

TENTATIVE MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 5:58 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. JoAnn C. Murphy, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., and Ms. Joy Shillman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Mr. Arnold reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in March, April, and May.

Ms. Harris moved that the student member be permitted to participate in closed session collective bargaining discussions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pallozzi and unanimously approved by the Board.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1), (a)(7), and (a)(9) and upon motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Ms. Murphy, the Board commenced its closed session at 6:20 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 6:20 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. JoAnn C. Murphy, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Mr. Peter Bacon. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: J. Robert Haines, Esq., Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Rita Fromm, Chief of Staff; Dr. H. Scott Gehring, Assistant Superintendent, Northwest Area; Mr. William Lawrence, Assistant Superintendent, Northeast Area; Dr. Manuel Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Southwest Area; Ms. Jean Satterfield, Assistant Superintendent, Southeast Area; Dr. Kim X. Whitehead, Assistant Superintendent, Central Area; Stephen Cowles, Esq., Staff Attorney; Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Governmental Relations; Mr. Daniel Capozzi, Staff Relations Manager; P. Tyson Bennett, Esq., Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

Mr. Capozzi updated Board members on collective bargaining discussions.

Mr. Capozzi exited the room at 6:33 p.m.

Dr. Peccia reviewed with Board members personnel matters to be considered on the evening's agenda.

Mr. Bennett provided legal advice to Board members regarding Hearing Officer's Opinion in Case #07-14.

At 7:02 p.m., Mr. Bacon moved the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Ms. Murphy and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:39 p.m. at Greenwood. President Donald L. Arnold and the following Board members were present: Ms. Frances A. S. Harris, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Ms. JoAnn C. Murphy, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. Joseph J. Pallozzi, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Jr., Ms. Joy Shillman, and Mr. Peter Bacon. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Sarah Zimmer, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

MINUTES

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Open and Closed Session Minutes of February 27, 2007, Mr. Arnold declared the minutes approved as presented on the website.

Mr. Arnold informed the audience of the sessions in which Board members had participated earlier in the afternoon.

SELECTION OF SPEAKERS

After collecting completed sign-up cards, Mr. Arnold announced the names of persons who would be speaking during the public comment portion of the meeting as well as the order in which the persons would be called.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS

Ms. Jennifer Oswald, Baltimore County Student Council President and Superintendent's Student Council Advisory Group, reported on the general assembly meeting for all high school members. Ms. Oswald announced the upcoming Maryland Association Student Council convention to be held March 28-30, 2007.

ADVISORY AND STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS (cont)

Mr. Kent Smith, a representative of the Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council, reported on the Council's March 21 meeting concerning capital projects, which include a new high school in the northeast area and a bus depot.

Ms. Abby Beytin, Chair of the Northwest Area Educational Advisory Council, reported on the Council's February 20 meeting, where topics included closing the achievement gap and parental involvement.

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, a representative of the Baltimore County Education Coalition, stated that the coalition supports a school board selection process without political restraints. The coalition also supports aging school funds and has asked the delegation and the Governor to meet the funding needs of renovations and construction.

Dr. Ella White-Campbell, Chair of the Minority Achievement Advisory Group (MAAG), stated that MAAG traveled to Annapolis to lobby for the needs of the school system. Dr. Campbell also stated that MAAG is asking the Board to support the Superintendent in the necessary changes to curriculum and instruction. She is also requesting a progress report from the Board regarding the implementation of the curriculum audit recommendations.

Ms. Susan Katz, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, expressed concern over implementation of policy mid-way through the school year. Ms. Katz also reported on the PTA's annual awards ceremony held at Parkville High School on March 25.

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, stated that TABCO is working with the Superintendent to set up a teacher focus group to address the recommendations in the curriculum audit report. She announced that Kid Care will celebrate its 25th anniversary on April 28 with a walk at The Avenue in White Marsh. Ms. Bost also announced the TABCO/BACE Recognition/Retirement dinner on May 10.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston commented that no recommendation has been forwarded to him regarding the 2008-2009 school calendar and that the information released by the media is inaccurate.

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed New Policy 1240

On a motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the proposed changes to Policy 1240 – COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: Visits to Schools, as presented in Exhibit B.

OLD BUSINESS (cont)

Proposed Changes to Policy 1250

On a motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the proposed changes to Policy 1250 – COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: Participation in the Local Schools by Community Members, as presented in Exhibit C.

Proposed Changes to Policy 8110

Mr. Hayden moved to delete Policy 8110 in its entirety. There was no second. The motion failed.

