

Exhibit A

TENTATIVE MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 5:37 p.m. at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymski, Mr. John Hayden, III, Dr. Warren Hayman, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, and Ms. Joy Shillman. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

President Sasiadek reminded Board members of upcoming functions scheduled to occur in June and July 2004 including the CUBE Issues Seminar to be held on June 25-27, 2004 in Baltimore. Dr. Hayman provided a brief overview of the CUBE event.

Mr. Walker entered the room at 5:45 p.m.

At 6:18 p.m., Ms. Ettinger moved the Board go into closed session to discuss personnel matters and to obtain legal advice pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1) and (a)(7). The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Mr. Steele, Jr. provided information regarding legal issues concerning a vendor to Board members.

Ms. Howie discussed potential litigations with Board members.

Mr. Randy Grimsley, Executive Director of Human Resources, reviewed with Board members appointments to be considered at the public meeting, including an addendum to the Appointment/Transfer exhibit.

At 7:10 p.m., Mr. Grzymski moved the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was second by Ms. Shillman and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 7:42 p.m. at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymski, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren Hayman, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, and Ms. Joy Shillman. 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 Jenna and Lauren Robbins, students at Timber Grove Elementary School students, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in Baltimore County Public Schools.

Dr. Hairston noted two adjustments to the agenda for this evening's meeting – adding the adoption of Hearing Officer's Opinion on Case #04-17 under Personnel Matters, and adding Contract Settlement under New Business – Building Committee.

MINUTES

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Board Retreat Minutes of April 25, 2004, Mr. Sasiadek declared the minutes approved as presented on the website.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston announced that on June 2, 2004 the Maryland State Department of Education had presented the 2004 Awards of Excellence at the Radisson Hotel in Annapolis. The awards, from MSDE's Division of Career Technology and Adult Learning, honored individuals, programs, and businesses for outstanding performance in secondary and post-secondary career and technology education. He stated that the Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management Program at Western School of Technology and Environmental Science received the award for the most outstanding secondary and post-secondary career and technology program in Maryland. Ms. Rhonda D. Hoyman, Supervisor for Technical Programs, received the Distinguished Service Secondary award.

Dr. Hairston also noted that on May 26, 2004, the Maryland Council on Economic Education had conferred upon the Offices of Secondary and Elementary Education for Baltimore County a special award for their support and excellence in promoting economics in their classrooms. In addition to the county recognition, many BCPS students and teachers received awards.

Dr. Hairston announced that the Department of Fiscal Services received both the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International and the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting as well as the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the preparation of the 2003 school system Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). This is the twelfth consecutive ASBO award and the eighth consecutive GFOA award achieved by Baltimore County Public Schools' Department of Fiscal Services.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (cont)

Dr. Hairston stated that on December 15, 2003, the Baltimore County Council passed Resolution #143-03 urging the Board of Education of Baltimore County to establish an Environmental Assessment Advisory Committee. The mission of this committee is to evaluate current BCPS environmental practices, establish new policies, if necessary, and to formally report all results to the Board of Education on an annual basis. The following individuals have been selected to serve:

1. Dr. John Bacon – Asthma and Allergy Expert
2. Ms. Cheryl Bost – President, Teachers Association of Baltimore County
3. Mr. Cornell S. Brown, Jr. – Administrator, Department of Physical Facilities
4. Ms. Rita Hill - Parent
5. Mr. Roger Janssen – Vice President for Leadership, PTA Council
6. Mr. Robert Merrey – Environmental Manager, Department of Physical Facilities
7. Mr. Rob Santa Croce – Principal, Sparrows Point High School
8. Mr. E. Phillip Schied – P.E., Systemic Program Manager
9. Ms. Teresa Streb – Legislative Aide, Baltimore County Council, Sixth District
10. Mr. Gary Urban – Environmental Auditor, Aerosol Monitoring and Analysis, Inc.
11. Student member to be selected after the opening of the school year

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Arnold, the Board adopted a Resolution honoring James E. Walker, who is leaving the Board after five years of service. Mr. Sasiadek presented Mr. Walker with the resolution.

Mr. Walker thanked fellow Board members and others throughout Baltimore County for their support. Mr. Walker noted the most memorable moment of his five years as a Board member had come early in his term. He witnessed a young student from an athletic team rush off of the field and administer CPR to a man who had suffered a heart attack

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Arnold, the Board adopted a Resolution honoring Phyllis E. Ettinger, who is leaving the Board after ten years of service. Mr. Sasiadek presented Ms. Ettinger with the resolution. Ms. Murray presented Ms. Ettinger with flowers from her colleagues on the Board.

