not entertaining motions, but the chair in the  
 3 opening statement said that we would give our  
 4 names before making a motion.  
 5 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: I said we would vote  
 6 by a rollcall, but we don't make motions during  
 7 our work sessions so I choose not to bring it to  
 8 the floor. So I mean, we've had a robust  
 9 discussion, over an hour long discussion on the  
 10 budget, and this is not a one and done, we will  
 11 have another meeting again on the budget on  
 12 February 9th and we will meet again, board  
 13 members can email questions in. But we also have  
 14 added to the agenda which is what we need to go  
 15 to now, is the reopening of our schools. And we  
 16 have lots of parents, teachers, staff that would  
 17 like to hear about that as well, so I think that  
 18 we should move along and move to our next agenda  
 19 item.  
 20 So I would thank staff for their time  
 21 and their presentations and everything that we

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1 have, and Dr. Williams, if you could continue now  
 2 with the reopening, which was added to the agenda  
 3 at the very beginning, I would like for us to now  
 4 review that.

5 DR. WILLIAMS: So sure, so we have our  
 6 staff here, but since this was added, I'll start  
 7 and then maybe some questions. So again, good  
 8 evening, Chair Scott, Vice Chair Henn and board  
 9 members. As you know, there is some interest  
 10 tonight to hear an update about the reopening  
 11 plan.

12 I'll start with last Thursday, there was  
 13 an announcement by our Governor Larry Hogan and  
 14 State Superintendent Dr. Salmon in which they  
 15 said school districts or school systems would be  
 16 mandated to open up in a hybrid format by  
 17 March 1st, 2021. Therefore, the plan that I  
 18 shared last week outlined the steps to prepare  
 19 and I've referenced in an earlier meeting as  
 20 ready, set, go, and it is my understanding that  
 21 Dr. Salmon made it clear that local school

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1 systems must comply with her directive.

2 This past weekend the Maryland State  
 3 Department of Education provided an updated  
 4 guidance in the form of a document entitled  
 5 Maryland School Reopening Guidance to help guide  
 6 our planning process. In that it's stated that  
 7 some degree of in-person learning should be the  
 8 immediate goal for all students in all  
 9 jurisdictions. However, there was no mention of  
 10 health metrics during Thursday's press conference  
 11 and the state's document, guidance document  
 12 doesn't reflect any health metrics.

13 We have been using the Maryland Health  
 14 Department and the MSDE COVID-19 guidance which  
 15 led us to develop our safety is our true norm, so  
 16 I have begun conversations with our partners and  
 17 our union leaders about this directive from  
 18 Dr. Salmon and based on her announcement, the  
 19 expectation is that local school systems are to  
 20 implement hybrid in-person by March 1st. I will  
 21 say that we have been focusing not only our plan

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1 but also working collaboratively with the  
 2 Baltimore County Department of Health to  
 3 vaccinate BCPS staff, we began this process on  
 4 Friday, January 22nd, we had hundreds of staff  
 5 members that received the vaccine. Additionally,  
 6 staff volunteering to assist with the volunteer  
 7 clinics are being vaccinated. We will continue  
 8 to vaccinate staff, I believe we have this Friday  
 9 and Saturday, so when the availability of the  
 10 vaccine we have a group of staff that's  
 11 registered, and each time we're notified we'll  
 12 continue to add to that group based on the  
 13 availability of the vaccines.

14 I shared with our staff the phased-in  
 15 approach that we presented to the Board where I  
 16 we identified staff and those high contact staff  
 17 such as we mentioned earlier in a presentation,  
 18 bus drivers, our nurses clearly fell into the 1-A  
 19 group, but pupil personnel workers and those  
 20 providing related services, food services,  
 21 building services, administrators.

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1 This past week, I meet with our union  
 2 presidents and executive director, and TABCO  
 3 shared their survey data that they sent out, and  
 4 so I will be looking at that data and comparing  
 5 that with our data. We as a system sent out a  
 6 brief survey and we asked staff who would be  
 7 interested in receiving the vaccine, and out of  
 8 about 18,000 employees 11,000 responded, with  
 9 80.8 percent saying yes and about 19.2 responded  
 10 no, just to that simple survey, if given the  
 11 opportunity, would you get the vaccine?

12 So again, we are preparing as we have  
 13 shared earlier about the different phases, our  
 14 plan, our original plan, reopening plan was  
 15 approved by MSDE. We held an information session  
 16 for staff on January 21st where we had followup  
 17 with an FAQ to assist staff in an understanding  
 18 of the role of vaccine and how to access  
 19 opportunities to be vaccinated. We may need to  
 20 plan another information session about the  
 21 vaccine and again, include our partners from

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1 Baltimore County Health Department, and of course  
 2 our wonderful staff from the Office of Health  
 3 Services.  
 4 And currently, our BCPS safety managers  
 5 have completed their first round of school  
 6 vaccines, I'm sorry, school visits to assess  
 7 readiness, and they are in the process of  
 8 beginning the second round using the readiness  
 9 checklist.  
 10 So with that, I want to keep my comments  
 11 brief and I'll turn it back over to you, Chair  
 12 Scott.  
 13 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. Are there  
 14 any board members who have questions about the  
 15 reopening plan and the presentation that was just  
 16 give to us from Dr. Williams? Okay, it looks  
 17 like there's a question from Ms. Mack.  
 18 MS. MACK: Yes, thank you, Madam Chair.  
 19 Dr. Williams, I had submitted some questions but  
 20 since we're having this meeting tonight, I'd like  
 21 to know, does BCPS have adequate staff to fill

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1 any potential vacancies as a result of  
 2 retirements, resignations and leaves?  
 3 DR. WILLIAMS: So, yes. So we continue  
 4 to post and fill vacancies. I'm assuming when  
 5 you talk about retirements, resignations and  
 6 leaves, you're talking about the schoolhouse, so  
 7 the ideal time is to post in the spring and use  
 8 the spring and summer to fill vacancies, and we  
 9 also look at our December college graduates to  
 10 try to fill vacancies that we were unable to fill  
 11 during the start of the school year. And so do  
 12 we have adequate staff?  
 13 Once we know about a retirement,  
 14 resignation or -- well, let me just deal with  
 15 those two areas -- then we go through our process  
 16 to try to fill them as quickly as possible, or  
 17 when we hear about leaves, sometimes leave is a  
 18 short-term leave so we will provide a substitute  
 19 until the staff member is able to return.  
 20 MS. MACK: I should have been more  
 21 clear. I'm speaking to potential people leaving

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1 the system, not at the end of the school year,  
 2 but in response to any type of edict that they  
 3 return to the classroom before those individuals  
 4 are ready to return to the classroom. Are we in  
 5 a position if we lose a thousand teachers to  
 6 quickly backfill them?  
 7 DR. WILLIAMS: So we don't have a  
 8 one-to-one ratio of substitutes to teachers, we  
 9 do have a pool of substitutes that we can pull  
 10 from and so, I know HR has been fielding  
 11 questions and responding to staff. That is  
 12 probably as much information as I can provide  
 13 tonight.  
 14 MS. MACK: And then my follow-up  
 15 question to that is, anticipating that there may  
 16 be a large number of people who want to take  
 17 leave or file paperwork, is HR adequately staffed  
 18 to handle that and what, do employees have access  
 19 to the system that even shows them the amount of  
 20 leave to which they are entitled?  
 21 DR. WILLIAMS: That's a very specific HR

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1 question, the second part about the leave. I  
 2 think if you would ask HR they would welcome any  
 3 additional staff to help with the process because  
 4 they have been working not only to address  
 5 questions from staff but also the other parts of  
 6 the work related to the ransomware cyber attack.  
 7 So at this point we can follow up about how they  
 8 can access their leave knowing that we are still  
 9 working on our systems as a school system, you  
 10 know, the human resources system or the self  
 11 service system, so what they may not be able to  
 12 have access right now, they may be able to have  
 13 access as we continue during this repair recovery  
 14 phase.  
 15 MS. MACK: Okay. I submitted these in  
 16 writing so I'll just wait for the answers. Thank  
 17 you, Dr. Williams.  
 18 DR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.  
 19 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. Next we  
 20 have Dr. Hager.  
 21 DR. HAGER: Hi. I also submitted some

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1 questions today, so I don't know if you got a  
 2 chance to see them, Dr. Williams, but my biggest  
 3 question included a pretty little histogram that  
 4 I made out of our message that you guys have been  
 5 posting on Fridays, and they clearly show that  
 6 we're heading in a great direction, and we know  
 7 that the daily rates this week have been really  
 8 positive and really good and you know, we're  
 9 tracking them. And so I fully anticipate that by  
 10 Friday we're going to look like we're in really  
 11 good shape, and so if that is the case, are we  
 12 ready to hit the button on ready, set, go on  
 13 Monday, so that we can start getting kids back in  
 14 buildings three weeks later, which would be  
 15 February 22nd?  
 16 DR. WILLIAMS: So, I think the one  
 17 concern, Dr. Hager, is we were working with our  
 18 unions for return, and the announcement Thursday  
 19 was more of here's the deadline, March 1st, and  
 20 here's the research, but there wasn't any  
 21 reference around the metrics, so that is going to

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1 be continued work with our staff, I have to say  
 2 with all staff.  
 3 I have been so appreciative of  
 4 Dr. Branch and his team and account executive as  
 5 we're looking at vaccines and availability for  
 6 educators. I would say the more we can get  
 7 through that process the better. It may lessen  
 8 some of their anxiety, but right now in the  
 9 conversation I had with the union on, union  
 10 presidents and executive director on Monday,  
 11 there was a concern about the announcement. And  
 12 so as we described, I believe it was last week,  
 13 we have a timeframe, so with that timeframe in  
 14 terms of administrators returning, then our staff  
 15 and developing schedules and bus routes, based on  
 16 the announcement, I think we can start small  
 17 groups and bringing students back given that  
 18 March 1st timeline, it's just a week after  
 19 February 22nd.  
 20 DR. HAGER: Yeah, it just seems like,  
 21 people asked me what I thought of it and I

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1 thought well, if we're on track anyway, you know,  
 2 we're heading in the right direction, so it seems  
 3 like if we're going with the science-based  
 4 approach and using these metrics, then we are  
 5 almost there, so that was it.  
 6 DR. WILLIAMS: Yeah, that's the question  
 7 now that the Health Department, the Maryland  
 8 Health Department and MSDE talked about research  
 9 more about what wasn't happening at schools. And  
 10 so as I shared on Friday, you know, as  
 11 superintendents we wanted some clarity around  
 12 that, as well as what was happening in our own  
 13 county, and so we're still having those  
 14 conversations.  
 15 And again, to your point, we were  
 16 preparing and looking at based on the direction  
 17 of the Board, based on the fact that, you know,  
 18 we have to bring back some kids, we just have to  
 19 bring back some kids, so we were looking at all  
 20 the different logistics around that. Now based  
 21 on announcement it's kind of clear, by March 1st.

