

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

November 21, 2006

The Board of Education of Howard County held a regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, November 21, 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
Patricia Gordon
Mary Kay Sigaty
Courtney Watson
Wossen Ayele, Student Member

Sydney L. Cousin, Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer
Sandra Erickson, Deputy Superintendent
Patti Caplan, Director, Public Relations
Arlene Conway, Recording Secretary

Chairman Joshua Kaufman called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m., and Mr. Ayele led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Forum

Ms. Linda Turner, parent, presented concerns regarding alleged procedural violations related to her daughter's IEP (Individual Education Plan) meeting.

Approval of Agenda

The following change was made to the agenda:

- Defer: Item VIII.A. – IFAS Update

Action: Ms. Gordon moved approval of the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Watson and approved by the members of the Board (5/0). Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cousin commented on the school system's Goal 2, which supports the belief that children have a fundamental right to feel safe in school. He asked Mrs. Pam Blackwell, Director of Student Services, to provide the Board with a report on initiatives that have grown out of recommendations from the Anti-bullying Task Force.

Anti-bullying Initiatives

Presenter: Mrs. Pamela Blackwell, Director of Student Support Services.

Mrs. Blackwell provided the Board with an update on the status of anti-bullying initiatives. She indicated that the school system has developed a *Parent's Guide to Reporting Acts of Harassment or Intimidation Against Students* and added bullying as an offense in the revised Student Code of Conduct. Last year, the school system began collecting data on incidents of bullying, harassment, and intimidation, which is reported to MSDE (Maryland State Department of Education).

At the school level, specific anti-bullying strategies are included in School Improvement Plans to support Goal 2. This includes the Students for Safe Schools campaign in elementary and middle schools, which encourages students to act as leaders and role models for other students in providing safe and respectful schools where bullying behaviors are not tolerated. High school students have been participating in school-wide anti-harassment assemblies, poster contests and creating public service announcements for morning announcements.

Recently 56 schools participated in a poster/logo contest. Jurors' Choice Winners are Manor Woods third grader Sophia Martin, Centennial Lane fifth grader Alishia Akhtar, and Oakland Mills sixth grader Ashleigh Frazier. The Grand Prize Winner is Syndi Thomas, a second grader at Laurel Woods ~~ES~~. The students will have lunch with the Superintendent on December 13 and receive their awards at the Board meeting on December 14, 2006.

Staff has developed a resource guide to assist with the integration of anti-bullying content and skills into the guidance curriculum. Professional Development on the topic has been provided for student services staff who subsequently provided training for teachers, administrators, and support staff.

A seminar for parents entitled *Bullying: Effective Intervention Strategies for Parents* was held on November 9. A Youth Empowerment Seminar (YES) for student leaders will bring together student leaders from Clarksville ~~MS~~, Elkridge Landing ~~MS~~, and Murray Hill ~~MS~~ on Tuesday, November 28, at the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center.

Mrs. Blackwell explained the types of strategies and interventions that students are using to discourage bullying. Ms. Sigaty indicated an interest in sharing best practices through the use of the school system's cable channel 72.

Superintendent's Report (continued)

Dr. Cousin congratulated the following staff members:

- Rod McCaslin, Centennial High School, for receiving the Humanities Scholars Exemplary Teacher Award from UMBC.

- Mary Klatko, Administrator of Food and Nutrition Services, for being named 2006 Outstanding School Food and Nutrition Service Director for Maryland.
- Donna Schwab, Atholton High School, for her selection as the Maryland PTA Educator of the Year.
- Thomas Saunders, Principal of Elkridge Landing Middle School, who was named Howard County's 2006 Washington Post Outstanding Educational Leader.

Student Member's Report

Mr. Ayele stated that report cards were issued last week, and the process went smoothly. He reported on recent activities of HCASC (Howard County Association of Student Councils) and noted that discussions are taking place regarding the need for a consistent countywide honor roll and guidelines for NHS (National Honor Society) requirements. Mr. Ayele invited the Board and staff to attend a leadership conference planned for December 12, 2006. In addition, Mr. Ayele expressed appreciation on behalf of HCPSS students to outgoing Board members Mr. Kaufman, Ms. Sigaty, and Mrs. Watson for their hard work and guidance.

