The Anne Arundel County Board of Education met at 10:00 a.m. on the above date at the Carol S. Parham Administration Building, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland. Members present were Edward Carey, Patricia Nalley, Victor Bernson, Teresa Milio Birge, Kevin Jackson, Enrique Melendez, Eugene Peterson, Andrew Pruski, and Alena Sanders. Also present was Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer of the Board. Mr. Carey opened the meeting with the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Carey introduced new Board member, Mr. Andrew Pruski. Mr. Pruski thanked the Superintendent for the very thorough new board member orientation. He also thanked his supporters and he looks forward to serving on the Board of Education.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION OF JULY 8, 2009:** The Board met in executive session on July 8, 2009 at 8:40 a.m. in the Caucus Room at the Board of Education offices, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401. While in public session, a motion was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Nalley to go into closed session pursuant to Section 10-508(a)(1), (7) and (9) of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to: (1) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individual; (7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter; and (9) conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations. The motion was approved (5-0).

Persons present to close the meeting were Mr. Melendez, Ms. Birge, Ms. Johnson, Mrs. Nalley and Ms. Sanders. Others present for closed session were Mr. Carey, Mr. Peterson and Mr. Jackson. Mr. Bernson was absent. Also present were Dr. Kevin Maxwell, Superintendent, Mr. Bennett, Board Counsel and Ms. Connolly Board Assistant. Oscar Davis, Director of Employee Relations and Chief Negotiator and Jessica Cuches, Employee Relations Specialist were present for negotiations.

**ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION:**
1. Mrs. Connolly advised the Board that item 4.03a, Appointment of Board Counsel needs to be added to the agenda.
2. Ms. Birge and Mr. Jackson volunteered to serve on the MABE Legal Services Association, Ms. Birge as LSA Director and Mr. Jackson as alternate.
3. Mr. Bernson, Mr. Jackson and Ms. Johnson volunteered to serve on the Board Policy Committee.
4. The Board discussed the need to fill a vacancy on the school board ethics panel.
ITEMS CONSIDERED, ACTION TAKEN AND RECORDED VOTES:

1. The Board discussed the performance evaluation of the internal auditor.
2. Mr. Bennett advised the Board on an employee appeal. Ms. Johnson moved to send the case to a hearing examiner. Mr. Peterson seconded and the Board approved (8-0).
3. Mr. Bennett advised the Board on another employee appeal. Ms. Johnson moved to send the case to a hearing examiner. Mr. Carey seconded and the Board approved (8-0).
4. Mr. Bennett advised the Board on a student appeal. Mr. Peterson moved to conduct a paper appeal. Mr. Carey seconded and the Board approved (8-0).
5. Mr. Bennett advised the Board on another student appeal. Mr. Peterson moved to conduct a paper appeal. Mr. Carey seconded and the Board approved (8-0).
6. Mr. Bennett advised the Board on the results of a paper appeal. Ms. Johnson moved that the Board uphold the Superintendent’s decision in the case. Mr. Carey seconded and the Board approved (8-0).
7. Mr. Davis updated the Board on negotiations with TAAAC.

Adjourn: 10:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 8, 2009: Mr. Peterson moved to approve the minutes of July 8, 2009. Mrs. Nalley seconded and the Board approved (9-0).

ESTABLISH AGENDA ORDER: The agenda stands as published.

CRASC REPORT: Marc Long, first Vice President of CRASC welcomed new board members and provided a report on current activities of the Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils.

CAC REPORT: Eric Sullivan, Countywide CAC Chair, welcomed new board members and congratulated Mr. Carey on being elected President and Mrs. Nalley on being elected Vice President. Mr. Sullivan noted that the next meeting of the CAC is Thursday, September 24, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the Board Room.

PTA REPORT: Anita Owens informed the Board of current activities of the PTA and provided a brief overview of the National PTA convention which took place in July.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Carol Mohsberg, introduced herself as the new (and first) Navy School Liaison Officer (SLO). She also re-introduced herself to AACPS, as she had the privilege of working as principal of Ruth Parker Eason. As the Navy SLO, Ms. Mohsberg serves as the liaison between the installation commander, military agencies and the local schools in matters pertaining to education. She provides support to Navy families, who on the average move 2.9 years and children of military personnel can attend up to 9 different schools by the time they graduate.
The Navy School Liaison Officer has seven core areas of responsibility: Transition Support, Deployment Support, Command, School and Community Communications, Home School Linkage and Support, Partnerships in Education, and Post Secondary Preparation. Ms. Mohsberg looks forward to working with the school system. She identified for the Board several initiatives that will benefit military students.