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1 I do want to stress that we have a little bit of  
 2 a challenge because of the ransomware thing that  
 3 we could turn around overnight. It really will  
 4 take some time as principals got to look at, you  
 5 know, the groups, got to look at transportation,  
 6 all that.  
 7 So I just appreciate your questions and  
 8 I'll look at those questions, Dr. Hager and  
 9 Ms. Mack, that you submitted, to see if we can  
 10 get some responses to your questions.  
 11 DR. HAGER: So the other thing is, we  
 12 had a bomb dropped on us at the beginning of this  
 13 meeting about the sports motion that was made  
 14 last time, and I hear that the Baltimore County  
 15 executive has an executive order, 25 people. Our  
 16 January 7th approved reopening plan specifies  
 17 that fall sports will include pods of no more  
 18 than 20 people, so to me they're apples and  
 19 oranges. So I don't see why, it sounded as if  
 20 the announcement at the beginning of this meeting  
 21 suggested that our motion to start fall sports on

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1 February 13th had been negated by the county  
 2 executive's order but I don't think it has been,  
 3 because our own plan suggested we wouldn't have  
 4 pods of more than 20 students anyway. So do you  
 5 have a comment on that, and should we just  
 6 continue to plan to seek for February 13th,  
 7 because I know there a lot of really excited kids  
 8 around this county who are really looking forward  
 9 to that date.

10 DR. WILLIAMS: So I would say give us  
 11 some time to unpack that, Dr. Hager. That was  
 12 really my request before, just to look at the  
 13 logistics. The question now would be where our  
 14 coaches would fall into any of the vaccines. You  
 15 know, we were looking at, when we look at our  
 16 phase we were looking at younger learners, so  
 17 it's the logistics, trying to figure out how to  
 18 go about doing that, and I'm not sure as I saw  
 19 the county executive's order, keeping it to a  
 20 small group, it's just the logistics, and the  
 21 return to play group committee has been very

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1 diligent about the logistics, the mitigation. I  
 2 would say we will need some time for that group  
 3 to unpack everything that has been put on us  
 4 about athletics to see.

5 I'm not sure if we can meet that, only  
 6 because of now this March 1st, I just, there's  
 7 two different things happening at the same time  
 8 and they're big things, big issues. I don't know  
 9 if we can meet that timeline, but again, I think  
 10 that's a conversation that the return to play and  
 11 Mr. Sye and Dr. McComas just have to unpack. A  
 12 lot of it is around the vaccinations, I know, for  
 13 our coaches.

14 DR. HAGER: I know it's a lot of moving  
 15 parts but it's laid out pretty nicely in our  
 16 reopening plan page 61, it says pods of 20, so I  
 17 think that we -- I don't see why we should not be  
 18 able to meet that February 13th date. You know,  
 19 it's approaching a year that we've been out of  
 20 school, so I know it's a lot of logistics but I  
 21 feel like we can do it for the kids. So thank

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1 you.

2 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you, Dr. Hager.  
 3 Ms. Rowe?

4 MS. ROWE: Yes. So Dr. Williams, when  
 5 we're supposed to go back on March 1st, that was  
 6 one thing I wondered in relation to the board  
 7 thing, so when we return, is the school system  
 8 obligated to comply with the county executive's  
 9 executive orders as to maximum number of  
 10 gatherings, and would that mean a maximum number  
 11 of people in school, maximum number of people in  
 12 classrooms, or which jurisdiction do we listen to  
 13 exactly?

14 DR. WILLIAMS: So we listen to the  
 15 county executive and in that executive order it  
 16 was speaking to nonprofessional sports gatherings  
 17 and events, so that's different from what's  
 18 happening inside a classroom, we follow the  
 19 mitigation strategies and we work with our Office  
 20 of Health Services along with Baltimore County  
 21 Health Department. So those are two different

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1 things.

2 MS. ROWE: Okay. So now that we have  
 3 the new guidance from the state, does that mean  
 4 that the metrics are no longer a factor, or are  
 5 you still looking for clarification, further  
 6 guidance on whether or not we're supposed to  
 7 still consider metrics?

8 DR. WILLIAMS: The only thing I can say  
 9 at this time, metrics were not shared in the  
 10 announcement and in the document, just like the  
 11 document from the Maryland Health Department and  
 12 MSDE that was shared back in August with metrics,  
 13 this new document didn't reference metrics, so it  
 14 is my understanding that the state superintendent  
 15 wants us to start bringing back students by  
 16 March 1st, and what I'm pushing for and working  
 17 with the health department is to try to get as  
 18 many of our staff vaccinated, so again, there was  
 19 no reference about metrics.

20 MS. ROWE: Okay. So as we start to send  
 21 students and staff back to the schoolhouse, will

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1 we be able to be flexible with staff as far as  
 2 allowing staff that haven't gotten the vaccine  
 3 yet to be able to continue with the students who  
 4 are virtual, while teachers who have been  
 5 vaccinated can be with the hybrid students in the  
 6 classroom?  
 7 DR. WILLIAMS: So according to the press  
 8 conference, the vaccine was not a prerequisite  
 9 and we cannot mandate staff to get the vaccine,  
 10 so we will continue to work -- as I said, just  
 11 this week, I just had a conversation with our  
 12 union presidents, executive director, to unpack a  
 13 little bit of what was shared on Thursday. We're  
 14 still seeking clarity from the Maryland Health  
 15 Department and our state superintendent, so that  
 16 announcement -- go ahead, I'm sorry.  
 17 MS. ROWE: I guess what I'm looking for  
 18 is not so much is it mandatory to get a vaccine,  
 19 what I'm looking for as a school system since the  
 20 hybrid model which will be at least for some  
 21 period of time, do we have the flexibility as a

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1 school system to adjust how we do things in such  
 2 a way that teachers who want a vaccine or have  
 3 health conditions where they need one, can opt to  
 4 stay teaching the virtual classes, while teachers  
 5 who have already been able to obtain a vaccine  
 6 can be in the school house, and do we have the  
 7 ability as a school system to offer that kind of  
 8 flexibility while we're in the process of  
 9 vaccinating people because there are not enough  
 10 vaccines for everyone that needs it?  
 11 DR. WILLIAMS: So that wasn't described  
 12 in the press conference or in the follow-up  
 13 conversation, it wasn't attached to the vaccine.  
 14 But we do have opportunities working through HR  
 15 to work with staff if there is leave that needs  
 16 to be taken and if we -- I don't think we have  
 17 that flexibility to tie in the vaccines with  
 18 whether folks come to work or not. That is my  
 19 understanding. Because it's not required, we  
 20 can't force you. We have had, as I reported, we  
 21 had a high percentage of folks who responded to

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1 our short survey and there's great interest in  
 2 receiving it, a large percentage of 80 percent of  
 3 those who responded, so --  
 4 MS. ROWE: So are you saying that we  
 5 don't have the ability to offer teachers the  
 6 option to stay virtual if they don't feel  
 7 comfortable coming back into the classroom?  
 8 That's what I'm hearing.  
 9 DR. WILLIAMS: No. I just responded to,  
 10 you tied it to the vaccine, and so I was just  
 11 responding to that option. Staff members have  
 12 options whether they want to take it or not, it's  
 13 being encouraged. And then also, they don't have  
 14 to, they have other alternatives to try to get  
 15 the vaccine and Dr. Branch reported that when he  
 16 presented to the Board, to seek other  
 17 opportunities. But other than that, that is my  
 18 understanding, we can't tie it to the vaccine and  
 19 in terms of scheduling classes, of bringing back  
 20 kids, you've got to look at how do we meet the  
 21 needs of our students and what that principal may

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1 need in his or her building to bring back small  
 2 groups of kids. That's as much as I can answer  
 3 at this time.  
 4 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you,  
 5 Dr. Williams. Next we have Mr. Kuehn.  
 6 MR. KUEHN: Thank you, Ms. Scott.  
 7 Dr. Williams, I'd like to start by talking about  
 8 the initial plan that has always been the goal  
 9 and the focus of what you and your team have been  
 10 working on, which was to bring schools back in  
 11 some manner by February 1st. That was the goal.  
 12 We know metrics are involved and we know we hit a  
 13 spike, and the spike is dropping rapidly as we  
 14 speak, so we should be prepared to move with your  
 15 one, two, three, snap, or what have you, and I  
 16 would suggest that we start that activity  
 17 immediately so that we are prepared, because  
 18 every week matters to these children. March 1  
 19 was the last date that the governor set, he said  
 20 by March 1 at the latest children should be in  
 21 school in some way, shape or form. So I guess I

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1 just want to clarify that, because what I'm kind  
 2 of hearing from your conversation and your  
 3 discussion of this matter is that, well now,  
 4 March 1st is when we'll start.  
 5 DR. WILLIAMS: No, sir.  
 6 MR. KUEHN: That's not accurate?  
 7 DR. WILLIAMS: No, sir, that wasn't what  
 8 I, that wasn't what I was trying to imply. It  
 9 was by March 1st we need to have some type of  
 10 in-person learning and as I shared previously  
 11 about the timeframe in order to bring back  
 12 administrators, bring back our staff, develop  
 13 schedules, develop transportation routes, because  
 14 we are still looking at cohorting students, so it  
 15 wasn't that we were going to begin by March 1st,  
 16 but it was clear by last week's announcement, by  
 17 March 1st their needs to be some type of  
 18 in-person learning going on, and with our  
 19 phased-in approach, you're right, we have  
 20 identified two groups, our Phase I and Phase II.  
 21 We also looked at our survey information for our

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1 principals to have additional information, so it  
 2 wasn't that we were going to start on March 1st,  
 3 we can't start on March 1st, because last week's  
 4 presentation says that there's certain things  
 5 that we have to do to prepare and that will take  
 6 a couple of weeks. And so as Dr. Hager, and I'll  
 7 have to go back and look at her question, said  
 8 that she said a little bit about a timeframe. So  
 9 it wasn't that we were starting on March 1st,  
 10 March 1st was the time in which we have to have  
 11 students back in some kind of in-person learning.  
 12 MR. KUEHN: Okay, thank you for  
 13 clarifying that. One of my concerns, and the  
 14 reason why I bring this up and I continue to ask  
 15 the same type of questions, based on your  
 16 phased-in approach, it's not like every kid is  
 17 going to walk into school and they're going to be  
 18 in a hybrid situation to start. So can you  
 19 please describe to everyone the timelines as to  
 20 what it looks like from the initial part, you  
 21 know, the initial kids, small groups walking in

