

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HOWARD COUNTY

May 12, 2009

The Board of Education of Howard County held a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 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 (left at 6:25 p.m.)
Ellen Flynn Giles, Vice Chairman
Lawrence H. Cohen
Allen Dyer, Esq.
Sandra H. French
Patricia S. Gordon
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 two members of Boy Scout Troop 793, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Forum

No one was present to address the Board.

Approval of Agenda

The following changes were made to the agenda:

- Item 5.B. HCASC Report – Change from Action to Report.
- Add Item 5.D. Fiscal 2010 Operating Budget – Action.
- Add Item 5.E. Fiscal 2010 Capital Budget – Action.

Meeting minutes include Closed Meeting minutes (Official and Confidential) of April 30, 2009; Regular Meeting minutes of April 16, 2009; and BOE Legislative Committee minutes of March 30, 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 (7/0).

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Cousin offered congratulations to the following individuals:

- Ms. Tara Brown, kindergarten teacher at Talbott Springs ES, Howard County's First Year Educator at the elementary level.
- Mr. Brian Sackett, English teacher at Atholton HS, Howard County's First Year Educator at the secondary level.
- Ms. Kimberly Feldman, 9th grade English teacher at Oakland Mills HS, 2009 Howard County Teacher of the Year.
- Ms. Terri O'Connell, teacher at Mayfield Woods MS, 2009 Maryland History Day Teacher of the Year.
- Lime Kiln MS Principal, Ms. Brenda Thomas, MSDE's Service-Learning Principal of the Year.
- Students Daniel Atlas, Glenelg HS, and Micah Miles, Atholton HS, recipients of MSDE Service Stars Awards.
- Centennial HS seniors Peter Kamel and Teresa Yeh, 2009 Presidential Scholars from Maryland, and their teachers Ms. Michelle Bagley and Mr. Jason Piluk, who have been selected to receive the Presidential Scholars Teacher Recognition Award.

Student Representative's Report

No Student Representative was present to address the Board.

Board Members' Reports

Mr. Cohen reported on his attendance at the SECAC (Special Education Community Advisory Committee) Teacher and Staff Recognition ceremony. He also spoke about a dance program he attended at Wilde Lake HS, as well as musical performances and a school play held at Glenelg HS. He urged the community to take advantage of the inexpensive and amazing student performances offered by the school system.

Mr. Dyer spoke about his attendance at a meeting of the Howard County Community Association where a special annual dues rate was set of \$1.00 for full-time students. He encouraged students who are interested in learning about county operations to take advantage of this opportunity to join the association.

Mrs. French reported on the Oakland Mills HS Alpha Achievers Awards ceremony, which recognizes African American students who have maintained a minimum GPA of 3.0. She expressed appreciation to the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity for their work in mentoring these students.

Mrs. Giles commented on the remarkable exhibit of kindergarten artwork that is on display at the Faulkner Ridge Center and her participation in Project Discovery, the Parent Involvement Matters contest, sponsored by Comcast. In her role as a member of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education's (MABE) Resolution Committee, Mrs. Giles asked Board members to review and comment on MABE resolutions for next year.

Mrs. Gordon reminded everyone of the Simulated Congressional Hearings that begin on May 14 and run through June 11, 2009, at various elementary schools.

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.

Staff Personnel; Bids and Contracts; Operating Budget Monthly Report; School Construction Monthly Report; Appointment of Local Representative PL81-874 (Impact Aid); Closed Meeting Minutes of April 30, 2009 (Official and Confidential); Regular Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2009; and BOE Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes of March 30, 2009.

Action: Mrs. Giles moved acceptance of the Consent Agendas (Restricted* and General), with the exception of the Legislative Committee Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Dr. Siddiqui moved approval of the Legislative Committee Meeting minutes of March 30, 2009. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French and approved by the committee members (2/1), with Mr. Aquino abstaining.

Staff Personnel – Approved by the Board.**Resignations-Violation of Contract**

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Reason	Howard County	Years in Effective Date
*Thompson, Michael	PVMS	Technology	Personal	7 Months	3/20/09

* (Previously reported on 3/13/09 as a resignation.)

