

# **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY**

**June 26, 2008**

The Board of Education of Howard County held a regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, June 26, 2008, 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:

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

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

Chairman Frank Aquino called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m., and Aneesh Agrawal, Burleigh Manor MS student, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Administration of Oath – Student Member of the Board**

Ms. Margie Rappaport, Clerk of the Court, administered the oath of office to Ms. Adejire Bademosi, as the new Student Member of the Board of Education.

Ms. Bademosi thanked all the people who supported her throughout her years in the school system and noted her goals during her tenure on the Board.

## **Public Forum**

There was no one present to address the Board.

## **Approval of Agenda**

Dr. Cousin noted the following changes to the agenda:

- Add: Item. X.F. Future School Sites (Discussion)
- Delete: Item. X.I. Appointment – Citizens Advisory Committee

*Action:* Mrs. Giles moved approval of the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siddiqui and approved the Board (7/0).

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Cousin noted the following in his report:

- Congratulated the recipients of the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholars for 2008.
- Congratulated Mr. Roger Plunkett, Business, Community and Government Relations Officer, who has accepted a position of Assistant Superintendent with Harford County Public Schools.
- Thanked Mrs. Ellen Miller, Policy and Charter Schools Specialist, for her years of service to the school system.
- Thanked everyone who worked to make this year's Summer Institute a success.

### **Board Members' Reports**

Ms. Gordon reported on the most recent State Board meeting at which the Board discussed the Task Force Report on Middle Schools and plans for a universal method for tracing dropout rates across the state.

Mrs. Giles reported on the MABE Summer Workshop.

### **Consent Agenda (Restricted) \***

#### Staff Personnel and Bids and Contracts

*Action:* Dr. Siddiqui moved approval of the Restricted Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by the Board (7/0).

Staff Personnel – Approved by the Board.

#### **Resignations:**

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Reason	Years in Howard County	Effective Date
Arief, Joanna	HCMS	Spec. Ed.	Personal	1.0	06/12/08
Austin, Doris	MVMS	Spec. Ed.	Personal	3.0	06/12/08
Baez, Getsemary	EMMS	Science	Relocation	3.0	06/12/08
Baier, Randi	LWES	Elem. Ed	Relocation	1.0	06/12/08
Baker, Ira	GMS	English	Personal	5.0	06/12/08
Bakhru, Ravie	LRHS	Social Studies	Return to School	2.0	06/12/08

Approved – August 14, 2008

Bernsohn, Todd	MVMS	WLA	Relocation	1.0	06/12/08
Blizzaed, Jill	RHHS	P.E.	Relocation	13.0	06/12/08
Boardly, Thomasina	RHHS	Spec. Ed.	Personal	3.0	06/12/08
Bowens, Charenne	MHMS	Spec. Ed.	Family Obligations	2.0	06/12/08
Butler, Stacey	ELMS	Math	Relocation	3.0	06/12/08
Chaffee, Genevieve	CES	Spec. Ed	Personal	2.0	06/12/08
Dong, Jennifer	HOHS	WLA	Family Obligations	2.0	06/12/08
Frederick, Lori	OMMS	Media Specialist	Other Employment	6.0	06/12/08
Grant, Jessica	ReHS	English	Relocation	2.0	06/12/08
Hudak, Jennifer	CCES	SLP	Family Obligations	5.0	06/12/08
Heeney, Kathleen	WLHS	Spec. Ed.	Relocation	2.0	06/12/08
Hollenbeck, Richard	HCMS	Math	Other Employment	4.0	06/12/08
Knight, Lara	AHS	Science	Other Employment	1.0	06/12/08
Lee, Sunny	CLES	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	3.0	06/12/08
Oxford, Christopher	PVMS	Math	Personal	6.0	06/12/08
Rhue, Marcy	PVMS	Math	Other Employment	4.0	06/12/08
Russo, Cristina	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	5.0	06/30/08
Stapleton, Bonnie	THES	Media	Relocation	12.0	06/12/08
Stiebing, Elizabeth	TSES	Art	Personal	3.0	06/12/08
Vickery, Kristen	HCMS	Spec. Ed.	Other Employment	6.0	06/12/08
Weaver, Iram	LWES	ESOL	Other Employment	7.0	06/12/08

