

**TENTATIVE MINUTES****BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

The Board of Education of Baltimore County met in closed session at 5:03 p.m. at Greenwood. President Earnest E. Hines and the following Board members were present: Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Mr. Rohan Goswami. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and staff members were present.

Mr. Hines reminded Board members of community functions and Board of Education events scheduled in May and June.

Pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Articles, §§10-508(a)(1), (a)(7), and (a)(8) and upon motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, the Board commenced its closed session at 5:17 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION MINUTES**

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, met in closed session at 5:17 p.m. at Greenwood. President Earnest E. Hines and the following Board members were present: Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Mr. Rohan Goswami. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the following staff members were present: Dr. Renee Foose, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Michele Prumo, Chief of Staff; Dr. Roger Plunkett, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Karen Blannard, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Ms. Patricia Lawton, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Ms. Verletta White, Assistant Superintendent, Elementary Schools; Dr. Manuel Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendent, Middle Schools; Ms. Barbara Walker, Assistant Superintendent, High Schools; Dr. Donald Peccia, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources; Dr. Alpheus Arrington, Director, Human Resources; Margaret-Ann F. Howie, Esquire, General Counsel; Ronald Miller, Esquire, Counsel to the Board of Education; and Ms. Brenda Stiffler, Administrative Assistant to the Board.

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

Mr. Miller provided legal advice on a recent opinion issued by the Compliance Board.

Ms. Howie updated Board members on pending litigation regarding a joint use agreement.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, the Board adjourned its closed session at 5:59 p.m. Staff exited the room.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION

At 6:00 p.m., Board members discussed the upcoming elections for Board officers.

At 6:20 p.m., the Board adjourned from administrative session for a brief dinner recess.

#### OPEN SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Education of Baltimore County, Maryland, reconvened in open session at 7:00 p.m. at Greenwood. President Earnest E. Hines and the following Board members were present: Mr. James E. Coleman, Mr. Rodger C. Janssen, Ms. Ramona N. Johnson, Mr. George J. Moniodis, Ms. Mary-Margaret O'Hare, Mr. H. Edward Parker, Ms. Valerie A. Roddy, Lawrence E. Schmidt, Esquire, Mr. David Uhlfelder, and Mr. Rohan Goswami. In addition, Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent of Schools, and the media were present.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The open session commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, which was led by Zachary Felts of Boy Scout Troop 355, followed by a period of silent meditation for those who have served education in the Baltimore County Public Schools.

Dr. Hairston pulled item IX, Special Order of Business, from the evening's agenda.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the Open and Closed Minutes of March 8, 2011; Board Retreat Minutes of March 19, 2011; Open and Closed Minutes of March 22, 2011; and the Open and Closed Minutes of April 5, 2011, Mr. Hines declared the minutes approved as presented on the Web site.

Mr. Hines 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. Hines 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. Cheryl Bost, President of the Teachers Association of Baltimore County (TABCO), thanked those Board members who attended the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Retirement and Recognition Dinner held on May 5, 2011. Ms. Bost asked the Board to re-examine the budget to provide a quality education for students and reduce class size.

Ms. Nancy Ostrow, President of the PTA Council of Baltimore County, expressed appreciation that the countywide budget continues to find numerous programs and services to support every student's well being and enhance opportunities to learn. She announced the following upcoming council events: awards and recognition ceremony on May 12, 2011, at Loch Raven High School; PTA Council training on June 6, 2011; and PTA Convention June 9-12, 2011, in Orlando, Florida.

Ms. Vanessa Braddy, a representative of the Citizens Advisory Committee for Gifted and Talented Education, stated that Advanced Placement (AP) courses have replaced gifted and talented (G/T) courses in Grades 11 and 12, and in some cases outright elimination of the GT option in Grades 9 and 10. Ms. Braddy stated that the school system needs to re-examine the AP-driven competitive culture in the county's high schools.

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, as Coordinator of the Area Education Advisory Councils, stated that the council is waiting for direction from the Board on restructuring the area education advisory councils.