Dr. Maxwell thanked Ms. Mohsberg for her presentation and he looks forward to working with her and her organization.

Mr. Melendez expressed his thanks to Ms. Mohsberg. He believes that there is a real need in the community for someone in her position. He is in favor of keeping kids busy in the summer and suggested the possibility of free entrance into Navy sporting events which would provide local kids with the Navy experience.

Mr. Jackson looks forward to working with the Navy School Liaison. Noting that there is only one United States Naval Academy, he feels blessed that the academy is right here in Annapolis.

Mr. Pruski suggested that Ms. Mohsberg initiate collaboration with the PTA and the CAC in the schools in the district as an outreach effort.

Mr. Peterson applauds Ms. Mohsberg for her efforts and for presenting to the Board of Education.

Bill Farthing expressed concern over the music program at Chesapeake High School. Many of the musical instruments are in poor condition. Mr. Peterson asked the Superintendent for figures on how much is budgeted in schools for musical instruments and the amount of money that booster clubs raise. The Superintendent will provide. Mr. Bernson noted that later in the day the Board will consider approval of a contract for musical instrument repairs.

**ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS:** The Superintendent made the following recommendations effective August 20, 2009: Angela Hopkins, Assistant Principal, Arundel High School; Jason Otte, Assistant Principal, Jessup Elementary; Scott Manbeck, Assistant Principal, Glen Burnie High School; and Phillip Elliott, Administrative Trainee, Meade High School.

Mr. Melendez moved to approve the Superintendent’s recommendations. Mrs. Nalley seconded and the Board approved (9-0).
PERSONNEL: The Superintendent recommends that individuals be appointed, separated, granted leaves of absence or recognized for their years of service upon retirement. The Superintendent noted that the combined years of retirement total 285.6 years.

Mr. Melendez moved to approve the Superintendent’s recommendations. Mrs. Nalley seconded. Mr. Melendez asked for a rationale on the list of teacher resignations which totals 57 teachers. The Superintendent clarified that many of these teachers were on provisional contracts which were not renewed due to ineligibility.

On a motion made and seconded, the Board voted (9-0) to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation.

APPOINTMENT OF ETHICS PANEL MEMBER: Per Board Policy Code 200.05 (A) “There shall be a School Board Ethics Panel composed of five members appointed by the Board. Three members will be appointed for a term of two years; two members for a term of three years. Vacancies will be filled for any unexpired term. The members will be chosen from among respected members of the community.”

Per Board Policy Code 200.05 (B) “The School Board Ethics Panel shall have the following responsibilities:
1. to devise, receive and maintain all forms generated by these regulations;
2. to provide advisory opinions, subject to the regulations as to the applicability of these provisions to them;
3. to process and make determinations as to complaints filed by any person alleging violations of these regulations;
4. to refer findings regarding complaints and other enforcement matters to the Board for action; and
5. to conduct an information program regarding the purposes and application of these regulations.”

It is proposed that Ms. Elizabeth Ysla Leight be appointed to the Ethics Panel to fill the vacancy left by Ms. Irene Zoppi, who was appointed for a term of two years commencing July 1, 2008. The term ends July 1, 2010.

Mr. Peterson moved to approve the appointment of Elizabeth Ysla Leight to the school board Ethics Panel. Mrs. Nalley seconded and the Board approved (9-0). Mr. Peterson and Mr. Pruski spoke in support of Ms. Leight’s appointment.
OPEN SPACE CLASSROOM ENCLOSURES – EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATION AND SCHEMATIC DESIGN:  Ms. Birge moved to take the item from information to action. Mr. Melendez seconded.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the Open Space Classroom Enclosure Educational Specification and the Schematic Design for Brooklyn Park ES, Linthicum ES, and Sunset ES. Mr. Peterson moved to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation. Mr. Jackson seconded.

Alex Szachnowicz, Chief Operating Officer informed that Board that this project category has been funded for both design and construction. Mr. Szachnowicz was joined by Larry Alberts, Manager of Planning and Mr. Greg Stewart, Manager of Design.