**Contracts:**

Name	Grade or School	Subject	Place of Last Teaching Assignment	Grade/Step	Effective Date
Allen, Stephanie	Unassign.	ELE	--	C-01	08/18/08
Ashmead, Michael	AHS	SCI	Anne Arundel County	C-09	08/18/08
Beck, Emily	Unassign.	SST	Montgomery County	A-04	08/18/08
Bell, Brittney	MRHS	FACS	Prince Georges County	A-02	08/18/08
Bettinger, Summer	Unassign.	ELE	--	C-01	08/18/08
Bigalke, Megan	Unassign.	SLP	--	C-01	08/18/08
Birdsong, Jeffrey	Unassign.	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Boardman, Melissa	LRHS	SPE	---	C-01	08/18/08
Bond, Anthone	Unassign.	SST	Baltimore City	C-10	08/18/08
Bonomo, Jeannette	Unassign.	ENG	--	C-01	08/18/08
Bosse, Margaret	Unassign.	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Bourgoin, Ken	BBMS	SLP	Orono, MA	C-18	08/18/08
Boyle, Cynthia	Unassign.	SST	Baltimore County	C-11	08/18/08
Brock, Mary	AHS	SPE	Baltimore County	C-16	08/18/08
Brooks-Odom, Kara	Unassign.	SPE	Baltimore County	C-10	08/18/08
Brown, Laura	Unassign.	ELE	Winter Springs, FL	B-17	08/18/08
Buchanan, Courtney	Unassign.	SPE	--	C-01	08/18/08
Buerger, Heather	Unassign.	ENG	--	C-01	08/18/08
Cartagena, Kacie	Unassign.	SPE	Levittown, PA	C-03	08/18/08
Cassetta, Heather	MHHS	SCI	Baltimore County	C-06	08/18/08
Castillo, Michelle	Unassign.	SCI	Dayton, OH	B-06	08/18/08
Choi, Jane	Unassign.	ELE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Chung, Elizabeth	Unassign.	ENG	Private School	C-08	08/18/08
Colegrove, Kerry	Unassign.	ELE	Montgomery County	A-05	08/18/08
Cullison, Kristen	Unassign.	ENG	Anne Arundel County	C-06	08/18/08
Daley, Karen	Unassign.	SST	Baltimore City	C-03	08/18/08
Dellinger, Grace	Unassign.	ENG	Baltimore County	B-03	08/18/08

Dente, Amanda	Unassign.	SPE	Vineland, NJ	A-04	08/18/08
Doodigian, Stephanie	Unassign.	SCI	Anne Arundel County	C-10	08/18/08
Driver, Starsha	Unassign.	WLA (Spanish)	Stratford, Oklahoma	C-04	08/18/08
Edwards, Chelsea	Unassign.	SPE	--	C-01	08/18/08
Emanuel, Jennifer	RHS	MAT	Anne Arundel County	A-07	08/18/08
Espinosa, Trisha	Unassign.	SPE	--	C-01	08/18/08
Everett, Robert	Unassign.	SST	Prince Georges County	A-02	08/18/08
Ferguson, Cathy	Unassign.	SPE	Baltimore City	C-06	08/18/08
Ferrari, Jonathan	MVMS	SPE	--	C-01	08/18/08
Fisher, Erin	Unassign.	MAT	Caroline County	A-02	08/18/08
Forgnoni, Jennifer	AHS	SCI	Baltimore County	C-09	08/18/08
Foye, Sheila	GCES	PT	Prince Georges County	E-18	08/18/08
French, Amy	Unassign.	SCI	Washington, DC	A-08	08/18/08
Fried, Danielle	Unassign.	ENG	Anne Arundel County	C-02	08/18/08
Gajewski, Lesley	RHS	SCI	Baltimore County	C-11	08/18/08
Garroway, Therese	MWMS	GUI	Baltimore County	D-18	08/18/08
Gates, Tara	Unassign.	SPE	Selbyville, DE	A-11	08/18/08
Gebren, Meredith	Unassign.	SPE	Baltimore County	B-05	08/18/08
Giancola, Christine	Unassign.	SPE	Liverpool, NY	C-02	08/18/08
Gibbs, Kimberly	Unassign.	SPE	Prince Georges County	A-06	08/18/08
Gorski, Natasha	Unassign.	ENG	Baltimore County	A-07	08/18/08
Groman, Caitlin	Unassign.	ELE	--	C-01	08/18/08
Hanssen, Mark	Unassign.	ENG	Military – DOD	B-13	08/18/08
Harley, Debra	Unassign.	ESOL	Prince Georges County	C-15	08/18/08
Harris, LaVerne	Unassign.	ELE	Durham, NC	C-08	08/18/08
Haynie, Lauren	Unassign.	SST	Charles County	A-05	08/18/08
Hehman, Elizabeth	Unassign.	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Henry, Kristine	Unassign.	MAT	Frederick County	C-10	08/18/08
Henry, Laura	Unassign.	ENG	Harford County	C-06	08/18/08
Hipszer, Matthew	Unassign.	SST	Baltimore County	C-09	08/18/08
Hopkins, Lindsay	Unassign.	SLP	--	C-01	08/18/08
Horneman, Elizabeth	Unassign.	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Huitsing, Laura	WaES	SLP	--	C-01	08/18/08
Joerdens, Ashley	Unassign.	ENG	Frederick County	A-02	08/18/08
Johnson, Jeanette	Unassign.	ESOL	Baltimore County	C-18	08/18/08
Jolliffe, Jessica	Unassign.	SCI	--	C-01	08/18/08
Kasda, Joanna	Unassign.	ELE	Montgomery County	A-03	08/18/08
Kinsler, Emily	PVMS/CMS	SLP	Private School	E-17	08/18/08
Krage, Rebecca	Unassign.	RDG	Carroll County	C-10	08/18/08
Lantz, Katherine	Unassign.	WLA (Spanish)	Atlanta, GA	A-03	08/18/08
Laun, Patricia	MRHS	SCI	Baltimore County	B-18	08/18/08
Lehman, Matthew	Unassign.	ENG	--	A-01	08/18/08
Leonard, Ashley	GHS	WLA (German)	--	A-01	08/18/08
Li, Ruifan	Unassign.	MAT	Baltimore County	A-03	08/18/08
Lightner, Stephanie	Unassign.	ENG	Dorchester	A-02	08/18/08
Lo, Jeremy	MHMS	SPE	Coconut Creek, FL	C-04	08/18/08
Love, Gail	Unassign.	WLA (Ger/Spa)	--	A-01	08/18/08
Lovic, Marcy	RHS	TE	Cecil County	A-05	08/18/08
Mackaness, Kylie	Unassign.	SCI	--	A-01	08/18/08
Mackin, Bethany	GCES	SLP	--	C-01	08/18/08
Mackin, Troy	Unassign.	SPE	Rockwall, TX	B-18	08/18/08
Mahanti, Tracey	Unassign.	WLA (Spanish)	Montgomery County	C-05	08/18/08
Makela, Shay	Unassign.	MAT	Honolulu, HI	C-14	08/18/08