Ms. Jasmine Shriver, as a representative of the Central Area Education Advisory Council, reported on the council's pre-budget hearing held on April 14, 2011. Six parents from Stoneleigh Elementary School asked that the renovation and addition be moved up on the priority list; one parent spoke about the continued need for climate control in all Baltimore County schools and one parent from Pot Springs Elementary School spoke about overcrowding at that school.

Ms. Beverly Coleman, Chair of the Southwest Area Education Advisory Council, reported on the council's April 27, 2011, meeting held at Hebbville Elementary School. The discussion focused on educating people about the advisory council and the impact Policy and Rule 1300 has on PTA fundraising. Ms. Coleman announced that the next meeting of the council would be held on May 18, 2011, at Arbutus Middle School.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hairston acknowledged the TABCO/ESPBC's annual retirement and recognition dinner honoring the service of the school system's dedicated retirees and recognition award winners. Dr. Hairston congratulated Ms. Bost for her dedication and as TABCO's president.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Hines stated that the Board is continually questioned about many areas of the educational system. These questions are received as public comments, direct inquiries to Board members, public hearings on capital and operating budgets, and area advisory councils. Some are specific to individual schools, while other questions impact the system. Mr. Hines reported on the following topics:

- Policy and Rule 1300 – The Board of Education asked the Superintendent to have staff review the policy and rule and consider changes that would assist in making school buildings more accessible for community groups. The proposed revisions to the policy will be reviewed by the Board of Education's Policy Review Committee on May 16, 2011.

Mr. Parker reported on the National School Board Association's (NSBA) annual conference, held in April 2011, where Board members participated in several workshops on school safety and school improvement.

## OLD BUSINESS

### **Board of Education Policies**

The Board Policy Committee, represented by Mr. Coleman recommended approval of ten policies. This is the third reading.

On motion of Mr. Uhlfelder, seconded by Mr. Schmidt, the Board approved the following proposed policies:

- Proposed Changes to Policy 1270 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Community Involvement-Parent/Guardian and Family Involvement
- Proposed Changes to Policy 4002 – PERSONNEL: General-Precepts, Beliefs, and Values of the Baltimore County Public Schools
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 4005 – PERSONNEL: General-Dating or Sexual Relations Between Staff and Students
- Proposed Changes to Policy 4115 – PERSONNEL: Professional-Permanent: Responsibilities and Duties
- Proposed Changes to Policy 4133 – PERSONNEL: Professional-Activities: Tutoring/Educational Services
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 4145 – PERSONNEL: Professional-Compensation and Related Employee Benefits: Compensable Non-Duty Week Days

OLD BUSINESS (cont)

- Proposed Deletion of Policy 4262 – PERSONNEL: Professional-Compensation Plan: Emergency Call-In
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 5570 – STUDENTS: Student to Student Sexual Harassment
- Proposed Changes to Policy 6100 – INSTRUCTION: Curriculum
- Proposed Deletion of Policy 6103 – INSTRUCTION: Reading

PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Ms. O'Hare, the Board approved the personnel matters as presented on exhibits L, M, N, O, P, Q, and R (Copies of the exhibits are attached to the formal minutes). Mr. Parker abstained from voting on exhibits L through R.

Mr. Uhlfelder asked how the number of retirements fits into the school system's plan for next year. Dr. Peccia responded that 215 retirements, leaves, resignations, and returns from leave have been received by the Department of Human Resources. This number exceeds the 196 positions that the school system is eliminating through attrition. Mr. Uhlfelder asked whether the school system anticipates movement of teachers. Dr. Peccia responded that all teachers will be placed in a school.

Mr. Hines asked whether the process has changed this year from previous years. Dr. Peccia responded that the process has remained the same.

Mr. Schmidt asked whether there is an overall impact in positions with the number of teacher retirements exceeding 30 or more years. Dr. Peccia responded that as a result of the retirement of longevity teachers, some teachers may be hired at a lower scale resulting in some cost savings.

Mr. Janssen asked whether there were any additional retirements because of recent legislation. Dr. Peccia responded that there has been a minor increase in inquires, but nothing alarming.

