

Harford County Public Schools  
Uniform Committee  
Thursday, June 10, 2008

In Attendance: Kelly Gunning, Joe Voskuhl, Regina Jones, Samantha Groff, Pat Hess, Dave Volrath, Pat Skebeck

Introductions followed by a review of the Task presented to the committee from the previous meeting.

Task: Define ordering procedures.

Action: Telephoned St. Margaret's and John Carroll School-both schools use Flynn and O'Hara a Towson, MD based company.  
Company comes to the school at the end of the school year and fits each student for the upcoming school year. Order sheets along with sizes are sent home to parents  
Parents complete the order sheet and return to school with the student.  
Orders are shipped over the summer to the student's home.  
Changes to orders or fittings other than the allotted time are done online or at the Towson store location.  
Contacted other school systems as well as local private schools.

Additional options: Use of polo shirt in school color and khaki pants

New Business:

- Tentative dates for Uniform Forum will be sent to schools for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> choice selections

There will be nine Public School Forum meetings held between October 1<sup>st</sup> and October 17<sup>th</sup>

- Schools submit 3 choices of dates for a focus group meeting
- PowerPoint presentation shared and responses sought from small groups
- One board member at each meeting
- Principals will meet with focus groups at each school to determine uniform options
- A final presentation to the Board is expected in the spring

The PowerPoint presentation "Harford County Public School Uniform Forum" was shared for review.

Slide 1 – Cover page approved as is.

Slide 2 – "Overview" approved as is.

Slide 3 – "Why Uniforms in Harford County Public Schools?"

- Presented at each forum by a board member, will present Strategic Plan at this point of presentation
- ADD – the Benchmark that speaks to uniforms to the PP presentation
- CORRECT – word "Educations'" to "Education's"
- ADD – something about social equity as well as safety and security

Slide 4 – “How we got here? Would the use of school uniforms help us? What are the Pro’s?”

- Review use of question marks
- REMOVE the word “say” from each outline bullet and ADD the word “perspective”
- Clarify that parents most often initiate the consideration of school uniforms
- CHANGE to read “Principals and Parents Perspective”
- Review each bullet, determine to begin each with an action verb

Slide 5 – “How we got here? Would the use of school uniforms help us? What are the Pro’s?”

- Changes to title consistent with Slide 4
- REMOVE “What are the Pro’s?”
- ADD “Some” researchers say..., etc.
- REMOVE bullets in front of “Principals say” “Parents say” “Students say”
- CHANGE the “No effect on achievement” to “Achievement is not effected” and each subsequent bullet accordingly

Slide 6 – “Tentative Timeline”

- REMOVE “Tentative”
- ADD a slide “Our committee began its work on \_\_\_\_\_ (September 2007?)”
- ADD – “January 2008-Student input on design of uniforms.”

Slide 7 – “Sharing of Data”

- CHANGE second blue bullet to read “More than 800 individuals submitted comments. Their comments were recorded and were available to Board members.”

Slide 8 – “Frequently Asked Questions”

- This slide will require each presenter to use the scripted answers to each question while the slide is presented
- ADD “How much will these uniforms cost?” between second and third bullets
- When presenting “What will the uniforms look like?” ADD some slides showing pictures of students from RAACS and the Alternative Education program
- “When would the implementation of school uniforms take place?” INCLUDE during presentation that we are awaiting the student input as to the design of the uniforms
- CHANGE “When would the implementation of school uniforms take place?” to “How will the implementation of school uniforms take place?”
- ADD “How will the decision be made?”
- CHANGE each bullet to begin “How...”

Slide 9 – “Community Input”

- Discussion regarding use of GIFT technology to assist with the “report out” process (same technology used during Town Meetings in 2002) Benefits include information being available immediate, and ability to save information by school
- Each group will come to a consensus

Slide 10 – “The four questions”

- Discussion as to the use of the GIFT technology and the responses from which to choose
- Utilize teachers in the schools to provide some of the choices for responses

Slide 11 – “Questions and Answers”

- ADD to the slide that this portion of the program will end at 9 PM. (Further questions will be added to notecards provided and submitted for response after the meeting.

Miscellaneous:

- ◆ Each forum should take approximately 2 hours.
- ◆ With use of GIFT technology, must review questions for compatibility with system
- ◆ Meeting begins promptly at 7 PM, making certain that Open Comment is ready by 8:30 PM
- ◆ PowerPoint program should not be “read” to the audience
- ◆ ADD a scantron sheet ballot for each individual person to complete with 4-5 questions such as:
  - a. Based on the discussion tonight, do the merits outweigh the cons?
- ◆ Focus on qualitative data.
- ◆ Use both scantron and GIFT technology
- ◆ ORGANIZE dry-run with HCCPTA as focus group
- ◆ Use Bel Air High School or other school staff for a focus group
- ◆ Bel Air High School students to conduct sample session

To Do List:

- ✓ Contact HCCPTA
- ✓ Select Date for BAHS focus group
- ✓ Send out list of dates to each school with memo to be completed prior to July 1
- ✓ Make changes to PowerPoint, send out to all committee members
- ✓ Pat Hess to create script for Strategic Plan portion of presentation
- ✓ Bring GIFT technology to next meeting
- ✓ Order sandwiches for August 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting

For the Next Meeting – AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup>, 5 PM \*\*\*\*\*NOTE TIME CHANGE\*\*\*\*\*

- ❖ Revisit parameters for school improvement teams with a timeline and expectations
- ❖ Revisit the four questions to ensure compatibility with GIFT technology
- ❖ Questions for Scantron sheets

Next Meeting: August 5<sup>th</sup> (Additional meeting in September to review presentation process)

Meeting adjourned 7:18 PM