

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY
CLOSED MEETING

March 9, 2006

The Board of Education of Howard County met in closed session on March 9, 2006, at 3:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the Department of Education, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD. A motion was made in public in the Board Room by Patricia S. Gordon that the Board go into closed session pursuant to 10-508(a) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to consult with legal counsel and staff to discuss pending litigation matters. The motion was seconded by Diane Mikulis and approved (4/0). Persons present: Board members Joshua M. Kaufman, Chairman; Diane B. Mikulis, Vice Chairman; Patricia S. Gordon; and Mary Kay Sigaty; and Superintendent Sydney L. Cousin.

ITEMS CONSIDERED, ACTION TAKEN, AND RECORDED VOTES:

1. Venter vs. Board of Education – Proposed Settlement

Also present: Eric Broussides, Esquire, Reese and Carney. Mr. Broussides reviewed with the Board the terms of a settlement agreement proposed by Dr. Venter's attorney. Discussion followed.

Ms. Gordon moved to decline (reject) the proposed settlement. Mrs. Mikulis seconded the motion, and the Board members present voted 4/0 to approve the motion to reject the settlement offer.

2. Glenelg HS Arbitration– Proposed settlement

Also present: Mr. Ken Roey, Executive Director of School Planning and Facilities; Dr. William Brown, Director of School Planning and Construction; and Mr. Bruce Gist, Construction Program Manager.

Dr. Cousin presented a history and summary of the construction conflict involving the school system and a contractor concerning contract work on the septic system at Glenelg HS. The terms of the settlement were discussed by Board members, noting that the proposed settlement was much less than the contract funds retained by the school system.

Mrs. Mikulis moved that the case be settled in the amount of \$95,000, payable to Century Construction. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon and approved by the members of the Board (4/0).

Adjourned: 3:21 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Sydney L. Cousin, Superintendent and

Secretary/Treasurer

Unapproved