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1 following your phased-in approach, to all the way  
 2 through all kids having access to school? How  
 3 many weeks is that going to take?  
 4 DR. WILLIAMS: So what we reported last  
 5 week was a three to four-week process for our  
 6 phased in approach, so some of that is  
 7 overlapping. As we bring back one group, a week  
 8 or so we can look at another group. I don't have  
 9 -- by March 1st we will not have 111,000 students  
 10 back in buildings, but your question is a  
 11 follow-up question about what will that timeline  
 12 look like from our original plan of Phase I all  
 13 the way to Phase IV, is that what I'm hearing you  
 14 say?  
 15 MR. KUEHN: Yes. I want everyone to  
 16 hear you say how long it's going to take to start  
 17 this and then get everybody in school.  
 18 DR. WILLIAMS: So right now I will just  
 19 say we're looking at a phase and our hope is to  
 20 look at the first two groups as we continue to  
 21 bring back students that fall into Phase III and

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1 Phase IV. In terms of a timeframe, we have a  
 2 clear directive about some in-person, we will  
 3 continue to add students, we will continue to  
 4 encourage our staff to get the vaccine. But for  
 5 me to approach and tell a timeframe as we enter  
 6 into in a new quarter, it is my hope that we can  
 7 get as many kids as possible as we are  
 8 transitioning from all remote to now this hybrid  
 9 approach. And then I must say that, you know,  
 10 parents still have the option of saying I want my  
 11 kid to remain on the virtual learning, so we are  
 12 using our data to map that out, so again, that's  
 13 all I can say at this point.  
 14 Again, if I have additional information,  
 15 we will look and see if I can give some more  
 16 clarity around a timeframe as we look at our  
 17 results and we look at our scheduling of students  
 18 to say a specific date to have all students who  
 19 choose hybrid, this is the time that all students  
 20 will be back into a building, but as of tonight,  
 21 I don't have that.

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1 MR. KUEHN: Great. I understand I'm out  
 2 of time, but I have asked this questions multiple  
 3 time and you've actually presented it and I  
 4 believe that it's a four to six-week timeframe to  
 5 go through the phases. That's really all I'm  
 6 looking for you to basically reinforce to the  
 7 public tonight. Thank you.

8 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you for that,  
 9 Mr. Kuehn and Dr. Williams. Ms. Pasteur?

10 MS. PASTEUR: Yes. Dr. Williams I  
 11 apologize in advance if I'm being redundant, but  
 12 there has just been so much about going back and  
 13 the staff, so in the schools that go back, I  
 14 understand that in the survey there is a third  
 15 option and there was some, I've spoken to quite a  
 16 few people who were unclear about what it meant,  
 17 some sort of relationship with HR. If we're  
 18 still in hybrid, even if you're a teacher of a  
 19 group going back, if you for some extenuating  
 20 circumstance that doesn't keep you from teaching,  
 21 but not being able to go right back in, or you're

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1 the caretaker, is that one of the options of  
 2 consideration that you may remain virtual until  
 3 such time as health wise or care wise you're able  
 4 to return? Is that one of the options, and  
 5 again, I apologize if you've already addressed  
 6 that.

7 DR. WILLIAMS: So is Maria Lowry on the  
 8 call?

9 MS. LOWRY: I am.

10 DR. WILLIAMS: Can you share from the HR  
 11 perspective? I don't want to misread on that.

12 MS. LOWRY: Sure. So Ms. Pasteur,  
 13 essentially what we are doing is we're working  
 14 with our employees on a case-by-case basis.  
 15 We're also working with TABCO to have some  
 16 conversations about what some of the ideas that  
 17 they have, to get some input from them, and then  
 18 we're also working with Dr. McComas and the team  
 19 to take a look at the way that the schedules run  
 20 and the way that the cohorts are scheduled, so  
 21 that if there are some possibilities with some of

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1 our staff that have some extenuating  
 2 circumstances that we can work to address that.

3 You may or may not know that the FSCRA  
 4 leave was extended through March 31st, so we have  
 5 the option to continue that through that date,  
 6 which would help some of our staff that have some  
 7 extenuating circumstances, especially with child  
 8 care. We do not know if that will be extended  
 9 beyond March 31st, but if it is, we will examine  
 10 that at that time to see if we would be able to  
 11 extend it through whatever period they may look  
 12 at, they may look at extending it through the end  
 13 of the year, but that's something that comes to  
 14 us from the federal government, but we are trying  
 15 to align the requests that the employees bring in  
 16 with the guidelines related to FMLA, ADA,  
 17 et cetera. We do realize that we have some staff  
 18 that quite honestly they're just scared, and we  
 19 understand that, and so we are doing our best to  
 20 work with our healthcare providers, with CIGNA to  
 21 provide resources to those staff members, as well

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1 as even help staff that are having difficulty  
 2 finding child care, we have some resources  
 3 through CIGNA to help with that as well. So it's  
 4 not a quick and easy answer because it's, each  
 5 circumstance is slightly different and we're  
 6 trying to work with those employees individually  
 7 to address their individual needs and concerns.

8 MS. PASTEUR: Thank you, Ms. Lowry.

9 MS. LOWRY: Absolutely.

10 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. Next we  
 11 have Ms. Jose.

12 MS. JOSE: Thank you, Ms. Scott. Some  
 13 of my questions were answered so I will just be  
 14 real quick. The county executive order that with  
 15 the motion that was made earlier, it was a motion  
 16 that I abstained from last meeting because I  
 17 didn't have enough information to make an  
 18 educated decision, but I heard Dr. Hager say that  
 19 her motion was for pods of 20, and being a parent  
 20 of kids that play sports, just each team has at  
 21 least 12 members, that by itself is about 25

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1 students plus coaches, so I don't know how those  
 2 numbers would work.  
 3       And secondly, the survey results,  
 4 Dr. Williams said I believe today was the last  
 5 date. Is it possible for the Board to get a  
 6 breakdown of how parents have responded? Because  
 7 clearly, you know, a lot of parents want school  
 8 to start and I have two kids so I fully agree  
 9 schools need to start, but there was also some  
 10 parents that don't want school to start, and I  
 11 was wondering if we could see a breakdown of  
 12 where they fall, because the kids that people say  
 13 are failing, we were failing these kids before  
 14 the pandemic and it's not something new, we knew  
 15 we were failing those kids, and what we have to  
 16 do is make sure we don't continue to fail them,  
 17 so that's something I'm more interested in that  
 18 just randomly opening schools. Thank you.  
 19       DR. WILLIAMS: Sure, Ms. Jose. We will  
 20 look at that data and provide that to the full  
 21 board once we have that ready, so not a problem.

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1       CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you for that.  
 2 Next, Ms. Henn?  
 3       VICE CHAIR HENN: Thank you. Good  
 4 evening, Dr. Williams. How will hybrid  
 5 instruction meet state requirements for hours of  
 6 synchronous instruction, and will that include  
 7 concurrent teaching and for what grades?  
 8       DR. WILLIAMS: So, Dr. McComas, do you  
 9 want to respond to that please?  
 10       DR. MCCOMAS: Yes, sir, I just wanted to  
 11 make sure I didn't cut you off. So good evening,  
 12 Ms. Henn and members of the Board, and  
 13 Dr. Williams. Ms. Henn, yes, the, we would, our  
 14 students in virtual learning even as we move into  
 15 a hybrid model would meet the requirements set  
 16 forward by MSDE.  
 17       And your second part of the question was  
 18 concurrent instruction. As we have explained in  
 19 previous presentations, ones we move into Phases  
 20 III and IV, we would move to a concurrent  
 21 instructional model at that time and that is part

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1 of the method of insuring that those students who  
 2 are having a virtual learning day or if they're  
 3 in Cohort C and choose to have a virtual learning  
 4 model altogether would still meet those  
 5 requirements, they would still have qualified  
 6 teachers teaching the standards within those  
 7 guidelines, so thank you.  
 8       VICE CHAIR HENN: Thank you. My next  
 9 question is for Dr. Williams. What direction do  
 10 you need from the Board to commit to a definitive  
 11 path forward that returns all students who opt to  
 12 return to in person as soon as possible?  
 13       DR. WILLIAMS: That's a good question,  
 14 Ms. Henn. I think we need more vaccines. I  
 15 think one is educating our staff, looking at that  
 16 timeframe in which staff can get their scheduled  
 17 appointment and then the second dose. I would  
 18 say at this point just working with our local  
 19 officials to try to encourage that we need more  
 20 vaccines, we need more opportunities for our  
 21 educators, some of that is a little bit of a fear

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1 about the vaccines, the availability, so at this  
 2 point just that advocacy in any people, anybody  
 3 that you know, anybody you have access to, just  
 4 encouraging that we want to encourage our staff  
 5 to get the vaccine as we're looking at reopening.  
 6       VICE CHAIR HENN: Sure, and part of the  
 7 fear and frustration that I'm hearing anyway, and  
 8 I'm sure you're hearing it as well, is fear of  
 9 the unknown, and individuals have expressed the  
 10 desire for more information, and then I have  
 11 gotten feedback that the communication is greatly  
 12 improved so thank you to you and to staff for  
 13 those improvements. However, they are looking  
 14 for a commitment to a path forward and for  
 15 information and commitment from the Board and  
 16 looking specifically to the Board. So I'm  
 17 seeking advice and input from you in terms of  
 18 what you need from us in terms of providing that  
 19 direction to you in terms of solidifying our  
 20 commitment for that path forward.  
 21       And the vaccines are not within the

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1 Board's control. The things you mentioned, while  
 2 we certainly can be advocates for, are not within  
 3 the Board's control. What are within our Board's  
 4 control is the decision to open, the decision to  
 5 put a timeline around opening, and we've heard  
 6 from the state that vaccines are not a dependency  
 7 on opening and that there is, and this is  
 8 subjective, but no public health concern that  
 9 would prevent us from reopening. So can you  
 10 speak to that and if there's anything we can do  
 11 to help solidify for our stakeholders,  
 12 particularly our staff, a plan forward with some  
 13 more concrete milestones?  
 14 DR. WILLIAMS: So as I shared last time,  
 15 that we have a plan, we have our phased-in model.  
 16 I think at this point the unknown, as you  
 17 described, I think there's just anxiety about the  
 18 return and whether we're using the metrics or  
 19 whether we're not using the metrics. The  
 20 directive from the state superintendent, I think  
 21 you do have, you do have positions, you do have

