

PUBLIC
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
MINUTES OF MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023

The information included here provides a summary of the agenda items presented and actions taken during the above meeting of the Board of Education of Harford County. The video recordings of the Board meetings are the official record of the meetings and can be viewed at: <http://www.hcps.org/boe/livestream/>. Informational reports are located at: <https://www.hcps.org/boe/boardmeetingschedules.aspx>

Open Session

The Board of Education of Harford County met in open session in hybrid format in person and via video teleconference on Monday, November 20, 2023. President Aaron Poynton called the meeting to order at 4:33 PM

Board Members Present

All Board members were present with the exception of Miss Madina Sabirova, who was absent.

In-person attendance: Mrs. Diane Alvarez

Virtual attendance: Ms. Carol Bruce, Mrs. Terri Kocher, Dr. Carol Mueller, Mrs. Denise Perry, Mr. Wade Sewell, Ms. Lauren Strauss, Mrs. Melissa Hahn, and Dr. Aaron Poynton

Note: Mrs. Denise Perry joined the meeting virtually after the attendance roll-call was taken.

Motion, Second and Vote

Mrs. Hahn made a motion to waive public comment in its entirety in light of the limited nature of the open session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mueller and approved in a voice vote of 9-0. Miss Sabirova was absent.

Pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(7)(9) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon a motion by Mrs. Hahn, seconded by Mrs. Alvarez and approved in a voice vote 9-0, the Board of Education of Harford County met in closed session in a hybrid fashion. Miss Sabirova was absent.

Closed Session

Board Members Present

All Board members were present with the exception of Miss Sabirova, who was absent.

In-person attendance: Mrs. Diane Alvarez

Virtual attendance: Ms. Carol Bruce, Mrs. Terri Kocher, Dr. Carol Mueller, Mrs. Denise Perry, Mr. Wade Sewell, Ms. Lauren Strauss, Mrs. Melissa Hahn, and Dr. Aaron Poynton

Staff Present:

Dr. Sean Bulson, Superintendent

Dr. Eric Davis, Chief of Administration

Dr. Mae Alfree, Director of Staff and Labor Relations

Eric Clark, Director of Budget

Deborah Judd, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services

Daniel Reimers, Human Resources Staff and Labor Relations Specialist

Ben Richardson, Assistant Director of Human Resources

Lisa Y. Settles, Esq., Deputy General Counsel

Gregory A. Szoka, Esq., Board Counsel

Yvonne Rallo, Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary

In-person attendance: Dr. Mae Alfree, Mr. Daniel Reimers, Mr. Ben Richardson, Greg Szoka, Esq., Mrs. Yvonne Rallo

Virtual attendance: Dr. Sean Bulson, Dr. Eric Davis, Mr. Eric Clark, Ms. Deborah Judd, and Lisa Settles, Esq.

The Board of Education met in closed session for the purposes of discussing:

Topic: Discussion and possible decision regarding parameters for negotiations with bargaining units.

Reason for Closed Session: To maintain confidentiality of potential parameters, if any, of negotiation with bargaining units and discussions related thereto.

Mr. Ben Richardson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, introduced Dr. Mae Alfree, Director of Staff and Labor Relations who discussed proposed bargaining parameters for the Board's consideration. Mr. Richardson, Dr. Alfree, Ms. Deborah Judd, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, Mr. Eric Clark, Director of Budget, Mr. Dan Reimers, Human Resources Staffing Specialist, were available to answer the Board's questions. After proposed parameters, Dr. Alfree sought the Board's direction and approval to proceed with the recommendations as presented and discussed.

Motion, Second and Vote – Ms. Strauss made a motion giving Dr. Alfree approval to proceed with the recommended parameters as presented for specific bargaining units. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Kocher and approved in a roll call vote 9/0. Miss Sabirova was absent.

Note: Mr. Ben Richardson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Dr. Mae Alfree, Director of Staff and Labor Relations, Ms. Deborah Judd, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, Mr. Eric Clark, Director of Budget, and Mr. Dan Reimers, Human Resources Staffing Specialist, were excused from the following discussion

Topic: Legal guidance regarding strategy for legislation

Reason for Closed Session: To maintain confidentiality.

Greg Szoka, Esq., Board Counsel, gave legal guidance for the Board to consider how to proceed with setting legislative priorities and suggested strategy on how to maximize efforts to reach goals.

No formal action was taken by the Board.

Adjournment

With no further business, Dr. Poynton called to adjourn, and with Board consensus, the closed session adjourned at 6:34 PM.

Sean W. Bulson, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools and Secretary-Treasurer

Aaron S. Poynton, D.P.A.
President, Board of Education of Harford County



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
NOTICE OF OPEN SESSION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023

OPEN SESSION: 4:30 PM – 4:35 PM

This meeting will be conducted virtually with no public attendance due to the brief nature of this meeting and the logistical issues regarding allowing public attendance in advance of the 4:35 PM closed session.

*The only item the Board will consider during this open meeting is consideration of meeting in a closed session.

CLOSED SESSION: 4:35 PM – 6:00 PM