Student Representative Reports

Mr. Ayele explained that efforts are being made to ensure consistent and diverse representation from the students in providing reports to the Board. Due to a conflict with the Thanksgiving holiday, the Glenelg HS representative will present a report at the next Board meeting.

Consent Agenda

Bids and Contracts; State Capital Budget Request – Appeal to the IAC – Priority of Projects; Donations; and Minutes of November 2 (Closed Confidential and Official) and November 9, 2006 (Closed Confidential and Official).

Item VII.B. – State Capital Budget Request – Appeal to the IAC – Priority of Projects was pulled for discussion.

Action: Mrs. Mikulis moved approval of the consent agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Watson and approved by the members of the Board (5/0). Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

Bids and Contracts – Approved by the Board.

P-1 Cooling Tower Replacement – Forest Ridge ES – Rejection of Single Bid

Donations – Approved by the Board.

- Thunder Hill ES: Discover Financial Services – in the amount of \$1,000 – designated for the purchase of professional books for a school wide book study.
- Atholton HS: PTSA – in the amount of \$2,800 – designated to support the following school clubs: Literary Magazine, Student Red Cross, JROTC, Class of 2010, Best Buddies, Speech and Debate Team, Photography Club, Info Tech Academy, Food and Nutrition, 40th Anniversary, and the Science Fair.
- Centennial HS: PTSA – in the amount of \$2,000 – designated to support the Class of 2007, the Class of 2008, the Class of 2009, and the Class of 2010.
- Marriotts Ridge HS: Boosters – in the amount of \$1,400 – designated for the purchase of supplies and materials for the Table Tennis Club.
- Oakland Mills HS Target – in the amount of \$711.85 – designated for the purchase of business card magnets for the staff and a partnership celebration reception.
- River Hill HS: Boosters – in the amount of \$535 – designated for the cross-country team.

State Capital Budget Request – Appeal to the IAC – Priority of Projects

Mr., Kaufman pointed out that the school system received \$12.8 million, which is significantly higher than the past four budgets with which he has been associated. Dr. Cousin noted that the total request was \$52 million, and the school system expects to receive more funds as a result of the appeal to the IAC. He also explained that much of these funds are reimbursement for money already spent on previous projects.

Action: Mr. Kaufman moved approval of the list of projects to be appealed to the state Interagency Committee (IAC) totaling \$39,351,000. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Watson and approved by the members of the Board (5/0). Mr. Ayele supported the motion.

BOE Subcommittee – Approval of Minutes

The last public meeting of the sitting Board of Education is November 21, 2006. The newly elected Board members will take the oath of office on December 4, 2006, and their first public meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2006.

Action: Mrs. Watson moved approval that the Board appoint Mrs. Diane Mikulis and Ms. Patricia Gordon to serve as a committee to approve any remaining minutes through December 4, 2006. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon and approved by the members of the Board (5/0). Mr. Ayele supported the motion

Quarterly Agenda – January – March 2007

Board members made the following changes to the quarterly agenda:

- Delete: February 8 – Charter School Application (under Business Agenda).
February 22 – Charter School Application (under Consent Agenda).
February 22 – Charter School Appointment (under Business Agenda).
- Change: February 22 – BTE: Fine Arts – Change to Academic Intervention.
- Add: March 22 – Bridge to Excellence – Fine Arts.
- Bullets: Pupil Transportation Office Report – Spring (May).
Mt. Hebron HS (Planning).
Cultural Proficiency Training (include County Council).

Final approval of the quarterly agenda is scheduled for December 14, 2006.

Scheduling

Board members discussed dates for future activities.

BTE Report: Cultural Proficiency Progress Report

Presenter: Ms. Jackie Conarton, Director of Professional and Organizational Development.

Ms. Conarton and a number of central and school-based staff reported on the various facets of the school system's cultural proficiency initiative. According to consultants Franklin and Brenda CampbellJones, cultural proficiency is "a way of being, a mindset that esteems the culture of others as one esteems his/her own culture while positively engaging, adapting, and responding."