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1 connections to help with working with the powers  
 2 that be, our elected officials, working with our  
 3 health, those conversations are important. We  
 4 will manage the logistics, we will manage the  
 5 operations, but you know, in talking to staff and  
 6 having information sessions, we're just trying to  
 7 educate as much as possible not only about the  
 8 vaccines but also our plan and how we have laid  
 9 out our phased approach. So that's as much as I  
 10 can share at this point.  
 11 As I get clarity, still working with our  
 12 state superintendent, there may be additional  
 13 information I can provide to the Board, but at  
 14 this point I just think we're looking at two  
 15 things, working with our staff to help them  
 16 understand about the vaccine and working with our  
 17 staff to start bringing back students, we are all  
 18 interested in bringing back students and so let  
 19 me think about that question a little bit more,  
 20 Ms. Henn, maybe there's some additional  
 21 information I could provide, but that's just how

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1 I see it at this point, just trying to assure  
 2 staff and our families that we have a plan, we're  
 3 working with our partners with the vaccine, and  
 4 we're looking at our mitigation strategies and  
 5 making sure every school is prepared to receive  
 6 students and staff, so thank you for that  
 7 question.  
 8 VICE CHAIR HENN: And I appreciate that,  
 9 Dr. Williams. And to Mr. Kuehn's question, I  
 10 think having some parameters around the plan,  
 11 specifically an end date by which all students  
 12 who opt to return we expect to be able to return,  
 13 at least it would be helpful, and if we could  
 14 have that date by February 9th, our next meeting  
 15 as a goal, I will not be making a motion to that  
 16 end, but will be making that request of you, and  
 17 if the Board is of like mind and consensus to  
 18 make this request, I think -- (buzzer sounding).  
 19 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Your time has  
 20 expired, yeah. So next we have Ms. Lisa Mack.  
 21 VICE CHAIR HENN: Ms. Scott, could Dr.

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1 Williams respond to my last comment?  
 2 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: No, I think he  
 3 responded already.  
 4 VICE CHAIR HENN: I made a --  
 5 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Excuse me, point of  
 6 order. We need to make sure that there's enough  
 7 time for everyone to speak, so --  
 8 VICE CHAIR HENN: Madam Chair, I was  
 9 within my time with my last comment, if  
 10 Dr. Williams could respond to that?  
 11 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: You were still  
 12 speaking through your last comment. Dr. Williams  
 13 can respond to you in an email. Go ahead,  
 14 Ms. Mack.  
 15 MS. MACK: So to that point I'll go  
 16 ahead and ask Ms. Henn's question. Dr. Williams,  
 17 would you please respond to Ms. Henn's question  
 18 and then I'll ask my questions, because I'll have  
 19 time left.  
 20 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Ms. Mack, if you  
 21 could repeat Ms. Henn's question then, and that

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1 is going to be out of your time?  
 2 MS. MACK: Okay. Ms. Henn is asking  
 3 Dr. Williams to be able to come to the next board  
 4 meeting with an end date by which all students  
 5 will be back in school. She was looking for a  
 6 commitment from Dr. Williams that he would  
 7 provide that by the next meeting.  
 8 DR. WILLIAMS: I'm happy to provide an  
 9 end date, I have been asked to provide updates at  
 10 our upcoming meetings and so I will be happy to  
 11 provide some kind of end date. I'm not sure if  
 12 the next meeting I can do that, but that's  
 13 something that I will strive to do.  
 14 MS. MACK: Okay, thank you. And then my  
 15 question is a piggyback to Ms. Rowe and  
 16 Ms. Pasteur's. Ms. Lowry, you mentioned bringing  
 17 back some of our staff on a case-by-case basis,  
 18 but if the TABCO survey shows that 50 percent of  
 19 teachers want to come back and 50 percent want to  
 20 teach virtually, can we be creative and  
 21 accommodate something like that if it helps us

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1 keep our teachers, it helps kids who are doing  
 2 well virtually to continue to do well, can we  
 3 look at it on a more global basis? I know the  
 4 state has said bring, have kids back, but I don't  
 5 think it said all your teachers need to come  
 6 back, so do we have the ability to look at that?  
 7 MS. LOWRY: Ms. Mack, we are speaking  
 8 with our teachers. I think one of the things we  
 9 have to keep in mind is we have to be able to  
 10 fulfill the schedule that is created based on the  
 11 number of students that go back, because I don't  
 12 think a parent would want to send their children  
 13 back to a classroom that has a substitute in it  
 14 while a teacher is teaching that group of  
 15 students virtually. So there are a variety of  
 16 things that have to be considered in order to  
 17 make these other options work, and first and  
 18 foremost has to be our ability to deliver the  
 19 instruction face to face with providing the  
 20 teacher in a classroom to do that versus, again,  
 21 filling it with a substitute or filling it with

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1 somebody to cover the class while somebody is  
 2 teaching then remotely. So that's why I say we  
 3 really do have to look at some of these things on  
 4 a case-by-case based on the information that the  
 5 teacher is presenting, as well as look at some  
 6 other options that once we really have solidified  
 7 who exactly is returning in the way of students,  
 8 that will give us a little more insight into what  
 9 some of these other options are.  
 10 One example I could share with you would  
 11 be if you're at a school where there is only one  
 12 art teacher and there are students that need to  
 13 have art and that art teacher wants to teach  
 14 virtually, that is a little bit more difficult  
 15 scenario to try to come up with an option for.  
 16 So we are trying not to give a broad brush no, we  
 17 will not do this at all, we're trying to work on  
 18 what are some possible options that we could look  
 19 at, but would still provide that level of  
 20 instruction face to face that we're looking for  
 21 once we have the students come back.

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1 So I know it may not be the definitive  
 2 answer you're looking for, but what I will say is  
 3 that we are not going to, this is something that  
 4 we will have to continue to look at, revisit,  
 5 work on, and readdress as we go through this  
 6 second semester, because as we go through the  
 7 phases it will also impact us differently and we  
 8 will have to go back to it, and we are committed  
 9 to revisiting that, we are committed to continue  
 10 to try to do some additional things that will  
 11 replenish our substitute pool as we continue to  
 12 exhaust that as we go through, but nothing can  
 13 replace that teacher in the classroom working  
 14 with the children directly.  
 15 MS. MACK: Ms. Lowry, I appreciate your  
 16 response very very much, thank you.  
 17 MS. LOWRY: Absolutely.  
 18 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. Next we  
 19 have Mr. Muhumuza.  
 20 MR. MUHUMUZA: Yes, thank you.  
 21 Dr. Williams, one of the saddest things about the

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1 reopening of schools is how politicized it has  
 2 become throughout the process, and especially  
 3 these past several months. I know that the  
 4 governor's decision is just going to increase  
 5 that politicization and I know that he is at odds  
 6 with certain health officers in certain counties.  
 7 I'm just curious to know what is Dr. Branch  
 8 saying in your conversations with him, is he  
 9 agreeing with the governor's arguments of  
 10 reopening schools, that it's safe to do so  
 11 without vaccines? Like I know that Ms. Henn  
 12 mentioned, and some of the other things he said  
 13 in his press conference, what are you hearing  
 14 from Dr. Branch in your conversations with him?  
 15 DR. WILLIAMS: So, what Dr. Branch and I  
 16 are talking about is strictly around the vaccines  
 17 and I can't speak on his behalf about what his  
 18 reaction was to that announcement last week, but  
 19 our conversation as we're looking at reopening  
 20 and you know, I do feel at this point we have to  
 21 bring back kids, we have to bring back kids,

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1 small groups of kids. Dr. Branch has been  
 2 talking to us about just the process of trying to  
 3 get more staff vaccinated. As you heard what I  
 4 reported, that we have volunteers showing up to  
 5 help and kind of learn this process, Dr. Branch  
 6 wants us, that's our Office of Health Services,  
 7 our nurse assistants, our health techs to start  
 8 learning the process so we can work  
 9 collaboratively with the Department of Health to  
 10 get as many staff, he has been really focusing on  
 11 just getting the community through the process up  
 12 there at Timonium, and so having watched that  
 13 well run, well organized, so that's been his  
 14 focus. We have been talking about the metrics,  
 15 we have been talking about our plan, but I won't  
 16 speak on his behalf. I know his focus is trying  
 17 to get us as educators through that process and I  
 18 know that has been his priority, as well as work  
 19 with some of our elderly, our healthcare  
 20 professionals, et cetera, so that was the last  
 21 conversation I had with him.

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1 MR. MUHUMUZA: And I think you mentioned  
 2 vaccines, and I'm not asking for an opinion, I'm  
 3 just saying, would you say in your conversations  
 4 you would agree that we can open schools without  
 5 the vaccines, that we don't need everybody  
 6 vaccinated, would he agree with that?  
 7 DR. WILLIAMS: I'm sorry, do I agree  
 8 with that?  
 9 MR. MUHUMUZA: No. Did he verify that  
 10 we would not need everyone vaccinated to reopen  
 11 the schools?  
 12 DR. WILLIAMS: Well, he knows that we  
 13 can't require this from everyone so there would  
 14 be, by opening school there would be that  
 15 opportunity that some may have gotten the vaccine  
 16 and some have not, but that could be a follow-up  
 17 conversation I could have with Dr. Branch.  
 18 MR. MUHUMUZA: Okay. And with recent  
 19 news about the new variants of COVID coming from  
 20 England and South Africa and Brazil, and I know  
 21 that the producers of the vaccines, Moderna and

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1 Pfizer have said, and I believe one of them said  
 2 that their vaccine is 75 percent effective for  
 3 the new variant. If the new variant does spread  
 4 and the vaccine it turns out is not that  
 5 effective, what is the plan if we have to go back  
 6 into lockdown, and I hope it doesn't, but for us  
 7 to have a smooth return back to lockdown if the  
 8 pandemic worsens, which is always a possibility,  
 9 what is the plan, have you guys produced one?  
 10 DR. WILLIAMS: So that's a big  
 11 discussion about this new strand and the plan  
 12 would be, we would have to pivot again and if  
 13 that is the case, if our health professionals are  
 14 saying something slightly different, they will  
 15 advise us about what we will do similar to what  
 16 happened earlier this year with certain school  
 17 systems that had small groups and they had to  
 18 make a change, and we will do likewise. But I  
 19 don't have a response regarding the new strand at  
 20 this time.  
 21 MR. MUHUMUZA: Okay. And I guess my

