

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

April 16, 2009

The Board of Education of Howard County held a regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2009, 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, Esq., Chairman
Ellen Flynn Giles, Vice Chairman
Lawrence H. Cohen
Allen Dyer, Esq.
Sandra H. French
Janet Siddiqui, M.D.

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

Chairman Frank Aquino called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m., and Mr. Cohen led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation of *Friends of Education Awards*

The Friends of Education Award was established by the Board to recognize and show appreciation to those who have made exemplary volunteer contributions in support of the school system's mission of excellence in teaching and learning. The award also serves to increase awareness of how community involvement enhances student achievement. Any member of the Howard County community or any group, organization, or business located in or serving Howard County may be nominated for the award.

Mr. Aquino introduced the four nominees and the recipient of the 2009 Friends of Education Award. Board members presented the nominees with a certificate and the recipient with the award.

Nominees: Ms. Sheila Bishoff, Mr. Joseph Herr, Mr. Mike Kerwin, and Ms. Johnnie Nussbaum

Recipient: Mrs. Caryn Lasser

Public Forum

Ms. Lauren Rifkin expressed concern regarding equal opportunities for educators who are seeking state scholarship funds to cover the \$2,500 application fee for National Board Certification.

Approval of Agenda

The following changes were made to the agenda:

Delete:

- Item 3.G. - Closed Meeting Minutes.
- Item 5.F. – Legislative Report - 2008 General Assembly.
- Item 9. - Appointment – PTA Council of Howard County Monthly Report.

It was noted that replacement pages were provided for Item 3.B. – Bids and Contracts.

Approval of meeting minutes includes the Board's Regular Meeting of March 12, 2009, and the BOE/County Council Quarterly Meeting of April 1, 2009.

Action: Mrs. Giles moved approval of the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siddiqui and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cousin congratulated the following individuals:

- Ms. Adejire Bademosi, Student Board Member, for her selection as a Bentley University Tomorrow25 winner.
- Mr. Tony Miceli, Burleigh Manor MS teacher, for his selection as the 2009 Middle School Advisor of the Year by the Maryland Association of Student Councils.
- Ms. Tracy Ganey Spillman, gifted and talented resource teacher at Lime Kiln Middle School, for her selection as the Washington Post Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher.
- Ms. Cynthia Hankin, Principal of Deep Run ES, for receiving the Washington Post's Distinguished Educational Leadership Award.
- Mr. William Ryan, Principal of River Hill HS, for his selection as the 2009 Maryland Principal of the Year by the Maryland Association of Secondary School Principals.

Student Representative's Report

No Student Representative was present to address the Board.

Board Members' Reports

Mr. Cohen, Chairman of the Board's Audit Committee, reported on the March 18, 2009, committee meeting.

Action: Mr. Cohen moved approval of the Audit Committee Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Giles and approved by the members of the committee (2/1), with Mr. Dyer voting no.

Mr. Cohen reported that he and County Council Chairperson, Mary Kay Sigaty, visited eight schools on April 13, 2009. He thanked the administrators, teachers, and students for their hospitality.

Mrs. French reported on the National School Board Association (NSBA) Conference, held in San Diego, California, that was attended by four Board members.

Mrs. Giles reported that she; Mr. Aquino; Dr. Cousin; and Mr. Krownapple, Cultural Proficiency Coordinator, were asked to present information at the NSBA Conference on the HCPSS Cultural Proficiency Initiative. Mrs. Giles was also included in the Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) presentation, "Are You Smarter Than A Board President?" In addition, Mrs. Giles attended the graduation ceremony of DEAR (Drop Everything And Read)—an HCPSS partnership program with the Howard County library.

Mr. Dyer reported that he and Dr. Siddiqui attended Howard County's First Environmental Summit "Greenfest" on April 4, 2009. He also attended an event organized by a Guilford ES parent where Guilford students and others came together and cleaned up a specific area as a way of giving back to the Guilford area community.

Consent Agendas - Restricted* and General

Due to the absence of the Student Member, the Board combined both the Restricted and General Consent agendas for approval. The BOE/County Council Quarterly Meeting Minutes were pulled for voting purposes.

Staff Personnel; Bids and Contracts; Donations; Operating Budget Monthly Report; School Construction Monthly Report; SB894 Certification Letter, and Minutes of the March 12, 2009, Regular Board Meeting.

Action: Mrs. Giles moved approval of the Restricted and General Consent agendas as specified. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Minutes of the BOE/County Council Quarterly Meeting of April 1, 2009.