This educational specification extracts those items from the standard elementary school educational specification necessary for the construction of standard classrooms within existing open space schools.

The Schematic Design phase establishes spatial requirements, adjacencies, and interrelationships for the following schools: Brooklyn Park ES, Linthicum ES, and Sunset ES.

The Board reviewed the Open Space Classroom Enclosure Educational Specifications and the Schematic Design.

On a motion duly made seconded the Board voted (9-0) to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation.

KINDERGARTEN ADDITIONS – EDUCATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS AND SCHEMATIC DESIGN:  Mr. Melendez moved to take the item from information to action. Mrs. Nalley seconded and the Board approved (9-0).

The Superintendent recommends approval of the Kindergarten Addition Educational Specification and Schematic Design for Oakwood ES, Ridgeway ES, Severn ES, and Waugh Chapel ES.

Alex Szachnowicz, Chief Operating Officer, presented the item to the Board. He was joined by Larry Alberts, Manager of Planning and Greg Steward, Manager of Design.

This educational specification extracts those items from the standard elementary school educational specification necessary for the construction of early childhood classrooms. The new rooms will be occupied by kindergarten and pre-kindergarten classes.
The Schematic Design phase establishes spatial requirements, adjacencies, and interrelationships for the following schools: Oakwood ES, Ridgeway ES, Severn ES, and Waugh Chapel ES.

The Board reviewed the standard Kindergarten Educational Specification and the Schematic

Mr. Jackson addressed issues related to safety particularly at Severn Elementary School.

Mr. Melendez addressed issues related to security matters and central monitoring.

Mr. Melendez moved to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation. Mrs. Nalley seconded and the Board approved, (8-0), Mr. Peterson not present for the vote.

**BELLE GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – DESIGN DEVELOPMENT:** Mr. Melendez moved to take the item from information to action. Mrs. Nalley seconded and the Board approved (8-0), Mr. Peterson not present for the vote.

The Superintendent recommends approval of the Design Development for Belle Grove Elementary School.

Alex Szachnowicz, Chief Operating Officer presented. He was joined by Greg Stewart, Manager of Design. Mr. Szachnowicz, reminded the Board that the preceding phases of this project have been approved by the Board of Education as follows:

- Educational Specification – June 18, 2008
- Feasibility Study – October 15, 2008
- Schematic Design - May 6, 2009

Furthermore, this project is a modernization of the existing Belle Grove Elementary School with new additions. The Board reviewed the Design Development report prepared by GWWO, Inc. Architects. The Design Development phase is a technical refinement of the Schematic Design phase.

Mr. Pruski noted that in other exhibits, such as the Folger McKinsey Design Development, there was mention of community involvement, but in this exhibit there was not. He spoke in support of the community being involved in projects such as this.

Mr. Jackson recommends in the future that the board be apprised of the community involvement aspect of projects such as this. Mr. Szachnowicz will do so.

Mr. Peterson noted that this will be a highly technological school including a data/voice cabling system and other aspects of electronic communication.
On a motion duly made and seconded the Board voted (9-0) to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation.

**FOLGER MCKINSEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – DESIGN DEVELOPMENT:** Mr. Melendez moved to take the item from information to Action. Ms. Birge seconded and the Board approved (9-0).


Mr. Melendez moved to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation. Mr. Jackson seconded.

Alex Szachnowicz, Chief Operating Officer, reminded the Board that the preceding phases of this project have been approved by the Board of Education as follows:

- Educational Specification – June 18, 2008
- Feasibility Study – October 15, 2008
- Schematic Design - May 6, 2009

Furthermore, this project is a revitalization of the existing Folger McKinsey Elementary School. The Board reviewed the Design Development report prepared by TCA Architects. The Design Development phase is a technical refinement of the Schematic Design phase.

On a motion duly made and seconded the Board approved (9-0).

**GERMANTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – DESIGN DEVELOPMENT:** Mr. Melendez moved to take the item from information to action. Mr. Jackson seconded and the Board approved (9-0).

The Superintendent recommends approval of the Design Development for Germantown Elementary School.

Mr. Melendez moved to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation. Mr. Jackson seconded.