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1 last question was really, I really want an update  
 2 from my previous question the last time we had  
 3 these discussions, it was on graduations and end  
 4 of the year activities, an update on these would  
 5 be really important or where the discussions are  
 6 on that.  
 7 DR. WILLIAMS: Sure. The last time that  
 8 we presented we were going to provide an update,  
 9 we picked the time in February where we wanted to  
 10 check in with our universities, and so as we  
 11 continue to provide updates regarding reopening,  
 12 at some point I can share just the status of our  
 13 graduations.  
 14 MR. MUHUMUZA: Thank you so much.  
 15 DR. WILLIAMS: Yep.  
 16 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. Next we  
 17 have Ms. Causey. Ms. Causey?  
 18 MS. CAUSEY: Yes.  
 19 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: You're up.  
 20 MS. CAUSEY: Dr. Williams, I heard you  
 21 say that you agree the state superintendent has

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1 the authority to give us a March 1 deadline.  
 2 DR. WILLIAMS: What I shared was that is  
 3 my understanding, she has that authority to give  
 4 us a March 1 deadline.  
 5 MS. CAUSEY: Okay, and I'm reading from  
 6 the Maryland school reopening guidance that's  
 7 available on line, I sent it to all the board  
 8 members earlier today, and the updated guidance  
 9 states, some degree of in-person learning should  
 10 be the immediate goal for all students in all  
 11 jurisdictions. Is that your understanding from  
 12 the guidance?  
 13 DR. WILLIAMS: You're reading from the  
 14 guidance?  
 15 MS. CAUSEY: Yes.  
 16 DR. WILLIAMS: Okay.  
 17 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Next -- oh, you're  
 18 still continuing?  
 19 MS. CAUSEY: Yes.  
 20 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Go ahead.  
 21 MS. CAUSEY: In the reopening plan

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1 that's posted on the website it has Phase I still  
 2 listed as the public separate day schools,  
 3 Phase II as preschool through grade two, and is  
 4 that still your plan when you're speaking to  
 5 Phase I and Phase II?  
 6 DR. WILLIAMS: Yes. I believe we have  
 7 to focus on our younger learners and that's the  
 8 group staff that we are opening up these  
 9 opportunities for the vaccines, so we're doing  
 10 that at the same time, we're looking at the first  
 11 Phase I and Phase II, looking at Phase III,  
 12 finalizing those survey results, looking at CTE.  
 13 So yes, I believe the phased-in approach to get  
 14 as many students as possible, but starting with  
 15 the younger students and as the Board shared two  
 16 meetings ago about the Phase I, remember, the  
 17 Phase I groups were prepared to start back in  
 18 November and then there was a continued spike in  
 19 the metrics, and the state department and the  
 20 health department did not waiver on those metrics  
 21 at that time.

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1 Now that as they reported last Thursday,  
 2 there's research, they've watched this, they're  
 3 looking at other school districts, and they gave  
 4 us that timeframe of March 1st. So it is our  
 5 hope, and the request that came earlier to look  
 6 at what will be that timeline that I can report  
 7 back, looking at the other phases to get students  
 8 back was the request earlier.  
 9 MS. CAUSEY: To clarify, Appendix L and  
 10 Appendix M would start at the same time,  
 11 March 1st?  
 12 DR. WILLIAMS: And you're looking at our  
 13 reopening plan?  
 14 MS. CAUSEY: Yes.  
 15 DR. WILLIAMS: Okay.  
 16 MS. CAUSEY: I want a clarification,  
 17 because there was information you sent out that  
 18 did not clearly indicate that.  
 19 DR. WILLIAMS: Not looking at the  
 20 appendix, I would say it is our hope to bring  
 21 back, to begin with Phase I and Phase II, and

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1 then phase in the other groups.

2 MS. CAUSEY: Okay. So this week after

3 the announcement, Howard County and Harford

4 County both have had two work sessions to address

5 the reopening plan. Howard County has presented

6 a plan to their board, Phase I starts with

7 students receiving in-person instruction for five

8 days a week, Phase II would begin two weeks

9 later -- those are there special populations --

10 Phase II would be two weeks later, March 15th,

11 include all students pre-K through two, grades

12 six, nine and 12, and CTE, and the third phase

13 would begin two weeks, on March 29th. Is that

14 what you're looking at for our reentry plan?

15 DR. WILLIAMS: Based on the question

16 from Ms. Henn and probably what Mr. Kuehn asked,

17 that was the request that was asked of me, to

18 look at a timeline.

19 MS. CAUSEY: Thank you. And are you

20 familiar with the, Dr. Chan has stated, she is

21 the acting deputy secretary for public health for

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1 the State of Maryland, school reopening decisions

2 should not be based on the availability of

3 vaccination or the level of vaccination among

4 staff.

5 DR. WILLIAMS: Yes, that was her comment

6 last Thursday, and those were some questions that

7 surfaced when I met with our union presidents and

8 executive director.

9 MS. CAUSEY: Thank you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you,

11 Ms. Causey, and thank you, Dr. Williams.

12 MS. CAUSEY: Yes, thank you. And with

13 that, I would make a motion that Dr. Williams

14 bring a complete plan to the Board at a meeting

15 that is scheduled for this week, or no later than

16 next Tuesday.

17 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: I'm sorry, could you

18 repeat your motion?

19 MS. CAUSEY: Yes. I make a motion that

20 Dr. Williams bring the complete plan to the Board

21 for approval at a special meeting this week, or

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1 no later than next Tuesday.

2 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Is there a second to

3 this motion? Okay. So hearing none, then we're

4 moving on.

5 I would like to say in regards to the

6 opening, or rather the presentation that was

7 given to us, Dr. Williams, this is Ms. Scott, and

8 I would like to say that I have heard information

9 and updates about the reopening plan and I

10 appreciate the hard work and everything that you

11 all put into that to give us that information. I

12 just want to, I think it hasn't been said enough

13 that we want to make sure that once we open we

14 stay open, and also that we have the concerns of

15 staff and students and everyone first and

16 foremost in our decision making and using that as

17 we navigate and move forward, so I just wanted to

18 say that.

19 I know that there are, there's heated

20 debates and there's people that want to go back,

21 and I've heard from the community from both

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1 sides, people who want kids back in school and

2 folks who are, as I believe was said by

3 Ms. Lowry, terrified to go back. So it's our

4 role as the Board to look at everyone and to work

5 in a holistic fashion, so I wanted to make sure

6 that I said that. Thank you. Ms. Pasteur, you

7 have a question?

8 MS. PASTEUR: Yeah. I want to piggyback

9 on what you just said if I understand it

10 correctly, or maybe I didn't understand the

11 motion. Is the motion to have a completed plan

12 during this week and by next Tuesday at the

13 latest?

14 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Well, the motion

15 failed, Ms. Pasteur.

16 MS. PASTEUR: Okay, but was that the

17 motion? Yeah?

18 MS. CAUSEY: Yes, Ms. Pasteur, that was

19 the motion.

20 MS. PASTEUR: I just want to reiterate

21 that for all the questions that we have asked,

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1 that we want you to be, as Ms. Scott said, as  
 2 thorough and exact as you possibly can, so that  
 3 we don't go back, go in and then come back, and I  
 4 do appreciate the things that the staff is doing  
 5 to get our children back in, and I want you to  
 6 continue to be thoughtful in that deliberation.  
 7 Thank you. I knew it had failed but I just  
 8 wanted to piggyback on that. Thank you.  
 9 (Static.)  
 10 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Hello? There was a  
 11 lot of feedback there. It looks like we have a  
 12 question from Ms. Jose.  
 13 MS. JOSE: No, Ms. Scott, that was for  
 14 the motion, so thank you.  
 15 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. Okay. It  
 16 looks like we have a question from Dr. Hager.  
 17 DR. HAGER: Yes. So my time is up for  
 18 asking questions, and I would have much rather  
 19 spent my time asking questions about reopening  
 20 schools but we got a little bit derailed with  
 21 this Board's conversation, and so my question as

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1 someone who has made very few motions and is  
 2 still learning the school board function, a  
 3 motion was made a week ago to start fall sports  
 4 on February 13th. That was when we had  
 5 three-and-a-half weeks to plan, we're now a week  
 6 later so now we have two-and-a-half weeks to  
 7 plan, and again, there was some pushback  
 8 suggesting that there was a county executive  
 9 order that made it so that we couldn't do it, but  
 10 it doesn't seem to me at least based on our own  
 11 opening plan that it even contradicts one  
 12 another. So is there any precedent for making a  
 13 motion to make sure we do the motion or is it,  
 14 what's the next step to make sure that it  
 15 happens, I guess is my question.  
 16 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Certainly, thank you  
 17 for that, Dr. Hager. And you said that there was  
 18 some pushback, that there was a supposed county  
 19 executive plan, but there is a county executive  
 20 order.  
 21 DR. HAGER: I might have misspoken, I

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1 apologize for that.  
 2 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: So yeah, if staff are  
 3 on, either Mr. Brousaides or Ms. Howie, if you  
 4 can give us some direction on that, because as it  
 5 was stated, the executive order states that the  
 6 motion is contrary to the county executive order,  
 7 so if we could get some guidance?  
 8 DR. HAGER: But it's not contrary.  
 9 There is an executive order and there is a  
 10 motion, and the motion would align with our plan,  
 11 and our plan is not contrary to the executive  
 12 order.  
 13 (Unintelligible colloquy, multiple  
 14 speakers.)  
 15 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: So if we do could get  
 16 legal input on that please, so we can make sure  
 17 we are in compliance.  
 18 MR. BROUSAIDES: Sure, Eric Brousaides  
 19 here. I would suggest that the superintendent  
 20 and his staff review the Board's motion, compare  
 21 it with the county executive's order and see if

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1 they are compatible. I haven't read it with any  
 2 great detail at this point, I just hold up a copy  
 3 during tonight's meeting. I understand that in  
 4 the county executive order there is some  
 5 parameters for indoor sports, some parameters for  
 6 outdoor sports, and who gets counted towards the  
 7 number of people allowed for each. So that seems  
 8 to me more to be an administrative determination  
 9 to be made in conjunction with the Board's prior  
 10 motion, to try and square those two.  
 11 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay.  
 12 DR. HAGER: Okay. We're not at  
 13 two-and-a-half weeks, so yeah.  
 14 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yeah, and I know the  
 15 county executive's order is effective until  
 16 February 28th and the motion had, was to resume  
 17 fall sports on February 13th, so --  
 18 DR. HAGER: And according to the state  
 19 plan, competitive play would not start until  
 20 March 5th, so it would be only be practices which  
 21 according to our plan would be done in pods of 20

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1 or less, so again, they're not contradictory to  
 2 each other, so I would really hope we can pull  
 3 this off in two-and-a-half weeks.