REPORTING STRUCTURE

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board approved the BCPS reporting structure to the Board of Education and Superintendent for the 2011-2012 school year as presented on exhibit S.

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS

The Building and Contracts Committee, represented by Mr. Schmidt, recommended approval of items 1-28 (exhibit T). Ms. Johnson separated item 21 for further discussion, and Mr. Schmidt separated item 26.

The Board approved items 1-20, 22-25, and 27-28.

1. JMI-622-10 Contract Modification: eCatalog – Textbooks
2. PCR-204-11 Contract Modification: Field Trip Transportation Services
3. JNI-715-10 Contract Modification: Graphic Technology Workshop
4. MBU-511-11 Contract Modification: Library Supplies
5. MBU-536-10 Contract Modification: Printing and Reproduction Services
6. RGA-162-06 Contract Extension: AVID Center Program
7. RGA-936-11 Cohort – Administrator I Certification/Cohort 5
8. RGA-932-11 Cohort – Maryland Approved Alternative Teacher Preparation Program (Science) – 8
9. RGA-937-11 Cohort – Master of Arts Degree in Administration and Supervision for Changing Populations
10. RGA-938-11 Cohort – Master of Science in Human Resource Development – Educational Leadership Track Cohort 5
11. PCR-215-11 eCatalog – Art Photo Supplies
12. PCR-211-11 Electric Motors, Fractional to 1 hp
13. JNI-755-11 Engineering and Technology and Biomedical Curricula Program
14. JMI-621-11 Financing of Various Motor Vehicles
15. PCR-224-11 Foreign Language Interpreting Services
16. JNI-758-11 In-Ground Lift for Bus Facilities
17. RGA-147-11 Mass Notification System
18. JNI-754-11 Paving of Multi-Purpose and Tennis Courts
19. JMI-628-11 ScanPro 2000 with PowerScan Software
20. PCR-212-11 Social Workers/Personal Assistants
22. MBU-532-11 Testing Equipment and Forms Loaner Program
23. PCR-217-11 Repave Parking Lot and Bus Loop and Provide Lighting Improvements – Catonsville Elementary School

BUILDING AND CONTRACT AWARDS (cont)

- 24. MBU-520-11      Parking Lot, Bus Loop, and Lighting Improvements – Chase Elementary School
- 25. MWE-801-11      Addition and Renovation – Hampton Elementary School
- 27. MBU-518-11      New Elevated Water Tank – Hereford High School
- 28. PCR-218-11      Replacement of Windows, Blinds, and Doors – Milbrook Elementary School

Item #21

Ms. Johnson asked whether this was a new contract or an extension of the current contract with Mr. Gay responding that it is a new contract. Ms. Johnson asked whether the total amount of \$4 million was for eight years. Mr. Gay responded that this contract amount is for spending authority over the eight year period. Ms. Johnson asked whether the school system has an estimate of the amount spent in the first year. Mr. Michael Sines, Executive Director of Physical Facilities, stated that stage curtains are on a replacement/ recycling schedule as part of the maintenance program. Mr. Sines stated that the Department of Physical Facilities does not know how many schools will need replacement curtains or how many dollars will be spent in a given year. Ms. Johnson asked where the system at is in the replacement cycle. Mr. Sines responded that approximately 30 schools that need curtains replaced this school year.

On motion of Mr. Janssen, seconded by Ms. Roddy, the Board approved item 21.

- 21. MBU-502-11      Stage Curtain Systems – Inspections, Maintenance, Repair, and Installation

Item #26

On motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Janssen, the Board approved item 21. Mr. Schmidt abstained from voting on this item.

- 26. MWE-833-11      Replacement of Select Flooring – Hebbville Elementary School

### SERVEFEST 2011 PROJECT

Mr. Hines stated that ServeFest has obtained liability insurance for the event through a company with which Mr. Hines is associated. None of the money to be paid for the premiums will come from the school system or any other public funds. To avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest Mr. Hines stated that he will not be participating in, or voting on, this matter. Mr. Hines asked Mr. Parker to chair the meeting for this item.

