

PUBLIC
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
MINUTES OF MONDAY, MARCH 13, 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>

Business Meeting

Call to Order / Roll Call

President Mueller called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM. Roll call was taken. All Board members were present with the exception of Dr. Herold who was absent.

In-person attendance: Mrs. Diane Alvarez, Ms. Carol Bruce, Mrs. Melissa Hahn, Mrs. Denise Perry, Dr. Roy Phillips, Ms. Noa Blanken, Mr. Wade Sewell, and Dr. Carol Mueller

Virtual attendance: Ms. Patrice Ricciardi

Adoption of Agenda

President Mueller called for a motion to adopt the agenda.

Motion, Second and Vote – Mrs. Alvarez made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Blanken and adopted in a voice vote of 9-0. Dr. Joyce Herold was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-President Sewell led the Pledge of Allegiance

Item A. Board Member Comments

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. President Mueller read a statement regarding protocol for public comments which included a provision that each speaker would have three (3) minutes to speak and speakers representing a group would have five (5) 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. Benjamin Heiser, James J. Ramsey, Josh Koziol, representing the group "We the People of Maryland," Lindsay Greenbaum, Jennifer Selke, Kristen Duracka, Charlene Haight, Susan Knause, Wendy Morelli, Stella Peters, Betsy Steinen, DeLane Lewis representing the group "Together We Will", Zoe Peller, Nonie Czajka, William Martino, and Jeannine Cannito. Ms. Jillian Lader, Manager of Communications, called on individual speakers who had pre-registered to provide public comments virtually. The following two (2) people registered to provide virtual public comment: David Bauer and Crystal Parks.

Item C. Consent Agenda

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

1. Contract Award: Image Asphalt Maintenance, Inc.

Motion, Second and Vote – Ms. Blanken made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Alvarez and the consent agenda was approved in a voice vote of 9-0. Dr. Herold was absent.

Item D. Harford County Public Schools Celebrates Women's History Month

Dr. Paula Stanton, Supervisor of Equity and Cultural Proficiency led a presentation to the Board on Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) celebration of Women's History Month. The presentation highlighted some of the ways that HCPS students and staff are learning about and celebrating the contributions of women during Women's History Month.

No formal action was taken by the Board.

Item E. Decision on FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program

The Board received a seventh presentation for FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) from Mr. Cornell Brown, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, Ms. Patti Jo Beard, Exec Director of Facilities Management Planning and Construction, Mr. Chris Morton, Supervisor of Planning and Construction, and Ms. Missy Valentino, Facilities Planner. The presentation provided updates on market conditions, the impact on current construction estimates for the Homestead/Wakefield Elementary School Replacement project and the Harford Technical High School Limited Renovation project and updates from the Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) impacting the HCPS' FY2024 CIP. The following CIP amendments were recommended:

- 1) Adjust the State and local cost share to increase the amount of the State share for projects at schools in high poverty areas. Local funding requirements will decrease.
 - Havre de Grace Elementary School Roof Replacement
 - Aberdeen Middle School HVAC Systemic
- 2) Rescind Harford Technical High School Limited Renovation and request reapproval of the project in the FY 2024 CIP to maximize State funding. Increase requested amount to match new potential State FY 2024 State CIP allocation.
- 3) Add the State share of the Homestead/Wakefield Elementary School Replacement Project that is not covered by Built to Learn funding to the FY 2024 State CIP request.

Project	Proposed Amended	
	State Request	Local Request
Harford Tech High School Limited Renovation	\$9,864,518	\$11,595,000
Havre de Grace Elementary School Roof Replacement	\$1,752,788	\$1,110,212
Aberdeen Middle School HVAC Systemic Renovation	\$9,216,900	\$7,871,000
Harford Academy at Campus Hills New School	\$0	\$16,000,000
Homestead/Wakefield Elementary School Replacement	\$482,917	\$0
TOTAL	\$21,317,123	\$36,576,212

Mr. Brown sought the Board's approval of the Superintendent's recommendation of the following:

- 1) Rescind the Harford Technical High School Limited Renovation project that was approved by the State in the FY 2023 CIP and request that the first year of funding for the project in the amount of \$9,865,518 be granted in the FY 2024 CIP
- 2) Approve the amendments to the FY 2024 CIP for State eligible projects to increase the State funding request to \$21,317,123 and decrease the local request for these projects to \$36,576,212, for a total request of \$57,893,335 to be submitted to the State by March 17, 2023, and to the county executive for final approval by April 13, 2023.

Motion, Second and Vote – Mr. Sewell made a motion to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation of the FY2024 Capital Improvement Program requests as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hahn and approved in a voice vote of 9-0 (Includes 1 preferential affirmative student member vote). Dr. Herold was absent.