Alex Szachnowicz, Chief Operating Officer presented. He was joined by Greg Stewart, Manager of Design. Mr. Szachnowicz reminded the Board that the preceding phases of this project have been approved by the Board of Education as follows:

- Educational Specification – June 18, 2008
- Feasibility Study – November 5, 2008
- Schematic Design - May 6, 2009
This project is a replacement of the existing Germantown Elementary School utilizing the school system’s prototype design. The Board reviewed the Design Development report prepared by Grimm and Parker Architects. The Design Development phase is a technical refinement of the Schematic Design phase.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the Superintendent’s recommendation (9-0).

**POINT PLEASANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – DESIGN DEVELOPMENT:**
Mr. Melendez moved to take the item from information to action. Mr. Peterson seconded and the Board approved (9-0).

The Superintendent recommends approval of the Design Development for Point Pleasant Elementary School.

Mr. Melendez moved to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation. Mr. Jackson seconded.

Alex Szachnowicz, Chief Operating Officer, reminded the Board that the preceding phases of this project have been approved by the Board of Education as follows:

- Educational Specification – June 18, 2008
- Feasibility Study – October 15, 2008
- Schematic Design - May 6, 2009

This project is a revitalization of the existing Point Pleasant Elementary School with new additions. The Board reviewed the Design Development report prepared by Grimm and Parker Architects. The Design Development phase is a technical refinement of the Schematic Design phase.

On a motion duly made and seconded the Board approved (9-0).

**SECOND AND THIRD READING OF INSURANCE – ALL EMPLOYEES – POLICY CODE GAM/800.11:** Mr. Melendez moved to take the item from information to action. Mr. Peterson seconded and the Board approved (9-0).

In response to questions by Mr. Carey, Tyson Bennett, Board Counsel, confirmed that per the Board Policy on Policymaking, the Board must give unanimous consent to compress the second and third readings of a policy revision.

Assuming the Board is satisfied with the language of the proposed policy, the Superintendent asks that the Board Members expedite final action by completing second and third readings.
concurrently at today's meeting. In doing so, staff will be authorized to establish funding tiers and create the programming necessary to implement those new tiers for part-time employees in time for the 2010 benefit year. These tasks must be completed in time to publish literature for open enrollment season in the fall.

Florie Bozzella, Director of Human Resources said that the Department is proposing this revision to Policy GAM/800.11 to include the types of programs being offered to employees as part of their benefits package. The search for highly qualified teachers is very competitive, and Anne Arundel County Public Schools wants to be positioned to offer the types of benefits that would encourage retention of our current employees while fostering our recruitment efforts.

The Superintendent recommends both the waiver of the timeline provided in Policy BF, to permit the concurrent second and third readings of this policy, and further recommends the approval of Policy GAM, subject to final correction for style and format.

Mr. Peterson moved to compress the second and third readings for the purpose of discussion. Mr. Bernson seconded. Mr. Carey stated that he has never been in favor of waiving standard procedures of the Board and this is no exception. Therefore, this motion will fail, as the vote will not be unanimous. Mr. Jackson concurred.

Mr. Bernson noted that this policy would allow part-time employees to be eligible to purchase health insurance, with the contribution by the Board toward the premium pro-rated based upon their Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) status. Mr. Pruski addressed matters relating to transparency.

On the motion to combine the two readings, the Board voted (2-7), Mr. Bernson and Ms. Birge in favor, all others opposed. The motion fails.

The Board proceeded with the second reading of Insurance – All Employees Policy Code GAM/800.11.

In response to questions by Mr. Melendez, Florie Bozzella, Director of Human Resources, provided the Board with comparative information compiled across the state. For example, in 10 jurisdictions an employee can be a .5 employee and still be entitled to full health insurance.

Public Participation: Tim Mennuti, President of the Teachers Association and Jim Sollers, President of Local 1693 of AFSCME.

**READINESS FOR OPENING OF SCHOOLS:** A panel of executive staff members provided the Board with a report on the readiness for the opening of schools. Panel members included: George Arlotto, Chief School Performance Officer, Lynn Whittington, Assistant Superintendent.
for Curriculum and Instruction, Florie Bozzella, Director of Human Resources, and Alex Szachnowicz, Chief Operating Officer.

Dr. Arlotto’s presentation included information on administrative staffing in schools, secondary scheduling, athletics and an update on additional staffing.

Ms. Whittington reported on the status of special education, the development of new integrated 21st century middle school encore classes, STEM Magnets, Performing and Visual Arts Magnet, the IB Middle Years Programme and the Homeland Security signature program. She also touched on the implementation of Thinking Maps, the expansion of Chinese, summer academy, the Early College Access Program (partnered with the community college) and new co-curricular offerings.