Curriculum leaders have integrated cultural proficiency into the model for exemplary teaching. Administrators have applied training at faculty meetings, in community outreach, and in setting teacher objectives. In addition, cultural proficiency was a facet of the Summer Institute for School Improvement Planning, New Teacher Orientation, and Instructional Team Leader Retreats.

Future direction includes expanding cultural proficiency training to the Department of Operations, extending opportunities for training to PTA presidents, and embedding culturally responsive teaching practices.

Discussion:

Mr. Kaufman emphasized the importance of this initiative and noted that the diversity of the school system is dramatically increasing.

Staff members explained how teachers will receive various types of Professional Development and training on embedding cultural proficiency into the curriculum. Classroom observations will provide information on the effectiveness of the training and its impact on students and learning.

Ms. Sigaty indicated a need to determine different concerns of students, parents, and school-based staff as part of evaluating this initiative. Ms. Terry Alban, Director of Student Assessment and Program Evaluation, noted that this year's survey will provide the information necessary to perform this type of analysis.

Board members asked that future reports include the names of school system staff giving presentations to the Board. Mr. Glascock stated that an attachment listing the names could be provided along with the hard copy of the PowerPoint presentations.

Mrs. Watson complimented staff on their work in this area and recognized the importance of cultural proficiency to the success of students. Mr. Kaufman also noted the importance of this initiative and expressed confidence that it will have a real impact on students. Ms. Gordon expressed appreciation to Mrs. Watson for her work in implementing the cultural proficiency program. Dr. Cousin also thanked staff for the hard work they have done to make Goal 2 of the school system as important as Goal 1.

Recess: The meeting was recessed at 5:29 p.m. and reconvened at 7:34 p.m.

Public Forum

There was no one present to address the Board.

Appointment – PTA Council of Howard County

Ms. Mary Jane Grauso, President of the PTA Council of Howard County, reported that the PTA and the Citizen's Advisory Committee would present a report on backpack weight at the December 14 meeting. Ms. Grauso stated that she appreciates meeting regularly with the Superintendent and having the opportunity to serve on the department's Technology Committee.

Ms. Grauso also voiced a concern regarding a media report concerning the county's bus driver shortage and its impact on student safety. Mr. David Drown, Director of

Transportation, explained that the report was generated from interviews that were conducted the week after school began in August. Five new drivers have been hired, but the school system is still faced with a critical shortage of bus drivers. He assured the public that a seat will be available to every student riding a bus, but that may require double runs, which also could result in buses running late. The school system is aggressively recruiting and training drivers now, and hopefully all slots will be filled by the end of the winter holiday break. Dr. Cousin noted that this is a regional problem, and a long-range transportation plan is also being developed that will be presented to the Board in the spring.

Approval of Attendance Area Adjustments (AAA) – 2007/2008 School Year

Dr. Cousin thanked Mr. Kaufman, Ms. Sigaty, and Mrs. Watson for their terms on the Board and for the collegiate, collaborative, and cooperative working relationship that has occurred over the last several years. Mr. Kaufman, Ms. Sigaty, and Mrs. Watson agreed that it has been a privilege to serve on the Board.

Mr. Joel Gallihue, Manager of School Planning, explained that some adjustments have been made to the AAA recommendations to reflect the Board's interest in moving Polygon 97 to Northfield ES rather than Centennial Lane ES and to delete the middle school recommendation to move students from Glenwood MS to Folly Quarter MS.

Mr. Kaufman reminded the public that the Board held three work sessions regarding Attendance Area Adjustments, and draft motions have been prepared that reflect the majority positions based on straw votes taken by the Board at the last work session.

Elementary Schools:

Bryant Woods ES

Polygons 204, partial 133

Bryant Woods ES is over the 110-percent capacity utilization standard in 2007 and beyond 2007 is over 115-percent capacity utilization. Capacity utilization at Running Brook is projected below 90 percent all planning years. To relieve overcapacity at Bryant Woods ES and fill available seats at Running Brook ES, redistricting from Bryant Woods ES to Running Brook ES in 2007 will better utilize capacity at both schools.

Action: Ms. Gordon moved that Bryant Woods ES send to Running Brook ES and Running Brook ES receive from Bryant Woods ES those students in Grades K-5 (66 and future students), who reside on College Square, the north side of Hickory Ridge Road between Broken Land Parkway and College Square, or reside on or have sole egress to Banneker Road. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Watson and approved by the members of the Board (5/0).