Malone, Amanda	Unassign.	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Manuel, Chona	Unassign.	ENG	Grifton, NC	C-10	08/18/08
Mazer, Amelie	MHMS	MAT	Montgomery County	C-05	08/18/08
McCord, Knetha	Unassign.	ESOL	Pontiac, MI	D-18	08/18/08
McCroey, Michael	Unassign.	SST	Baltimore City	C-08	08/18/08
McGrath, Elizabeth	Unassign.	SPE	Alexandria, VA	A-09	08/18/08
McKevitt, Katelyn	Unassign.	ELE	--	A-01	08/18/08
McLaughlin, Haley	Unassign.	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
McLean, Megan	GHS	WLA (Spanish)	Charlotte, NC	C-05	08/18/08
McNelis, Kathleen	Unassign.	SPE	Painted Post, NY	C-02	08/18/08
Middleton, Brooke	Unassign.	PE	Charles County	A-07	08/18/08
Miller, Marylou	Unassign.	RDG SPE	Baltimore County	C-06	08/18/08
Moreno, Melissa	HoHS	MAT	Montgomery County	C-06	08/18/08
Morrison, Joan	Unassign.	PE	Charles County	C-18	08/18/08
Myers, Leah	Unassign.	SPE	Westwood, MA	D-04	08/18/08
Newhard, Emily	Unassign.	SPE	Huntsville, AL	A-03	08/18/08
Nix, Glynis	Unassign.	ELE	Private School	C-12	08/18/08
O'Malley, Moira	GHS	GUI	--	C-01	08/18/08
Pastor, Erica	Unassign.	ESOL	Ibiza, Spain	C-04	08/18/08
Patterson, Erin	Unassign.	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Pellegrino, Kim	GMS	TE	Carroll County	A-06	08/18/08
Penn, Kareem	Unassign.	SST	Baltimore City	B-09	08/18/08
Peoples, Natalee	Unassign.	MAT	Prince Georges County	C-06	08/18/08
Phillips, Ronica	Unassign.	WLA (Spanish)	Chesapeake, VA	A-15	08/18/08
Quinn, Megan	Unassign.	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Rachlin, Meredith	Unassign.	ELE	--	C-01	08/18/08
Reier, Kristen	Unassign.	WLA (Fre/Spa)	--	A-01	08/18/08
Rhoton, Melissa	WLHS	WLA(Ger/ESOL)	Baltimore County	C-06	08/18/08
Richards, Tracey	Unassign.	SPE	Private School	C-02	08/18/08
Rix, Justin	RHHS	SCI	Baltimore County	C-04	08/18/08
Roldan, Natalia	OMHS	GUI	Monroe, NC	C-02	08/18/08
Roth, Ilana	BBES	SLP	Montgomery County	C-03	08/18/08
Rovegno, Andrea	Unassign.	SPE	HCPSS – IA	B-02	08/18/08
Ryder, Lisa	Unassign.	SPE	Washington, DC	D-07	08/18/08
Sackett, Brian	Unassign.	ENG	--	A-01	08/18/08
Saks, Jennifer	Unassign.	MAT	Private School	C-14	08/18/08
Scaltz, Anthony	Unassign.	ENG	--	C-01	08/18/08
Scaltz, Tracy	RHHS	WLA (Spanish)	Iowa City, IA	D-08	08/18/08
Skaggs, Jennifer	Unassign.	SPE	Montgomery County	A-04	08/18/08
Skahill, Jennifer	Unassign.	ENG	Baltimore County	A-04	08/18/08
Smith, Shaquita	Unassign.	SST	Private School	B-06	08/18/08
Stevens, Laura	Unassign.	MAT	--	A-01	08/18/08
Stewart, Douraine	MHHS	MAT	Brooklyn, NY	C-08	08/18/08
Stocklin, Elizabeth	Unassign.	ENG	--	C-01	08/18/08
Strickler, Kristen	Unassign.	WLA (Spanish)	Baltimore County	A-07	08/18/08
Sugalski, Meghan	Unassign.	OT	Hillsborough, NJ	A-06	08/18/08
Svoboda, Jodi	Unassign.	SPE	Baltimore County	A-08	08/18/08
Tenaglia, Elizabeth	Unassign.	SPE	Montgomery County	C-11	08/18/08
Terry, Kristin	HCMS	SPE	Baltimore City	C-12	08/18/08
Thomas, Tonia	Unassign.	SCI	Baltimore County	A-09	08/18/08
Thompson, Benjamin	Unassign.	ELE	Baltimore City	C-02	08/18/08
Toohey, Lisa	Unassign.	MAT	Private School	C-10	08/18/08
Tristan, Monica	Unassign.	ESOL	Frederick County	C-05	08/18/08