With the opening of school next week, Ms. Whittington is confident that all teachers have the preparation, materials and support needed for a successful school year.

Flore Bozzella, Director of Human Resources provided information on staffing, including statistics on new teachers, vacancies and recruitment efforts and other issues related to human resources.

Alex Szachnowicz provided a detailed overview on facility readiness and highlighted certain ongoing construction projects. He also noted that the newly renovated Freetown Elementary and Lake Shore Elementary schools will have their ribbon cutting celebrations next week. Regarding transportation issues, there are no driver shortages and all buses are routed and inspected. Next week the transportation division will conduct “dry runs” for the over 55,000 students eligible for transportation services.

In response to Dr. Arlotto’s report on athletics, Ms. Sanders spoke to the importance of cheerleading in her school and she is sure it holds the same amount of importance in other schools as well.

Mr. Bernson gave kudos to Dr. Arlotto for all his work on implementing the middle school schedule.

Noting that Lynn Whittington will step down from her position as Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Maxwell noted that she devoted her lifetime to serving students, and she will be missed. Ms. Whittington said that the last ten years of her career with Anne Arundel County Public Schools has been the best years in her entire career. She is very happy to have been part of a wonderful family and a wonderful team.
UPDATE ON MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM AT SOJOURNER DOUGLASS COLLEGE CAMPUS: Ms. Lane reminded the Board that last March it supported the development and implementation of a Middle College High School on the grounds of Sojourner Douglass College for the fourth quarter of the 2008-2009 school year to support students that would benefit from academic intervention to prevent retention. Ninth grade retention is a prime indicator of students at risk of dropping out of high school. At that time the Board requested a follow up report to review initial student outcomes before the start of the 2009-2010 school year.

Ms. Lane provided an update at the program at Sojourner Douglass High School. She reported that in an effort to enhance the graduation rates at Annapolis High School, the Academic Achievement Steering Committee identified a group of first time 9th graders that would benefit from academic intervention to prevent retention.

Faculty and staff from Annapolis High School and Sojourner Douglass College, as well as parents and students from the program shared their experiences and described the qualitative impact of the first quarter at the Middle College High School at Sojourner Douglass.

Mr. Pruski would be interested in more data such as MSA scores and student demographics.

Mrs. Nalley moved that the Board go into closed session pursuant to Section 10-508(a)(9) to conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations. Mr. Peterson seconded and the Board approved (8-0), Mr. Melendez absent.

AWARD OF CONTRACTS: In accordance with Board Policy Code DEA, all contracts exceeding $25,000, commodities, and non-competitive procurements that are in compliance with the Bidding Procedures Regulations, will be approved by the Purchasing Officer and reported to the Board for review. Twenty five contracts were presented for the Board to review.

CONSENT ITEMS – AWARD OF CONTRACTS:

Mrs. Nalley moved to bundle items 6.01, 6.02, 6.03, 6.04 and 6.05. Mr. Peterson seconded and the Board approved (8-0), Mr. Melendez absent.

Ms. Birge moved to take the consent items from information to action. Mr. Jackson seconded and the Board approved (8-0).

The Superintendent made the following recommendations:
PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM REPLACEMENT AT EASTPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education award Contract #09M-215, Public Address System Replacement at Eastport Elementary School, to Action Electrical Contractors, Inc. in the amount of $125,130.00

SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT PROVIDER SERVICES 403(b)/457(b): The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education award Contract #09SC-15, Supplemental Retirement Plan Provider Services – 403(b)/457(b) to ING Life Insurance and Annuity Company, Lincoln Financial Group, MetLife Resources and VALIC.

SUPPORT FOR ORACLE LICENSES: The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education award Contract #08-205 Support for Oracle Licenses to Mythics, Inc. in the amount of $105,171.47.

INTERNET SERVICE (COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT): The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education award Contract # 10-2 OC-3 Internet Service (Cooperative Agreement with MiCTA); to Qwest Communication Corporation in the amount of $261,907.52

A1 PHONES, RELATED COMPONENTS AND SERVICES (COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT): The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education award Contract # 07-224 A1 Phones, Related Components and Services to ADT Security Services to ADT Security Services, in the amount of $200,000.00.

The Board adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Approved: September 2, 2009