

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

June 8, 2006

The Board of Education of Howard County held a regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 8, 2006, at 4:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the Department of Education, located at 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, Maryland. The following were present:

Joshua Kaufman, Chairman
Diane Mikulis, Vice Chairman
Mary Kay Sigaty
Courtney Watson
Wossen Ayele, Student Member

Sydney L. Cousin, Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer
Sandra Erickson, Deputy Superintendent
Raymond Brown, Chief Operating Officer
Patti Caplan, Director, Public Information
Florence Jackson, Recording Secretary

Chairman Joshua Kaufman called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m., and Mr. Ayele led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Kaufman welcomed Boy Scout Troop #361 and offered congratulations on earning two merit badges.

Public Forum

Ms. Chelsea Mayo, Student, Oakland Mills MS, and Mr. Sabastian Beckman, Murray Hill MS, presented information on *Our Voice* magazine. The students explained that the magazine is used for inspiration and enjoyment, and any student may submit items. Mr. Beckman read a poem he had written and Ms. Mayo displayed a painting she created for the magazine.

Ms. Joy Jennifer, Student, Oakland Mills HS, spoke about school starting times and the problems associated with students receiving inadequate sleep.

Approval of Agenda

Dr. Cousin made the following changes to the agenda:

Delete: VII. C. School Bus Contract Transfer
Delete: VII. F. Donations
Delete: XVII. Community Use of Schools – Fees for 2006/2007
Deferred: X. B. Attendance Area Committee Membership
Add: IX. B. Approval of Teachers' Step I Salary – Action

Approved – July 13, 2006

Add: X. B. Approval of Participation in the Alternate Contributory Pension Benefit – Action

Action: Ms. Sigaty moved approval of the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Watson and approved by the Board 4-0. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cousin noted the following recent activities:

- Offered congratulations to the 3600 students who graduated last week.
- One hundred and three employees were honored at a retirement function.
- Attended a ceremony at Clarksville MS to honor the school system for raising more than \$21,000 for the Children's Cancer Foundation and specifically Clarksville MS for raising \$7500.
- The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada has awarded the HCPSS with a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.
- Ms. Beverly Davis, Director of Finance, was recognized with an Award of Financial Reporting Achievement.
- Thanked Mr. John Ensor and Mr. Bob Hodges, teachers, Applications and Research Lab, for their work with students on building an all-terrain wheelchair. The students learned from each other what teamwork was all about.

Student Member's Report

Mr. Wossen Ayele expressed how delighted he is to be working with the Board for this coming school year. He noted that the Howard County Association of Student Councils is working toward better leadership for the students in the county.

Student Representative Reports

There was no student representative to address the Board.

Consent Agenda

Staff Personnel, Bids and Contracts, Operating Budget Monthly Report, School Construction Monthly Reports, Minutes.

Mrs. Mikulis requested that the Minutes of the Closed Meeting, both Confidential and Official, of May 23, 2006 be pulled.

Mrs. Watson requested that Bids and Contracts, P-1, be pulled.

Action: Mrs. Mikulis moved approval of the amended Consent Agenda including the Work Session and regular meeting of May 11, 2006; and the Public Hearing and Work

Session of May 23, 2006. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Watson and approved by the Board 4-0. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Mrs. Mikulis noted that she was not present at the closed meeting of May 23, 2006.

Action: Mr. Kaufman moved approval of the Confidential Meeting Closed and Official minutes of May 23, 2006. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Watson and approved by the Board 3-0. Mrs. Mikulis abstained. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Staff Personnel – Approved by the Board.