Tuting, Shelly	Unassign.	SPE	Starke, FL	C-04	08/18/08
Valvano, Matthew	Unassign.	ENG	--	A-01	08/18/08
Venturella, Jeanine	Unassign.	ENG	Montgomery County	C-03	08/18/08
Vitiello, Assunta	Unassign.	ELE	--	C-01	08/18/08
Walger-Magday, Kristyn	Unassign.	SST	Harford County	C-11	08/18/08
Walroth, Lisa	Unassign.	SPE	Conway, SC	C-05	08/18/08
Waters, Andrea	HCMS	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Waterworth, Lindsay	Unassign.	OT	--	C-01	08/18/08
Welty, Kelsey	Unassign.	SCI	Anne Arundel County	C-04	08/18/08
Wright, Angela	Unassign.	SPE	Anne Arundel County	C-02	08/18/08
Wyler, Alicia	Unassign.	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Vanderheyden, Lauren	Unassign.	SPE	--	A-01	08/18/08
Yienger, Katherine	RHS	SCI	Baltimore County	E-04	08/18/08
Yu, Annie	Unassign.	SST	Montgomery County	A-03	08/18/08
Zilliox, Kelly	Unassign.	MAT	Anne Arundel County	C-06	08/18/08
Zinger, Elizabeth	Unassign.	MAT	Anne Arundel County	C-08	08/18/08

**Leaves of Absence:**

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Years in Howard County	Effective Date
Beasley, Mary	LWES	Spec. Ed.	9.0	08/18/08
Cooper, Barbara	PMS	Spec. Ed.	2.0	08/18/08
De Los Santos, Xeng	MRHS	Science	8.0	08/18/08
O'Malley, Susan	BPES	Guidance	3.0	08/18/08
Reigel, Samantha	MRHS	Math	7.0	08/18/08

**Retirements:**

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Years in Howard County	Effective Date
Hann, Mary	LRHS	Health	35.0	07/01/08
Kurpe, Margaret	WVES	Kindergarten	16.0	07/01/08
Merkle, Susan	MWES	Music	19.0	07/01/08
Mesterharm, Mary	MWMS	Counselor	22.0	07/01/08
Sklar, Stuart	DMS	Industrial Arts	29.0	07/01/08
Woodward, Bruce	GHS	Art	37.0	07/01/08

**Bids and Contracts – Approved by the Board.**

P-1	Technology Replacement Plan: Phase 2.0 + 3.0 Lease Agreement	
	Apple Financial Services	\$10,563,199.48
P-2	Civil Engineering, Subsurface Exploration and Minor Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Services	Annual Estimates
	Civil	
	Fisher Collins & Carter, Inc.	\$90,000.00
	A. Morton Thomas and Assoc., Inc.	75,000.00
	RJM Engineering, Inc.	50,000.00
	Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson	50,000.00
	Subsurface	

	Penniman & Browne, Inc.	75,000.00
	Hillis-Carnes Engineering Assoc.	75,000.00
	Reuling Assoc., Inc.	50,000.00
	ECS LIC Mid Atlantic MEP	
	James Posey Assoc., Inc.	50,000.00
	Burdette, Koehler, Murphy & Assoc., Inc.	50,000.00
P-3	Water Main Extensions – Mt. Hebron HS Utilities Unlimited, Inc.	\$116,000.00
P-4	Baseball Field Relocation – Mt. Hebron HS Pickens and Sons, Inc.	94,175.00
P-5	Architect for Northfield ES Addition and Renovation – Adjustment for Leed Certification	
	TCA Architects	228,000.00
	J. Vinton Schafer & Sons, Inc.	84,750.00

## Consent Agenda

### Donations

*Action:* Mrs. Giles moved approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon and approved by the Board (7/0).

