

PUBLIC
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
MINUTES OF MONDAY, JULY 18, 2022

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, July 18, 2022. Vice-President Carol Mueller called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Board Members Present

All Board members were present with the exception of Mrs. Ariane Kelly and Mr. Jansen Robinson, who were absent, and Ms. Kanae Holcomb who attended her last meeting as Student Member to the Board of Education of Harford County on June 13, 2022.

In-person attendance: Dr. David Bauer, Mrs. Sonja Karwacki, Dr. Roy Phillips, and Dr. Carol Mueller

Virtual attendance: Dr. Joyce Herold, Mrs. Rachel Gauthier, and Ms. Patrice Ricciardi

Motion, Second and Vote

Dr. David Bauer 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 Mrs. Gauthier and approved in a voice vote 7-0.

Pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon a motion by Dr. Bauer, seconded by Mrs. Karwacki by unanimous vote of the Board members present, the Board of Education of Harford County met in closed session in a hybrid fashion.

Closed Session

Board Members Present

All Board members were present with the exception of Mrs. Ariane Kelly and Mr. Jansen Robinson, who were absent, and Ms. Kanae Holcomb who attended her last meeting as Student Member to the Board of Education of Harford County on June 13, 2022.

In-person attendance: Dr. David Bauer, Mrs. Sonja Karwacki, Dr. Roy Phillips, and Dr. Carol Mueller

Virtual attendance: Dr. Joyce Herold, Mrs. Rachel Gauthier, and Ms. Patrice Ricciardi

Staff Present:

Dr. Sean Bulson, Superintendent

Dr. Eric Davis, Chief of Administration

Kimberly H. Neal, Esq., General Counsel

Ben Richardson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Yvonne Rallo, Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary

In-person attendance: Dr. Sean Bulson, Dr. Eric Davis, Kimberly Neal, Esq, and Mrs. Yvonne Rallo

Virtual attendance: Mr. Ben Richardson

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

Topic: Presentation of background/qualifications of candidate nominated by the Superintendent of the following positions: Pupil Personnel Worker Pool Assignment.

Reason for Closed Session: To preserve the privacy and confidentiality of information regarding the nominee. Mr. Ben Richardson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources led a discussion and presentation regarding the proposed candidates

No formal action was taken by the Board.

Adjournment

With no further business, Dr. Bauer motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Karwacki, and with Board consensus, the closed session adjourned at 6:08 PM.

Business Meeting

Call to Order / Roll Call

Vice-President Carol Mueller called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Roll call was taken. All Board members were present with the exception of Mrs. Ariane Kelly, who was absent and Ms. Kanae Holcomb who attended her last meeting as Student Member to the Board of Education of Harford County on June 13, 2022.

In-person attendance: Dr. David Bauer, Mrs. Sonja Karwacki, Dr. Roy Phillips, and Dr. Carol Mueller

Virtual attendance: Mrs. Rachel Gauthier, Dr. Joyce Herold, Ms. Patrice Ricciardi, and Mr. Jansen Robinson

Adoption of Agenda

Vice-President Mueller called for a motion to adopt the agenda.

Motion, Second and Vote – Dr. Bauer made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Karwacki and adopted in a voice vote 8-0. Mrs. Kelly and Ms. Holcomb were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Roy Phillips led the Pledge of Allegiance

Item A. Board Member Comment

Board member comments were provided

Item B. Public Comments

Speakers were invited to the meeting to provide their comments for the record either in-person or virtually. Vice-President Mueller read a statement regarding protocol for public comments which included a provision that each speaker would have three (3) minutes to speak. Mrs. Yvonne Rallo, Board of Education Administrative Support Coordinator, called on individual speakers who were in person at the meeting and had registered to speak at the Board meeting. The following two (2) people registered to provide in-person public comment: Cristina M. Lanocha, and Brenda Pedrick. Ms. Lindsay Bilodeau, Communications Specialist, called on individual speakers who had pre-registered to provide public comments virtually. The following one (1) registered person provided virtual public comment: Jill Ferrara.

Item C. Consent Agenda

Vice-President Mueller called for a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Contract Award: Manufacturer Direct Cereal Products
2. Contract Award: Milk Products
3. Contract Award: Athletic Sports Referee Officials Services
4. Contract Award: Elementary Classroom Libraries
5. Change Order: Transit Vans
6. Minutes of Previous Board Meeting, June 20, 2022

Motion, Second and Vote - Dr. Bauer made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Karwacki and the consent agenda was approved in a voice vote of 8-0. Mrs. Kelly and Ms. Holcomb were absent.