Action: Mrs. Giles moved approval of the BOE/County Council Quarterly Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2009. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siddiqui and approved by the Board (5/1), with Mr. Aquino abstaining.

Staff Personnel – Approved by the Board.

Resignations

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Reason	Years in Howard County	Effective Date
Ardinger, Richard	HaHS	Math	Personal	8.0	06/16/09
Bonnington, Lori	TRES	Spec. Ed.	Other Employment	12.0	06/30/09
Fargnoli, Christine	LWES	Elem. Ed.	Personal	2.0	06/19/09
Fine, Kristopher	LRHS	Science	Personal	3.7	03/06/09
Gottlieb, Lisa	Fr. Leave	GT Resource	Family Obligations	8.0	06/30/09
Kirchhoff, Molly	Fr. Leave	Forg. Lang.	Leave Expired	9.0	06/30/09
MEEK, Casey	CLES	Spec. Ed.	Personal	2.0	06/19/09
Marsico, Christa	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Family Obligations	10.0	06/30/09
Moran, Adrienne	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Family Obligations	8.0	06/30/09
Pallett, Lisa	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Continue Education	9.0	06/30/09
Snider, Rachael	Fr. Leave	Elem. Ed.	Leave Expired	6.0	06/30/09
Tate, Lindsay	JHES	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	2.0	06/19/09
Taylor, Stacey	Fr. Leave	Forg. Lang.	Personal	12.0	06/30/09

Leaves of Absence

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Years in Howard County	Effective Date
Dilley, Kiersten	HFES	Spec. Ed.	11.0	08/25/09
Dorsey, Teresa	BSES	Elem. Ed.	4.0	03/11/09
Figuroa, Kelly	GES	Elem. Ed.	7.0	04/22/09
Wright, Georgia	BSES	Elem. Ed.	4.0	03/17/09

<u>Retirement</u>			Years in	Effective
<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade or Subject</u>	<u>Howard County</u>	<u>Date</u>
Meconi, Steve	NOES	Principal	22.0	07/01/09

Bids and Contracts – Approved by the Board.

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
P-1	STUDENT TRANSPORTATION B.L. Corn Inc. Ram's Bus Service TOTAL AWARD	\$ 58,230 63,270 <hr/> \$121,500
P-2	STUDENT TRANSPORTATION Trans-White, Inc. Bowen's Bus Service Inc. SDS Bus Service Tip Top Transportation TOTAL AWARD	\$ 57,425.40 116,671.50 119,557.80 348,030.00 <hr/> \$641,684.70
P-3	PRINT SHOP PAPER Xpedx	\$ 77,108.90
P-4	COMPREHENSIVE COMPUTER-TO-PLATE (CTP) SYSTEM GE Richards Xpedx TOTAL AWARD	\$ 863.52 35,129.92 <hr/> \$35,993.44
P-5	HAND SANITIZER Leonard Paper Co.	\$79,875.00
P-6	WEB BASED GRADE REPORTING SERVICE TeacherEase	\$42,000.00
P-7	CHILLER REPLACEMENT AT HOMEWOOD SCHOOL McQuay	\$99,546.00
P-8	CORE NETWORK UPGRADE Presidio Solutions	\$390,757.88

Donations – Approved by the Board.

HCPSS

Technology Ctr.: Howard Community College, computer servers valued at \$3,400.

Bushy Park ES: Target, in the amount of \$533.46, designated for the purchase of printer cartridges for the computer lab.

Running Brook ES: Mr. Robert Bryan, in the amount of \$500, designated to purchase student planners and to assist families with field trip expenses.

Mr. William L. Jews, in the amount of \$500, designated to purchase books for reading and math night.

Mrs. Vivian Bailey, in the amount of \$1,000, designated to purchase two Wii systems and games. The Wii will be used by physical therapists to encourage large motor skills for special needs students.

Burleigh Manor MS: Centennial HS SGA, in the amount of \$800, designated to assist with the expenses of students attending the Maryland Association of Student Council conference.

Atholton HS: Target, in the amount of \$522.15, designated for the purchase of HSA supplementary materials and booklets.

Steuart Investment Company, in the amount of \$1,000, designated to assist with the purchase of a baseball pitching machine.

Beers & Cutler PLLC, in the amount of \$500, designated to assist with the purchase of a baseball pitching machine.

Boosters, in the amount of \$2,200, designated for the purchase of uniforms for the girls' lacrosse team.