Item F. Presentation on Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 12-0001-000 Ethics

John E. Burke, Esq., Deputy General Counsel presented information regarding proposed revisions to Board Policy 12-0001-000 Ethics. The Maryland State Ethics Commission (“Ethics Commission”) has instructed all Local Education Agencies (individually, “LEA”) in the State of Maryland to incorporate new provisions in its Ethics policy to comply with modifications to the State Ethics Law. The Ethics Commission has updated its Board of Education regulations in COMAR 19A.05 to reflect these required changes and now requires each LEA to make those changes to its Ethics policy. The proposed revised policy will be posted on HCPS.org for thirty (30) days to allow for public comment. Board approval will then be sought at a future meeting of the recommended proposed revisions to Board Policy 12-0001-000 Ethics.

No formal action was taken by the Board.

Item G. Presentation on Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 08-0010-000 Threat Assessment Team

Mr. Bernard Hennigan, Executive Director of Student Support Services, Mr. Steve Richards, Supervisor of Student Services, Mr. Donovan Brooks, Supervisor of Safety and Security, and John E. Burke, Esq., Deputy General Counsel, presented background information and led a discussion on information regarding proposed revisions to Board Policy 08-0010-000 Threat Assessment Team. The proposed revised policy will be posted on HCPS.org for thirty (30) days to allow for public comment. Board approval will then be sought at a future meeting of the recommended proposed revisions to Board Policy 08-0010-000 Threat Assessment Team. During Board discussion, Ms. Bruce suggested clearer language be used for when the notification of a threat should happen as stated on the policy under item: III. D. Assessing Threats 1, to include the following language “The school administrator shall notify the School Resource Officer of the threat and their decision to complete a Threat Assessment. Using the Threat Assessment Tool found in the TRM, the TAT shall determine, immediately upon being informed of the threat,” The proposed revised policy will be posted on HCPS.org for thirty (30) days to allow for public comment. Board approval will then be sought at a future meeting of the recommended proposed revisions to Board Policy 08-0010-000 Threat Assessment Team.

Motion, Second and Vote – Mrs. Bruce made a motion to approve the addition of the following language edit, “The school administrator shall notify the School Resource Officer of the threat and their decision to complete a Threat Assessment. Using the Threat Assessment Tool found in the TRM, the TAT shall determine, immediately upon being informed of the threat,” located at III. D. Assessing Threats 1, of the proposed, revised policy entitled 08-0010-000 Threat Assessment Team, before it is posted for public comment. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Alvarez and approved in a voice vote of 9-0 (Includes 1 preferential affirmative student member vote). Dr. Herold was absent.

Item H. Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Bulson’s report was provided as follows:

Superintendent Bulson made the community aware that Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) Summer Programs information will be posted soon on the website and registration will open in May.

Superintendent Bulson made the community aware that students who are in eleventh grade this year and will be in twelfth grade next year and are interested in being the next Student Member of the Board, should visit the Harford County Regional Association of Student Councils (HCRASC) page on hcps.org for details and apply. The deadline is March 17, 2023.

Superintendent Bulson encouraged the community who you have children five and under, to register with Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) partners at the Harford County Education Foundation for a copy of this month’s Little’s University book, “The Pigeon Has to go to School,” by Mo Willems.

Superintendent Bulson made the community aware that Old Post Road Elementary School received a book donation from the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA). In recognition of the donation Lt. Governor Aruna Miller read to the students and talked about her experience as an engineer. In addition, retired teacher and author, Ms. Jerdine Nolen joined in on the visit. Her book, "On Her Wings, The Story of Toni Morrison," was among the books donated.

Adjournment

With no further business and with Board consensus the meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.

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

Dr. Carol L. Mueller, Board President
Board of Education of Harford County



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PARTICIPATION
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023

ATTACHMENT

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, March 13, 2023, 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 and In-Person Process

Individuals or groups recognized by Harford County Public Schools (i.e. – PTAs, unions, and other school system stakeholders) wishing to speak on an agenda item or to comment on an education-related matter not on the agenda may request to do so by sending an email to publiccomment@hcps.org or calling 410-588-5347.

Call-In Registrations must be received by 12:00 PM on Monday, March 13, 2023. All fields on the registration form must be completed.

1. First and Last name / if speaker is a Group Representative, then please state the name of the Group
2. Local Address
3. Email Address
4. Phone Number
5. Agenda item or subject your Public Comment pertains to
6. Will you provide in-person *or* virtual Public Comment
7. Registration forms are limited to one (1) per person

****Failure to provide complete information as required above will void the request to provide Public Comment.***

- Registered virtual 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, March 13, 2023.
- 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.
- "Request to Appear Before the Board" cards will be available for in-person attendees prior to the Board Meeting for sign-up and must be submitted prior to the opening of the meeting.

The Board has authorized public comment in accord with its policy [Public Participation at Board Open Meetings or Public Hearings](#) and as summarized below:

- Each speaker shall be limited to no more than three (3) minutes and five (5) minutes for individuals representing groups. Speakers must state his or her name, and, if representing a group, must identify the group he or she represents. If a speaker identifies themselves as a representative of a group, then only one (1) representative from the group may provide comment for the identified group.
- The Board presiding officer may 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, personnel, any person, or group 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.