St. John's Lane ES
Polygon 97

To avoid noncontiguous geography, the redistricting of the area including North Chatham Apartments, Chatham Square, and Village Green Shopping Center from St. John's Lane ES to Northfield ES instead of Centennial Lane ES is necessary to eliminate a small feed (2.5 percent) of St. Johns Lane ES into Burleigh Manor MS.

Motion: Mrs. Watson moved that St. John's Lane ES send to Northfield ES and Northfield ES receive from St. John's Lane ES those students in Grades K-5 (35 and future students), who reside on North Chatham Road from Rt. 40 to the entrance of Resurrection School including the North Chatham Apartments, Chatham Square, and Village Green Shopping Center or have sole egress to North Chatham Road. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon.

Discussion:

Mr. Kaufman explained that he would vote against this motion because of his preference to move students to Centennial Lane ES, which would provide flexibility for movements related to Polygons 149 and 302.

Mrs. Watson stated that this move was originally suggested in the feasibility study of last year in order to fix a small feed from St. John's Lane ES to Burleigh Manor MS. The move to Northfield does not create an island as does the move to Centennial Lane, and she indicated the need to leave space at Centennial Lane for future growth.

Ms. Gordon noted that the move to Northfield also necessitates an additional move from Northfield to Thunder Hill ES. She expressed her preference to move the students to Centennial Lane ES.

Ms. Sigaty indicated that future issues may occur at Northfield ES and wanted to be careful about moving students to schools where they can stay for the longest time possible.

Mrs. Mikulis stated that after much review, she now believes it would be better to move the students to Centennial Lane.

Action: The motion failed by a vote of 1/4 with Mr. Kaufman, Mrs. Mikulis, Ms. Sigaty, and Ms. Gordon voting no.

Action: Mrs. Mikulis moved that St. John's Lane ES send to Centennial Lane ES and Centennial Lane ES receive from St. John's Lane ES those students in Grades K-5 (35 and future students), who reside on North Chatham Road from Rt. 40 to the entrance of Resurrection School including the North Chatham Apartments, Chatham Square, and Village Green Shopping Center or have sole egress to North Chatham Road. The motion

was seconded by Ms. Gordon and approved by the members of the Board (4/1), with Mrs. Watson voting no.

Northfield ES

Polygons 149, 302

Northfield ES is projected to be above the 115% capacity utilization standard for all planning years. Thunder Hill ES is projected to be below 90% capacity utilization for the next six planning years. Redistrict to relieve overcapacity at Northfield ES and to fill available seats at Thunder Hill ES.

Board members discussed various issues related to this move, including the possibility of having to provide small school staffing if the move were not made now but also acknowledging that this move could be held off for the future. It was agreed upon to not redistrict Polygons 149 and 302.

Middle Schools

Elkridge Landing MS

Polygons 82, 298

Elkridge Landing MS is projected to be at 115.3-percent in 2007 and over 110-percent for the next three years. Mayfield Woods MS is underutilized with capacity utilization under 90 percent all planning years.

Action: Mrs. Watson moved that Elkridge Landing MS send to Mayfield Woods MS and Mayfield Woods MS receive from Elkridge Landing MS those students in Grades 6-8, (118 and future students), who reside in the area bounded by Meadowridge Road on the west, US 1 on the south, MD 100 on the east and north; including all streets with egress to Meadowridge Road. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis and approved by the members of the Board (5/0).

High School

Motion: Mr. Kaufman moved that the geographical area (see description below from Circular #168, November 30, 2005) that makes up the current 2.8 percent feed of Folly Quarter MS to Marriott's Ridge HS continue to be granted an open-enrollment option for rising 9th graders to River Hill HS. Transportation services for these rising 9th graders and the 10th graders that chose the open-enrollment option to River Hill HS last year will be provided for school year 2007/2008.