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Date</u>
-------------	---------------	----------------	---------------	---------------	-------------

Resignations

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade or Subject</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Years in Howard County</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Asher, Regina	Fr. Leave	Guidance	Leave Expired	20.0	06/30/06
Browne, Ramona	ReHS	English	Other Employment	3.0	06/15/06
Dantzler, Erin	MHHS	English	Family Obligations	18.0	06/15/06
Davis, Candace	MWMS	Media	Relocation	8.0	06/15/06
Dutton, Sarah	Fr. Leave	GT	Relocation	6.0	06/30/06
Forbes, Susan	MHMS	SLP	Relocation	6.0	05/30/06
Gies, Ruth	PMS	Spec. Ed.	Relocation	7.0	06/15/06
Gill, Melissa	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Family Obligations	11.0	06/30/06
Hersman, Cynthia	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	12.0	06/30/06
Hunt, Julie	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	6.0	06/30/06
Hutchinson, Kirk	TSES	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	8.0	06/15/06
Jeffrey, Terri	ReHS	Media	Personal	2.0	06/15/06
Jenkins, Jillian	RHhS	Art	Relocation	5.0	06/15/06
Jensen, Kaylyn	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Family Obligations	5.0	06/30/06
Johnston, Matthew	IES	Music	Other Employment	4.0	06/15/06
Jones, Leonore	Fr. Leave	Spec. Ed.	Personal	10.0	06/30/06
Katz, Andrew	Fr. Leave	Art	Other Employment	9.0	06/30/06
Kellogg, Tait	SJES	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	1.0	06/15/06
Kibler, Karen	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	8.0	06/30/06
Kupiec, Michelle	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Family Obligations	13.0	06/30/06
Lucas, Julie	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Family Obligations	11.0	06/30/06
Lunt, David	LRHS	Music	Relocation	5.0	06/15/06
Martinez, Margaret	LOES	Elem. Ed.	Return to School	1.0	06/15/06
McGolrick, Megan	BBMS	Science	Personal	4.0	06/15/06
Meador, Amanda	WOES	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	1.0	06/15/06
Montrie, Paula	ELMS	Media	Other Employment	6.0	06/15/06
Pargament, Sherri	CES	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	6.0	06/15/06
Pearre, Leslie	MVMS	English	Personal	10.0	06/30/06
Peet, Amy	Fr. Leave	SLP	Family Obligations	9.0	06/30/06
Pelot, Kimberly	Fr. Leave	Phys. Ed.	Family Obligations	9.0	06/30/06

Approved – July 13, 2006

Polinsky, Barry	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Family Obligations	6.0	06/30/06
Robinson, Derrick	CHS	S. Studies	Relocation	1.0	06/15/06
Saracino, Lauren	Fr. Leave	Spec. Ed.	Family Obligations	8.0	06/30/06
Scott, Alexis	GMS	Science	Relocation	4.0	06/15/06
Sherry, Diane	Fr. Leave	Science	Relocation	7.0	06/30/06
Smith, Deano	Fr. Leave	Science	Relocation	6.0	06/30/06
Sweeney, Melissa	BSES	Phys. Ed.	Relocation	2.0	06/15/06
Thomas, Mary Alice	BBES	Spec. Ed.	Personal	2.0	06/15/06
Williams, Charlene	ReHS	FCS	Return to School	2.0	06/15/06
Woodward, Kim	Fr. Leave	Spec. Ed.	Family Obligations	9.0	06/30/06
Yapsuga, Jennifer	MVMS	Math	Personal	6.0	06/15/06