Ms. Ettinger thanked her colleagues on the Board and expressed her gratitude to parents and others in the community. She expressed her joy in working with other Board members who have shared her commitment to the community and to children. Ms. Ettinger expressed her thanks to BCPS staff at all levels who give their best to the children. She noted the privilege of knowing and working with people of courage who have been her heroes and role models over the last ten years. Ms. Ettinger encouraged everyone to be people of vision and good will, and think about what they want Baltimore County and the school system to be 5, 10 and 20 years from now. She noted the need to continually talk to one another about the issues that really matter because “we are so much smarter collectively than we are individually.”

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS (cont)

Ms. Ettinger thanked her colleagues on the Board and the public for their kindness and goodwill. She asked the Board to add the faces of children to the walls of the Board room to celebrate students and to remind Board members why they are here.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS FROM MAY 25, 2004

Mr. Grimsley recognized the administrative appointments approved at the May 25, 2004 meeting.

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Ettinger, the Board adopted a Resolution honoring Randall D. Grimsley, Executive Director of Human Resources, who is retiring after 41 years of service to Baltimore County Public Schools.

Dr. Hairston introduced and welcomed Ms. Erin O'Connor who will serve in the County Executive's office as its Education Liaison.

OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Ms. Jung, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the proposed 2005-2006 Baltimore County Public School Calendar.

Mr. Arnold commented on the challenges dealing with religious holidays and cultures in the county and the limitations by this Board due to certain state requirements. Mr. Arnold noted the Jewish holidays were added due to absences with teachers and students, and the possibility of being in violation by not meeting the attendance requirement. He noted the need to work with the State in addressing and dealing with these types of situations including recognition of perfect attendance. Mr. Arnold mentioned BCPS has two calendars available—one known as the “refrigerator” calendar, which has multiple holidays listed, and the official calendar listing the times schools open and close. Mr. Arnold stated we must work together with the State to provide opportunity and recognize the various cultures in Baltimore County.

Mr. Hayden suggested that staff coordinate continued discussion with the State through the course of this year to address the issue. Mr. Hayden also noted he would communicate this issue with the Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE).

Mr. Kennedy noted the importance for the school system and staff to be sensitive to the different holidays.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Recognition of the Board of Education by the Baltimore County Nurses Association in Honor of School Nurse Day, May 12, 2004** – Ms. Michele Prumo, Coordinator, Health Services, introduced Ms. Rebecca Colt-Fergusen and Ms. Carla Snedegar, newly appointed President for the Baltimore County School Nurses Association, who presented a certificate of appreciation to the Baltimore County Board of Education.
- B. **Report on Proposed Changes to Policy 1280 – Boundary Changes (First Reading)** – Ms. Rita Fromm, Executive Director of Planning and Operations, stated the proposed changes to the policy are in alignment with the current organizational structure and added new language regarding boundary changes necessitated by construction of a new school building.

Mr. Hayden asked if the Office of Strategic Planning was looking at specific areas of the county for general consideration of overcrowding issues. Ms. Fromm responded that after the official enrollment is complete, the Office of Strategic Planning works with the Executive Directors of Schools to determine which schools might need relief and whether a boundary change is the way to achieve that relief.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits D, E, F, and G. The Board also approved the adoption of Hearing Officers Opinion on Case #04-17. (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.)

Ms. Jung noted the number of appointments within the Human Resources Department. At some future time, Ms. Jung would like to learn more about the Superintendent's vision regarding changes.

CONTRACT AWARDS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved items 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 11 (Exhibit H). Mr. Arnold abstained from voting on item 6. Ms. Shillman pulled items 1, 6, and 10.

- 2. Contracted Services for 2004 PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT/NMSQT Early Participation Program
- 3. Contracted Services for *On-Call* Asbestos Abatement and Removal
- 4. Contracted Services for *On-Call* Asbestos Abatement Hygiene Testing and Monitoring

CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

5. Contracted Services for Food Service—Ice Cream Products
7. Printing—Continuous Forms
8. School Musical Instrument Repair Services
9. Summer Science Institute for Elementary Teachers
11. Touchstones School Program

Item 1

Ms. Shillman asked that Dr. Barber correct her name in the audit report.

Item 6

Ms. Shillman inquired as to why the reassignment. Mr. Gay responded that during the negotiations of the final contract, Bank of America attached conditions to the contract that based on guidance from legal counsel was found unacceptable. As BCPS was nearing an agreement, Bank of America informed BCPS they could not hold the interest rate. The new percentage rate would have been 4/10 of a percent higher than other bidders.