Resignations

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Reason	Howard County	Years in Effective Date
Ciborowski, Laura	TSES	Elem. Ed.	Spec. Ed.	1.0	06/19/09
Cochran, Julianne	OMHS	Math	Other Employment	1.0	06/19/09
Durlach, Kathryn	EES	Speech	Other Employment	3.0	06/19/09
Gracey, Andrea	GES	Spec. Ed.	Other Employment	7.0	06/19/09
Granado, Elaine	HoHS	English	Family Obligations	1.0	05/05/09
Hutto, Molly	HoHS	Forg. Lang.	Other Employment	3.0	06/19/09
Hymes, Ann	LFES	Elem. Ed.	Personal	1.0	06/19/09
Loretto, Shannon	GCES	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	2.0	06/19/09
Moore, Rachael	SJES	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	2.0	06/19/09
Otis, Kendra	DRES	Elem. Ed.	Relocation	4.0	06/19/09
Santoro, Jennifer	AHS	Math	Relocation	2.0	06/19/09
Smith, Amy	Fr. Leave	English	Relocation	12.0	06/30/09
Szmajda, Cassandra	WLHS	English	Personal	1.0	06/19/09

Retirement

Name	School	Grade or Subject	Howard County	Years in Effective Date
Blakeslee, Linda	CHS	Soc. Studies	28.0	07/01/09
Carter, Carol	DOES	Spec. Ed., Pre K	22.6	07/01/09
Clark, Lois	DRES	Rdg. Specialist	16.0	07/01/09
Cook, Donna	ARL	PPW	30.0	07/01/09
Doyle, Daniel	CHS	CWE	18.6	07/01/09
Feagin, Karen	CES	Elem. Ed.	22.9	07/01/09
Gardner, Richard	HOHS	Art	34.6	07/01/09
Girardi, Roberta	C.O.	Resource	30.0	07/01/09
Harrigan, Pamela	WaES	Counselor	29.2	07/01/09
Holland, Marilyn	GHS	Forg. Language	25.5	07/01/09
Laric, Roberta	FRES	Art	21.0	07/01/09
Lewis, Glenn	HCMS	Counselor	27.8	07/01/09
McIntosh, Peter	BMMS	Asst. Principal	41.0	07/01/09
Pryor, Alberta	NOES	Elem. Ed.	21.0	07/01/09
Radar, Ann	ReHS	Forg. Language	9.0	07/01/09
Schneider, Cathy	IES	Elem. Ed.	30.0	07/01/09
Smith, Bruce	CHS	Soc. Studies	35.0	07/01/09
Stark, Nancy	GES	Elem. Ed.	24.0	07/01/09
Thomas, Darlene	WaVE	Elem. Ed.	25.0	07/01/09

Bids and Contracts – Approved by the Board.

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
P-1	HVAC RENOVATIONS AT GLENELG HIGH SCHOOL The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company	\$4,066,300
P-2	ROOF REPLACEMENT – MAYFIELD WOODS MIDDLE SCHOOL Simpson of Maryland, Inc.	\$916,000
P-3	ROOF REPLACEMENT – OAKLAND MILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL Interstate Corporation	\$1,425,000
P-4	40,000 GALLON UNDERGROUND STEEL WATER TANK – GLENELG HIGH SCHOOL Utilities Unlimited, Inc.	\$135,150
P-5	PAVING SERVICES M. T. Laney Company, Inc. P. Flanigan & Sons, Inc. Ross Contracting, Inc. TOTAL AWARD	\$ 73,245 168,174 <u>178,675</u> \$420,094
P-6	SOCCER REFEREE SERVICES Metropolitan Washington Soccer Referees Association	\$45,000

<u>Action</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Vendor/Agency/Contract</u>	<u>Amount</u>
PR-1	Liebert UPS backup power system for the Central Office Data Center	PEPPM Technology Bidding and Purchasing Program – a Pennsylvania based technology buying consortium for educational and other governmental agencies. Magothy Technologies, LLC serves as local distributor Expires: December 31, 2009 Savings: \$5,000 plus a one year of service.	\$112,700