On a motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Parker, the Board approved the proposed changes to Policy 8110 – INTERNAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Composition of Board of Education of Baltimore County, as presented in Exhibit D. Mr. Hayden opposed the proposed changes.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Report on Proposed Changes to Policy 3260 – NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES: On-Call Consultant** – Mr. Michael Sines, Executive Director of the Department of Physical Facilities, stated the words “Landscape Architects” are being deleted from the Policy. This is the first reading of this Policy.
- B. **Report on Proposed Deletion of Policy 7230 – NEW CONSTRUCTION: Flexibility of School Construction** – Mr. Sines stated that the architectural concept of large open spaces and use of partitions to create classroom spaces is no longer desirable. He also noted that open space construction is inconsistent with present mechanical building codes. This is the first reading of Policy 7230.
- C. **Report on Proposed Changes to Policy 7250 – NEW CONSTRUCTION: School Building Design** – Mr. Sines stated that the Policy has been modified for clarification. This is the first reading of this Policy.
- D. **Report on Proposed Changes to Policy 8120 – INTERNAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Purpose and Role of the Board** – Mr. Arnold, Chairperson of the Policy Ad Hoc Committee, stated that Policy 8120 and 8150 were repetitive. Therefore, the proposed recommendation is to combine the two policies and eliminate outmoded language. This is the first reading of Policy 8120.
- E. **Report on Proposed Deletion of Policy 8150 – INTERNAL BOARD PROCEDURES: Functional Responsibilities** – As previously stated this Policy will be combined with Policy 8120. This is the first reading of this Policy.

REPORTS (cont)

Ms. Murphy stated that the Board needs to keep in mind the governance recommendations of the curriculum management audit as it reviews internal Board policies. Mr. Janssen noted that the Ad Hoc Committee has pulled a number of policies as a result of the audit report.

- F **Proposed Naming of the New Stadium at Franklin High School** – Dr. H. Scott Gehring, Assistant Superintendent of the Northwest Area, stated that the Franklin High School Boosters, Inc. wants to name this project the “Doc Clarence E. McWilliams MD Stadium.” The McWilliams and Broderick families have donated over \$20,000 for the stadium project. This is the first reading.

Ms. Shillman asked if there is a way to shorten the name. Dr. Gehring responded this is the name chosen by the boosters.

Ms. Harris suggested placing a comma after “McWilliams” and periods after the letters “M” and “D.”

- G. **Report on Proposed Board Meeting Scheduled for 2007-2008** – Mr. Arnold reviewed the proposed Board meeting dates for the upcoming year with Board members. The Board will vote on the proposed schedule at the April 24, 2007 Board meeting.

- H **Report on Safari Montage Video** – Ms. Della Curtis, Coordinator of Library Information Services, and Mr. Jeffrey Lifton, Manager of the Education Channel, shared with Board members the production and model using the state-of-the-art video and demand technology solution for the 21st century teaching and learning. Using Safari Montage™, teachers will have the ability use their desktop PC to easily search and select from a library of 1,200 videos and to integrate these digital technology resources with curriculum. BCPS will also use this system to develop and deliver professional development programs produced by The Education Channel and professional development.

Mr. Bacon asked whether this technology would be used for research purposes and whether each classroom had the resources for these presentations. Ms. Curtis responded BCPS is working on a guide for principals and staff on how to maximize resources and technology making the best use of funds within the school system. Ms. Curtis stated that, at this point, Safari Montage™ is an instructional tool for teachers.

Dr. Hayman asked if this effort was coordinated through the Office of Professional Development. Ms. Curtis responded the team includes the Office of Information Technology, Library Information Services, and the Office of Professional Development and that this team also created a professional development plan. Dr. Hayman suggested that an evaluation report on the effectiveness of the program be provided to the Board in the future.

REPORTS (cont)

- I. **Woodlawn Middle School Update** – Dr. Manuel Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent of the Southwest Area, and Mr. Brian Scriven, Principal of Woodlawn Middle School (WMS), provided a status report on the Alternative Governance Plan at WMS.

Mr. Hayden asked why the drop in the number of students for the short-cycle assessment post-tests. Mr. Scriven responded that student absences caused the drop.

Mr. Bacon, who attended the last principal's cabinet meeting, applauded Mr. Scriven's leadership abilities.

Dr. Hayman expressed concern that while percentages appeared acceptable, only 92 out of 192 were proficient in mathematics for grade 6. He expressed the need to focus on increasing the number of students to become proficient in critical areas. Dr. Hayman asked the Board to keep in mind that it takes three years to turn a school around. He also stated that there is no need for Mr. Scriven to come back to the Board at its April, May, or June meetings.

Mr. Hayden inquired about teacher retention for the upcoming school year. Mr. Scriven responded that all teachers at WMS have committed to returning next school year.

Mr. Janssen asked what plans are in place for incoming fifth graders. Mr. Scriven responded that in April, the science and social studies departments will be conducting events and inviting the feeder elementary schools to those events. Mr. Scriven also stated that staff will meet the parents of incoming fifth graders to share the direction of the middle school.

Ms. Harris asked what plans are in place to transition eighth graders to high school. Mr. Scriven responded there is articulation with the guidance departments of the high schools.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Dr. Hayman, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits N, O, P, and Q (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.).

On motion of Ms. Harris, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibit R (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.).