Item D. Decision on Administrative and Supervisory Appointments

Mr. Ben Richardson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources sought Board approval of the following proposed candidates.

Pupil Personnel Worker Pool: Motion, Second and Vote – Dr. Bauer made a motion to approve the following five (5) candidates to be added to the Pupil Personnel Worker Pool: Ms. Melissa K. Hatcher, Ms. Terry L. Knight, Ms. Sarah Q. Lumbard, Mr. Paul G. Single, and Ms. Melissa A. Stout. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Karwacki. The motion was approved in a roll call vote of 8/0. Mrs. Kelly and Ms. Holcomb were absent.

Item E. Decision on Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 02-0050-000, Use of Equipment / Materials by Students

Kimberly H. Neal, Esq., General Counsel presented information regarding proposed revisions to Board Policy 02-0050-000, Use of Equipment / Materials by Students. The proposed revisions to this policy were first recommended to the Board at the March 28, 2022 Board meeting. The proposed revised policy was then posted for public comment and no comments were received. Ms. Neal sought Board approval of the proposed revisions to Board Policy 02-0050-000, Use of Equipment / Materials by Students.

Motion, Second and Vote – Dr. Bauer made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Karwacki to approve the proposed revisions to Board Policy 02-0050-000, Use of Equipment / Materials by Students. The motion was approved in a roll call vote of 8-0. Mrs. Kelly and Ms. Holcomb were absent.

Item F. Recommendation on Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 22-0008-000, Public Participation at Board Open Meetings or Public Hearings

Kimberly H. Neal, Esq., General Counsel presented information regarding proposed revisions to Board Policy 22-0008-000, Public Participation at Board Open Meetings or Public Hearings. Ms. Neal shared that Board Policy 22-0008-000, was adopted by the Board at its September 14, 1992, Board Business Meeting. The policy was most recently amended at the January 25, 2005, Board Business Meeting. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the conduct of official business in an open and public manner, keeping as a priority, the focus of the business meeting and its agenda. Ms. Neal established small workgroups to review this policy based upon the length of time since its last amendment and due to recent changes in practice at Board of Education business meetings. In particular, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board has had to make revisions to this policy to address health and safety concerns; the need arose for flexibility and adaptation from in person public participation at Board meetings to virtual participation at Board meetings, and then to hybrid meetings with both in person and virtual public attendance and comment at Board business meetings. The workgroups for this proposed amendment examined the best practices of other school systems within Maryland as well as other, non-educational, board and council meeting best practices to ensure the creation of the most comprehensive guidelines given the revisions the pandemic has required all Boards and councils to adopt. The proposed revised policy will be posted for thirty (30) days on the Harford County Public Schools website for the public to provide comments. Board approval of the recommended proposed revisions to Board Policy 22-0008-000, Public Participation at Board Open Meetings or Public Hearings will be sought at a subsequent Board Meeting.

No formal action was taken by the Board

Item G. Presentation of FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program

The Board received its first presentation of the FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) from Mr. Cornell Brown, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Ms. Patti Jo Beard, Executive Director of Facilities Management, Mr. Chris Morton, Supervisor of Planning and Construction and Ms. Missy Valentino, Facilities Planner. They discussed the current CIP funding process and requirements. In September, Board approval will be sought for the FY 2024 Maryland State CIP budget for submission to the Interagency Commission, the Maryland State funding authority for public school construction projects. Maryland State submission is due

in October. Between now and January, Mr. Brown, and his team, will continue to work with the Board of Education and stakeholders to prioritize the FY 2024 local only CIP needs and align the request with the HCPS operating budget. Board approval will be sought for the local only FY 2024 CIP request in December for submission to Harford County government in January.

No formal action was taken by the Board

Item H. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Bulson's report was provided as follows:

Superintendent Bulson thanked Harford County Public Schools' facilities, maintenance, transportation teams and all who contributed to the cleanup and repair efforts following last week's storms that caused damage across Harford County.

Superintendent Bulson shared that he visited Homestead/Wakefield Elementary School's modular units and was impressed with what has been accomplished with the temporary classroom set-ups while the new school project is taking place. Superintendent Bulson thanked Assistant Principal, Ms. Tracy Hanus for the tour.