Clarksville ES: PTA, in the amount of \$3,882, (\$1,440) designated for a Visual Arts Residency for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade, (\$600) designated for MaryAnn Jung's "PeeWee Pirates and Clara Barton" Cultural Arts Program, (\$775) designated for Marc Spiegel's "Einstein Alive" Cultural Arts Program, and (\$1,067) for the "Almost Recess" Cultural Arts Program.

Clemens Crossing ES: A+ Bonus Bucks, in the amount of \$5,255.03, designated for the purchase of LCD projectors, a digital camera, and software.

Fulton ES: A+ Bonus Bucks, in the amount of \$1,801.48, designated for the purchase of school supplies, consumable materials, and for student activities.

- Jeffers Hill ES: Washington Wizards, in the amount of \$1,800, designated for the purchase of computer equipment and software.
- Manor Woods ES: A+ Bonus Bucks, in the amount of \$746.53, designated for the purchase of ink cartridges for the printers in the team areas.
- Waterloo ES: A+ Bonus Bucks, in the amount of \$689, designated for the purchase of technology supplies and materials.
- Elkridge Landing MS: A+ Bonus Bucks, in the amount of \$1,405.85 designated for the purchase of agenda books.
- Ellicott Mills MS: PTA, in the amount of \$4000, designated to pay for the activity bus for students to attend after-school programs for the 2008/09 school year.
- Folly Quarter MS: A+ Bonus Bucks, in the amount of \$3,446.22, designated for student incentives.
- Hammond MS: A+ Bucks, in the amount of \$754.71, designated for student activities.
- Wilde Lake MS: PTA, in the amount of \$2,250, (\$1,500) designated for the end-of-year class activities and (\$750) designated for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade farewell ceremony.
- Centennial HS: A+ Bucks, in the amount of \$2,715.32, designated for the purchase of technology supplies and equipment.  
PTSA, in the amount of \$1,800, designated for the purchase of an LCD projector.
- Glenelg HS: Deborah Babock, in the amount of \$2,000, designated to assist with expenses for the Dance Program.
- Howard HS: A+ Bonus Bucks, in the amount of \$5,025.87, designated for the purchase of technology equipment and supplies for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade team.

- Long Reach HS: Boosters, in the amount of \$10,034.94, (\$534) designated for the purchase of athletic awards, (\$500) designated for the purchase of gloves for the boys' lacrosse team, (\$1,000) designated for the purchase of track uniforms and equipment, and (\$8,000) designated for the purchase of a sound system for the auditorium and grade book wizard.
- Howard County Music in Motion, in the amount of \$831.85, designated for the Music Program.
- Oakland Mills HS: Target, in the amount of \$788.46, designated for the purchase of supplies and materials for community members who volunteer at Oakland Mills.
- Reservoir HS: Gator African American Parents (GAAP), in the amount of \$3,315, designated to support the achievement of African American students.
- River Hill HS: Columbia Foundation, in the amount of \$2,200, designated for the Art Tech Lab.
- Wilde Lake HS: Wildecats Boosters, in the amount of \$2,000, designated for equipment and supplies for various athletic teams.

### **Bridge to Excellence**

*Presenters:* Mr. Robert Glascock, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum, Instruction and Technology, and Mr. Thomas Miller, Executive Director, Instruction and Business Technology.

Mr. Glascock and Mr. Miller reported that over the past few years, programs and initiatives have been developed to begin addressing the 21st Century learner and the educational environment required to engage our "digital natives." Technology skills and literacy have been integrated into the HCPSS curriculum at all grade levels. Real-time student data and assessment information is guided by the needs of intervention programs, and attention is given to computer and technology replacement, infrastructure, and equity issues.

It was noted that the HCPSS Technology Plan has two major purposes. First and foremost is to lay the foundation for the

establishment of a 21st Century learning environment that engages students and incorporates technology to align with HCPSS goals for student achievement and to provide a safe and nurturing educational environment. The Technology Plan is also required as part of MSDE's (Maryland State Department of Education) Bridge to Excellence Master Plan. Each county is responsible for providing a five-year technology plan, which also ensures eligibility in the federal e-Rate Funding program. The plan focuses on five key areas:

### **Student Learning**

Beginning in August 2008, every curricular program will have an electronic instructional guide for educators accessible via the school system Intranet. Currently, HCPSS provides in-school and at-home access to a variety of online databases. Discovery Education streaming provides teachers with the tools to incorporate fresh, vibrant digital media into student learning environments quickly and easily.