PR-2	Ironport Anti-spam and email content filtering software, license and support services	Maryland Education Enterprise Consortium (MEEC) contract no. USM2007-12 Daly Computer serves as local distributor Expires: 2012 Savings: \$19,383 by using a 0% leasing vehicle over 5 years.	\$279,851 for 5 years
PR-3	Jenn-Kans, Inc. for waste and recycling removal services	Howard County Government Contract to be amended to include waste and recycling services. Expires: 2013 with renewal options Savings: Approx. \$40,000 annually	\$370,000/year

Operating Budget Monthly Report – Accepted by the Board.

School Construction Monthly Report – Accepted by the Board.

Appointment of Local Representative PL81-874 (Impact Aid) – Approved by the Board.

Closed Meeting Minutes of April 30, 2009 (Official and Confidential) – Approved by the Board.

Regular Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2009 – Approved by the Board.

HCASC (Howard County Association of School Councils) Report

Presenters: Mrs. Ronnie Bohn, Program Support Specialist; Ms. Julie Morse, Student, Special Elections Coordinator for the Howard County Association of Student Councils (HCASC); and Ms. Cindy Drummond, Assistant HCASC Advisor.

Ms. Morse provided an overview of the association's purpose, including programs and accomplishments of the current school year and preliminary plans for the upcoming school year. She reported that upon reflection of their mission and the services they offered, the

HCASC Executive Board identified challenges to be overcome and created a vision for future work. HCASC members worked this year to increase participation of students to make the group truly representative of Howard County's student populations and to make HCASC the "go to" group of student leaders for public and private organizations wishing to obtain the "student voice."

To accomplish this, HCASC will continue to:

- Recruit widespread representation in the county.
- Express student concerns and provide student representatives for school system and community committees and activities.
- Balance business with fun.
- Designate time during or outside meetings for team building and bonding activities.
- Create a powerful legacy for future HCASC leaders.

Discussion:

Mr. Cohen asked how HCASC is including the at-risk and disconnected students and getting them involved in the program. Ms. Drummond explained that discussion at the fall meeting involved what it means to be a representative and a student leader within a school. Through Student Government Association (SGA) forums, students have started to recognize how powerful they are as representative leaders, and they have become conscious of how they help take care of school business.

Ms. Drummond stated that students have the opportunity to register to vote during high school graduation rehearsals. She indicated that HCASC students could promote this before graduation rehearsals begin in order to raise awareness of this opportunity. Mrs. Giles noted that the League of Women Voters has been working with the school system to promote this opportunity on a regular basis. Mrs. French suggested that HCASC provide assistance by giving advance notification to seniors. Mr. Dyer suggested that HCASC purchase the public list of registered voters and distribute copies to all high schools.

Mrs. French asked that information regarding interaction between the Student Member of the Board and HCASC be reviewed and considered for inclusion when HCASC bylaws are undergoing revision this coming school year. Ms. Drummond indicated that various responsibilities of the Student Member will also be discussed during the review of Policy 2010 – Student Representation.

Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) Chart

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

Mr. Gallihue presented the 2009 Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) chart, which is used as part of the residential growth management process of Howard County. The chart identifies individual elementary or middle schools that show a capacity use of less than 115 percent. Those regions are considered "open" for future residential development. Regions with schools showing greater than 115 percent capacity use are considered "closed" for future residential development.

For 2012/2013, six elementary schools are predicted to be at or above 115 percent capacity. Those schools include Bellows Spring, Clemens Crossing, Guilford, Laurel Woods, Phelps Luck, and Thunder Hill. No middle schools will be at or above 115 percent capacity until 2013/2014.

Discussion:

Mrs. French asked about the possibility of deferring the addition project for Waverly ES, noting that the region does not appear to need more seats in the near future. Mr. Gallihue indicated that one conservative and strategic option with regards to Turf Valley development and growth would be the expansion of Waverly ES. He pointed out that this issue could be further addressed during the FY 2011 budget cycle.