Contracts

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade or School</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Place of Last Teaching Assignment</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Bailey, Brian	Unassigned	ECE	Private School	A-04	8/22/06
Baker, Barbara	Unassigned	SPE (1-8)	--	A-01	8/22/06
Bane, Greg	Unassigned	PE	--	A-01	8/22/06
Baines, Brandi	Unassigned	SPE (1-Adult)	Harford County	B-04	8/22/06
Bejm, Laura	Unassigned	SPE (1-Adult)	--	A-01	8/22/06
Bellamy, Kenya	Unassigned	SPE (1-8)	Private School	C-06	8/22/06
Belton, Haley	Unassigned	SPE (K-12)	--	C-01	8/22/06
Berlin, Beth	Unassigned	SLP	--	C-01	8/22/06
Bianchi, Ronald.	Unassigned	ELE	--	C-01	8/22/06
Brewer, Christine	Unassigned	SPE (1-8)	--	A-01	8/22/06
Bucalo, Lisa	Unassigned	ENG	--	A-01	8/22/06
Cameron, Catherine	Unassigned	SPE (1-6)	--	C-01	8/22/06
Cardwell, Jooyoun	Unassigned	ESOL	Prince Georges County	C-08	8/22/06
Cave, Monica	Unassigned	SPE	Hampton, Virginia	B-09	8/22/06
Chory, Megan	Unassigned	SPE (1-8)	--	A-01	8/22/06
Conrad, Michele	Unassigned	SPE (Infant-3)	--	A-01	8/22/06
Cooper, Jennifer	MRHS	SCI	Baltimore County	C-13	8/22/06
Covey, Ashley	Unassigned	ECE	--	A-01	8/22/06
Dugan, Claudia	Unassigned	FLA	--	A-01	8/22/06
El-Baf, Samirah	Unassigned	FLA	Wicomico County	C-10	8/22/06
Fisher, James	Unassigned	SST	Harford County	C-12	8/22/06
Fisher, Stacia	Unassigned	SPE	Howard County	C-10	8/22/06
Franco, Christina	Unassigned	SPE (Infant-3)	--	C-01	8/22/06
Frechette, Melissa	Unassigned	ELE	--	A-01	8/22/06
Galante, Frances	Unassigned	SST	--	D-01	8/22/06
George, Debra	Unassigned	SLP	Private School	C-14	8/22/06
Gillette, Stephanie	Unassigned	SPE (Infant-3)	California	A-12	8/22/06
Greenbert, Susannah	Unassigned	SST	--	C-01	8/22/06
Groenberg, Chelsea	Unassigned	ENG	--	A-01	8/22/06
Hurt, Marcus	Unassigned	SST	Baltimore County	C-07	8/22/06
Huwe, Barbara	Unassigned	FLA	Prince Georges County	A-04	8/22/06

Kaiser, Kristy	Unassigned	SPE (Infant-3)	--	A-01	8/22/06
Jean-Baptiste, Johane	Unassigned	SST	Baltimore County	A-07	8/22/06
Kearns, Jane	Unassigned	SPE (6-12)	HCPSS - IA	C-10	8/22/06
Kelly, Lisa	Unassigned	ELE	Dept of Defense Schools	C-10	8/22/06
Kiehl, Laura	Unassigned	SPE (Infant-3)	--	A-01	8/22/06
Kim, Esther	Unassigned	ELE	--	C-01	8/22/06
King, Charlene	Unassigned	ELE	Howard County	C-13	8/22/06
Litvin, Kelly	Unassigned	SPE (1-8)	--	C-01	8/22/06
Matulevick, Jessica	Unassigned	ENG	Montgomery County	C-08	8/22/06
McDonnell, Mindy	Unassigned	ENG	Baltimore County	C-07	8/22/06
McLean, Angela	Unassigned	SLP	Baltimore County	C-11	8/22/06
Nagle, Jennifer	Unassigned	ENG	--	A-01	8/22/06
Oursler, Sabrina	Unassigned	PE	--	A-01	8/22/06
Richardson, Bridget	Unassigned	SPE (6-12)	Baltimore City	D-15	8/22/06
Roddy, Nirit	Unassigned	ELE	--	C-01	8/22/06
Schlosser, Sheila	Unassigned	SPE (Infant-3)	Montgomery County	C-05	8/22/06
Scrufari, Carrie	Unassigned	ENG	--	C-01	8/22/06
Shaw, Meghan	Unassigned	SPE (1-8)	--	A-01	8/22/06
Slater, Alice	Unassigned	SPE (6-Adult)	The Foundation School	C-05	8/22/06
Stern, Randall	Unassigned	ENG	Baltimore County	D-11	8/22/06
Startt, Lindsey	Unassigned	SST	--	C-01	8/22/06
Stevens, Elliott	Unassigned	ELE	--	A-01	8/22/06
Sweitzer, Kelley	Unassigned	ENG	--	C-01	8/22/06
Thurston, Wendy	Unassigned	SPE (K-12)	New York	C-08	8/22/06
Vicino, Allison	Unassigned	ELE	--	C-01	8/22/06
Waters, Rita	Unassigned	SPE (6-12)	Anne Arundel County	C-15	8/22/06
Whitaker, Jeremy	Unassigned	SST	Montgomery County	C-13	8/22/06
Walker, Teresa	Unassigned	SPE (6-Adult)	Prince Georges County	C-15	8/22/06
Zahra, Julia	Unassigned	ELE	Howard County	C-03	8/22/06

