

**Cambridge Association of Neighborhoods (CAN)
Unofficial Notes on Dorchester County Board of Education (DCBOE)
Regular Monthly Meeting, Thursday, October 20, 2022**

Submitted by Tom Puglisi

Note: * Supporting documents may be found on the CAN website at [CambridgeCan.org](https://www.cambridgecan.org) and the DCPS Board Docs website at <https://go.boarddocs.com/mabe/dcps/Board.nsf/Public>. The meeting is available for viewing on Town Hall Streams at <https://townhallstreams.com/towns/dorchesterboe>.

1. Closed Session, 4:00 p.m.

2. Regular Session, 6:00 p.m.

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Approval of the Regular Agenda for September 15, 2022

2.03 Calendar

- Thursday, October 27, 2022 6:00 pm, Strategic Planning Community Meeting North Dorchester HS
- Monday, October 31, 2022, Early Dismissal for Students, Professional Development Half-Day
- Thursday, November 3, 2022. 4:00 pm, Dorchester County Board of Education Work Session
- Tuesday, November 8, 2022, No School for Students, Professional Development Day
- November 14 - 18, 2022, American Education Week
- Thursday, November 17, 2022, 6:00 pm, Regular November Meeting of the Board of Education, DCTC
- Tuesday, November 22, 2022, Half-Day for Students, Report Card Prep for Teachers
- November 23 - 25, 2022, No School/Offices Closed, Thanksgiving Break

2.04 Comments from the Student Board Representatives *

2.05 Comments from the Public

- Speaker #1 thanked Mr. Howie for the productive Equity Committee Meeting. The speaker was concerned that Strategic Planning Community meetings are all being held in schools and requested that additional meetings be held in community locations to provide access for parents in vulnerable areas. The speaker is very concerned that too many minority students at the elementary and middle school levels are not attending school. The speaker urged DCPS to let data drive decisions about where to target activities and interventions.

3. Consent Agenda – Approved Unanimously

3.01 Approval of Personnel Items for September 15, 2022

3.02 Approval of the Minutes of the September 15, 2022, Regular Board of Education Meeting *

3.03 Approval of the Work Session Minutes of October 13, 2022 *

3.04 Second Read/Approval – BOE Policy 422.01 Students: High School Program; High School Graduation Requirements *

3.05 Second Read/Approval- BOE Policy 450.01 Students: Student Conduct/Discipline; Student Behavior Interventions *

3.06 Approval of Obligation and Payment to High Road School of Anne Arundel County (1) for services for a student with disabilities placed at High Road School of Anne Arundel. The IEP team determined that a nonpublic school was the least restrictive environment for this student. Total DCPS contribution is \$35,873. MSDE contribution is \$5,955 following approval of the nonpublic tuition assistance grant

3.07 Approval of Obligation and Payment to High Road School of Anne Arundel County (2) for services for a student with disabilities placed at High Road School of Anne Arundel. The IEP team determined that a nonpublic school was the least restrictive environment for this student. Total DCPS contribution is \$36,328. MSDE contribution is \$7,014 following approval of the nonpublic tuition assistance grant.

3.08 Additional Grants Acceptance * for grant received by the school district during the month of September 2022, but not included in the approved Operating Budget. The grant is from MD Dept of Agriculture for \$11,000 for indoor gardens at MES, SDS, and NDMS.

3.09 BrightStar Contract - CNA - Emergency Approval * for Certified Nursing Assistant to address a student's health and safety plan as delineated in the IEP. The projected amount is based on the hourly rate of \$34 per hour for 37.5 hours per week for a total of \$38,500.

4. Items for Board Action – All Approved Unanimously.

4.01 Appointment of FY'23 Board Negotiating Teams * to begin reaching out to the Unions immediately.

- DASA: Michael Collins (Chief Negotiator), Tim Brooke, Jeff Grafton, Kirk Howie
- DE-Teachers: Michael Collins (Chief Negotiator), Jodi Colman, Jeff Grafton, Tim Brooke, Jerome Stover
- DE-ESP: Michael Collins (Chief Negotiator), Regina Teat, Jeff Grafton, Tim Brooke, Lisa Peters, Pat Murphy.