The HCPSS is a participant in the MSDE Partnership Grant entitled "Technology Literacy by Grade 8." One of the major goals of this grant is to develop a PreK-8 Educational Technology State Voluntary Curriculum.

Future initiatives will include a virtual 1:1 learning environment, the use of electronic textbooks, a student online learning community, and the use of emerging technologies for alternative instructional delivery methods.

### **Professional Development**

Currently, staff from the Office of Media and Educational Technology presents information on integrating technology into instruction during countywide professional development days. Staff also offers a Technology Leadership Academy for Administrators and works directly with administrators and school improvement teams to integrate educational technology into school improvement plans.

A set of relevant, targeted, and job-embedded technology competencies is being developed for all staff. This involves reviewing job descriptions and performing needs assessments to define the technology knowledge and skills staff need to do their jobs. An ongoing technology professional development program will be developed that provides for the technology training needs of all staff and promotes professional growth.

Training and support efforts will be encouraged across administrative and instructional levels to promote sharing of best practices and related

tools. Each individual, school, and office/department will be encouraged to include technology training in annual professional development plans.

### **Administrative Productivity and Efficiency**

There will be a focus on increasing access, collaboration, and coordination of instructional resources to aid in the delivery of instruction and to support school improvement planning.

### **Universal Access**

To provide an agile and robust technology infrastructure, staff will employ an industry standard to network security, hardware and applications, intrusion detection/protection capabilities, and authentication practices. New staffing ratios for instruction and operations will be created based on increases in technology requirements, new staffing, and new initiatives.

The technology infrastructure will be standardized and refreshed on a regular basis. The HCPSS Replacement Plan incorporates both the equitable distribution of equipment for instruction and operations (based on requirements) and also incrementally improves and standardizes the underlying infrastructure needed to support the technology.

### **Research and Evaluation**

A change-management process with a governing board will be established to evaluate changes that impact the system, schools, or programs. There will also be a continuation of triangulating technology decision-making through the use of internal expertise, external expertise, and the HCPSS Technology Advisory Committee.

The HCPSS will evaluate the Technology Plan on a periodic basis through the Bridge to Excellence Master Plan. The system will monitor the implementation of the plan and the progress towards implementing technology standards for teachers, students, and administrators.

### *Discussion:*

Mr. Glascock stated that the number of households with computers is estimated at approximately 90 percent. Work with the Lazarus Foundation involves identifying 20 families in need of computer access and addressing those needs. Staff is also looking at how to increase the number of families receiving services and how to sustain this over time. It was noted that requesting email addresses on emergency procedure cards and reviewing subscription data for E-school communications could also help identify families in need.

Dr. Cousin added that the school system is working with the Educational Foundation on this issue and trying to put computers in the hands of families who do not have access. He noted that connectivity needs to be provided as well. Students from Mount View MS conducted an analysis of how to put devices into the hands of students who may not have them and presented their findings at a Johns Hopkins expo as part of a gifted and talented project.

Mr. Glascock explained that the digital backpack involves reviewing a wide array of digital content that will be available online or in schools. Next year staff will look at several schools and give some teachers and parents choices of whether to receive a textbook or be provided with a CD Rom for online access to the textbook at home. Mrs. Mikulis stated that people need to be aware that websites for online textbooks occasionally go down.

Board members and staff also discussed various aspects of the technology plan and issues that need to be addressed.

### **Leadership Interns – Unit Composition**

Presenter: Mrs. Sue Mascaro, Director, Staff Relations

Mrs. Mascaro reported that the new Leadership Intern positions in the school system's 2009 Operating Budget must be placed into one of the existing units for collective bargaining purposes. This process is called "unit designation," and it is a function of the Board of Education to make this designation.

Staff has met with the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, Chief of Staff, and representatives from the Office of School Administration. Discussions have also been held with the two relevant bargaining units - the Howard County Education Association (HCEA/Teachers) and the Howard County Administrator's Association (HCAA).

Based on the elements of the job description and discussions with the previously mentioned parties, staff is recommending that the new position category be designated within the HCAA bargaining unit. The rationale for this placement is based on the job description for the position.

Mrs. Mascaro explained that all bargaining units have clear procedures on both voluntary and involuntary procedures, which can be used in cases where a leadership intern returns to the classroom in a teaching position.

*Action:* Mrs. French moved approval of the Leadership Intern positions being placed in the HCAA bargaining unit. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Mikulis and approved by the Board (7/0).

### **Policy 9090 Wellness Through Nutrition and Physical Activity Implementation Update Report**

*Presenter:* Mrs. Mary Klatko, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service Office.