Mr. Hayden commented on the awkwardness of language in the contract and suggests BCPS is terminating an existing contract. Mr. Gay responded this reassignment is requested to rescind the contract award to Bank of America approved at the May 25, 2004 Board meeting and award the contract to Sun Trust Bank. The reassignment is necessary based on non-performance of the initially approved vendor.

Mr. Walker asked if the new interest rate is for the life of the loan. Mr. Gay responded BCPS has a firm commitment from the new vendor that they will honor the interest rate for the life of the loan.

Item 10

Ms. Shillman asked whether the technology and communication laboratories are in addition to the computer labs with Mr. Gay responding affirmatively. Mr. Gay also noted that this is part of the consolidated program that is ongoing at New Town High and being delivered and implemented at different stages as student population increases.

On motion of Ms. Ettinger, seconded by Mr. Walker, the Board approved items 1, 6, and 10 of Exhibit H.

CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

1. Consulting Contract for Independent Operational Audit of the Special Education Program
6. Financing School Buses (Reassignment)
10. Technology Education Information and Communications Laboratory

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee, represented by Mr. Kennedy, recommended approval of items 1-9 (Exhibits I through P), and a Contract Settlement. The Board approved these recommendations.

1. Award of Contract – Systemic Renovations at Dumbarton Middle School
2. Award of Contract – Systemic Renovations at Stemmers Run Middle School
3. Award of Contract – Systemic Renovations – Sprinkler Installation at Campfield Early Learning Center
4. Award of Contract – Renovations at Owings Mills Elementary
5. Award of Contract – ADA Upgrades at Southwest Academy
6. Award of Contract – Reroofing Project at Lansdowne Middle School
7. Award of Contract – Parking Lot Resurfacing at the Wabash Bus Facility
8. Memorandum of Understanding – Inverness Center
9. Contract Settlement

CHANGE TO BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE 2003-2004

On motion of Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Board approved two changes to the 2004-05 Board Meeting Schedule. The September 14th date was changed to Wednesday, September 8th, and the September 28th date was changed to September 21st.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

Revised Rule 3611 – Tuition: Non-Residents

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Sasiadek made the following announcements:

- The Baltimore County Board of Education will meet for a public hearing to seek public input about FY2006 Capital Budget needs in Baltimore County Public Schools on Thursday, June 10, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. Sign-up for the public to comment will begin at 6:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

- The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2004, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:00 p.m. After the Board adjourns to meet in closed session, followed by a brief dinner recess, the open meeting will reconvene at approximately 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome at all open sessions.

Mr. Sasiadek reminded speakers to refrain from discussing any matters that might come before the board in the form of an appeal, as well as any personnel matters.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Ms. Maggie Kennedy, Chair of the Baltimore County Education Coalition, thanked Ms. Ettinger and Mr. Walker for their dedication, passion, and leadership with integrity and by example. She also congratulated Ms. Erin O'Connor and looks forward to working with her in future endeavors. Ms. Kennedy stated 75 citizens attended the Citizens Advisory Committee for Special Education meeting to hear Dr. Lou Barber deliver the results and recommendations of the special education audit. She noted that community leaders from other counties were in attendance to hear the recommendations. Ms. Kennedy thanked Dr. Hairston and the Board for their insight, courage, and leadership to act on Citizen's Advisory Council's recommendations to conduct the audit and study. She also thanked Ms. Kelli Nelson for her leadership, diligence, and style. Ms. Kennedy announced the Baltimore County Education Coalition would hold its retreat on Tuesday, June 29th at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee for Special Education, thanked all stakeholder groups for attending the meeting in support of special education. She noted one area of concern in the report by those at the meeting was item #11 entitled Other Findings regarding the "wide disparity in how special education support has been distributed throughout the school system." Included in the report was an example of a school where the special education classrooms were in the basement and the walls had holes and windows need repair. Ms. Shriver stated as a parent she was ashamed and asked the Board to address this issue.

Mr. Steve Crum, Southeast Area Educational Advisory Council representative, thanked Ms. Ettinger and Ms. Walker for their work and leadership in Baltimore County. He commented on the retiring of Ms. Diane Goldian from Kenwood High School. Mr. Crum noted the number of achievements at Kenwood while Ms. Goldian was principal and thanked her for the tremendous job at Kenwood High School.