H.E. OPINION IN CASE #07-07

On motion of Mr. Pallozzi, seconded by Mr. Hayden, the Board approved the Hearing Officer's Opinion in case #07-07 (In Favor-11). Mr. Bacon did not vote on this item.

H.E. OPINION IN CASE #07-14

On motion of Ms. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Pallozzi, the Board approved the Hearing Officer's Opinion in case #07-14. Ms. Shillman opposed the motion (In Favor-10, Opposed-1). Mr. Bacon did not vote on this item.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Ms. Shillman, recommended approval of items 1-15 (Exhibit S). Mr. Hayden abstained from voting on item 5. Mr. Janssen abstained from voting on items 8, 9, and 10, and Ms. Shillman abstained from voting on item 14.

The Board approved these recommendations.

1. JNI-716-03 Contract Extension: General School and Office Furniture and Equipment
2. JMI-626-05 Contract Modification: Roof Repair Services
3. JMI-632-07 Farrow 70 Surface Cleaning System
4. RGA-123-07 Secondary Academic Intervention Model School Lease
5. JMI-626-07 Trucks and Vans
6. JNI-777-07 Resolution: Financing of Vehicles
7. PCR-212-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovation – Deer Park Middle Magnet School
8. MWE-824-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovation – Holabird Middle School
9. MWE-824-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovation – Holabird Middle School
10. JNI-713-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovation – Perry Hall Middle School
11. MWE-829-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovation – Woodlawn Middle School
12. MWE-829-06 Contract Modification: Systemic Renovation – Woodlawn Middle School
13. MBU-544-07 ADA Restroom Renovations – Oliver Beach Elementary School

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

14. JMI-631-07 Window and Blind Replacement – Pleasant Plains Elementary School
15. MBU-545-07 ADA Restroom Renovations – Warren Elementary School

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Governmental Relations, reviewed key pieces of legislation that affect the school system and are under consideration by the General Assembly.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Superintendent's Rule 1240 – Visits to Schools
- B. Revised Superintendent's Rule 1250 – Citizens Participation in the Local School

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Arnold made the following announcements:

- On Wednesday, April 4, 2007, the Board of Education's Spring Recognition Ceremony will be held at Dulaney High School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Schools and offices will be closed for Spring Break from April 6 thru 13, 2007. Schools and offices will reopen on Monday, April 16, 2007.
- The Northwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next capital pre-budget meeting on Tuesday, April 17, 2007 at New Town High School beginning at 7:30 p.m.
- The Southwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, April 18, 2007 at Featherbed Lane Elementary School.
- The Central Area Education Advisory Council will hold its capital pre-budget meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2007, at Sparks Elementary School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 24, 2007, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 4:30 p.m. The Board will then adjourn to meet in closed session, which will be followed by a brief dinner recess. The open session will reconvene at approximately 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome to all open sessions.

Mr. Arnold stated that public comment is one of the opportunities provided to hear the views and receive the advice of community members. The members of the Board appreciate hearing from interested citizens and will take their comments into consideration, even though it is not the Board's practice to take action at this time on issues which are raised. When appropriate, the Board will refer concerns to the Superintendent for follow-up by his staff.

While the Board encourages public input on policy, programs, and practices within the purview of this Board and this school system, this is not the proper avenue to address specific student or employee matters, or to comment on matters that do not relate to public education in Baltimore County. The Board encourages everyone to utilize existing avenues of redress for complaints. Inappropriate personal remarks or other behavior that disrupts or interferes with the conduct of this meeting are out of order.

Mr. Arnold also asked speakers to observe the light system, which lets the speaker know when time is up. He asked speakers to conclude their remarks when they see the red light.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 3510

No one from the public signed up to speak on Policy 3510.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 7240

No one from the public signed up to speak on Policy 7240.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Jasmine Shriver asked the Board to support the Superintendent and move forward with the curriculum audit recommendations to ensure that the general education curriculum is aligned.

Ms. Nancy Ostrow appreciated the school system making the investment in a curriculum management audit. She stated that all of the challenges brought forth can be resolved if everyone works together as a team.

Mr. Jameel asked the Board to include the two Muslim holidays on the 2008-2009 school calendar.

Ms. Suzanne DeMallie asked the Board to consider utilizing the resources of a non-profit organization to educate individuals on the need for sound enhancement equipment in the classroom.

Ms. Florence Watford expressed concern over the recent changes to the before and after-school daycare program at Randallstown Elementary School. Ms. Watford asked the Board to re-evaluate the decision or offer alternatives to parents.

Ms. Tonya Smith echoed Ms. Watford's concerns. She asked the Board to revisit and reconsider the decision.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (cont)

Ms. Tev Hatcher asked the Board to revise the before and after-school daycare policy and come up with other alternatives to accommodate parents and students.

Dr. Pharoan asked the Board to consider adding the two Islamic holidays to the school calendar as school closing days.

Ms. Kanwal Rehman asked the Board to add the two Muslim holidays to the school calendar.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:51 p.m., Mr. Hayden moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bacon and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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