



Board of Education of Harford County
Budget Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2018

Call to Order

Mr. Securro called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Committee Members Present

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| Scott Bachman | Paul MacMillian |
| Dick Calvert | John Santora |
| Michelle Francis | Bill Securro |
| Dion Guthrie | Jim Thornton |
| Joseph Lambdin | |

HCPS Staff Members Present

Eric Clark, Director of Budget for Business Services

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Guthrie and a second by Mr. Thornton to accept the 4/11/18 meeting minutes. Ms. Francis will submit the approved minutes to Ms. Schmid for posting for public review.

Old Business

A. Follow up Discussions – Report to the Board of Education: Recommendations

- The report which included a summary of the committees work and recommendations was provided to the Board of Education (BOE) in July of 2017.
- It seems there has been mixed feedback received from some of the BOE members.
- A question did come back from a BOE member around how much it would cost for an outside provider/consultant to review the current HCPS staffing models.
- Each committee member is encouraged to reach out to BOE members to get feedback on the initial recommendations and a better understanding of their vision.
- Enhancements and additional recommendations were discussed:
 - Continue to review Capital Expenditures:
 - Technology Review (lease vs. purchase)
 - Most other counties purchase instead of leasing (which is a cost savings)
 - Issue is that the county is reluctant to give money in current year and then give money again in the following year for the technology
 - Make a recommendation to study the pros and cons of leasing vs. purchasing technology
 - Text book purchases have been moved to the capital budget
 - Comparison with Frederick County – look at a staffing number per student and compare Harford County ratios – where can improvements be made?
 - Possibly the BCAC can serve as a liaison between the BOE and the County Council/Executive and help to facilitate a more cohesive partnership between the two entities
 - Due to the majority of the budget being “people”, the same issue arises each year – staff reductions.
 - There was also a 10% increase in health insurance this past year
 - There was a suggestion to review and showcase Total Compensation Package for staff (inclusive of health care, pensions, etc.) and not just salaries.
 - An individual customized letter from Human Resources breaking down total compensation would be very beneficial to show the true and complete compensation picture to each employee.

- It was discussed that Harford County Government used a budget surplus for capital projects and not given to HCPS.
- Maybe the BOE needs to demonstrate to the County and the Community that the school system is being run efficiently and lean.
- A consultant group could possibly come in and do a Six Sigma Study on the end to end budget process.
- Look to engage public and private sectors within the community to support public education and to assist with overall revenue growth for the county.
- The Maryland State Funding Formula for the 24 jurisdictions is currently under revision and should be submitted to the State Legislature for the 2019 session.
- As previously suggested a formal process should be established for the County Council/Executive and the Board/Superintendent to meet to discuss the budget and how both sides can work together to improve the existing process.

B. Quarterly Meeting Dates for 2018

- Committee will continue to meet the 2nd Wednesday in September, October and November
 - September 12, 2018
 - October 10, 2018
 - November 14, 2018
- All meetings will be held in the Board of Education meeting room and begin at 6:00 p.m.:

New Business

- A. Mr. Seccurro received an invitation from Mr. Voskuhl to provide a BCAC update to the BOE during the August 13, 2018 meeting.
- Mr. Seccurro will review samples of presentations from other advisory committees to the BOE and prepare a draft and send to the committee members to review/edit prior to the August 13th meeting.
 - Mr. Seccurro would like some of the committee members to present with him and all are invited to attend the meeting.
 - Mr. Thornton suggested Mr. Seccurro meet with Mr. Voskuhl prior to presenting to the BOE to ensure he is aware of what the expectations are for the presentation.
 - Mr. Seccurro will schedule a meeting with Mr. Voskuhl prior to the presentation.

Adjourn

With no further business before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.