Mr. Michael Franklin, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, thanked Ms. Ettinger and Mr. Walker for their years of service in promoting education. He noted that sometimes people forget that Board member are volunteers. Mr. Franklin stated he enjoyed working with the Board over the last two years and look forward to the next two years.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS (cont)

Ms. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County, reflected on this past school year. She was pleased with the many ways the Board and school system worked together on issues such as salary increases for teachers, securing funding of Thornton, and seeing the education budget almost complete. Ms. Bost commented on her visit to the Community Education Partnership Alternative School in Florida. She was impressed with the facility and program visited. Ms. Bost stated she still has questions and is looking forward to working with Dr. Hairston, administration, and the Board to work out the details in a true, collaborative manner. She thanked Ms. Ettinger and Mr. Walker for their service to Baltimore County.

There were no speakers signed up to address the proposed changes to Policy 1270 – Family/ Community Involvement.

There were no speakers signed up to address the proposed changes to Policy [4144] 3143 – Normal Biweekly Pay.

There were no speakers signed up to address the proposed changes to Policy 5550 – Disruptive Behavior.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Nick Aquino noted his attendance at a rally earlier this evening in Annapolis with the Governor on multi-culturalism. He stated that when he left his country he moved to Baltimore County because it was the place he chose to live. Mr. Aquino is calling for unity and asked the Board to work together for the same cause.

Dr. Bash Pharoan, thanked the Board for their consideration of the proposed calendar. He noted that not one Board member objected to the calendar. Dr. Pharoan commented that many positive comments have been made this evening. He stated that the BCPS website talks about the Board and school system being a team; however, the Muslim holidays were not recognized. Dr. Pharoan stated it is not about school days and perfect attendance, but about equality and being included equally with other communities. He takes this as a success and hopes to continue working with the Board in the future on this issue and other education issues.

Ms. Erica Cohn, former student Board member, commended the Board on their discussion surrounding the school calendar in respect to multi-culturalism. She commented on her recent visits to Bosnia, Yugoslavia, and Kwacha. Ms. Cohen appreciates the Board's consideration of students of minority status and commitment to provide an equitable education. She stated that Ms. Ettinger and Mr. Walker have been wonderful examples for this community and selfless leaders.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:16 p.m., Mr. Grzymski moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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**REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2006
CAPITAL BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS**

Thursday, June 10, 2004
Greenwood

Board Member, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy called the hearing to order at 7:02 p.m. In addition to Mr. Kennedy, the following Board members were present: Ms. Phyllis E. Ettinger, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymski, Dr. Warren C. Hayman, Ms. Joy Shillman, and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, staff members, as well as media were present.

Ms. Jung and Mr. Hayden entered the room at 7:04 p.m.

The following speakers addressed the Board:

1. Ms. Lori Ann Valdivia, PTSA President – Advocated for new windows at Stemmers Run Middle School. She presented pictures to the Board of the current conditions of the windows at the school. Ms. Valdivia stated that the exterior of the school is an eye-sore, and the image the school portrays is not positive. Ms. Valdivia noted several windows are boarded up and duct taped together. She stated it is difficult for students to concentrate on classwork when windows cannot be opened in 90° weather, or if windows are opened an individual may endanger themselves on broken glass, broken latches or rusted frames.
2. Mr. C. Michael Johnson, Principal, Stemmers Run Middle School – Concurred with the statements made by the previous speaker. Mr. Johnson desires the school to be safe and conducive to learning. He stated school appearance tells the story. With the community being revitalized, windows would be an excellent addition to the school.
3. Ms. Sharon Ward, Principal, Maiden Choice Center – Requested additional systematic renovations at Maiden Choice Center. Some of the schools current problems are:
 - Building is not designed for special need students (building is 53 years old).
 - Bathrooms and sinks are not handicap accessible.
 - Unsuitable changing facilities.
 - Doors cannot accommodate wheelchairs.
 - Hallways do not include railings or supports to help students.
 - Water fountains are not handicap accessible.
4. Mr. Stephen Lee Levin, Art Instructor and TABCO Representative, Maiden Choice Center – He reiterated the conditions mentioned by the previous speaker. Mr. Levin noted that safety is an issue during routine fire drills. The small doors and existing undersized ramps hinder an appropriate evacuation. Additionally, exterior doors are not wheel chair accessible. Bathroombing and diapering needs of the students are not being met with privacy and dignity. Students are unable to maneuver into appropriate changing spaces. Mr. Levin stated that the school lacks appropriate mobility accommodations to promote independence.