Circular #168, November 30, 2005: Polygons 180 and 181

Beginning with the rising 9th grade students for 2006/2007 school year and continuing with rising 9th grade students who reside on Carroll Mill Road and all streets with sole egress to Carroll Mill Road; Etchison Road and all streets with egress to Etchison Road; Benson Branch Road and all streets with sole egress to Benson Branch

Road (Note: Not included in this area is Carroll Mill Road east of the intersection of Folly Quarter Road.); Mount Albert Road and all streets with sole egress to Mt. Albert Road; Canter Lane; Jumpers Hill Lane and all streets with sole egress to Jumpers Hill Lane; Folly Quarter Road from Carroll Mill Road to Jumpers Hill Road and all streets with sole egress to this section of Folly Quarter Road continue to be granted the open-enrollment option mentioned above. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis.

Board members pointed out that transportation was being approved for one year because of the need to revisit the open enrollment option again for the 2008/2009 school year.

Action: The motion was approved by the members of the Board (5/0).

St. John's Lane ES

Polygons 104, 105, 106, 191, 308

St. John's Lane ES is projected to be above the 115-percent capacity utilization standard for all planning years. It is necessary to redistrict students from St. John's Lane ES, relieving their overcapacity, to the adjacent Veterans ES utilizing their available seats.

Motion: Mrs. Mikulis moved that the St. John's Lane ES send to Veterans ES and the Veterans ES receive from St. John's Lane ES those students in Grades K-5 (453 and future students) who reside in the area bounded by US 29 on the west, Rt. 40 on the north, Baltimore County line on the east, and Main Street, Ellicott City (Frederick Road) from the Baltimore County line to Rt. 29 on the south. This includes all those students who reside on or have sole egress to Rt. 40. NOTE: Executive Center Drive and Ridge Road North and all streets that egress these streets are included. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon.

Discussion:

Mrs. Watson stated that she would be voting against the moves that go into the northeast plans because she did not feel that these are the best plans that could have been developed.

Mrs. Mikulis indicated the need to discuss two additional plans that have been submitted by Wheatfield residents and which have been evaluated by Mr. Gallihue.

Action: Mrs. Watson moved that the above motion be tabled. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sigaty and approved by the members of the Board (5/0).

Mr. Gallihue provided details of the plans submitted by community members, and it was noted that both plans move students in the wrong direction. Students would be moved from a school that does not have an overcrowding issue into an area that does and in which relief cannot be provided for other schools that are overcrowded.

Action: Mr. Kaufman moved that the Board consider the original motion made by Mrs. Mikulis regarding St. John's Lane ES. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon and approved by the members of the Board (4/1), with Mrs. Watson voting no.

Hollifield Station ES

Polygon 161

Hollifield Station ES is projected to be above the 110-percent capacity utilization standard for all planning years. With the opening of Veterans ES, adjacent students from St. John's Lane ES are redistricted. This results in available seats at St. John's Lane ES that can be utilized to relieve the overcapacity at Hollifield Station ES.

Motion: Ms. Sigaty moved that Hollifield Station ES send to St. John's Lane ES and St. John's Lane receive from Hollifield Station ES those students in Grades K-5 (153 and future students) who reside on Old Frederick Road (Rt. 99) from Mt. Hebron Drive to McKenzie Road. This includes streets with egress to Old Frederick from Tiller Drive to McKenzie Road. This does not include streets with egress on Old Frederick Road from Tiller Drive to Mt. Hebron Drive. NOTE: Maple Rock Road, Jonathan Road, Staman Drive, and streets that egress these streets are not included. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon.

It was noted that the school system may be able to avoid building an addition at Hollifield Station ES in the future by reconfiguring classrooms to accommodate the full-day kindergarten program.

Action: The motion was approved by the members of the Board (4/1), with Mrs. Watson voting no.

Northfield ES

Polygon 103

Northfield ES is projected to be above the 115-percent capacity utilization standard for all planning years. Redistrict students from Northfield ES, relieving their overcapacity, to the adjacent Veterans ES utilizing their available seats.

Action: Ms. Gordon moved that Northfield ES send to Veterans ES and Veterans ES receive from Northfield ES those students in Grades K-5 (105 and future students), who reside on Tollhouse Road and all streets with sole egress to Tollhouse Road; reside on Main Street, Ellicott City (Frederick Road) from Rt. 29 to Ellicott Mills Drive; and streets with sole egress to this section of Main Street. NOTE: This includes Klein Avenue. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis and approved by the members of the Board (4/1), with Mrs. Watson voting no.