4 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay, I believe  
 5 Dr. Williams said earlier, and Dr. Williams, I'm  
 6 sure you're still there, if you could get us some  
 7 additional information on that so we could make  
 8 sure that we are working in the right direction.

9 MR. MCMILLION: Ms. Scott, this is Rod  
 10 McMillion. Can I ask a question or a comment?

11 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes, Mr. McMillion.

12 MR. MCMILLION: Dr. Williams, is there  
 13 anybody on the staff that's available that can  
 14 answer the question about the 20 people in a pod,  
 15 is that tryouts, indoor versus outdoor, that  
 16 might save us some time if we can define that 20  
 17 pod thing. Thank you.

18 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Is there anyone on  
 19 the call that would be able to answer that, or is  
 20 that something that Dr. Williams will have to  
 21 respond back to?

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1 DR. WILLIAMS: I'm looking.  
 2 Dr. McComas, are you able to respond to that?

3 DR. MCCOMAS: Yes, sir. I didn't want  
 4 to, again, cut you off inadvertently, thank you.  
 5 So as written in the plan, it does ascribe that  
 6 any in-person activities we would of course  
 7 manage group size and we do indicate the pod size  
 8 in there, in the plan as referenced, and I think  
 9 Ms. Causey may have said this earlier, but our  
 10 general plan is, in the reopening plan in the  
 11 link on our website as one of the appendices.

12 I think to me the question came down to  
 13 I think the, and Dr. Williams, I heard you  
 14 reference, cite a quote from the executive order.  
 15 I think that's the part that we need  
 16 clarification on and I don't see it in the chat.  
 17 I think the, where it says shall also include all  
 18 nonprofessional sports gatherings, I think that's  
 19 the language that we need clarification on, is my  
 20 understanding.

21 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes, I would agree,

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1 thank you. So Dr. Williams, if you could?  
 2 DR. WILLIAMS: Yes. Thank you,  
 3 Dr. McComas.

4 MR. KUEHN: Chair Scott, this is  
 5 Mr. Kuehn. I just wanted to make a comment that  
 6 might help clarify some of this.

7 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes, Mr. Kuehn?

8 MR. KUEHN: On the Baltimore County  
 9 website there is a document that is associated  
 10 with the executive order that is called  
 11 interpretive guidance. I put the link in our  
 12 chat. I've also cut and pasted the specific part  
 13 that is related to high school sports, and it  
 14 does say that the 25-person limit is inclusive of  
 15 coaches, trainers and staff, as well as parents,  
 16 guardians and spectators. So it seems to be that  
 17 if there's a 25-person limit and our plan was to  
 18 have 20-person pods practicing together, that  
 19 Dr. Hager is correct and that this motion is  
 20 applicable and needs to be executed as we had  
 21 passed it. Thank you.

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1 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you for that,  
 2 Mr. Kuehn. Dr. Williams, when would you be able  
 3 to confirm that information for us? And so that  
 4 if it is applicable, we voted for it, that it  
 5 could actually go into motion, or if there's a  
 6 reason why it would not be able to be executed?

7 DR. WILLIAMS: Sure. So Dr. McComas and  
 8 Michael Sye and I just need to have a  
 9 conversation. They heard the motion at the last  
 10 meeting. This executive order was raised as a  
 11 concern. We just have to just make sure we are  
 12 following and understand what's there and how  
 13 we're trying to move forward to try to meet the  
 14 timeline in which the Board approved to bring  
 15 back fall sports.

16 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay. Thank you for  
 17 that. Is it possible that we could know  
 18 something by tomorrow, or as soon as possible is  
 19 I guess what I'm trying to say?

20 DR. WILLIAMS: Sure, as soon as  
 21 possible.

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 142</p> <p>1 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay, that would be                  2 great, and then we will circle back with board                  3 members and go from there. So thank you,                  4 everyone who weighed into that so that we can                  5 make sure that we have the appropriate actions                  6 going forward.                  7 And I'm wanting to make sure I got                  8 everyone's questions. Ms. Causey, are you asking                  9 an additional question or is that from before?                  10 MS. CAUSEY: Madam Chair, thank you. I                  11 have a question regarding this conversation.                  12 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay.                  13 MS. CAUSEY: So the Board has a                  14 directive and you've asked Dr. Williams to                  15 clarify for us this issue with the county                  16 executive's order, so is it your understanding,                  17 Madam Chair, that he will reply to the Board in                  18 writing? You had mentioned tomorrow. I think                  19 that that's a sufficient deadline given all of                  20 the logistics that need to start for the Board's                  21 directive to be fulfilled.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 144</p> <p>1 as soon as possible.                  2 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: As soon as possible,                  3 would that be like sometime this week perhaps?                  4 DR. WILLIAMS: I can strive for                  5 something this week, but tomorrow, I would ask                  6 for later this week.                  7 VICE CHAIR HENN: Madam Chair?                  8 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes, Ms. Henn.                  9 VICE CHAIR HENN: Thank you. I also                  10 want to insure that any additional concerns or                  11 barriers to implementing this directive be                  12 brought to the Board's attention immediately                  13 given the time sensitivity of this issue. I                  14 would have wished that this concern had been                  15 brought to us sooner in that it was our, I                  16 believe our assumption that we were moving                  17 forward. So I would also ask Dr. Williams to                  18 bring any additional concerns to us in a timely                  19 fashion as well.                  20 DR. WILLIAMS: Sure, Ms. Henn.                  21 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: This point was</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 143</p> <p>1 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Correct, yes. My                  2 understanding is, and I apologize if I wasn't                  3 clear, my understanding is that Dr. Williams will                  4 reply in writing to the full Board with the                  5 information by tomorrow.                  6 DR. HAGER: Yes, he said as soon as                  7 possible, but I think tomorrow is a good concrete                  8 date.                  9 DR. WILLIAMS: Well, folks, I would say                  10 I understand how important this is. I was giving                  11 us a few more days just because as Dr. Hager                  12 said, we're getting close to that February                  13 deadline, so I did say as soon as possible. I                  14 just want to make sure, as Mr. Brousaides                  15 referenced, I just want to get with the legal                  16 team just to make sure that is straight, and that                  17 we also need to have a conversation with our                  18 coordinator of athletics as they are preparing to                  19 receive students and coaches, what that will look                  20 like. They have started that conversation, so as                  21 much as I would like to, that's why I referenced</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 145</p> <p>1 brought up at the beginning of this meetings so                  2 that board members could know and be aware, so                  3 this week I think would be good, so that we can                  4 move forward and be able to work on implementing                  5 this. Was there any other discussion around this                  6 or any other questions that members had?                  7 DR. HAGER: Ms. Scott, I would just add                  8 that, you know, again, that at the end of this                  9 week we will be down to two weeks, so at that                  10 point it would be great if we could sooner rather                  11 than later get physical forms, you know, going,                  12 and kind of start the process of things that need                  13 to happen regardless of whether we start                  14 February 13th or February 20th or, you know,                  15 February 20th, whatever we can do to kind of get                  16 the ball rolling with families while we're                  17 planning and talking to legal teams and doing                  18 this behind the scenes work I think could be                  19 really important, just as a side note.                  20 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: No, and it is very                  21 important, and so thank you for raising that, but</p>

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1 we want to make sure that we do our due diligence  
 2 and that we encompass everything going forward.  
 3 So thank you for that.  
 4       Were there any additional questions or  
 5 comments?  
 6       MS. CAUSEY: Madam Chair, I wanted to  
 7 make a motion that the superintendent and staff  
 8 will bring to the Board February 9th a complete  
 9 plan for implementing the reopening plan with  
 10 Phase I and II starting March 1, Phase III  
 11 starting March 15th, and Phase IV starting on  
 12 March 29th, at the February 9th meeting.  
 13       CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Is there a second?  
 14       VICE CHAIR HENN: Second, Ms. Henn.  
 15       CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Ms. Henn, okay.  
 16 Thank you. Discussion? It looks like there's a  
 17 question from Ms. Jose.  
 18       MS. CAUSEY: Madam Chair, may I speak to  
 19 my motion?  
 20       CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes, Ms. Causey.  
 21       MS. CAUSEY: Thank you, Ms. Scott. One

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1 of the things that's been discussed a lot and  
 2 we've received a lot of emails is about the  
 3 timing. We have teachers that need to plan, we  
 4 have families that need to plan, we have students  
 5 that need to emotionally prepare. There has been  
 6 a lot of back and forth and I would suggest that  
 7 there are two other districts, Harford County and  
 8 Howard County who this week are being presented  
 9 from their superintendents the plan for their  
 10 approval and then they're going to be able to  
 11 start the work to get all those communications  
 12 out.  
 13       Also, there's three other of our nearby  
 14 districts, Anne Arundel County, Carroll County  
 15 and Baltimore City, that already are implementing  
 16 plans to bring students back prior to March 1,  
 17 and now of course they're working towards the  
 18 full implementation of the state superintendent's  
 19 directive and with Dr. Chan, Maryland's acting  
 20 deputy secretary's guidance that it's not based  
 21 on the vaccination levels.