Leaves of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade or Subject</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Years in Howard County</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Alvarez, Christina	CLES	Elem. Ed.	Childrearing	10.0	06/15/06
Cole, Angela	WES	Elem. Ed.	Childbearing	5.0	05/15/06
Daly, Kristin	TRES	Spec. Ed.	Childrearing	10.0	06/15/06
Honeycutt, Lauren	LKMS	English	Study	4.0	06/15/06
Last, Emily	EMMS	Spec. Ed.	Childrearing	10.0	06/15/06
Moyer, Barbara	GES	Media	Childbearing	4.0	06/15/06
Nalepa, Mary	ARL	Psychologist	Childrearing		
Terrill, Nancy	LOES	Music	Personal Illness	20.0	10/18/05

Retirements

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade or Subject</u>	<u>Years in Howard County</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Berrington, Susan	MVMS	S. Studies	19.0	07/01/06
Binder, Wayne	FRES	Music	30.0	07/01/06

Brook, Gail	MVMS	Rdg. Spec.	34.3	07/01/06
Lee-Powell, Joan	BWES	Kindergarten	39.3	07/01/06
O'Laughlin, Marilyn	BBMS	Media	33.0	07/01/06
O'Neal, Janis	RHHS	Forg. Lang.	26.0	07/01/06
Stephenson, Deloris	HCMS	S. Studies	8.0	07/01/06
Strandquist, Mary	GHS	Science	9.0	07/01/06
Williams, Carol	ReHS	ESOL	27.0	07/01/06

Mrs. Watson asked for more detail on Bids and Contract, P-1. Mr. Douglas Pindell, Purchasing Officer, explained that there was an opportunity to provide space for the Grounds Department after moving them from the Application and Research Laboratory facility. The Howard County Government assumed the lease of a former auto dealership, and the county will share the use of the building to relocate the Grounds and Custodial operations with improvements as necessary. Dr. Cousin noted that this is an example of cooperation with the Howard County Government.

Action: Mrs. Watson moved approval of Bids and Contracts, P-1. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis and approved by the Board 4-0. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Bids and Contracts – Approved by the Board.

	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
P-1	Joint Use Agreement with Howard County Howard County, Maryland	\$ 1
P-2	Track Resurfacing American Tennis Courts, Inc.	\$95,055.20
P-3	Produce Bowie Produce Company, Inc.	\$170,167.83
P-4	Food Service Paper Products Leonard Paper Company	\$260,096.61
P-4	Food Service Cleaning Supplies Ecolab, Inc.	\$ 46,734.50

Operating Budget Monthly Report – Accepted by the Board.

School Construction Monthly Reports – Accepted by the Board.

