

PUBLIC
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
MINUTES OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026

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 a virtual format via video teleconference on Tuesday, January 27, 2026. Acting President Paige called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM

Board Members Present

All Board members were present.

Virtual attendance: Mrs. Denise Perry, Mr. Wade Sewell, Dr. Carol Mueller, Mr. James McVicker, Mark Korn Esq., Mrs. Melissa Hahn, Ms. Carol Bruce, Mrs. Diane Alvarez, and Ms. Lauren Paige

Motion, Second and Vote

Mrs. Alvarez 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. Hahn and approved in a voice vote of 9-0.

Pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(1)(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 8-0, the Board of Education of Harford County met in closed session in a virtual fashion. Mr. McVicker was absent.

Closed Session

Board Members Present

All Board members were present with the exception of Mr. James McVicker who was absent.

Virtual attendance: Mrs. Denise Perry, Mr. Wade Sewell, Dr. Carol Mueller, Mark Korn Esq., Mrs. Melissa Hahn, Ms. Carol Bruce, Mrs. Diane Alvarez, and Ms. Lauren Paige

Staff Present:

Dr. Dyann Mack, Acting Superintendent
Ben Richardson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Dr. Mae Alfree, Director of Staff and Labor Relations
Deborah Judd, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services
Bernard Hennigan, Acting Deputy Superintendent for Academics
Katie Ridgway, Chief of Staff
Daniel Reimers, HR Staff and Labor Relations Specialist
Gregory A. Szoka, Esquire, Board Counsel
Yvonne Rallo, Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary

Virtual attendance: Dr. Dyann Mack, Mr. Ben Richardson, Dr. Mae Alfree, Ms. Deborah Judd, Mr. Bernard Hennigan, Ms. Katie Ridgway, Mr. Dan Reimers, Gregory Szoka, Esq., and Mrs. Yvonne Rallo

The Board of Education met in a closed session for the purpose 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, was joined by Dr. Mae Alfree, Director of Staff and Labor Relations, Mr. Daniel Reimers, HR Staff and Labor Relations Specialist, and Ms. Deborah Judd, Assistant

Superintendent for Business Services, to answer the Board's questions. The Board directed Dr. Alfree to proceed with the recommendations presented as discussed.

Note: Ms. Judd was excused from the following discussion.

Topic: Presentation of confidential information regarding recommended employee discipline and seek possible Board action.

Reason for Closed Session: To preserve the privacy and confidentiality of information regarding a specific individual employee.

Mr. Ben Richardson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, and Dr. Mae Alfree, Director of Staff and Labor Relations, presented the Board information on an individual employee discipline matter and sought Board approval of the recommended discipline. After Board dialogue the following action was taken.

Motion, Second and Vote – Mrs. Alvarez made a motion, seconded by Mr. Korn, to approve the recommended employee discipline as presented. The motion was approved in a voice vote of 8-0. Mr. McVicker was absent.

Note: Dr. Mack, Mr. Richardson, Dr. Alfree, Mr. Hennigan, Ms. Ridgway, Mr. Reimers, and Mrs. Rallo, were excused from the following discussion.

Topic: To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice

Reason for Closed Session: To discuss with legal counsel sensitive personnel matters and preserve the privacy and confidentiality of discussion related thereto.

Acting President Paige introduced the discussion to the Board and sought Board counsel input for discussion.

No formal action was taken by the Board.

Adjournment

With no further business, and with Board consensus, the closed session adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Dyann R. Mack, Ed. D.
Acting Superintendent of Schools and Secretary-Treasurer

Lauren Paige
Acting President, Board of Education of Harford County



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
NOTICE OF BOARD OPEN/CLOSED SESSION

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026

OPEN SESSION: 6:00 PM – 6:05 PM

This open session will be conducted in a virtual fashion. The open session will be streamed live and archived for later viewing on the HCPS [Website](#).

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



CLOSED SESSION: 6:05 PM – ADJOURNMENT

**The next regular Board meeting is set for Monday, February 9, 2026.*