- Centennial HS: PTSA, in the amount of \$2,000: (\$500) designated for the Class of 2009, (\$500) designated for the Class of 2010, (\$500) designated for the Class of 2011, and (\$500) designated for the Class of 2012.
- Howard HS: Target, in the amount of \$925.91, designated for PBIS student incentives and awards.
- Long Reach HS: Target, in the amount of \$575.24, designated to support the Renaissance Program, a program that supports academic achievement.
- Boosters, in the amount of \$1,600: (\$1,000) designated for the track team, and (\$600) designated for the purchase of a baseball batting cage.
- Marriotts Ridge HS: Boosters, in the amount of \$4,500: (\$1,500) designated for the purchase of dance costumes, (\$2,000) designated for honor roll incentives, and (\$1,000) designated to support the "History Alive" workshops.
- PTSA, in the amount of \$658.11: (\$300) designated for the purchase of novels for the Italian class, (\$100) for a guest speaker, P. Spevak, Ph.D., and (\$258.11) for junior symposium expenses.
- Mount Hebron HS: Target, in the amount of \$589.41, designated for Student-of-the-Month activities.
- Oakland Mills HS: Target, in the amount of \$703.48, designated for the purchase of pens and other incentives for community volunteers.
- Reservoir HS: Tomorrow's Treasures, two embroidery machines, valued at \$9,522, designated for the Fashion Technology Program.

River Hill HS: Boosters, in the amount of \$900, designated for the purchase of uniforms for the girls' basketball team.

Mr. Frank Coale, in the amount of \$672.80, designated for the purchase of lacrosse equipment for the boys' lacrosse team.

Target, in the amount of \$570.37, designated for the purchase of computer cartridges.

Operating Budget Monthly Report – Accepted by the Board.

School Construction Monthly Report – Accepted by the Board.

SB894 Certification Letter – Approved by the Board.

Proclamation: National Administrative Professionals Week

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY
PROCLAMATION
HONORING
THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS
OF THE
HOWARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

WHEREAS April 19-25, 2009 is designated as National Administrative Professionals Week; and

WHEREAS office professionals have served the schools and offices of the Howard County Public School System with dedication and commitment throughout the history of the organization; and

WHEREAS office professionals play a vital role in advancing the mission and goals of the school system; and

WHEREAS office professionals continue to keep pace with rapid changes in their work environment and master advanced office technology with competency; and

WHEREAS the office professionals frequently and willingly respond to needs over and above their job responsibilities; and

WHEREAS these dedicated employees consistently demonstrate the highest professional standards; and

WHEREAS the contributions of each and every office professional in the system are essential to the provision of quality public education for all children;

THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Education of Howard County supports efforts to express appreciation to the office professionals of the school system; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the Board designates April 19-25, 2009 as Administrative Professionals Week in the Howard County Public School System in order to recognize the many and varied contributions made by office professionals.

Frank J. Aquino, Chairman
Board of Education of Howard County

Sydney L. Cousin, Superintendent
Howard County Public School System

Action: Dr. Siddiqui moved approval of the Proclamation Honoring the Administrative Professionals of the HCPSS. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Proclamation: School Psychology Week

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY
PROCLAMATION
HONORING
SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS

WHEREAS, the mission of the Howard County Public School System is to ensure excellence in teaching and learning so that each student will participate responsibly in a diverse and changing world, and

WHEREAS, to accomplish this mission, schools must apply sound principles of psychology to teaching and learning, and cultivate each child's intellectual, social and emotional development; and

WHEREAS, school psychologists play a vital role in the personal and academic development of students; and

WHEREAS, school psychologists help parents and educators foster healthy child development and are the school-based experts in children's learning and psychological development; and

WHEREAS, school psychologists are leaders in delivering mental health services to students; and

WHEREAS, in times of crisis, school psychologists provide critical support services to all members of the school community as part of Crisis Intervention Teams; and

WHEREAS, school psychologists are key to the school system's ability to provide a safe and nurturing environment for all students; and

THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Education of Howard County designates April 27 through May 1, 2009 as School Psychology Week in the Howard County Public School System as a means to call attention to the essential role of the

school psychologist in our public schools; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the Board of Education extends its gratitude and appreciation for the many contributions made by school psychologists in support of our students and their intellectual, social and emotional growth.