Ms. Michele Prumo, Chief of Staff, shared with Board members that the ServeFest Project, held at various schools throughout Baltimore County, brings in approximately 450 volunteers work to complete school beautification projects. These projects consist of cleaning up the grounds, mulching, and other necessary tasks.

Mr. Janssen asked how schools became part of this project. Ms. Prumo responded that the organization came to BCPS. Mr. Janssen asked whether other schools not on the list could participate in this project. Ms. Prumo responded that the list for this year has been established; however, the list can grow in future years.

Ms. O'Hare asked whether all schools were aware of this project with Ms. Prumo responding affirmatively. Ms. O'Hare asked whether liability insurance is needed for each site. Ms. Prumo responded that the project is under an umbrella insurance policy for the day of the event.

Mr. Schmidt asked who supervises the crews at each school. Ms. Prumo responded that there is no BCPS staff supervising volunteers. Each application states what particular tasks the group could do for the day.

On motion of Ms. O'Hare, seconded by Mr. Coleman, the Board approved the ServeFest 2011 Project at various Baltimore County Public Schools as presented in exhibit U (favor-11; 1-recused).

### REPORTS

The Board received the following reports:

- A. **Legislation Summary** – Edward Novak, Esquire, Manager, Governmental and External Relations, provided the outcome of key school legislation during the 2011 General Session.

REPORTS (cont)

Mr. Novak reviewed the following bills, all of which passed:

- Employee Uniforms and Equipment would prohibit public employers from knowingly purchasing, providing, or requiring employees to purchase uniforms or safety equipment/accessories manufactured outside of the United States unless an item is not available or manufactured in the United States in reasonably available quantities or the cost of an item made in the United States is unreasonably more expensive than an item not manufactured here or the quality of the item made in the United States is substantially less than a comparably priced, similar item.
- Funding Accountability and Transparency Act requires BCPS to develop and operate a single, searchable Web site available to the public at no cost. The Web site must be created no later than January 1, 2013. Additionally, the Web site must provide information regarding aggregate payment of \$25,000 in a fiscal year made by the Board of Education to a payee and include information regarding the name of the payee, the payee's zip code, the amount of payment made to the payee during each fiscal year (beginning with FY 2012), the purpose of the payment, and whether the payee is a minority business enterprise.
- Task Force on the Method of Selecting the Baltimore County Board of Education requires the creation of a 13-member task force to study the membership and operation of the Baltimore County Board of Education. The task force will be composed of four members from the Maryland Senate, four members from the House of Delegates, three members appointed by the House of Delegates, one member appointed by the Baltimore County Council Chair, and one member from MABE. The task force shall conduct at least three public hearings in geographically diverse areas of Baltimore County to listen to the public and stakeholders to report on the ideal size of the Board, the most appropriate method of selection of members, the appropriate phase-in for any changes to the current appointment process, and to improve the transparency and professionalism of the Board no later than October 1, 2011.
- Overtaking and Passing School Vehicles - School Bus Monitoring Cameras would allow a local Board of Education to use monitoring cameras installed on school buses only if authorized first by local government. If approved for use, a vehicle violating the law by failing to properly stop for a school bus operating its flashing red lights will be issued a citation with a civil penalty that will be paid to local government.

REPORTS (cont)

- Student Athletes – Concussions would require the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) to develop and implement a program to provide information regarding concussion awareness to students and youth in youth sports programs as separate information sheet or as part of the program registration.
- Sales and Use Tax – Alcoholic Beverages would increase the state's sales tax rate on alcoholic beverages from 6% to 9% in FY 2012. BCPS is expected to receive about \$7 million in funding from these tax receipts to be used for school construction.

- B. **Report on Workforce Readiness** – Dr. Mike Galiazzo, President of the Regional Manufacturing Institute (RMI), shared with Board members workforce manufacturing matters of relative to curriculum and of interest to the Board of Education. RMI is a group who value manufacturing. Dr. Galiazzo explained the essential role of manufacturing in the economy. The United States lost its manufacturing base in the 1970's and 80's. He stated that the school system would see resurgence in America of industrial strategy because creating jobs creates value and wealth. Dr. Galiazzo stated that America needs to learn how to operate and be organized in a competitive global economic system.

