

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Education Transparency Act Description

August 20, 2020, Meeting

The following is a full and accurate description of the final actions taken at the meeting and is provided in accordance with the Education Transparency Act, Md. Ed. Code Ann., §3-2B-09(b)(3). If there is a discrepancy between the video and this description, the video, which constitute the official minutes of the meeting, shall control. The video/audio recordings of the [Board of Education](https://vimeo.com/449866612) are the official record of the meetings and can be viewed at:

<https://vimeo.com/449866612>

The Equity Committee of the Board of Education of Baltimore County met on Thursday, June 20, 2020, through a virtual platform, beginning at 4:00 p.m. The following Committee members¹ were present: Ms. MaKeda Scott, chair; Dr. Erin Hager, vice chair; Ms. Lisa Mack; and Ms. Cheryl Pasteur.

The following staff persons were present: Mr. William Burke, Chief of Organizational Effectiveness; Dr. Lisa Williams, Executive Director of Equity and Cultural Proficiency; Dr. Monique Wheatley-Philip, Chief Accountability Officer; Dr. Maria Finger-Elam, Coordinator of Research Accountability and Assessment; and Dr. Eric Minus, Executive Director, Research and Data Analytics.

The Committee took action on the following:

1. Committee Meeting Dates

Upon motion of Ms. Scott seconded by Ms. Pasteur, the Committee approved the calendar of meeting dates.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/Did Not Vote	Absent
MaKeda Scott	x			
Erin Hager	x			
Lisa Mack	x			
Cheryl Pasteur	x			

2. Mission Statement

Upon motion of Ms. Mack, seconded by Ms. Pasteur, the Committee approved its mission statement, which reads:

¹ The following board members, who are not members of the Equity Committee, were also present: Kathleen Causey, Chair, and student member, Joshua Muhumuza.

The mission of the Board Equity Committee of the Baltimore County Board of Education is to remove structural, cultural, and systemic barriers that lead to diminished opportunities for all BCPS students.

Baltimore County is committed to creating a safe, caring and mutually respectful environment within our school system and community so that all students, families, and staff feel welcomed, valued, and supported.

We, as the Board, recognize that the diversity represented across our community and throughout our schools has changed. We also recognize that even greater racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, and economic diversity are projected in the years to come. So, to that end, the Board accepts its responsibility for progression and is committed to its responsibility for moving forward on this journey.

Core Beliefs of the Board Equity Committee of the Baltimore County Board of Education:

- We value the diverse cultures and languages of our students and families.
- We believe curriculum materials should reflect our students’ cultures and lived experiences and should be taught using culturally responsive strategies.
- We believe all students should be provided equitable access to high quality curriculum and instruction, athletics, and food and nutrition and that the barriers to these programs and opportunities need to be examined for evidence of institutionalized racism.
- We believe the examination of student data pertaining to college and career readiness should be disaggregated by race and ethnicity, socio-economic status, English language proficiency, and participation in special education services to identify marginalized student groups in order to design new and equitable access for those marginalized students.
- We believe we should name and center the races, ethnicities, and languages of our students in order to honor our students and their families’ lived experiences.
- We believe explicit professional development in equity and implicit bias is critical in building the capacity of board members, staff, and community members.

Board Member	Favor	Against	Abstained/Did Not Vote	Absent
MaKeda Scott	x			
Erin Hager	x			
Lisa Mack	x			
Cheryl Pasteur	x			

The Committee received a presentation on Equity Data from Dr. Lisa Williams.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Submitted to the Web team for posting on August 24, 2020.