Administrative Appointments and Promotions

Mrs. Erickson read the following Administrative Appointments and Promotions:

Approved – July 13, 2006

<u>Name</u>	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
-------------	--------------	------------

Elementary

Michael Caldwell	Teacher Fulton Elementary	Assistant Principal Talbot Springs Elementary
Molly Ketterer	Teacher Hollifield Station Elementary	Assistant Principal Longfellow Elementary
Jennifer Roussillon	Teacher Ilchester Elementary	Assistant Principal Laurel Woods Elementary
Paul Owens	Special Education Facilitator	Assistant Principal Hollifield Station Elementary
Debra Anoff	Teacher Forest Ridge Elementary	Assistant Principal Atholton Elementary
Ron Morris	Assistant Principal Bellows Spring Elementary	Principal Stevens Forest Elementary

High

Adam Eldridge	Teacher Wilde Lake High School	Assistant Principal Wilde Lake High School
Edward Batenga	Assistant Principal High Point High School P.G. County	Assistant Principal Long Reach High School
David Brown	Assistant Principal River Hill High School	Principal Mt. Hebron High School
Tina Maddox	Assistant Principal Oakland Mills High School	Principal Homewood

Action: Mrs. Watson moved approval of the Administrative Appointments and Promotions. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis and approved by the Board 4-0. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Mrs. Erickson read the following Administrative Transfers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
<u>Elementary</u>		
Paul Norfolk	Assistant Principal Atholton Elementary	Assistant Principal Ilchester Elementary
Maria McNelis	Assistant Principal Bryant Woods Elementary	Assistant Principal Clemens Crossing Elementary
Amy Green	Assistant Principal Clarksville Elementary	Assistant Principal Pointers Run Elementary
Carol Debord	Assistant Principal Pointers Run Elementary	Assistant Principal Dayton Elementary
Vicki Sarro	Assistant Principal Laurel Woods Elementary	Assistant Principal St. John's Lane Elementary
Winnie Drier	Assistant Principal Clemens Crossing Elementary	Assistant Principal Bryant Woods Elementary
Edward Cosentino	Assistant Principal Hollifield Station Elementary	Assistant Principal Bellows Spring Elementary
Kaye Breon	Assistant Principal Fulton Elementary	Assistant Principal Clarksville Elementary
John Birus	Principal Stevens Forest Elementary	Principal Thunder Hill Elementary
Cindy Hankin	Principal Thunder Hill Elementary	Principal Deep Run Elementary
<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>

Secondary

Debra O'Byrne	Assistant Principal Ellicott Mills Middle School	Assistant Principal Mount View Middle School
Tammy Goldeisen	Assistant Principal Mount View Middle School	Assistant Principal Ellicott Mills Middle School
Adrienne Nasir	Assistant Principal Long Reach High School	Assistant Principal River Hill High School

Ronnie Bohn	Principal Mt. Hebron High School	Principal on Special Assignment
Sylvester Burke	Principal Patuxent Valley Middle School	Principal Hammond High School
Marshall Peterson	Principal Homewood	Human Resources Specialist

School Lunch Prices – 2006/2007

Presenter: Mrs. Mary Klatko, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Services.

Mrs. Klatko explained that the price increase is based on operating expenses. Salaries, health care benefits, transportation, and fuel increases continue to drive the increase in lunch and breakfast prices. Milk is up 42.6%, which is a major percentage of lunches. Mr. Brown noted that this increase is not a result of the changes to the wellness policy.

Action: Mrs. Watson moved approval of the School Lunch Prices for 2006-2007. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis and approved by the Board 4-0. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Approval of Teachers' Step I Salary

Presenter: Kirk Thompson, Director, Human Resources.

Mr. Thompson recommended Board approval of Teachers' Step I Salary to be competitive with other counties in the area. Dr. Cousin noted that the reason that the ranking changed in Step I, was not only related to the negotiated agreement, but also to staff putting additional money into the first five steps. He also noted that this is because of the cooperation and collaboration with the Howard County Education Association.

