



# In The Loop



## At the Monday, August 6, 2007 Board of Education of Harford County meeting, the Board:

- Began a new format with 'Board Comment' near the beginning of the meeting, during which Board President Thomas L. Fidler, Jr. said the Board has made and will continue to make additional efforts to provide for better communication with the public, including a direct e-mail contact; and mentioned that the 2007 HCPS 2,773 high school graduates were offered \$32 million in scholarships and had four national merit finalists.
- Unanimously approved items on the Consent Agenda including Affirmation of Monthly Contract Awards; Acceptance of the Monthly Report on Personnel; Award of Heating Oil Contract; Award for Chiller Replacement at William S. James Elementary School; Award for Textbooks for the Kindergarten Program for Elementary Schools; Award for Content Textbooks for Elementary Schools; Award for Textbooks for Social Studies Textbooks for Elementary Schools; Approved the Bid on Copy Paper.
- Received a presentation from Sheriff Jesse Bane and others on the presence of gangs in the schools and efforts that can be made by the school system (including the possibility of school uniforms) in concert with law enforcement officials to limit the influence of gangs in schools.
- Approved the appointment of **Mary Nasuta** to be Nursing Coordinator for the school system; approved the appointment of **Matthew Bedsaul** to be a Supervisor of Transportation; approved the appointment of **Danielle Lister** to be a Supervisor of Transportation; approved the appointment of **Bradley Palmer** to be Assistant Supervisor for Title 1; and approved the appointment of **Tara DeDeaux** as Assistant Principal at Churchville Elementary.
- Received a presentation from Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction **Dr. Gerald Scarborough** on the Comprehensive Secondary School Reform Plan (CSSRP). Dr. Scarborough informed the Board that an independent pair of auditors would be examining the first year of the implementation of CSSRP in the high schools with a series of reporting dates in which information would be supplied to the Board.
- Received a report on the FY '09 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) providing information that the plan would be voted on by the Board at its September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Received a report from Superintendent **Jacqueline C. Haas** on the status of the High School Assessments (HSAs) as graduation requirements, asking that the Board, sometime prior to September 19, share their position, so the Board's position can be passed along to State Superintendent **Nancy S. Grasmick**.
- Received the Superintendent's Report during which Executive Directors of Elementary and Secondary Education **Patricia Skebeck** and **David Volrath** presented the outline for a study on the feasibility of school uniforms for Harford County Public School students including a 22-member task force with a report due to the Board in December 2007; a report from Director of Public Information **Donald Morrison** and Communications Specialist **Teri Kranefeld** on a Communications Audit to be performed by the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) including a two-day, on-site audit on October 29 and 30 with 20 or more focus groups to occur prior to that date; a report on increases in the cost of school elementary lunches from \$1.50 to \$1.70 and secondary lunches from \$1.60 to \$1.80 (the Board voted unanimously to support the increase).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m.