Mrs. Klatko presented an update on the implementation of the school system's wellness policy. The Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 mandated that each Maryland school system implement a Wellness Policy on the first day of the 2006-2007 school year. The mandate required each school system to have a policy that includes the following:

- Goals for nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities.
- Nutrition Guidelines for all foods available on each school campus during the day.
- Guidelines for reimbursable school meals that cannot be less than USDA standards.
- Establishment of a plan for implementation and monitoring of the policy.
- Involvement of stakeholders.

In all HCPSS schools, the wellness policy reflects the importance of student healthy decision-making on food and beverage choices; the role of nutrition education in the school curriculum, including education about abnormal eating behaviors and the importance of physical activity; and developing and promoting opportunities for physical activity before, during, and after the school day. The policy has been operational for two years with great success.

Last year an independent company, InTeam, Inc., was hired to assess the program for the purpose of assuring parents, members of the community, and the Board of Education that students are being educated in a healthy environment and receiving nutritious meals with the continuing objective of satisfying student demands for high quality, appetizing foods served in sanitary and attractive surroundings. The two representatives of the company, one a registered dietitian and the other a large district director, found the HCPSS program to be exceptional.

Mrs. Klatko recommended adding G2 and iced tea to the list of beverages available in schools. She also noted that Centennial Lane ES is piloting an organic snack initiative during the 2008/2009 school year.

*Discussion:*

Mrs. Klatko explained how the county purchasing co-op works and stated that 12 counties in Maryland put bids together for high-value products.

In response to Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Klatko indicated that it is possible to look at other distributors who might carry healthy foods at a lesser expense, but the preference is to stay within the current purchasing parameters.

Ms. Gordon asked about the preparation of meals for various dietary restrictions. Mrs. Klatko stated that help is provided to diabetics and children with allergies. She noted that a vegetarian option is always provided, and a popular item is the yogurt and fruit plate.

Mrs. Mikulis asked for information regarding the healthy snacks that are offered at all schools. Mrs. Klatko stated that the school system offers in all schools pretzels, popcorn, cookies prepared by school system staff, 100 percent juice, water products, milk, fruits and vegetables, sherbets, and ice cream that is lower in fat and sugar than previous offerings.

Dr. Siddiqui noted that the parents at Centennial Lane ES have put a lot of work and effort toward their snack program and are looking for a successful outcome. Parents mentioned that their distributor is charging less than the school system can provide, which indicates the need to review this program further. Mrs. Klatko noted that fees for items are determined based on fuel surcharges and distribution drop-off prices, etc. Many times the shelf-life of a product is not sufficient to use in the proper time period, which also presents a challenge.

Dr. Siddiqui expressed concern regarding the offering of isotonic beverages. She noted the many benefits that milk has to offer and expressed her preference to not give children the option of choosing isotonic beverages. She indicated that parents are looking to the Board for guidance in terms of having appropriate choices available, and the Board has an obligation to ensure that students are making the right choices.

Mrs. French noted that there is \$250,000 dollar bond deficit and a great deal of that is because those types of drinks were removed from choice at certain school sites. Unless the Board is willing to add the food account to the operating budget and support it, there will be a deficit in future years. Mrs. French commented that she has personally monitored lunchrooms, and some children pick through a healthy lunch brought from

home, throw away 90 percent of it, and only eat the high sugar and high fat content. She noted the importance of constantly educating students on their choices and also stated that some students are buying isotonic drinks for after school activities, and these beverages do not spoil like milk.

Dr. Siddiqui pointed out that isotonic beverages are available after school in all high schools and indicated that the success of the pilot program at Centennial Lane ES would provide an opportunity to educate children on good habits that will continue throughout their lifetime. Dr. Siddiqui also stated that she would like to hear from the public on this issue.

Dr. Cousin pointed out that there was a lot of community involvement regarding the formulation of the wellness policy, which included discussion about beverages and other aspects. He noted that decisions should not be about funding but about the welfare of students and about choices. He stated that staff would come back to the Board with recommendations regarding the policy regulations.

Mr. Aquino noted that when prices are raised, less students buy lunch and therefore at not getting milk, but a choice must be made with regards to selling more meals that are nutritious versus the lunch program running a deficit.

### **Approval of the Audit Plan – 2008-2009**

*Presenter:* Mr. John Connors, Internal Auditor

Mr. Connors reported on the following accomplishments FY 2008:

Completed 14 school activity fund audits:

2 High Schools

Atholton HS

River Hill HS

4 Middle Schools

Dunloggin MS

Hammond

Harper's Choice

Lime Kiln

7 Elementary Schools

Bellows Spring

Centennial Lane

Clemens Crossing

Approved – August 14, 2008

Ilchester  
Rockburn  
Thunder Hill  
Waterloo

1. Special  
Cedar Lane School

An outcome of these audits noted that recommendations regarding weaknesses in either policy implementation and/or program administration were reported to the appropriate management officials for corrective action.

For 2009, Mr. Connors said he would like to complete audits at 18 – 20 schools. He plans on focusing on schools that have experienced administrative/fiscal staff turnover, followed by those that have experienced significant bank balance swings.