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1       So it's important that the whole school  
 2 system, our parents, understand the Board's  
 3 direction, the Board's approval of the  
 4 superintendent's recommendations, and that there  
 5 is a start date. We all know people plan to a  
 6 deadline, so I just want that to be clear, and  
 7 then also that that, on that February 9th, you  
 8 know, there would be motions if necessary based  
 9 on that plan.  
 10       CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. Next is  
 11 Ms. Jose.  
 12       MS. JOSE: Thank you, Ms. Scott. So my  
 13 understanding, Dr. Williams, you were going to  
 14 bring a plan back, a revamped plan if you may,  
 15 back to the Board for possibly starting on  
 16 March 1st. Does Ms. Causey's motion actually ask  
 17 the superintendent to start schools March 1st and  
 18 giving us a four-week window to prepare, or is it  
 19 just a generic give us a plan back on again?  
 20 Because I would also like to have a window, but  
 21 is that what your motion is directing, that

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1 schools start back March 1st?  
 2       MS. CAUSEY: Ms. Jose, is that question  
 3 to me or Dr. Williams?  
 4       MS. JOSE: To you since it's your  
 5 motion. Is your motion directing Dr. Williams to  
 6 bring a plan back on February 9th to start school  
 7 February 1st, I mean, sorry, March 1st?  
 8       MS. CAUSEY: The motion is, yes, to  
 9 support the state's, in order for the Board and  
 10 the school system to be compliant with the state  
 11 superintendent's directive, and also for the  
 12 benefit of our students, to have that amazing  
 13 in-person instruction from our teachers, and for  
 14 there to be a plan that everyone can work towards  
 15 and understand.  
 16       MS. JOSE: So if I understand this  
 17 right, you're asking Dr. Williams to start  
 18 schools back March 1st for this motion?  
 19 Dr. Williams, I'm sorry, I didn't mean to  
 20 interrupt you. Go ahead.  
 21       DR. WILLIAMS: So as we discussed

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1 earlier, there was a question and it was  
 2 answered, that I would be coming back to the  
 3 Board presenting a plan outlining our different  
 4 phases. But I also have to express to the Board  
 5 that we are the third largest district school  
 6 system, and to compare us to Howard County and  
 7 Harford would not be the same since we are larger  
 8 and we are still part of the recovery and repair  
 9 of ransomware, so I just want to remind the Board  
 10 what was shared earlier, that a plan was coming  
 11 forward, and I just have to stress the  
 12 comparison, we are not like those other  
 13 districts.

14 I've also watched and looked at what  
 15 they presented and I would also say we should  
 16 also look and see what's happening to the two  
 17 largest school systems in Maryland, so again,  
 18 based on the conversation earlier about coming  
 19 forth with a plan with the phases, that was my  
 20 work and what I had planned to do.

21 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay. Thank you,

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1 Ms. Jose. And next it looks like we have a  
 2 question from Dr. Hager.

3 DR. HAGER: I just was looking at our  
 4 current plan which was approved on January 7th,  
 5 and then Dr. Williams presented a plan last week,  
 6 our ready, set, go plan. So what additional  
 7 plans are you preparing for us, Dr. Williams,  
 8 that are not currently outlined in those existing  
 9 plans?

10 DR. WILLIAMS: So based on the question,  
 11 Dr. Hager, it was the timeline, some specific  
 12 dates, that's what I thought the earlier question  
 13 was, so what are those targeted dates in terms of  
 14 moving those phases, et cetera. And as we shared  
 15 last time, shared off that timeline, a week here,  
 16 two weeks, three weeks, so I thought the request  
 17 was to then look at given that timeline, what  
 18 will that look like for Baltimore County Public  
 19 Schools with some specific dates.

20 DR. HAGER: Okay, that was my question.  
 21 Thank you.

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1 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. Next we  
 2 have Ms. Rowe.

3 MS. ROWE: So I have a problem with this  
 4 motion, mainly because the superintendent only  
 5 just got the guidance from the state very  
 6 recently that's going to change our plans, and we  
 7 are recovering from a ransomware attack. And I  
 8 feel like the use of the Board's power to give  
 9 the superintendent a directive over  
 10 administrative functions of the school system,  
 11 given that the guidance just came out and we're  
 12 dealing with a lot of different variables is  
 13 premature. The Board should refrain from giving  
 14 the superintendent directives in situations where  
 15 he's inclined to be doing the work anyway, and I  
 16 would not like to insinuate that he somehow has  
 17 to be forced to do what he's already doing, and I  
 18 think that a directive is premature at this point  
 19 and I don't think that we have enough information  
 20 to know if the dates for doing the phasing are  
 21 even appropriate given the ransomware attack and

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1 everything, so I can't support this motion.

2 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Next we have  
 3 Ms. Pasteur.

4 MS. PASTEUR: Thank you. I was going to  
 5 say, Ms. Rowe just said it, I think Dr. Williams  
 6 knows what needs to be done, he knows what the  
 7 staff is doing, and I go back to my previous  
 8 point, and so that's it. Thank you.

9 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you.  
 10 Mr. Kuehn?

11 MR. KUEHN: Thank you, Ms. Scott. So I  
 12 guess I'm looking for some clarity, because my  
 13 understanding based on our discussion tonight is  
 14 Dr. Williams is clear that March 1 is a deadline  
 15 to have some students, you know, back in a  
 16 classroom setting. So I don't quite understand,  
 17 Ms. Causey, you know, this just seems redundant  
 18 at this point. Is there something I'm missing?  
 19 Please explain.

20 MS. CAUSEY: Mr. Kuehn, I think it's  
 21 important for the Board to be clear, and I think

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1 it's important to have smart goals, and I think  
 2 looking at the time that's needed to prepare for  
 3 implementation is very very important, and so  
 4 that's why I am bringing this forward. The Board  
 5 had made a motion to start sports and then we  
 6 hear at the beginning of this meeting that that's  
 7 not going to happen, it wasn't even a point of  
 8 discussion, it was just a statement. And now  
 9 here we are one whole week lost in planning for  
 10 that and the Board does not agree that that is a  
 11 constraint, the county executive's order, based  
 12 on our plan having 20 or less students together.  
 13 So I just want to have clarity, I also want to  
 14 make sure that Dr. Williams is prepared and staff  
 15 is prepared and that at that meeting with the  
 16 recommendation for board approval would, you  
 17 know, carefully lay out what's going to happen at  
 18 that meeting. If there's a recommendation that  
 19 he's bringing to the Board and he doesn't think  
 20 that it aligns with what I've stated, then he can  
 21 bring that recommendation to the Board and inform

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1 us of why he's bringing a different  
 2 recommendation.  
 3 But that's my motion, and I'm not making  
 4 it based on just what I think, I've listened to  
 5 other counties' board meetings, I've listened to  
 6 the state superintendent.  
 7 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you.  
 8 MS. CAUSEY: I've listened to Dr. Chan,  
 9 Maryland's acting deputy secretary of public  
 10 health, Dr. Fauci, American Academy of  
 11 Pediatrics, so there's a lot that has gone into  
 12 this.  
 13 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. We want  
 14 to make sure that we get to everybody, because a  
 15 lot of people have questions. It looks like  
 16 Mr. Muhumuza has a question. Mr. Muhumuza?  
 17 MR. MUHUMUZA: Yeah. I heard a couple  
 18 board members tonight say something about a week  
 19 lost. What were they referring to, are they  
 20 referring to the athletics or the reopening plan,  
 21 I'm just curious?

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1 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: They were referring  
 2 to athletics, and it's certain board members, not  
 3 -- Ms. Causey said the Board feels differently,  
 4 there's certain members that feel differently, so  
 5 yes.  
 6 MR. MUHUMUZA: And that's what I'm  
 7 confused about a little bit about, so based on  
 8 what I have been hearing from athletic coaches  
 9 and students themselves, did they begin notifying  
 10 their athletes, beginning applications, am I  
 11 missing something, did we not begin all that?  
 12 DR. WILLIAMS: So Mr. Muhumuza, if I may  
 13 just respond, I think what, the reference of a  
 14 week was the concern that we're getting close to  
 15 the date at which the Board approved to have fall  
 16 sports resume or to begin, so it was a week later  
 17 from the last conversation. Again, I'm happy to  
 18 provide an update to the Board once I have  
 19 circled back with Mr. Sye and Dr. McComas.  
 20 MR. MUHUMUZA: So while we wait for you  
 21 to clarify if we can begin February 13th, I guess

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1 what I'm looking for is advice for our like  
 2 coaches, what are you going to tell them? Should  
 3 they continue talking to the athletes,  
 4 anticipating that we might open on February 13th,  
 5 continuing with their plans, do you recommend  
 6 that for our coaches and staff?  
 7 DR. WILLIAMS: At this point I would  
 8 recommend it, but I would prefer, I would be much  
 9 more comfortable having a conversation with  
 10 Mr. Sye. I know he has done some work based on  
 11 the motion that was made by the Board, so I just  
 12 need just to have that conversation with him  
 13 about those next steps, and as we shared, I  
 14 definitely will update the Board.  
 15 MR. MUHUMUZA: Okay, thank you.  
 16 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Dr. Hager?  
 17 DR. HAGER: I was just going to comment  
 18 that I have, I'm on the fence about this motion  
 19 for the opposite reason of Lily, so when I heard  
 20 her speak my brain is going in the opposite  
 21 direction in that like I said earlier, I think on

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1 Friday we're going to see metrics that look  
 2 really positive, and if we are, you know, stuck  
 3 and committed -- not stuck, but committed to our  
 4 original reopening plan, then that would mean  
 5 we're ready to jump into the plan that  
 6 Dr. Williams laid out for us last week, and then  
 7 we'd be ready to start a week earlier.

8 And so if it seems like given everything  
 9 else that's happening, giving the school system  
 10 that fourth week instead of just three weeks for  
 11 the ready, set, go plan, and then would fall in  
 12 line with Kathleen's motion, then that might make  
 13 sense. But I really think we're already ready to  
 14 do this and so putting a date on it, I do think  
 15 like Ms. Causey said, would make families put a  
 16 little bit at ease, staff and teachers knowing  
 17 that there is a hard concrete date that we're  
 18 reopening, again knowing that the metrics are  
 19 going in the right direction.

20 DR. WILLIAMS: And Madam Chair, if I may  
 21 respond, again, that was what was asked of me, to

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1 come back and provide those dates, so to  
 2 Dr. Hager's point, that was, those were my next  
 3 action, looking at all the phases and what that  
 4 would look like, so I just want to reference  
 5 that. Thank you.

6 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you for that,  
 7 and it looks like Ms. Henn has a question.

8 VICE CHAIR HENN: Thank you, Madam  
 9 Chair. A few board members have pointed out that  
 10 March 29th falls during spring break so I would  
 11 ask Mrs. Causey if she would consider an  
 12 amendment to her motion to change the Phase IV  
 13 date to a date of her choosing, if she would  
 14 modify her motion to either March 22nd or  
 15 April 6th.

16 DR. WILLIAMS: Madam Chair,  
 17 Dr. Williams.

18 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes?