Waverly ES
Polygons 160, 162

Waverly ES is projected to be above the 110-percent capacity utilization standard four of six planning years. With the opening of Veterans ES adjacent students from St. John's Lane ES are redistricted. This results in available seats at St. John's Lane ES that can be utilized to relieve the overcapacity at Waverly ES and provide for future growth.

Motion: Mr. Kaufman moved that Waverly ES send to St. John's Lane ES and St. John's Lane ES receive from Waverly ES those students in Grades K-5 (147 and future students), who reside on Old Frederick Road from Old Mill Road to McKenzie Road and all streets with sole egress to this section of Old Frederick Road; reside on or have egress to Old Mill Road/Gudel Drive or Diversified Lane. NOTE: This includes the east side of Bethany Lane from I-70 to Old Frederick Road (Rt. 99). The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis.

This motion improves a feed and provides for future growth.

Action: The motion was approved by the members of the Board (4/1), with Mrs. Watson voting no.

Worthington ES
Polygons 101, 102, 217, 275

Worthington ES is projected to be above the 115-percent capacity utilization standard for all planning years. Redistrict students from Worthington ES, relieving their overcapacity, to the adjacent Veterans ES utilizing their available seats.

Action: Mrs. Mikulis moved that Worthington ES send to Veterans ES and Veterans ES receive from Worthington ES those students in Grades K-5 (193 and future students), who reside on or have sole access to Main Street, Ellicott City (Frederick Road) from Ellicott Mills Drive to the Baltimore County line; reside on the north side of Montgomery Road from Old Columbia Pike to Stone Crest Drive, including Stone Crest Drive and streets with egress to this side of Montgomery Road; reside on Old Columbia Pike from Main Street, Ellicott City (Frederick Road) to Montgomery Road and all streets with egress to this section of Old Columbia Pike. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sigaty and approved by the members of the Board (4/1), with Mrs. Watson voting no.

Mrs. Mikulis thanked staff and especially Mr. Gallihue for the continuous attention he gave to both the Board's and the public's questions. She noted that he evaluated many plans and that no redistricting is ever perfect. Mrs. Mikulis acknowledged that the plans would not be comfortable for some people, but they do accomplish the objectives of filling the new school and reducing overcapacity at others. She also expressed appreciation to everyone who worked on the AAA Committee.

Comments from Board Members

Mrs. Watson stated that it has been an honor to serve the people of Howard County as a Board member for the past four years. She stated that Dr. Cousin has been a great addition to the school system, and she expressed pride in the cultural proficiency program that has been implemented over the last two years. She also commented on how well the school system is doing in the area of student achievement and the progress that has been made with the addition of stadium lights at all the high schools and the building of five new schools during her term on the Board. She expressed confidence in the incoming Board and thanked all who supported her throughout the difficult decisions that the Board had to make during her tenure.

Ms. Sigaty stated that she is honored to be able to thank people for their support in her move to the County Council and for the support for the last two years she has served on the Board in working to do the best for all the children in Howard County. She indicated that there would be an even better relationship between elected officials in Howard County with her and Mrs. Watson moving to the County Council, which will benefit the community and the children.

Ms. Gordon emphasized the devotion and expertise that Mr. Kaufman has brought to the Board and stated that his return to private life will be a loss to the people and children of Howard County. She commented on his intelligence and leadership and expressed hope that he would return in the future.

Ms. Mikulis expressed appreciation for each of her departing colleagues: Mrs. Watson for her encouragement to run for the Board, Mr. Kaufman for his leadership and the knowledge she has gained from him, and Ms. Sigaty for her support through the entire process.

Mr. Kaufman stated that being on the Board of Education is a humbling experience because having the opportunity to touch so many lives is phenomenal. He indicated that it was a privilege to work with so many wonderful people and to see the amazing things that children are accomplishing. He noted that a lot of hard work goes into being a Board member, and he commented on the difficult decisions that must also be made. He expressed hope that he would be leaving the school system in a better place because of his accomplishments and would look back with pride at the work he has done.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 8:29 p.m.