



Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council
Meeting
September 12, 2001
Pine Grove Elementary School

Attendance:

Meg O'Hare, John Bourassa, Sharon Rider, Carol Wingard, Steve Warner, Walter Hayes, Truda Fagan, Kathleen Warren, Allen Zink, Tony Barr, Mimi Knuth, Susan Hahn, Jack Wilson, Robert Sarnovsky, Laura Bertman, Yolanda Alston, Naomi Flink, Andy Schwler, Weizhong Zhu, Monica Scott, Ron Zimmerman, Joan Brauner, William Lawrence, Barb Martin.

Meg O'Hare, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Welcoming remarks and introductions were made. Meg asked that we keep the families of those affected by the devastation of yesterday in our prayers. Also, that we keep all Americans in our hearts and prayers.

Presentation:

Bill Lawrence, Executive Director of Schools, talked about how the school day was affected by the devastation. Each of the principals present gave the numbers of students released from his/her school. Pine Grove Elementary reported that 488 students were released to parents. Glenmar Elementary stated that over 60 percent of the student body was released to parents. Pine Grove Middle released 370 students. Every school complemented their staff on their action in the demand of the situation. Steve Warner also complemented the student teachers in his building on their take-charge action during this situation. There was some confusion early in the day between the state and the county's communication regarding school closing messages. However, Wednesday's attendance was much better and things went much smoother.

Bill started his presentation to the Council. After much research, the Board restructured their personnel. Approximately \$1.5 million was saved by this reorganization. All assistant principals are now 12-month employees. In schools where there are no assistant principals because of the low enrollment, there is a facilitator who assumes the responsibilities of the administrator. Many things will not be changed as far as parents are concerned. If a parent has a problem, they still call the school first and go to the teacher to resolve it. If not satisfied, they go to the school's administration. The next level is Bill Lawrence and lastly, the Superintendent. Although Bill can make recommendations to the Superintendent, he cannot hire or fire anyone directly. All the services that were available before are still available now just more efficiently. Bill gave everyone in attendance a copy of the breakdown of the reorganization, along with a copy of the Departmental and Office Descriptions of Service book. Bill let everyone know that the \$1.5 million was redirected to other areas to service the students of Baltimore County.

Meg thanked Bill for his presentation and adjourned the public meeting. She also thanked the PTA of Pine Grove for the refreshments.

Business Meeting:

Executive Director's Report:

- All 32 schools in the Northeast were opened on the first day. During the first week of school Bill visited every school to talk with teachers and principals about how things went during the first few days. All schools were on task with their instruction.
- Bill talked with teachers about the new reading series and for the most part they were pleased with the system. A new teacher guide is being published to align the MLO's with Baltimore County's *Essential Curriculum*. During the summer, a program was written to bring it all together. Bill asked the children how they liked being able to take home the workbooks and they seemed to like it much better. The boys liked that the new series had stories written that interested them.
- Everyone is in position and there are no vacancies.
- A task force is being created to look at the middle school reading program.

Chairperson's Report:

- Meg asked if anyone would be interested in serving on this committee or any other committees being formed.
- Meg went to a meeting about the new reading series and they developed a guide that will help with combining both reading series. A video was created to show the concept to everyone. The guide is in the process of being sent out to all schools.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Meg O'Hare, NEAC Chairperson

Next meeting October 10, 2001
Eastern Technical High School

The statement in the minutes of September 12, 2001, "Bill let everyone know that the \$1.5 million was redirected to other areas to service the students of Baltimore County," will be clarified at the next Northeast Area Education Advisory Council Meeting. The clarification to be provided is that a reduction of \$1.5 million was made to the 2001 - 2002 Baltimore County Public Schools' budget.

**Northeast Area Educational Advisory Councils
Pre-Budget Meeting Minutes
Eastern Technical High School
October 10, 2001**

Before the public meeting, members of the Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council enjoyed a dinner meeting at The Eastern Inn. We were joined by several Baltimore County Board of Education members including Jim Sasiadek, Jean Jung, Michael Kennedy, and Tom Grzynski. Northeast Executive Director of Schools, Bill Lawrence, and his Assistant, Joan Brauner, were also present. The dinner was prepared and served by students in the Culinary Program at Eastern Technical High School. Principal Bob Kemmery and Assistant Principal Will Heilman were our gracious hosts. Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council members attending were: Tony Barr, John Bourassa (Assistant Chairperson), Susan Hahn, Walter Hayes, Alicia Inge, Barbara Martin (Secretary), and Meg O'Hare (Chairperson). Ron Zimmerman was excused.

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. We were joined by Christine Johns, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, and Bob Haines, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services. Also attending was Dianne Gilbert, Chief of Staff and Education Liaison for Baltimore County Executive Ruppertsberger, and Laura Nossel, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County. Many area principals and community members also attended.

There were four speakers including two speakers representing industry and members of the Career and Technology Advisory Council, the school nurse from Perry Hall Middle School, and Walter Hayes. We received no written statements from community members.

The speakers' remarks are categorized and summarized:

Need for Increased Funds for Career and Technology Education

Mr. Russ Hewitt and Mr. Richard Magnani spoke to the need over the next several years for \$450,000 to maintain and upgrade equipment and software that is used for Career and Technology Education Curriculum. There are four high schools with Graphics/Print Communication Programs: Kenwood, Overlea, Sollers Point, and Western School of Technology. In addition, comprehensive schools offer Career and Technology courses. About 1,000 students are served. They are looking for an increase in the operating budget and \$200,000 toward the goal of \$450,000 in upgrades.

Need for Health Assistants In Each School

Ms. Marge Horan, School Nurse at Perry Hall Middle School, came to represent the school nurses in the northeast area. She provided us with a detailed list of the students to

whom she provides service at her school. The list reads like an outpatient clinic. She thanked the Board and the County for the additional health assistants provided last year, but the need is still there for additional health assistants because of the large workload due to increasing health care needed during the school day.

Need for Social Studies Textbooks that are Better Written and Historically Correct

Mr. Walter Hayes thanked the Board and the County for the dividers for Pine Grove Elementary School. Next, he spoke to the need for students to have textbooks that are historically correct. Children need to learn about the people of history that were heroes. Textbooks need to be better and accurate.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Meg O'Hare, NEAC Chairperson