Action: Mrs. Mikulis moved approval of the Approval of Teachers' Step I Salary. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Watson and approved by the Board 4-0. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Resolution in Appreciation of Custodial, Maintenance, Grounds, and Warehouse Personnel

Mr. Brown read the following proclamation:

Proclamation

In Appreciation of Custodial, Grounds, Maintenance and Warehouse Personnel

Whereas, the Custodial, Grounds, Maintenance and Warehouse personnel of the Howard County Public School System serve the staff, students and community with dedication and commitment; and

Whereas, the Custodial, Grounds, Maintenance and Warehouse personnel play a vital role in maintaining our schools, offices and grounds in a highly efficient and safe manner; and

Whereas, the Custodial, Grounds, Maintenance and Warehouse personnel consistently respond to the needs of the school system and individual schools by providing a safe and nurturing learning environment for our students; and

Whereas, the Custodial, Grounds, Maintenance and Warehouse personnel are often the unsung heroes of the Howard County Public School System; and

Whereas, the end of the 2005-2006 school year provides an opportunity to recognize the numerous contributions made by these dedicated employees; therefore

Be It Proclaimed, that the Board of Education of Howard County supports efforts to express appreciation to the Custodial, Grounds, Maintenance and Warehouse personnel of the school system; and

Be It Further Proclaimed, that this declaration be adopted by the Board of Education of Howard County as of this date in recognition of and appreciation for the dedication and high quality of service provided by our Custodial, Grounds, Maintenance and Warehouse personnel in their support of the Howard County Public School System.

*Joshua Kaufman, Chairman
Board of Education of Howard County*

*Sydney L. Cousin, Superintendent
Howard County Public School
System*

Action: Mrs. Watson moved approval of the Resolution in Appreciation of Custodial, Maintenance, Grounds, and Warehouse Personnel. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis and approved by the Board 4-0. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Participation in the Alternate Contributory Pension Benefit

Presenter: Mr. Ray Brown.

Mr. Brown explained that the Governor signed into law the Teachers' Benefit Enhancement Act. This covered a majority of employees in the HCPSS except for 947 employees (custodians, maintenance, and grounds personnel) who were not eligible to participate. In the teachers' plan the state pays the employer's share, while in this plan the HCPSS will pay the employers share.

Mr. Mike Johnson, Finance Officer, said that employees pay 2% of their salary. Under this act this will increase to 3% on July 1 and will peak at 5% in 2008, where it will stay. If the school system waits until January, it will be retroactive to July 1, 2006, which means HCPSS will be getting a bill from the retirement agency for undercollected contributions.

Discussion:

Mr. Kaufman asked what the impact would be on the take home pay. Dr. Cousin responded that it would be determined by the individual election of the employee.

Action: Mrs. Watson moved approval of the Employees' Contributory Pension Plan, effective July 1, 2006, in order to provide a uniform pension plan for all employees. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis and approved by the Board 4-0. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Paperless Board Meetings Status

Presenter: Mr. Brian Duvall, Webmaster.

Mr. Duvall stated that the Board has identified the need for a paperless board meeting system. The recommendation is to go with BoardDocs. Mr. Duvall said he spoke to other school systems that use it, and it was positively received. The public will be able to go on line and have the material in front of them. The process starts with installation in July 2006. There is a software component and a process component. Mr. Duvall discussed the timeline for setting up the paperless meeting. He noted that staff will be looking to Board members for direction. In the spring of 2007 the system will be evaluated.

Discussion:

Mr. Kaufman questioned system requirements. Mr. Duvall responded that the technical staff will determine what the Board needs. Mr. Kaufman asked staff to wait until after the election to train Board members.

Board members agreed to try BoardDocs.

Website Status

Presenter: Brian Duvall.

The school system has identified the need for an improved web site. It is about the end user. The goal is to have concise contact; clear, consistent navigation; and improved search function. Mr. Duvall discussed the timeline which started in October-November 2005; and he reviewed the changes that would be reflected on the new website making it enduser friendly.

Mr. Duvall noted that the newly designed site would start up in July. He explained the organization of the new homepage and how format consistency from page to page would make the site more user-friendly. Several future enhancements include:

- Live webcasts.
- Online application process.
- Calendars.
- Announcement system.
- Templates for school and teacher sites.