Superintendent Bulson reminded the community that if you are new to Harford County, you can register your student for school anytime by calling your local school for details. Additionally, if your child is eligible for pre-k or kindergarten this year, call your local school office to register. This will make sure your child is ready with an assigned bus, lunch account, and schedule the first day of school, Tuesday, September 6, 2022. Superintendent Bulson shared that each school will share information about required school supplies; be sure to follow your school on social media and visit the individual school's websites for more information.

Superintendent Bulson reported that Camp Wonder embarked on some incredible adventures a few weeks ago. During the summer camp, students in grades three to eight (3-8) explored the wonders of the Anita C. Leight Estuary, canoed on the Bush River, learned about the environment, experienced a close encounter with live animals, fished, participated in water games with Harford County Public Schools resource officers, along with many other activities. Superintendent Bulson thanked Ms. Pam Smith, Mr. Howard Eakes, Ms. Tammy Bosley, and all of the volunteers who made this happen.

Superintendent Bulson reminded the community that Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) is still hiring for next school year. The next pop-up job event will be held on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Aberdeen High School. Superintendent Bulson shared that HCPS will have recruiters from various departments in the organization present and encouraged anyone looking for employment to come out to this event or to contact the HCPS Human Resources Department.

Adjournment

With no further business and with Board consensus the meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

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

Rachel Gauthier, Board President
Board of Education of Harford County



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PARTICIPATION
MONDAY, JULY 18, 2022

OPEN SESSION: 6:00 PM – 6:05 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 6:30 PM meeting.

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

CLOSED SESSION: 6:05 PM – 6:20 PM

BUSINESS MEETING: 6:30 PM – ADJOURNMENT

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid fashion and public attendance will be permitted as explained below:

DOORS WILL OPEN AT 6:20 PM AND THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 6:30 PM

The Board of Education of Harford County will hold a hybrid Business Meeting on Monday, July 18, 2022, at 6:30 PM in the Board Room of the A.A. Roberty Building with Board Members, staff, and presenters in attendance both virtually and in-person. Seats will be available on a first come-first served basis. The meeting will be streamed live and archived for later viewing on the HCPS [Website](#).

Public Comment Participation Call-In Process

Community members who wish to provide comments virtually during the Public Comments segment of the Business meeting are required to register by completing this form [Public Comment Registration Form](#).

Registrations must be received by 9:00 AM on Monday, July 18, 2022. All fields on the registration form must be completed.

1. First and Last name
2. Email Address
3. Phone Number
4. Registration forms are limited to one (1) per person

- Registered speakers will receive an email from HCPS with a Call-in Phone # and a Conference ID #.
- Registered speakers are required to call-in and enter the conference ID# at 6:30 PM on Monday, July 18, 2022.
- Important: If you are unable to take your phone off mute, you may need to dial *6.
- If you are admitted from the virtual lobby to the meeting, you will be greeted by an HCPS staff member when it is time to begin your public comment. Expected hold time in the virtual lobby may vary based on number of registered speakers. The maximum wait time in the lobby is 30 minutes; should you be disconnected please call back.

Public Comment Participation In-Person Process

Persons who are attending the meeting in person, as provided above, may make in-person public comment. Board Comment cards will be available for Board meeting attendees prior to the Board Meeting for sign-up. Board Comment Registration forms are limited to one (1) per person.

The Board has authorized public comment as follows:

- Board policy permits speaker three (3) minutes to provide comments. **However, Board policy authorizes the Board to reduce the amount of time allocated to each speaker if allocating 3 minutes to each speaker will impede the Board's ability to complete scheduled business.**
- The Board will receive in-person public comment first and virtual public comment second. The Board expects that all comments will be submitted with the decorum and respect appropriate to the conduct of public business.
- Topics such as personnel matters, pending appeals, specific student disciplinary matters or which constitute commercial solicitations are not permitted.
- Disparaging comments, personal attacks, and inflammatory remarks about specific schools or personnel are not permitted. Speakers who engage in these comments will be reminded of the rules and the Board reserves the right to remove the speaker. In addition, public comment is an opportunity for members of the community to address the Board of Education. Please direct your comments to the Board and not to other members of the public in the audience.
- All public comments submitted will be part of the records maintained by the Board office.

Speakers are reminded that public comments are considered public information and, as such, are subject to the Maryland Public Information Act.