Frank J. Aquino, Chairman
Board of Education of Howard County

Sydney L. Cousin, Superintendent
Howard County Public School System

Action: Mrs. Giles moved approval of the Proclamation Honoring School Psychologists. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Proclamation: Honoring School Food Services Staff

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY
PROCLAMATION
SALUTING
SCHOOL FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICE PERSONNEL

WHEREAS May 4-8, 2009 has been proclaimed as the 24th Annual Salute to School Food and Nutrition Service Personnel Week in Maryland; and

WHEREAS the School Food and Nutrition Service Program provides a valuable service to students, staff, and citizens of Howard County; and

WHEREAS the 218 School Food and Nutrition Service employees in the public schools of Howard County are an integral part of the school system; and

WHEREAS School Food and Nutrition Service Personnel prepare and serve approximately 3,255,000 school lunches annually; and

WHEREAS the School Food and Nutrition Service Personnel of the Howard County Public School System deserve to be recognized for their dedication and continuing commitment to providing healthy, nutritious meals to students;

THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Education of Howard County joins with other school systems in the State of Maryland in designating the week of May 4-8, 2009 as Salute to School Food and Nutrition Service Personnel Week; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the Board of Education wishes to thank the School Food and Nutrition Service employees of the Howard County Public School System for their outstanding service and dedication.

Frank J. Aquino, Chairman
Board of Education of Howard County

Sydney L. Cousin, Superintendent
Howard County Public School System

Action: Mr. Aquino moved approval of the Proclamation Saluting School Food and Nutrition Service Personnel. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Giles and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Proclamation: School Nurse/Health Services Day

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY
PROCLAMATION
DESIGNATING MAY 6, 2009
AS
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES DAY

WHEREAS a goal of the Howard County Public School System is to provide a safe and nurturing school environment for all students; and

WHEREAS school nurses and health assistants collaborate with parents, other health professionals and other school staff to provide services for students that promote optimum health for academic success; and

WHEREAS school nurses and health assistants provide treatments and services for students to reduce interruptions in learning; and

WHEREAS school nurses and health assistants support adequate yearly progress among all student groups by bridging the gap between health, wellness and learning; and

WHEREAS school nurses and health assistants play an integral role in assisting families to access health care for their children; and

WHEREAS school nurses and health assistants assist students to develop lifelong health habits that prepare them to actively participate in a culturally diverse and changing world; and

WHEREAS school nurses and health assistants emphasize prevention of disease and injury, and promote health utilizing health services, health counseling, and health education;

THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Education of Howard County designates Wednesday, May 6, 2009, as School Health Services Day in the Howard County Public School System; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that this proclamation serves to launch meaningful activities in all schools in recognition of the contributions made by our school health services professionals.

Frank J. Aquino, Chairman
Board of Education of Howard County

Sydney L. Cousin, Superintendent
Howard County Public School System

Action: Mrs. French moved approval of the Proclamation Designating May 6, 2009, as School Health Services Day. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Proclamation: Honoring Occupational Therapists

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY
PROCLAMATION
HONORING
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS

WHEREAS, April 2009 has been proclaimed Occupational Therapy Month by the American Occupational Therapy Association; and

WHEREAS, the 34 occupational therapists employed by the school system make valuable contributions to education by helping students regain the skills necessary to continue their learning after an illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, occupational therapy is an integral part of the special education services available to students; and

WHEREAS, the health and productivity of our students depend upon the effective use of health care resources, including the important services of occupational therapists;

THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Education of Howard County designates April 2009 as Occupational Therapy Month in the Howard County Public School System; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the Board of Education extends its sincerest gratitude for the services provided by these valued health professionals in support of children and their education.

Frank J. Aquino, Chairman
Board of Education of Howard County

Sydney L. Cousin, Superintendent
Howard County Public School System

Action: Mr. Cohen moved approval of the Proclamation Honoring Occupational Therapists. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siddiqui and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Audit Recommendation Status Report

Presenter: Ms. Iris Ritter, Accounting Manager.

Ms. Ritter presented an update on the following items:

- Findings and recommendations resulting from the independent audit of financial statements for FY 2008.

- Management's response to the findings and recommendations and the status of management's corrective action plans.

Discussion:

Mrs. French and Mr. Dyer expressed concern regarding the password policy, which includes an 8-character minimal length password and a 90-day password expiration date.

Relocatable Classroom Assignment

Presenter: Mr. Ken Roey, Executive Director, Facilities Planning and Management.