Action: Mrs. Giles moved acceptance of the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) Chart. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by the Board (7/0).

Nominations for MABE Board of Directors/Officers

As a member on the Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) Nominating Committee, Mr. Cohen explained that nominations to the MABE Board of Directors are due May 29, 2009.

Motion: Mr. Cohen moved to nominate Mr. Frank Aquino to serve on the MABE Board of Directors from the HCPSS Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French.

Discussion:

Although Mr. Dyer indicated his support for Mr. Aquino, he expressed his belief that MABE does not conform to the Open Meetings or Public Information Acts. He also expressed concern with the transparency of the MABE organization. Mrs. Gordon explained that Mr. Dyer's concerns have been previously expressed, and MABE's position is that the organization is not a government body, and therefore, is not bound by government regulations. She pointed out that MABE holds open meetings, and any member of any education board may attend meetings of the MABE Board of Directors.

Action: The motion was approved by a vote of 6/1, with Mr. Dyer abstaining.

Mrs. French pointed out that if Mr. Aquino is elected to the MABE Board of Directors, he will vote independently on education issues—not as a representative of the Howard County Board of Education.

Fiscal 2010 Operating Budget*

Dr. Cousin explained that the County Executive has recommended a reduction to the school system's FY 2010 Operating Budget Request of nearly \$7.3 million. The County Executive's request reduces the Board of Education's request by \$4.2 million, and state revenue has been reduced by \$3.0 million.

Projected state revenue will be reduced further as a result of restricted federal stimulus dollars. Staff anticipates placing approximately \$10 million in the Grant Contingency Fund to accommodate the federal restricted funds.

Discussion:

Mrs. French pointed out that the County Council has been very collaborative in most years by allowing the Board of Education to establish its own budget priorities in various categories as necessary.

Action: Dr. Siddiqui moved approval of the reduction in Category 01 – Administration in the amount of \$686,780 for a new FY 2010 total of \$10,410,000. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Giles and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mrs. Giles moved approval of the reduction in Category 02 - Mid-Level Administration in the amount of \$1,978,930 for a new FY 2010 total of \$49,639,240. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siddiqui and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mr. Aquino moved approval of the reduction in Category 03 - Instructional Salaries in the amount of \$475,000 for a new total of \$280,150,440. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mrs. French moved that totals for Category 04 - Instructional Supplies (\$13,551,890) and Category 05 - Instructional Other (\$2,495,820) remain the same. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siddiqui and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mrs. Gordon moved approval of the reduction in Category 06 - Special Education in the amount of \$2,871,090 for a new total of \$80,276,160. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mr. Cohen moved approval of the reduction in Category 07 - Pupil Personnel in the amount of \$196,020 for a new total of \$2,638,660. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gordon and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mr. Dyer moved approval of the reduction in Category 08 - Health in the amount of \$30,470 for a new total of \$5,950,430. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Dr. Siddiqui moved approval of the reduction in Category 09 - Transportation in the amount of \$325,100 for a new total of \$32,692,230. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Giles and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mrs. Giles moved approval of the reduction in Category 10 - Operation of Plant in the amount of \$54,350 for a new total of \$44,981,460. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mr. Aquino moved approval of the reduction in Category 11 - Maintenance in the amount of \$31,430 for a new total of \$22,038,300. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Giles and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mrs. French moved approval of the reduction in Category 12 – Fixed Charges in the amount of \$629,940 for a new total of \$104,753,230. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gordon and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mrs. Gordon moved approval of the reduction in Category 14 - Community Services of \$3,350 for a new total of \$6,201,990. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by a vote of 6/1, with Mr. Dyer voting no.

Action: Mr. Cohen moved that Category 15 – Capital Outlay remain the same for a total of \$914,260. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Giles and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Action: Mr. Aquino moved that the FY 2010 Proposed Operating Budget be reduced by a grand total of \$7,282,460 for a new total of \$656,694,110. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Health and Dental Self-Insurance Fund

Mrs. Woody Swinson, Budget Officer, explained that 5.9 positions were reduced due to enrollment, which also reduced amounts for benefits.