5. Ms. Virginia Setliff, Special Educator, Maiden Choice School – Concurred with the two previous speakers. She noted more students are in wheelchairs and doors are not wheelchair accessible. Changing rooms do not meet the needs of the students. Ms. Setliff stated fire and evacuation drills are extremely difficult, due to unsuitable safety conditions. She appreciated the previous renovations, but requests the Board consider additional renovations to the school to meet the needs of all students.
6. Ms. Charlene Simonds, Cedarmere Elementary School PTA – She serves on the school's Overcrowding Committee. The school is faced with a serious overcrowding problem. Ms. Simonds stated the school's enrollment currently stands at 551, while the school's capacity is only 461. This puts the school at 120% capacity. She noted that according to current projections the school is expected to continue to grow to well over 600 students. She stated that other short term actions, like boundary changes, may provide some relief, but it is clear that another Northwest area elementary school is needed. Ms. Simonds stated that Cedarmere's growth projections are not faster than they were in the DeJong study period. She stated that plans and funding for another Northwest area elementary school needs to be a high priority. In the meantime, she requested that relocatable classrooms be better joined to the main building by covered walkways to protect students and faculty. There are also safety problems with respect to transportation by car and buses. The school's parking lot is not adequate for the growing facility. Finally, Ms. Simonds stated that a separate loop for cars and buses should be created and additional parking added for faculty.

The hearing was concluded at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

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TENTATIVE MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Tuesday, July 13, 2004

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at 3:34 p.m. at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Dr. Warren Hayman, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, Ms. Joy Shillman, and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

The Board entertained oral argument in Hearing Examiner's Case #02-03. The matter was heard in closed session.

In addition to the above listed Board members, also in attendance were the Appellant; James R. Whattam, Esq., Assistant General Counsel, Maryland State Teachers Association; Dr. Christine Johns, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; Margaret-Ann F. Howie, Esq., Legal Counsel to the Superintendent; Nevett Steele, Jr., Esq., Assistant County Attorney; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board of Education.

Mr. Hayden entered the room at 3:37 p.m.

The proceedings of the hearing were recorded by a court reporter.

The hearing was concluded at 4:56 p.m.

Board members deliberated on the case.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

At 5:42 p.m., the Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in open session at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Miss Francesca Cirincione, Mr. John Hayden, III, Dr. Warren Hayman, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, Ms. Joy Shillman, and Mr. James E. Walker. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

President Sasiadek reviewed with Board members upcoming functions for August and association events.

At 5:55 p.m., Mr. Arnold moved the Board go into closed session to discuss personnel matters and to conduct matters related to the negotiations pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, §10-508(a)(1) and (a)(7). The motion was seconded by Mr. Kennedy and unanimously approved by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director of Human Resources, reviewed with Board members personnel matters to be considered this evening.

Mr. Steele, Jr. provided legal advice to Board members regarding potential litigation.

At 7:05 p.m., Mr. Hayden moved the Board adjourn for a brief dinner recess. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker and approved by the Board.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:48 p.m. at Greenwood. President James R. Sasiadek and the following Board members were present: Mr. Donald L. Arnold, Miss Francesca Cirincione, Mr. Thomas G. Grzymski, Mr. John A. Hayden, III, Dr. Warren Hayman, Ms. Jean M. H. Jung, Mr. Michael P. Kennedy, Ms. Janese Murray, Ms. Joy Shillman, and Mr. James E. Walker. 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 Kevin Burnopp, a student at Loch Raven High School, 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 Board Work Session Minutes of April 27, 2004; Open and Closed Minutes of May 11, 2004; and the Open and Closed Minutes of May 25 2004, Mr. Sasiadek declared the minutes approved as presented on the website.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston acknowledged that Ms. Sharon Grimes, Baltimore County's Teacher of the Year, is cited in the School Library Journal with an excellent article. Ms. Grimes has made a powerful contribution to the academic area on the national level.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (cont)

Through a PowerPoint™ presentation, Dr. Hairston shared with the Board the mean SAT scores focusing on rigorous courses. For the last two years, BCPS has been working to eliminate low level courses to pursue higher academics and the demand from the public as well as federal and state levels with regards to academic rigor. He noted that the data has a direct relationship to the performance of high school students and the number of high level courses taken before the SAT examination. Dr. Hairston commented on the achievement gap at the high school level and achievement of minorities. He stated that African American students taking 1-5 high level courses score better. More importantly, students taking 21+ rigorous courses are scoring at a phenomenal level. He noted that students taking no high level or rigorous courses are scoring low. Dr. Hairston stated it is important for BCPS to raise expectation levels for all students as well as target necessary subgroups. When students are exposed to higher expectations, students respond accordingly.

RECOGNITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS FROM JUNE 8, 2004

Dr. Arrington recognized the administrative appointments approved at the June 8th meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2004-2005

Dr. Hairston presided during the election of the President of the Board of Education of Baltimore County. Dr. Hairston asked for nominations for the office of President. Mr. Kennedy nominated Mr. James Sasiadek. Dr. Hayman seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, Dr. Hairston closed the nominations for the office of President. The motion to elect Mr. Sasiadek was passed by unanimous consent.

