



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

Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2019

Call to Order

Mr. Securro called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

Committee Members Present

Scott Bachman	Dick Calvert
Michelle Francis	Dion Guthrie
Paul MacMillian	Bill Securro
Jim Thornton	

HCPS Staff and Board Members Present

Deborah Judd, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services  
Eric Clark, Director of Budget for Business Services  
Joseph Voskuhl, President Board of Education

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Thornton and a second by Mr. Guthrie to accept the 1/9/19 meeting minutes. Minutes were approved as written. Ms. Francis will submit the approved minutes to Ms. Schmid for posting for public review.

Old Business

A. Update and Discussion - Budget Development Teams:

- Hiring Freeze – Ms. Judd stated the committee is meeting every two weeks to review and discuss any appeals and they are doing a good job holding the line.
- Outsourcing – Mr. Voskuhl stated the team is waiting for RFI's which are due soon for Custodial, Food Services and Buses. Food is already very lean and the Operating Budget would have to increase if an outside vendor was hired. Special Education Buses also would be more costly due to specialized need and reliability. The Director of Transportation is looking at routes to see if they can be more efficient and reduce costs. RFI is the first step and then RFP if necessary.

B. January Recommendations to the Board of Education

- Kirwan Commission Updates:
  - Local control goes away
  - Restrictions on how the money is used
- Block Scheduling versus 7 Period Day:
  - There have been no new discussions by the BOE since the proposal
  - Teacher contracts call for a certain number of minutes of planning per day
- Staff Reductions:
  - There was a formula used across the county to make it equal for all schools
  - The BOE added \$5MM; now down to 100 staff cuts and asking for \$10 MM from the County Executive
  - It was suggested that there possibly may be a reluctance to advance the incremental funds until after the Kirwan Bill is complete
  - The community is attending County Council meetings
  - There is a recommendation to the BOE to put a ceiling of \$100MM on the Rainy Day Fund (Mr. Voskuhl will bring to the BOE)
  - MACO shows each Maryland county and the percentage of their budget to Education
  - The BOE submitted reports to the County Council

- Harford County is 23<sup>rd</sup> out of 24 counties for cost per pupil (\$13,498) and the average salary is middle of the road
- Mental Health positions have been added to all counties (except Harford County)

C. Quarterly Meeting Dates for 2019

- May 8, 2019
    - Discuss charter and terms of office
    - July 1<sup>st</sup> new BOE members begin and hold election of new officers and they will determine if they want this committee to continue
    - All members are eligible for another 4 year term and Mr. Seccurro would like to know intentions of current committee members
    - Mr. Seccurro will have a draft for the committee to review
    - Mr. Voskuhl will communicate to the new BOE as well
  - June 12, 2019
- Dates are subject to change based on Budget Development Teams Meetings, 2019 Budget Calendar and inclement weather

New Business

- A. Kirwin Commission and possible impact on HCPS.
- \$125MM in Governor Hogan's budget
  - House Bill #1416 Kirwin - \$200 MM set aside (took some from lockbox)
  - Department of Legislative Service produced a fiscal report
  - Report of State Aid to Harford County for 2020 was distributed to BOE members
- B. There was a request for an update on the APF – Mr. Seccurro will request the report for the committee

Adjourn

With no further business before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.