Ms. Roddy asked what a manufacturer looks for in students graduating from high school. Dr. Galiazzo stated that because the volume of knowledge changes at such a rapid rate, the information being taught is no longer relevant. There needs to be a system in place that does a better job at looking for specific skill sets needed to navigate the workforce landscape.

INFORMATION

The Board received the following as information:

- A. Revised Superintendent's Rule 1270 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS: Community Involvement-Parent/Guardian and Family Involvement
- B. Deletion of Superintendent's Rule 4005 – PERSONNEL: General-Dating or Sexual Relations Between Staff and Students
- C. Deletion of Superintendent's Rule 4114 – PERSONNEL: Professional-Permanent: Assignment, Transfer, and Promotion

INFORMATION (cont)

- D. Revised Superintendent's Rule 4115 – PERSONNEL: Professional-Permanent: Responsibilities and Duties
- E. Deletion of Superintendent's Rule 4213 – PERSONNEL: Classified-General: Job Description and Specifications
- F. Deletion of Superintendent's Rule 4262 – PERSONNEL: Professional-Compensation Plan: Emergency Call-In
- G. Deletion of Superintendent's Rule 5570 – STUDENTS: Student to Student Sexual Harassment
- H. Revised Superintendent's Rule 5580 – STUDENTS: Conduct-Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation
- I. New Superintendent's Rule 6100 – INSTRUCTION: Curriculum
- J. Deletion of Superintendent's Rule 6103 – INSTRUCTION: Reading
- K. Southeast Area Education Advisory Council Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2011
- L. Central Area Education Advisory Council Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2011

Councilman Tom Quirk, District 1, acknowledged Ms. Bost and her leadership of TABCO for the past eight years. Councilman Quirk thanked the Board for approving the repaving of the parking lot and bus loop at Catonsville Elementary School earlier that evening.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Hines made the following announcements:

- The Northwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting Tuesday, May 17, 2011, beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Southwest Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2011, at Arbutus Middle School beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The Central Area Education Advisory Council will hold its next meeting on Thursday, May 19, 2011, at Ridgely Middle School beginning at 7:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont)

- The Board of Education of Baltimore County will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2011, at Greenwood. The meeting will begin with an open session at approximately 5:15 p.m. The Board will then adjourn to meet in closed session. The open session will reconvene at approximately 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome to all open sessions.
- The Baltimore County Board of Education will hold a public hearing to seek input about BCPS' FY2013 Capital Budget needs on Wednesday, May 25, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. on the Greenwood campus in the ESS Building. Sign-up for the public to speak will begin at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2012-2013

Dr. Bash Pharoan stated that the proposed calendar is discriminatory. He asked the Board to include Muslim holidays on the calendar, as Jewish holidays are included, or to remove all non-COMAR holidays.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED SPECIAL EDUCATION STAFFING PLAN  
FOR 2011-2012

Ms. Jasmine Shriver asked the Board to accept the proposed special education staffing plan as presented at the April 5, 2011, Board meeting.

Mr. Hines 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. Hines 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.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Bash Pharoan asked the Board to add the Muslim holidays to the school calendar or obtain substitute teachers to cover absent teachers on the Jewish holidays. He stated that the Board has not provided direction to the calendar committee and believes the minutes of that committee to be fraudulent.

Ms. Yara Cheikh thanked the Board for approving the Hampton Elementary School renovation and addition. She stated that the playground was disassembled and two relocatables are now in place.

Ms. Danielle Edwards stated that the repaving of the parking lot at Catonsville Elementary School was supposed to be installed last summer. She asked the Board to look into having the parking lot repaved this upcoming summer.

Mr. Edward Dove asked the Board to reinstate funding for the parking lot at Catonsville Elementary School. Board member Schmidt explained that the repaving of the parking lot and bus loop at Catonsville Elementary School was approved by the Board earlier this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, the Board adjourned its meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joe A. Hairston  
Secretary-Treasurer

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