Discussion:

Mrs. Watson asked how long it will take for parents to access grades. Mr. Duvall responded that this capability would be sometime in the distant future.

Mrs. Mikulis asked if teachers will be able to have their own sites. Mr. Duvall said yes. Dayton Oaks ES is testing this now.

Mr. Kaufman questioned whether teachers will have to do more work to update their website. Mr. Duvall said it will be very easy for teachers to do. There is no designing involved – just adding or updating information.

MABE Legal Services Association/Appointment To Board of Directors

Mr. Kaufman explained that this committee deals with legal issues and provides direction to MABE's legal staff. He added that it is a two-year appointment beginning July 1. The meetings are in the MABE building in Annapolis and are held quarterly. Ms. Sigaty volunteered to be on this committee.

Action: Mrs. Watson nominated Ms. Sigaty to the position of Director to the MABE Legal Services Association/Appointment To Board of Directors and Mr. Mark Blom, Counsel, as Alternate Director. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis and approved by the Board 4-0.

Quarterly Agenda, July-September 2006

Board members made modifications to the Quarterly Agenda.

Scheduling

Board members discussed dates and times of future meetings.

Recess: The chairman recessed the meeting at 6:10 p.m. and reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Public Forum

Mr. Bob Siepel, PTA President, Cedar Lane School, reported that students received the same level of care at the new facility as they did at the original building. He praised staff from Cedar Lane, Fulton ES, Lime Kiln MS, and Reservoir HS for making the year so successful. He explained that the students received a warm welcome from the other students on the campus which enhanced the educational experience of all the students.

Appointment – PTA Council of Howard County

There was no one from PTA Council to address the Board.

Public Hearings

Policy 2050 – Attendance

There was no one present to address the Board regarding Policy 2050.

Policy 2331 – Field Trips/Foreign Travel Study

There was no one present to address the Board regarding Policy 2331.

Work Session

Policy 2050 - Attendance

Board members noted the following areas that needed clarification:

- More consistency.
- Absence – chronically absent and habitually truant.

- Schools handle absenteeism differently.
- Denial of credit.
- Excused and unexcused absences.
- Entry/withdrawal enrollment.
 - Board members voted 3-1 in a straw poll to leave this wording in.
- Bereavement.
- Tardy and early dismissal.
- Long-term absences.
- Board members were in agreement (3-1) to keep standardized coding in the policy for attendance purposes.

Work Session

Policy 2331 - Field Trips/Foreign Travel Study

Board members noted the following areas that needed clarification:

- Approval timeline – teacher checklist.
- Definition of student activity trip versus field trip.
- Suspended or expelled *may be* excluded from field trips.
- School system-sponsored trip versus school-sponsored trip.
- Standard fee.
- Extended trips within our own country.
- Trip leader – assistant or associate.
- Walking field trips.

Policy 3441 – Student Responsibilities and Rights

Action: Mrs. Watson moved approval of Policy 3441- Student Responsibilities and Rights. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kaufman and approved by the Board 4-0. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Mrs. Mikulis noted ambiguity in the wording regarding the Pledge of Allegiance. She requested better wording without violating the law. Mr. Kaufman and Mrs. Watson were in agreement to leave the wording as stated according to staff recommendation. Mrs. Mikulis and Ms. Sigaty asked for rewording of this statement. Mr. Kaufman noted, as the opinion of Board members was 2-2, the wording stays according to Robert's Rules of Order.

Mrs. Mikulis requested clarification of language as part of the policy statement. Mr. Blom noted specific language change: Students have the responsibility of ensuring that their organizations' activities are open to all students.

Action: Mrs Watson moved approval of the friendly amendment that the Board adopt Mr. Blom's language. The motion was approved by the Board 4-0. Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Adjournment: The chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Information Items

Food and Nutrition Service Monthly Financial Report