Mr. Roey explained that an adjustment was made to staff's recommendation for placement of relocatable classrooms since the March 12, 2009, Board meeting. During development of the schedule for Mt. Hebron HS next year, construction at the school led to a conclusion that two additional units would be necessary. Construction staff have verified the feasibility of locating these units safely on site.

Mr. Roey noted that the final recommendation represents the best balance of needs versus available resources.

The proposal moves nine units for capacity and program needs as follows: one each to Atholton, Laurel Woods, and Running Brook elementary schools, and two each for Veterans ES, Waterloo ES, and Hammond HS.

Additionally, seven units will be moved to Northfield ES and 14 units to Mt. Hebron HS to accommodate students during renovations at those schools. Plans are to remove one unit each from Elkridge ES, Swansfield ES, and Mount View MS; two each from Lisbon and West Friendship elementary schools; three each from Hollifield Station and St. John's Lane elementary schools; and five from Triadelphia Ridge ES.

Discussion:

Mr. Roey explained that Mr. Joel Gallihue, Manager, School Planning, took a considerable amount of time to visit and talk to each school principal individually to make sure they were comfortable with the reasoning behind the final relocatable classroom decisions.

Mr. Aquino asked Mr. Roey for an updated chart on "Proposed Changes – Relocatables/Modular Classrooms".

Action: Mrs. Giles moved acceptance of the recommendation for the assignment of relocatable classrooms. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siddiqui and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Northfield ES Additions and Renovation - Approval of Construction Documents*

Presenter: Mr. Ken Roey, Executive Director, Facilities Planning and Management, and Mr. Michael Lahowin, Principal, TCA Architects.

Mr. Roey and Mr. Lahowin explained the Construction Document (CD) brochure, which describes the new additions and renovations at Northfield ES. The project scope of work includes adding six classrooms (150 students) in grades 1-5, a cafeteria expansion, an additional art and music room, and a gym activity room along with additional support spaces such as storage areas, bathrooms, and teacher planning spaces. They explained that the addition of the new spaces would create a circular flow pattern that would improve student class changes and that this design intent is to achieve a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver Certification. Northfield ES will be the first "Green" building and the first geothermal system for HCPSS.

Discussion:

Mr. Bruce Gist, Director of School Construction, and Mr. Lahowin explained the LEED Scorecard and possible credits that can be obtained for certification.

Board members expressed concern regarding the placement of a door in the principal's office leading to the exterior of the building.

Dr. Siddiqui thanked Mr. Gist and Mr. Lahowin for extending the bike path and adding the bike rack for students.

Action: Mrs. Giles moved acceptance of the construction documents. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dyer and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Policy - 7060 – Royalties

Presenter: Mr. Mark Blom, General Counsel.

Policy 7060 was reviewed under the guidelines for policy development and adoption. A committee of stakeholders, chaired by Mr. Blom, was convened to make recommendations for revisions.

Mr. Blom stated that the policy has been updated to cover not just written materials and books, but also other types of materials. He clarified the issue regarding the amount that must be donated to an approved charity if an employee produces or authors a product that is purchased by the HCPSS.

Mr. Blom presented revisions to Policy 7060, with a proposed effective date of July 1, 2009.

Discussion:

Mrs. Giles asked if approval by the Ethics Commission would be available by the proposed effective date. Mr. Blom stated that the Ethics Commission has been very responsive and works with local Boards very cooperatively.

Mrs. French suggested that "content" be changed to "context" under the Definitions section of the policy.

A discussion took place regarding whether or not the Board has the authority to copyright intellectual property. Mr. Dyer stated his belief that if the Board approved the proposed policy as written, the Board would be acting illegally and operating beyond its authority.

Mr. Blom explained that the Maryland Public Information Act gives citizens a broad right of access to documents by a public school system, but it is not an absolute right. He stated that documents protected by another law, specifically documents protected by federal statute, may not be released. Dr. Siddiqui added that the BOE is a public domain and has the responsibility to protect information that is produced in the school system. Mrs. French pointed out that the Board always seeks legal counsel and should reserve the right to choose to copyright or to patent.

Mr. Aquino asked if there were other school systems with similar policies. Mr. Blom replied yes and stated that part of the committee's work was to review policies of other school systems in Maryland. He added that the committee found that an extremely uniform and

consistent approach across the country, as is reflected in the policy presented to the Board.

Action: Mr. Cohen moved acceptance of Policy 7060 – Royalties, as written. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French and approved by the members of the Board (5/1), with Mr. Dyer voting no.

Policy – 1050 – Tobacco Free Environment

Presenter: Mr. Dave Bruzga, Administrative Director, Secondary Schools.