Mr. Sasiadek assumed the chair and requested nominations for the office of Vice President of the Board of Education. Ms. Murray nominated Mr. Thomas Grzymski. Mr. Kennedy seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, Mr. Sasiadek closed the nominations for the office of Vice President. The motion to elect Mr. Grzymski as Vice President of the Board of Education was passed by unanimous consent.

OLD BUSINESS

Revisions to Policy 1270

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hayman, the Board approved the proposed changes to Policy 1270 – Community Relations: Parent/Family Involvement.

OLD BUSINESS (cont)

Revisions to Policy 3143 (Replacing 4144)

On motion of Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, the Board approved the proposed Policy 3143 – Personnel: Professional-Compensation and Related Employee Benefits – Normal Biweekly Pay.

Revisions to Policy 5550

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Jung, the Board approved the proposed changes to Policy 5550 – Disruptive Behavior.

REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Fiscal Year 2006 Operating and Capital Budget Schedules** – Ms. Barbara Burnopp, Executive Director of Fiscal Services, outlined the FY '06 capital and operating budget schedule for the upcoming school year. She stated both schedules are available on the BCPS website. Ms. Burnopp distributed the FY2005 Adopted Operating Budget to the Board. Added to the budget book this year is an executive summary, which includes a budget variance table. Ms. Burnopp stated that due to a power outage, the adopted budget would be available to the public on July 14th via the BCPS website.

Mr. Kennedy expressed concern over community input into the Superintendent's budget. Mr. Kennedy encourages the Board to be part of the budget process throughout the development of the budget.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Dr. Hayman, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on Exhibits F, G, H, I, J, and K. (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes.)

CONTRACT AWARDS

Mr. Kennedy moved to approve items 1-6 (Exhibit L). Mr. Walker seconded the motion. Ms. Jung had questions on items 2 and 3.

Item #2 and #3

In regards to item #2, Ms. Jung asked how the numbers compare to last year's figures and whether in-house personnel would be more effective. Ms. Margaret Kidder, Coordinator, Office of Psychological Services, clarified that the title of the contract should read Contracted Services *Office of Psychological Services*. Ms. Kidder stated these dollars would increase flexibility and meet compliance targets by providing additional services to the schools. Ms. Jung inquired whether supplementing full-time personnel with contract services are beneficial. Ms. Kidder responded this is a good balance between contract services and personnel. She stated the Office of Psychological Services is always interested in additional positions, especially for specific populations. Ms. Kidder stated we are able to give children in Baltimore County very good service for the dollar.

Regarding item #3, Mr. Ron Boone stated these contractual services are for children with IEPs where the IEP load exceeds professional staff or requires the level of services or equipment but that does not exist in the system. Mr. Boone noted the Office of Special Education does not want to staff beyond the amount of predicted case loads. Ms. Jung asked if this is the right proportion of in-house staff and outside contractual services. Mr. Boone responded we would look at future budgets to lower the contractual percentage. He stated professional staff is less expensive than contractual services. Contractual service is a necessary service and would always be accessible.

The Board approved items 1-6 (Exhibit L).

1. Contracted Services for Drug Testing, Extension
2. Contracted Services for Special Education, Psychological Reassessments
3. Contracted Services for Special Education Related Services, Extension
4. Global Positioning System Real-Time Bus Tracking System
5. LAN Shared Storage Equipment
6. Lease for Facility Space on Whitehead Road

Mr. Walker exited the room at 8:27 p.m.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee, represented by Mr. Kennedy, recommended approval of items 1-18 (Exhibits M through DD). The Board approved these recommendations.

1. Award of Contract – Various Construction Packages at Woodholme Elementary School
2. Award of Contract – Various Construction Packages at Windsor Mill Middle School

BUILDING COMMITTEE (cont)

3. Award of Contract – Window Replacement at Carney Elementary School and Harford Hills Elementary School
4. Award of Contract – Science Room Renovations at Randallstown High School
5. Award of Contract – Concrete Step Replacement at Prettyboy Elementary School
6. Request to Negotiate – Design and Construction at Kenwood High School Addition/Tech Wing Moderation
7. Request to Negotiate – On-Call Construction Monitoring Services at Various Sites
8. Contract Award – On-Call Construction Monitoring Services at Various Sites
9. Fee Acceptance – Contract Administration Services for Systemic Renovation at Stemmers Run Middle School
10. Fee Acceptance – Design and Construction Administration Services for Reroofing at Human Resource and Executive Director Buildings at Greenwood
11. Fee Acceptance – Design Services for Systemic Renovations at Arbutus Middle School
12. Contract Modification – Inspection Services at Various Sites
13. Contract Modification – Cleaning Services at Parkville Middle School
14. Contract Modification – Cleaning Services at Dundalk Middle School
15. Contract Modification – Cleaning Services at Franklin Middle School
16. Contract Modification – Cleaning Services at Sparrows Point Middle School
17. Contract Modification – Cleaning Services at Golden Ring Middle School
18. Contract Modification – Cleaning Services at Dumbarton Middle School

