

PUBLIC
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
MINUTES OF MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 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, September 12, 2022. President Rachel Gauthier called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.

Board Members Present

All Board members were present with the exception of Mr. Jansen Robinson, Ms. Noa Blanken, and Dr. Carol Mueller, who were absent.

In-person attendance: Dr. David Bauer, Dr. Roy Phillips, Ms. Patrice Ricciardi, and Mrs. Rachel Gauthier

Virtual attendance: Dr. Joyce Herold, Mrs. Sonja Karwacki, and Mrs. Ariane Kelly

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 Ms. Ricciardi and approved in a voice vote 7-0.

Pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(9) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and upon a motion by Dr. Bauer, seconded by Ms. Ricciardi, and 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 Mr. Jansen Robinson, Ms. Noa Blanken, and Dr. Carol Mueller, who were absent.

In-person attendance: Dr. David Bauer, Dr. Roy Phillips, Ms. Patrice Ricciardi, and Mrs. Rachel Gauthier

Virtual attendance: Dr. Joyce Herold, Mrs. Sonja Karwacki, and Mrs. Ariane Kelly

Staff Present:

Dr. Sean Bulson, Superintendent

Dr. Eric Davis, Chief of Administration

Dr. Mae Alfree, Director of Staff and Labor Relations

Kimberly H. Neal, Esq., General Counsel

Daniel Reimers, Human Resources Staffing Specialist

Ben Richardson, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Yvonne Rallo, Administrative Assistant and Recording Secretary

In-person attendance: Dr. Sean Bulson, Dr. Eric Davis, Dr. Mae Alfree, Kimberly Neal, Esq, Mr. Daniel Reimers, Mr. Ben Richardson, and Mrs. Yvonne Rallo

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, Dr. Mae Alfree, Director of Staff and Labor Relations, and Mr. Daniel Reimers, Human Resources Staffing Specialist, discussed and answered Board questions on negotiation updates with bargaining units.

No formal action was taken by the Board.

Adjournment

With no further business, Dr. Bauer motioned to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Herold, and with Board consensus, the closed session adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Business Meeting Call to Order / Roll Call

President Gauthier called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. Roll call was taken. All Board members were present with the exception of Dr. Carol Mueller, who was absent.

In-person attendance: Dr. David Bauer, Dr. Roy Phillips, Ms. Patrice Ricciardi, Ms. Noa Blanken, and Mrs. Rachel Gauthier

Virtual attendance: Dr. Joyce Herold, Mrs. Sonja Karwacki, Mrs. Ariane Kelly, and Mr. Jansen Robinson

Adoption of Agenda

President Gauthier 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 Ms. Ricciardi and adopted in a voice vote 9-0. Dr. Mueller was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Patrice Ricciardi 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 Gauthier 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 eight (8) people registered to provide in-person public comment: Gillian Miller, Laura Wade, Josie Cosgrove, Tina Graf, Benjamin Heiser, Jean Salvatore, Aravinda Pillamarin, and Katie York. Ms. Stephanie Wall, Graphic Design/Technical Specialist, called on individual speakers who had pre-registered to provide public comments virtually. The following two (2) people registered and provided virtual public comment: Jill Ferrara and Crystal Parks.

Item C. Consent Agenda

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

1. Contract Award: Architectural and Engineer Services Harford Technical High School Limited Renovation
2. Contract Award: Contractual Registered Behavior Technicians and a Behavior Technician
3. Contract Award: Professional Learning
4. Contract Award: HDMI Cables
5. Contract Award: Contractual Speech Language Therapist

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

Item D. Proposed Recommendation to Delete Board Policy 04-0024-000, Final Examinations

Kimberly H. Neal, Esq., General Counsel, reported that at the August 22, 2022, Board business meeting, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to adopt revisions and retitling of the policy entitled 04-0023-000 Report cards and Marking Systems. As a result, the information contained in Board policy 04-0024-000 Final Examinations is contained in the newly adopted policy, making this policy redundant and will be deleted. No formal action was required or taken by the Board.

Item K. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Bulson's report was provided as follows:

Superintendent Bulson shared the passing of Mr. Jeff M. Fradel and gave condolences to the family of Mr. Fradel. Mr. Fradel was a former Harford County Public Schools employee who held various positions during his tenure with HCPS including employee relations where he leaves a huge mark and will be missed.

Superintendent Bulson thanked the Bakerfield Elementary School Broncos for having Harford County Public Schools leadership join them on the first day of school for the Million Father March, which took place despite all the rain.

Superintendent Bulson congratulated Mr. Timothy W. Lindecamp, Physical Education Teacher/Athletic Director at Aberdeen High School for being recognized as a Certified Master Athletic Administrator. Mr. Lindecamp is one of a very elite group of interscholastic athletic administrators nationwide to attain this level of professionalism from The National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA).

Superintendent Bulson shared that it is National Art Education week. During this week, the field of arts education joins together in communities across the country to tell the story of the impact of the transformative power of the arts in education. Today, Maryland's First Lady, Yumi Hogan, announced artwork from students, including Sophia Drako of Prospect Mill Elementary School and Rhodes Newkirk of Fallston High School, will be part of the bi-annual exhibition of artwork by Maryland students.

Superintendent Bulson reminded the community to bookmark hcps.org and follow Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) on social media to see what is going on around the county, but to also get information first, as the phone system does take longer to call and share information.

Adjournment

With no further business and with Board consensus the meeting adjourned at 7:14 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, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

OPEN SESSION: 5:30 PM – 5:35 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 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: 5:35 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, September 12, 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, September 12, 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, September 12, 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.