The Audit Committee was receptive to the 2009 Audit Plan presented on June 11, 2008, at the quarterly Audit Committee meeting.

*Discussion:*

Mrs. Mikulis pointed out the benefits that have resulted from school audits and noted the importance of taking time to do a thorough and accurate job. Mr. Connors noted that audits also consist of looking at inventories of audiovisual equipment, computers in each school, the purchasing card program, and payroll and attendance reporting.

Ms. Gordon commented on the learning experience she has received as part of the audit committee and noted that school system staff is now aware of some practices that have been inappropriate.

Mr. Connors noted that the school system is now being audited by MSDE, which is done every two years. They look at student enrollment and state aid and will be working with the school system for six months.

Mrs. Giles noted that Mr. Connors plays a role in working through these audit visits and coordinating with the external auditor. She stated that the Board applauds Mr. Connors for proactively making changes in the school environments and assisting schools. In addition, a new accounting system will allow additional monitoring and additional controls from the Central Office and administrators in school buildings. Mrs. Giles added that Mr. Connors is doing an exemplary job.

Mrs. French noted the benefits of establishing this position and expressed appreciation for Mr. Connor's efforts. She also thanked Ms. Gordon for her two years as Audit Committee Chairman.

*Action:* Mrs. Giles moved acceptance of the Audit Plan for 2008-2009. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by the Board (7-0).

### **Board of Education Committee Assignments – 2008/2009**

The following assignments were proposed for the 2008/2009 school year:

#### Board of Education Committees

Audit - Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Giles, and Mrs. Mikulis (2 yrs.)  
 Legislative - Mr. Aquino, Mrs. French, and Dr. Siddiqui (2 yrs.)  
 Policy - Mrs. French, Mrs. Giles (2 yrs.), and Ms. Gordon

#### MABE Committees

#### Effective

Budget and Planning - Mrs. Giles	Dec 2008
Charles W. Willis Memorial Award - Mrs. Mikulis	Dec 2008
Conference Planning - Ms. Gordon	Dec 2008
Federal Relations Network - Mr. Cohen	Dec 2008
Legislative - Dr. Siddiqui	Current
Nominating - Mr. Cohen	Dec 2008
Resolutions - Mrs. Giles	Dec 2008
Legal Services Association (LSA) - Mr. Aquino (Alternates: Mr. Blom and Mrs. Giles) (2-year terms)	
County Executive's Spending Affordability Committee - Mr. Aquino	
Recreation and Parks Board - Dr. Siddiqui	
Superintendent's District Planning Board - Ms. Bademosi, Mr. Cohen, and Mrs. French	
Community Advisory Council (CAC) - Mrs. French	
PTA Council of Howard County (PTACH) - Ms. Gordon	
Howard County Association of Student Councils (HCASC) - Ms. Bademosi	

School Cluster Assignments:

A: Atholton & Oakland Mills	Mrs. Mikulis
B: Centennial & Long Reach	Mrs. French
C: Glenelg & Wilde Lake	Mr. Cohen
D: Hammond & Reservoir	Ms. Gordon
E: Howard & Marriotts Ridge	Dr. Siddiqui
F: Mt. Hebron & River Hill	Mrs. Giles

Mr. Aquino and Mrs. Mikulis thanked Mrs. Giles for organizing the committee and cluster assignments.

*Action:* Mrs. French moved acceptance of the committee and cluster assignments. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon and approved by the Board (7/0).

**Future School Sites**

Presenter: Mr. Joel Gallihue, Planning Manager.

Mr. Gallihue reported on the school system's ongoing search for appropriate school sites. Although all areas are considered, Mr. Gallihue indicated the current focus is in the east due to the Route 1 Revitalization Project and the resulting development. Executive Director of Operations Ken Roey noted that the current site acquisition fund contains \$10 million, which is insufficient.

*Discussion:*

Dr. Cousin stated that requests will continue to be made to add additional money to the site acquisition fund. He noted the importance of acquiring sites well in advance of the need. Regardless of projections, sites will be needed in the future. Consideration is being given to hiring professional consultants in this search, which has worked well in the past.

Dr. Cousin also noted that existing legislation would allow the school system to reserve sites, which will be considered for the Route 1 corridor. Staff could be coming back to the Board asking for authority to reserve sites. Mr. Roey noted that once a reservation is made, the school system has three years to purchase the land.

**Quarterly Agenda (July – September – 2008)**

Board members made minor changes to the proposed quarterly agenda.

*Action:* Mrs. Mikulis moved approval of the quarterly agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon and approved by the Board (7/0).

**Adjournment:** The chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

\*Under Section 3-701 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Student Member may not vote on these matters. Passage of a motion by the Board on these matters requires the affirmative vote of four (4) Board members.

Please note that the Student Member was not in attendance at the June 26, 2008, meeting.