Ms. Jung commended the custodial staff for their hard work and long hours in past years to take care of the cleaning services in the schools. She stated this is a fair way of equalizing the work without an undue burden on staff.

Mr. Kennedy shared with the Board the percentage of change orders dramatically decreased to 1.4% from July – December 2003. He applauded staff for monitoring costs associated with change orders.

PROPOSED STUDENT MEAL PRICE INCREASE

Ms. Fromm, Executive Director of Planning and Operations, and Ms. Karen Levenstein, Director of Food and Nutrition Services, request the Board approve the recommendation to increase student meal prices. Ms. Fromm stated the last price increase to student meals was in 1992. She noted that the school system is no longer keeping up with inflation and the increasing prices in food and material. Ms. Fromm stated there are two recommendations:

- ③ Establish a student meal price policy that looks at the net programming expenses and aligns the student meal cost to those expenses
- ③ Phase in the student meal price increase.

Mr. Hayden proposed to the Board that Option B for Lunch cost be approved and modify Option B for Breakfast cost to begin at \$1.25 with 15 cent increments thereafter until it reaches \$2.00.

Ms. Jung asked if the food service program has been self-sufficient. Ms. Fromm responded BCPS has been spending down a cash reserve fund. She noted the food service program has operated at a loss and used the net cash reserve to cover the loss. Increasing meal cost would ensure that the food service program would no longer running a deficient. Ms. Jung inquired whether increasing meal prices would build up the reserve again. Ms. Fromm responded the State bylaws speak to keeping a minimum in the net cash reserves of 1-1/2 months operating expenses. This is the level the food service program is approaching.

Ms. Shillman inquired about government subsidy and how it relates to student meal prices. Ms. Fromm responded BCPS subtracts all the subsidies received from federal and staff government.

Mr. Hayden noted that the food service program is losing money and that funds are being appropriated to pay for those additional expenses. For example, the current cost of the breakfast program for FY2004 was \$1.41 and cost per meal was \$1.15. Mr. Hayden recommended a modified Option B for breakfast with the cost of \$1.25 for FY2005.

Mr. Hayden moved the approval of the following proposed Student Meal Price Options:

	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
<u>Meal Cost Recommendation - Lunch</u>						
Option B - .20 first year, then .40 to full cost	\$ 1.80	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.60			
<u>Meal Cost Recommendation – Breakfast</u>						
Option B - .15 per year to full cost (MODIFIED)	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.40	\$ 1.55	\$ 1.70	\$ 1.85	\$ 2.00

Mr. Arnold seconded the motion. The Board approved the above proposed Student Meal Price Options. Mr. Kennedy opposed the increase.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Southwest Area Educational Advisory Council Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2004
- B. Southwest Area Educational Advisory Council Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2004

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Sasiadek made the following announcements:

- ③ The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education of Baltimore County will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2004, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:00 p.m. After the Board adjourns to meet in closed session, followed by a brief dinner recess, the open meeting will reconvene at approximately 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome at all open sessions.

Mr. Sasiadek reminded speakers to refrain from discussing any matters that might come before the board in the form of an appeal, as well as any personnel matters.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Mr. Michael German, President of the Baltimore County Student Council, noted that during June 24-30 four members from BCSC attended the National Association of Student Councils' conference. The conference offered an opportunity to meet people from all states and Puerto Rico.

Ms. Kelli Nelson, Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee on Special Education, announced that Ms. Jasmine Shriver is the new Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee on Special Education and Mr. Carl Baily is the Vice Chair. Ms. Nelson submitted a copy of the committee's accomplishments and activities for the past school year. She also stated that COMAR regulations would be introduced on July 23rd in the Maryland register that would require every jurisdiction in Maryland to develop a Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee. Ms. Nelson had the opportunity to present Parent Involvement and Special Education process at the CUBE conference in Baltimore with Board member Dr. Hayman. She noted the committee would be working with staff this fall on the special education audit recommendations and the transition center.