Action: Mrs. French moved approval of the reduction of \$93,600 in the Health and Dental Self-Insurance Fund for a new total of \$97,007,600. The motion was seconded by Dr. Siddiqui and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Grants Fund

Mrs. Swinson explained that contingent revenues are being added to this category in response to federal stimulus funds.

Motion: Dr. Siddiqui moved approval of the additional \$10,000,000 in the Grants Fund for a new total of \$40,100,000. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gordon.

Discussion:

It was noted that additional reporting requirements will be involved with the federal stimulus funds. Staff assured the Board that all

reporting requirements would be met, and the Board would be kept apprised of activities related to the requirements.

Action: The motion was approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

FY 2010 Capital Budget*

The Capital Budget proposal presented by the Superintendent at the April 30, 2009, Board meeting recommended that \$10.7 million of the \$26.2 million reduction be restored.

As a result of the recent budget work session with the County Council, the revised proposed funding sources are as follows:

- Request \$2.0 million of additional state funding be used to provide an additional \$2.0 million for technology.
- Request a transfer of \$5.0 million from existing projects. The recommended transfers are intended to restore \$4.0 million to the FY 2010 Systemic Renovation request and restore \$1.0 million to the Educational Specification Modernization request.
- Request an additional \$3.7 million be provided by the County Council for systemic projects.

Action: Dr. Siddiqui moved that the Board accept the following changes to the Capital Budget and approve the requested transfer of funds totaling \$5.0 million from existing projects as outlined in the overview; that the Board request additional state funding of \$2,012,000 to be used for technology; and that the Board request from the County Council additional funding in the amount of \$3.7 million to be provided for systemic projects. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Policy 6060 – Improvements to School Sites or Schools

Presenter: Mr. Wayne Crosby, Interim Director, School Facilities.

Proposed revisions are based on feedback from Board members, the Superintendent's Cabinet, and the community.

Revisions in Policy:

- Changes the title to "Community Improvements to School Sites or School Facilities."
- Changes "HCPSS" to "Board" where appropriate.

Revisions in Implementation Procedures

- Adds the Director of School Facilities to approve work done during school hours.
- Updates the title of the Office of Safety, Environment, and Risk Management.

Discussion:

Discussion involved various suggestions for additional language and changes to portions of the policy. The Board agreed to forward Policy 6060 - Improvements to School Sites or Schools to the Board Policy Committee for rewording of several sections prior to taking action on the policy.

6070 – Closing of Schools

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

Proposed revisions are based on feedback from Board members, the Superintendent's Cabinet, and the community.

Revisions in Policy:

- Updates language in the policy statement to include staffing ramifications of reductions in enrollment.
- Changes "HCPSS" to "Board" where appropriate.
- Moves Board decision from Implementation Procedures to Policy IV.C.6.
- Adds titles for Policy 3010 – Emergency Closure of Schools and Policy 6010 – School Attendance Areas.
- Adds a fourth compliance statement.

Revisions in Implementation Procedures

- Updates language by adding Superintendent/Designee.
- Replaces Board Decision considerations with statement of process.
- Clarifies language for public hearing phase.

Discussion:

Board members made several suggestions for changes to language and offered recommendations for placement of particular language in the policy.

Action: Dr. Siddiqui moved acceptance of the amended changes to Policy 6070 – Discontinuation of School Use. The motion was seconded by Mrs. French and approved by the members of the Board (7/0).

Recess – The meeting was recessed by the Chairman at 6:24 p.m. and reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

Public Forum

There was no one present to address the Board.

Appointment – PTA Council of Howard County (PTACHC) Monthly Report

Mr. John Hannay, PTA Council President, introduced students who received national recognition for their submissions to the PTA Reflections Competition.

Public Hearing –Policy 1060 Bullying/Intimidation/Harassment

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

- Presented suggestions for clarifying several sections of the policy and procedures.

Mr. Matt Lavine, Attorney

- Asked the Board to expand the policy to address bullying through existing and emerging technology.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned by Board consensus 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.