

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

May 2, 2007

The members of the Board of Education of Howard County held a work session on Wednesday, May 2, 2007, at 8:00 p.m., in the cafeteria of the Department of Education, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042. The meeting was open to the public. The following were present:

Diane B. Mikulis, Chairman
Frank J. Aquino, Vice Chairman
Lawrence H. Cohen
Sandra H. French
Ellen Flynn Giles
Patricia S. Gordon
Janet Siddiqui, M.D.

Work Session – Follow-up to retreat held on January 12, 2007

Goal 1 – Improve communications and public relations.

- Visit cluster schools twice a year; no deadline.
- Mr. Aquino suggested establishing “office hours” for Board members.
- Continue “Coffee & Conversation.”
- Consider other opportunities.
- Communications audit/recommendation to be presented to the Board soon.

Goal 2 – Board self-development/assessment.

- Gather tools and share.
- Draft assessment tool for the Board.
- Be receptive to improvement all of the time.
- Tentatively plan one-half-day retreat in early September.

Goal 3 – Implement committee structure.

- Audit Committee – functioning fine.
- Strategic Planning Committee
 - Ms. Gordon to check on upcoming meetings in Montgomery and Frederick counties.
 - Review draft document.
 - Staff is improving the Strategic Planning Process (T. Alban).
 - Cross-functional; interaction among departments.
- Legislative Committee
 - Protocols to be presented to the full Board for approval soon.
 - Legislative liaison’s function worked well this session.
 - Consider whether or not it should be a committee.
 - Schedule a meeting with elected officials.

Approved – May 24, 2007

- Policy Committee
 - Wait until September as previously agreed.
 - Provide input to policy revision calendar.

Governance (Action item #4)

- Make revisions to Board Handbook, especially for student member vote.
- Discussed changes in operations for Student Member of the Board vote.
- *Action:* Need to work through all issues related to Student Member vote.

Board Meetings (Action item #10)

- Continue using cards to be recognized.
- Look into getting a light system.
- Public Forum – Do not allow people to speak after it has closed.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.