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- 4.02 VMware Workspace ONE for Education Annual Renewal * Workspace ONE is a digital platform that delivers and manages apps on our devices by integrating access control, application management and multiplatform endpoint management. This platform allows IT to manage all our student, staff, and teacher iPads. ESSER II Funds \$34,290.
- 4.03 Ellen Abramson Contract * Providing coaching services for teachers and administrators to support academic, social and emotional learning in pre-kindergarten classes. The coach works directly with personnel in the classroom. \$33,000.
- 4.04 First Read – Review of BOE Policy 100.03 -Board of Education: Board Policy; Role of the Board * Changes to the existing policy are to update legal references.
- 4.05 First Read – Review of BOE Policy 100.06 Board of Education: Board Policy; Diversity Awareness * Changes to the existing policy are to update legal references, terms, and language and to correct grammatical errors.
- 4.06 First Read – Review of BOE Policy 100.08 Board of Education: Board Policy; Nondiscrimination Policy * Changes to the existing policy are to update legal references and language, and to add the following: *The Board does not refuse enrollment of a prospective student, expel a current student, or withhold privileges from any individual because of an individual's race, ethnicity, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. The Board does not discipline, invoke a penalty, or take any other retaliatory action against a student, or parent or guardian of a student who files a complaint alleging that the school discriminated against the student, regardless of the outcome of the complaint.*
- 4.07 First Read – Review of BOE Policy 190.03 - Board of Education: Meeting Agendas and Procedures; Agenda Distribution * Changes to the existing policy are to update legal references, terms, and language, and to increase notification time to the Board.
- 4.08 First Read – Review of BOE Policy 450.09 -Students: Student Conduct/Discipline; Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying and/or Discrimination * Changes to the existing policy are to update legal references, terms, and language.
- 4.09 First Read – Review of BOE Policy 473.01 -Students: Extra-Curricular Activities; Non-Discrimination * Changes to the existing policy are to update legal references, terms, and language.
- 4.10 Furnish and Install New Media Center Shelving and Furniture at Choptank, Hurlock Elementary School, and Mace's Lane Middle School * These 3 facilities wanted to update their media centers to increase student engagement by redesigning how the spaces are used to accommodate active, modern instruction in each media center. The concepts were developed by each school in partnership with the Central Office Media Center Supervisor. New shelving, furnishings, and floorcoverings (CES and HES) bring these concepts to life and will create standard teaching stations in each media center. Lower height and mobile shelving are being used to increase flexibility of space use and physical security. Student furnishings are designed for each age group and is also mobile, allowing for a variety of configurations in the instructional setting. Piggyback on the Metropolitan Buyer's Council Furniture procurement. Concentration of Poverty Grant funds \$187,564.
- 4.11 Furnish and Install New Media Center Floorcoverings for Choptank and Hurlock Elementary Schools * These 2 facilities wanted to update their media centers to increase student engagement by redesigning how the spaces are used to accommodate active, modern instruction in each media center. The concepts were developed by each school in partnership with the Central Office Media Center Supervisor. New floorcoverings are part of the scope of improvements at these two sites. High quality, heavy weight, institutional grade carpeting, vinyl composite tile (VCT) and luxury vinyl tile (LVT) have been selected for use at these sites. The carpeting lends itself to acoustic quality in sound sensitive spaces. The tile surfaces will be used to define instructional areas. Piggyback on the Wicomico County Board of Education floorcovering bid. Concentration of Poverty Grant funds \$31,905.32
- 4.12 Design Services for HVAC Replacement Projects at Choptank (CES) and Vienna Elementary Schools (VES) and South Dorchester School (SDK8) * Replacement of the Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems at VES and SDK8 and the rooftop equipment at CES are our highest priority projects. Hiring a high-quality design team to develop, bid and, administer these critical improvements is the next step in the process. The design solutions will address the needs to: Replace the Roof Top HVAC Units at CES, Replace the entire HVAC system at SDK8 and, Replace the entire HVAC system at VES (except for primary piping and the boiler plant). The Facilities Department developed a Request for Proposals (RFP), invited prospective design teams to tour the schools and hear about our need. Proposals were solicited, received, and evaluated by the Selection Committee. Interviews were

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conducted with shortlisted teams and fee proposals were then solicited from the finalists. The Selection Committee made their recommendation based on the quality of the submissions. Only one team met the RFP criteria of HVAC system replacements in schools on the Eastern Shore of MD and VA: Hord, Copland and Macht/Gipe Engineers Inc. This project work is being funded by ESSR and State of Maryland funds: \$1,026,700

5. Items for Information

- 5.01 The Wellness Center MOU * Annual renewal of MOU. No financial obligation.
- 5.02 Appropriations and Expenditures Report * No variances to report. Investment income may produce more than originally projected. So far Transportation cost are within projections.
- 5.03 Capital Projects Reports & Technology Purchases * Three project have been completed. Typical technology purchases were made in preparation for the opening of schools
- 5.04 Quarterly Grant Balances Report * Any unspent balances are under review.

6. Other Business

6.01 Board Comments

- Mr. Hull thanked the student representatives for their reports and highlighted the presentation of CSD Student Board representative Rip Cornish at the Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) conference. Mr. Hull noted the need for expenditures to improve the schools.
- Dr. Morgan: I recently heard an interesting twist on the Serenity Prayer: "I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept." Think about things in your life that you can't accept. See if there are ways to change them. It might be difficult, it certainly won't be easy, and in the end the change you make might be very small, but it's a beginning. Children need to feel that they can change things, that they can learn things regardless. They should know that class work might be hard, some may see it as insurmountable, but with encouragement and some assistance, they need to know that they can persevere and they can master it. Always let your child know that you believe in them. If they bring home poor grades, sit with them, ask them what they feel they got wrong. Work with them. Education provides the means to improve a child's self-esteem and ability to engage with society in a successful manner. Make sure your child takes advantage of it, don't let them throw it away. Thank you for coming tonight.
- Ms. Hubbard expressed kudos to our student Board representatives. She offered a shout-out and thank you to teachers, instructional assists, aides, and all those who work in the schools to make our schools the best place possible for students.
- Mr. Diaz noted the prevalence of illegal drugs among children locally and the fact the an adult had to be arrested recently at a school sports event. He urged parents and children to follow the rules at all school events.
- Ms. Layton expressed appreciation to the student presentations. She noted that CSD Student Board representative Rip Cornish did a wonderful job at the MADE conference. She indicated that although the Board is digging deeply into data, we also need to remember to the needs of individual students and teachers. She noted that strategic planning meetings are about to begin and urged the community to participate.

6.02 Announcements from the Superintendent. Superintendent Bromwell –

- Thanked everyone who attended the meeting physically or virtually, as well as the Student Board representatives.
- Noted that Unity Day activities promote acceptance of differences and encourages inclusion.
- Stressed how important the upcoming strategic planning meeting and that parents need to participate to ensure success.
- Reported that mold complaints were evaluated by the health department and other professionals, who determined that no mold was presented.
- Note the DCPS collaboration with local Gun Taskforce.
- Reminded everyone to thank their school principals now doing principal appreciation week.
- Thanked everyone and reminded everyone to stay safe.

7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.