19 DR. WILLIAMS: Allow the design team and  
 20 I to come together and map out what that would  
 21 look like and to bring it back to the Board. As

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1 I shared earlier, I'm happy to bring that back to  
 2 the Board, but let us look at all those  
 3 logistics, spring break. Again, I still have to  
 4 work with our union folks, so let us come up with  
 5 a plan that we can be able to present to the  
 6 Board, but now this just feels like we're getting  
 7 into the operations. It's clear, you want a  
 8 timeline, you want dates, allow us to do the  
 9 work.

10 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay. And  
 11 Dr. Williams, then hearing that, and hearing  
 12 members and everything, I would then make a  
 13 motion that we postpone Ms. Causey's motion  
 14 until, to discuss perhaps at our February 9th  
 15 meeting and revisit it then.

16 MS. HENN: Madam Chair, there's a motion  
 17 on the floor and I asked Mrs. Causey if she would  
 18 consider an amendment to her motion, so I believe  
 19 we need to act on that first.

20 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Before my motion to  
 21 postpone the motion?

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1 VICE CHAIR HENN: Yes, ma'am.

2 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Is that correct,  
 3 Mr. Brousaides?

4 MR. BROUSAIDES: My understanding is  
 5 that the motion to postpone consideration takes  
 6 precedence over the motion to amend, so that the  
 7 postponement would go now.

8 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: That's my  
 9 understanding as well, so --

10 MS. ROWE: I second the postponement.

11 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: I'm sorry?

12 MS. ROWE: I second the postponement.

13 Lily Rowe.

14 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. So  
 15 Ms. Gover, if we could do a vote, and we're  
 16 voting on the motion to postpone the motion that  
 17 Ms. Causey made to the February 9th meeting.

18 MR. MCMILLION: Ms. Scott, can we read  
 19 Ms. Causey's motion again please?

20 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Ms. Causey, could you  
 21 read your motion?

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1 MS. CAUSEY: Yes. Dr. Williams will  
 2 bring a complete plan recommendation for Board  
 3 approval to implement the phases in the reopening  
 4 plan as of January 7th on our website, Phase I  
 5 and II start school on March 1, Phase III on  
 6 March 15th and Phase IV on March 29th, to the  
 7 February 9th meeting. I was going to amend my  
 8 motion to make Phase IV based on Dr. Williams'  
 9 recommendation --  
 10 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: But that's not what  
 11 you said, so now we're processing the motion to  
 12 postpone it to the February 9th meeting where it  
 13 can be, you can resubmit your motion and we will  
 14 have more time to read it and process it there.  
 15 So Ms. Gover, could we do a rollcall vote please  
 16 on the motion to postpone?  
 17 MS. GOVER: Ms. Rowe?  
 18 MS. ROWE: Yes.  
 19 MS. GOVER: Ms. Causey?  
 20 MS. CAUSEY: No.  
 21 MS. GOVER: Ms. Mack?

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1 MS. MACK: No.  
 2 MS. GOVER: Mr. McMillion?  
 3 MR. MCMILLION: Yes.  
 4 MS. GOVER: Ms. Jose?  
 5 MS. JOSE: Yes.  
 6 MS. GOVER: Ms. Henn?  
 7 VICE CHAIR HENN: No.  
 8 MS. GOVER: Mr. Muhumuza?  
 9 MR. MUHUMUZA: If you can come back to  
 10 me.  
 11 MS. GOVER: Mr. Offerman?  
 12 MR. OFFERMAN: Yes.  
 13 MS. GOVER: Ms. Pasteur?  
 14 MS. PASTEUR: Yes.  
 15 MS. GOVER: Mr. Kuehn?  
 16 MR. KUEHN: No.  
 17 MS. GOVER: Dr. Hager?  
 18 DR. HAGER: No.  
 19 MS. GOVER: Ms. Scott?  
 20 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes.  
 21 MS. GOVER: Mr. Muhumuza?

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1 MR. MUHUMUZA: Abstain.  
 2 MS. GOVER: In favor is six.  
 3 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay, so the motion  
 4 to postpone carries. And --  
 5 MS. ROWE: No, it doesn't. It takes  
 6 seven.  
 7 MS. GOVER: The favor was six.  
 8 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: So does it pass, do  
 9 does the motion to postpone pass, or no.  
 10 MS. GOVER: No, it fails.  
 11 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Oh, it fails, okay.  
 12 All right. So then, Ms. Causey, then I guess,  
 13 are you going to restate your motion?  
 14 VICE CHAIR HENN: My motion to amend is  
 15 processed next.  
 16 MR. BROUSAIDES: That's correct, it's  
 17 Ms. Henn's motion to changing the Phase IV date,  
 18 I believe it was.  
 19 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay. So if we could  
 20 read it again, because there have been a lot of  
 21 motions going, so if you could read it again,

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1 Ms. Henn, as you wanted to amend it.  
 2 MS. CAUSEY: Certainly, Madam Chair.  
 3 Dr. Williams will have a complete plan  
 4 recommendation for Board approval to implement  
 5 the phases in the reopening plan as of  
 6 January 7th on our website, Phases I and II start  
 7 school on March 1, Phase III on March 15th and  
 8 Phase IV on March 29th, to the February 9th  
 9 meeting.  
 10 VICE CHAIR HENN: And as amended, I was  
 11 going to move that we amend the Phase IV date to  
 12 April 6th.  
 13 MS. CAUSEY: I'll second that amendment.  
 14 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay. Could we have  
 15 the motion read as amended?  
 16 VICE CHAIR HENN: Sure. Dr. Williams  
 17 will bring a complete plan recommendation for  
 18 Board approval to implement the phases in the  
 19 reopening plan as of January 7th on our website,  
 20 Phase I and II start school on March 1st, Phase  
 21 III on March 15th, and Phase IV on April 6th, to

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1 the February 9th meeting.

2 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Okay. And so now we

3 will vote on the amendment.

4 MR. MUHUMUZA: Can we still comment on

5 the motion?

6 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: I feel like there's

7 been comments enough back and forth and it speaks

8 for itself, so I feel it's appropriate to take a

9 vote. Ms. Gover?

10 VICE CHAIR HENN: Madam Chair, can you

11 clarify, we're voting on the amendment?

12 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes, we're voting on

13 the amendment, correct.

14 MS. GOVER: Ms. Rowe?

15 MS. ROWE: Yes.

16 MS. GOVER: Ms. Causey?

17 MS. CAUSEY: Yes.

18 MS. GOVER: Ms. Mack?

19 MS. MACK: Yes.

20 MS. GOVER: Mr. McMillion?

21 MR. MCMILLION: Yes.

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1 MS. GOVER: Ms. Jose?

2 MS. JOSE: Yes.

3 MS. GOVER: Ms. Henn?

4 VICE CHAIR HENN: Yes.

5 MS. GOVER: Mr. Muhumuza?

6 MR. MUHUMUZA: Yes.

7 MS. GOVER: Mr. Offerman?

8 MR. OFFERMAN: Yes.

9 MS. GOVER: Was that yes, I'm sorry?

10 Mr. Offerman?

11 MR. OFFERMAN: Yes.

12 MS. GOVER: Thank you. Ms. Pasteur?

13 MS. PASTEUR: Abstain.

14 MS. GOVER: Mr. Kuehn?

15 MR. KUEHN: Yes.

16 MS. GOVER: Dr. Hager?

17 DR. HAGER: Yes.

18 MS. GOVER: Ms. Scott?

19 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Abstain.

20 MS. GOVER: Thank you.

21 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. And now

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1 if we could vote on the motion?

2 MS. GOVER: Ms. Rowe?

3 MS. ROWE: No.

4 MS. GOVER: Ms. Causey?

5 MS. CAUSEY: Yes.

6 MS. GOVER: Ms. Mack?

7 MS. MACK: No.

8 MS. GOVER: Mr. McMillion?

9 MR. MCMILLION: Yes.

10 MS. GOVER: Ms. Jose?

11 MS. JOSE: No.

12 MS. GOVER: Ms. Henn?

13 VICE CHAIR HENN: Yes.

14 MS. GOVER: Mr. Muhumuza?

15 MR. MUHUMUZA: No.

16 MS. GOVER: Mr. Offerman?

17 MR. OFFERMAN: No.

18 MS. GOVER: Ms. Pasteur?

19 MS. PASTEUR: No.

20 MS. GOVER: Mr. Kuehn?

21 MR. KUEHN: Yes.

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1 MS. GOVER: Dr. Hager?

2 DR. HAGER: Yes.

3 MS. GOVER: Ms. Scott?

4 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: No.

5 MS. GOVER: In favor is five.

6 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: I'm sorry, you said

7 favor is five.

8 MS. GOVER: Yes, it fails.

9 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: The motion fails,

10 okay. All right. Thank you for that.

11 So we've had our discussion on the

12 reopening of schools, and the last item on the

13 agenda is announcements. The Board's next

14 meeting --

15 MS. CAUSEY: Excuse me, Madam Chair, I

16 have a question for Dr. Williams.

17 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Yes.

18 MS. CAUSEY: So Dr. Williams, is it your

19 intention to bring a plan to the February 9th

20 meeting for the Board's approval?

21 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Well, that's

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1 something -- Dr. Williams, can you send us an  
 2 email or update to let us know when you will be  
 3 presenting us with a plan? I recall him saying  
 4 that he will present the Board with a plan but he  
 5 did not give a date of February 9th, but I'm sure  
 6 he can follow up with us in an email. Does that  
 7 sound feasible, Dr. Williams?

8 DR. WILLIAMS: Sure, and every open  
 9 session, so on February 9th we will be prepared  
 10 to provide an update, so that was what the Board  
 11 asked and we will be happy to provide an update  
 12 on February 9th.

13 CHAIRWOMAN SCOTT: Thank you. So again,  
 14 the last item on the agenda is announcements.  
 15 The Board's next meeting will be held virtually  
 16 on Tuesday, February 9th, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

17 So thank you for joining us tonight, and  
 18 the meeting is adjourned.

19 (Meeting adjourned.)  
 20  
 21

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1 STATE OF MARYLAND  
 2 BALTIMORE COUNTY: SS  
 3

4 I, Paul A. Gasparotti, a Notary Public in and  
 5 for the State of Maryland, Baltimore County, do  
 6 hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and  
 7 accurate transcription of the recording to the  
 8 best of my ability.

9 I further certify that I am not of counsel to  
 10 any of the parties nor in any way interested in  
 11 the outcome of these proceedings.

12 As witness, my hand and notarial seal this 3rd  
 13 day of February, 2021.  
 14  
 15 \_\_\_\_\_  
 16 Paul A. Gasparotti  
 17  
 18  
 19  
 20  
 21

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