Ms. Vicki Schultz-Unger, Coordinator of the Area Educational Advisory Councils, noted that the councils held June meetings and elections. She announced two new area Chairs for the upcoming year. Mr. Walt Hayes will be serving as the Chair for the Northeast Area Educational Advisory Council and Ms. Sandy Skordalos will serve as Chair of the Southeast Area Educational Advisory Council. Ms. Schultz-Unger stated she is looking forward to working with the Board to get the area educational advisory council's operating procedures approved and placed on the website.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS (cont)

Mr. Stephen Crum, a representative of the Southeast Area Educational Advisory Council, thanked the Board for reappointing Mr. Boyd Crouse and himself as members to the council. He announced Mr. Alex Crouse would be the new student member of the Southeast Area Educational Advisory Council for 2004-2005. Regarding to the Superintendent's report, Mr. Crum stated the school system needs to start at the elementary school and middle school levels. He stated everyone needs to remain focused so that performance can increase.

Mr. Walter Hayes, Chair of the Northeast Area Education Advisory Council, announced Mr. Ron Zimmerman as the new Vice Chair for the Northeast Area and Ms. Barbara Martin has returned as secretary. Mr. Hayes stated that the council voted unanimously that the construction of a new high school between Towson High School and Perry Hall High School as outlined in the DeJong report would be the top priority for the upcoming school year to address overcrowding in these and adjacent schools. He noted that four of the top six overcrowded schools are located in the central and northeast areas of the county. Mr. Hayes stated construction of one new high school to alleviate overcrowding in the central and northeast areas is recommended as the best solution for Baltimore County Public Schools. He stated that the area advisory council advises the school board to accept the DeJong's recommendation by the start of the upcoming school year and take the lead to build a new high school in the central and northeast areas. Mr. Hayes reviewed the DeJong study and the increased population at Milford Mill Academy, Perry Hall High, Kenwood High, Towson High, Pikesville High, and Sparrows Point High Schools. Mr. Hayes stated that based on current projects, the central and northeast areas combined would be 850 seats short by 2006. Finally, Mr. Hayes commented that with the projected increase of family housing units there is considerable support to build a new high school to relieve both areas.

Dr. Ella White Campbell, Chair of the Minority Achievement Advisory Group (MAAG) introduced Ms. Jasmine Shriver who addressed the issue of the transition center. Ms. Shriver stated the transition center is coming under attack by various organizations. She noted that Baltimore County is the only county in Maryland saturated with so many foster care children. Ms. Shriver believes the transition center would not be a "holding tank" for children. She noted that 2,500 students would be entering the system with the transition center serving 420. Ms. Shriver stated that BCPS does not have a policy regarding "reasonable time," which must be clarified. She stated everyone needs to work together and be part of the solution.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO POLICY 1280 - (Second Reading)

There were no speakers signed up to address the proposed changes to Policy 1280.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. David Marks, member of the Northeast Area Education Advisory Council, echoed Mr. Walter Hayes' comments. He believed a breakthrough occurred when the DeJong report was published. Mr. Marks applauded the Board for supporting the DeJong study; however, no action has been taken since the report. Mr. Marks stated the longer the school system waits the more overcrowded schools will become.

Mr. Mohammad Jameel stated that adding the two Muslim holidays to the 2005-2006 school calendar would have averaged less than two school days a year. He noted the absence of these two days have a direct affect on the fundamentals of education of children. Mr. Jameel stated the request of Muslims is based upon the precedent and not discrimination. He stated he would stand for equity, rights, and justice for all. Finally, Mr. Jameel asked the Board to honestly consider the issue and be fair.

Ms. Jodi Shaefer stated parents and community members are concern about the number of trailers (relocatables) being added to schools. She stated an overcrowding coalition would be formed to address this specific issue. Ms. Shaefer noted Perry Hall High School has eleven trailers with approximately 2,300 students. She credits counselors, administrators, and teachers who are trying to deal with the overcrowding issue. Ms. Shaefer commented that the DeJong report was based on 2002 data and did not include New Town High School and the Route 43 extension. Ms. Shaefer stated the coalition wants to work with the Board to provide resources and improved facilities for the children.

Dr. Bash Pharoan, President of the Baltimore County Muslim Council, shared a survey with the Board about American feelings in relation to certain items. With regards to the school calendar, Dr. Pharoan stated the Board showed the Muslim community that it is not represented and has no voice. He believes that holidays should be equal. Dr. Pharoan trusts that Board members should be more supportive of the Muslim holidays.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:14 p.m., Dr. Hayman moved to adjourn the open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Arnold and approved by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe A. Hairston
Secretary-Treasurer

bls