

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE

January 10, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. with the following committee members and support staff present: Sharon Cox (chair), Pat O'Neill, Marlene Hartzman, Roland Ikheloa, and Glenda Rose (recorder).

Other staff present: Harriet Potosky, Lori-Christina Webb, Laura Steinberg, Elaine Chang-Baxter, Cathy Pevey, Brian Bartels, Robin Confino, and Brian Porter.

Others present: Sharon St. Pierre.

Policy FFA, Naming School Facilities

Staff noted that there had been 12 comments from the public. The committee decided to bring the policy to the Board for final approval on February 13, 2007, without any recommendations for changes to the current policy.

Policy GDA, Preemployment Physical Examinations

Staff reported that Maryland law no longer requires physicals. The committee concluded that the policy would be sent to the Board for rescission.

Policy BLB, Rules of Procedure in Appeals and Hearings

Staff explained that there is confusion on the part of appellants when the policy is forwarded to them. Furthermore, there is inconsistency with the Section 4-205 appeals. Therefore, staff recommended that the policy should be streamlined for clarity as well as correct technical errors. There was a suggestion that the process could be expedited, but this suggestion will need review from legal counsel prior to coming to the Policy Committee. The committee was willing to review the recommendations, but it cautioned against the Board losing any of its authority in appeals.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be February 14, 2007. Topics include—Special Education Item of Discussion from Dr. Haughey; Policy JFA, *Student Rights and Responsibilities*; Policy FAA, *Long-range Educational Facilities Planning*; and the Policy Committee's Annual Report.

Revision of Board of Education Handbook

Staff stated that they were seeking the committee's input as to the form and substance of the handbook, which is essentially the regulation for Policy BNB, *Board Staff Management and Operations*. After a short break, staff and Board members reviewed the handbook and made several suggestions on formatting and contents.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.