Mr. Bruzga reported on the recommended revisions:

- Remove “school bus stops” from the definition of “School Building”.
- In Item IV. C., “additional non-compliance” was substituted for “a third offense”.

Discussion:

Mrs. French asked if school bus stops are considered part of school property with regards to a student smoking. Mr. Bruzga explained that Policy 1050 – Tobacco Free Environment and Policy 9240 – Student Use and Possession of Tobacco prohibit everyone (parents as well as students) from using tobacco products at school bus stops during the time that these places are used for school purposes.

Action: Mrs. Giles moved acceptance of Policy 1050 – Tobacco Free Environment. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siddiqui and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Policy – 9240 – Student Use and Possession of Tobacco

Presenter: Mr. Dave Bruzga, Administrative Director, Secondary Schools.

Mr. Bruzga reported on recommended revisions based on input from the public, staff, and Board members.

- Remove the definition of Constructive Possession.
- Remove “school bus stops” from the definition of School Building.
- Add a definition for “tobacco”.

Discussion:

Discussion involved the legal implications of defining school bus stops as legal property of the school system. It was noted that school bus stops are addressed in the Standards portion of the policy.

Action: Dr. Siddiqui moved approval of Policy 9240. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Policy – 1060 – Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation (New)

Presenter: Ms. Pamela Blackwell, Director, Student Reassignment, and Ms. Arlene Harrison, Administrative Director, Elementary Schools.

Ms. Blackwell and Ms. Harrison presented the proposed new Policy 1060 - Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation. This policy was developed in response to state law and sets specific expectations for the implementation of prevention and intervention strategies.

The Implementation Procedures specify how incidents of bullying, harassment, or intimidation are to be handled. A public hearing on the proposed policy will be held May 12, with action scheduled for June 11, 2009.

Discussion:

Discussion involved the appropriateness of including references to "gangs" in the policy. Staff was asked to consider including language to address this issue.

Regarding the definition of bullying included in the policy, it was noted that the definition used comes directly from the state model policy. Professional development with staff and administrators will address specific indicators of bullying behavior.

It was also noted that the reporting form developed by MSDE (Maryland State Department of Education) addresses behavior exhibited on the way to and from school and on school buses. Language could also be included in the policy regarding this issue. Once the reporting form is generated, it is the requirement of the school administrator to launch an investigation using the school investigation form. This information is captured into a database and is reported to the state annually.

It was suggested that the state be advised to add a category for electronic communication regarding cyber bullying on the reporting form.

A suggestion was also made to place the language included in the introductory paragraph of the Standards section as a numbered item in that portion of the policy.

Ms. Blackwell stated that the document outlining the state requirement regarding annual professional development would be provided to the Board.

Policy – 6010 – School Attendance Areas

Presenter: Mr. Joel Gallihue, Manager, School Planning.

A minor change to Policy 6010 was presented for consideration as a result of the High School Capacity formula changes. The change is in the definition of Program Capacity, Item III.F. (c), where "90%" is changed to "80% or 85%." This change will provide consistency with the new High School Capacity Guidelines.

Action: Mr. Cohen moved that the Board accept the change to Policy 6010 – School Attendance Areas, as written. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siddiqui and approved by the members of the Board (6/0).

Recess: The Chairman recessed the meeting at 6:38 p.m. and reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

Public Forum

HCPSS teachers Douglass Lea, Rick Ewart and Katie Murphy requested that the Board fund the incentive stipend for all teachers who receive National Board Certification.

Public Hearing – Policy 6060 – Improvements to School Sites or Schools

Mr. Chris Wertman, Chairman, Community Advisory Council (CAC)

- Commended Mr. Wayne Crosby, Policy Committee Chairman, and members of the committee for their work on this policy

- Provided CAC's recommendation that Item I.A.5 of the Implementation Procedures include the specific office and/or position of the individual authorized to approve exceptions to the policy.

Public Hearing – Policy 6070 – Closing of Schools

Mr. Chris Wertman, Chairman, Community Advisory Council (CAC)

- Commended Mr. Joel Gallihue, Policy Committee Chairman, and members of the committee for their work on this policy.
- Expressed support for adoption of the policy.
- Indicated that the need for legal counsel review should have occurred during the policy development and review process.
- Stated that the policy committee should have been given the opportunity to review the final version of the policy prior to presentation for Board approval.

Adjournment: The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Information Item

Food and Nutrition Service Financial Report

*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.