

**Southeast Area Education Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes March 14, 2011**

Meeting called to order: 7:05PM

Advisory Council Members: Jackie Brewster, Bonnie Saul, & Sandra Skordalos

Attendees: Sara Blumberg (Dundalk Eagle), Jill Harris (Patapsco HS PTSA Treasurer), Larry Harris (Parent), Ryan Imbriale (Patapsco HS Principal), Jacqueline Javorski (Patapsco HS PTSA Secretary), Judy Rixham (Parent), Michael Weglein (Sollers Point Tech. Principal), & Bonny Sheeks (Patapsco HS PTSA President)

Presenters: George L. Sarris (BCPS Budget Director)

Mr. Sarris presented an overview of the budget process. He began by focusing on the difference between the capital and operating budget. For example, the increase in the number of students in a high school class would be an operating budget issue; whereas air conditioning in schools would be a capital budget item along with school replacements like Dundalk/ Sollers or additions like Stoneleigh.

Eighty-five percent of the operating budget contains salaries and benefits. We cannot cut teacher salaries due to an agreement with the former county executive, so the only way to lower the cost is to cut positions. Every year around 600 teachers leave BCPS. Hopefully the budget will go through as submitted to the County Executive.

Capital Budget- BCPS does not have taxing authority. It is a six year budget plan. Primary source of funding is from the state and Baltimore County - either through the sale of bonds or pay as you go funding (current year). The tax rate for our county has been the same for twenty years. We have completed a lot of projects including all 24 middle schools over the past few years (2006-2010). Now, funding is getting tight. Elementary schools received limited renovations in the years prior to 2006. They also completed improvements including windows, roofs, etc. during the 2006-2010 period. We need to renovate all of the high schools. Carver will be the first school since it was built in the 1940's. It will be getting a brand new building. Both Dundalk HS and Sollers Point Tech. will also be getting a new joint building on the Dundalk campus. Catonsville will be receiving an addition. Parkville & Milford Mills will be renovated with stimulus money. Hereford is the next school on the list. It was built in 1958 and received an addition 15 years ago. It has unique issues like no water and sewage lines. Mr. Sarris will send a list of the high schools in the order they will be renovated.

There were many questions from the guests:

How was the list determined?

Is the renovation list being re-evaluated due to the length of time it will take for some of these high schools to be renovated? Will extra maintenance need to be done prior to renovations, since the schedule has been pushed back?

Specific questions were asked about Patapsco HS:

Is the parking lot on the list to be repaved?

Why didn't they fence the track in when it was completed?

Why are they removing trailers that are currently in use and some were recently renovated while the enrollment has been around the same number?

Mr. Sarris said he would look into the issues and get back to us through email. I have included the answers in these minutes:

Questions from Southeast Area Advisory Council Meeting  
March 14, 2011

1. When is Patapsco HS currently scheduled for renovation or what is its priority ranking among all high schools?
  - a. The priority order of the high school renovation program is based on the year the school was originally built. The first five schools listed are currently under either renovation or construction. Future projects renovation schedules will be based on when funding is available. The priority list is as follows:
    1. Catonsville HS 1954
    2. Carver Center 1949
    3. Parkville 1958
    4. Milford Mill Academy 1949
    5. Dundalk and Sollers Point 1948 and 1959
    6. Hereford 1953
    7. Kenwood 1955
    8. Franklin 1960
    9. Overlea 1961
    10. Woodlawn 1961
    11. Lansdowne 1963
    12. Patapsco 1963
    13. Dulaney 1964
    14. Pikesville 1964
    15. Perry Hall 1967
    16. Randallstown 1969
    17. Eastern Technical 1970
    18. Western School of Technology 1970
    19. Loch Raven 1972
    20. Chesapeake 1977
    21. Owings Mills 1978
2. Will Patapsco likely be replaced or renovated according to the most recent feasibility study?
  - a. ***The Feasibility Study was performed on the basis of performing a renovation of Patapsco HS.***
3. When is Patapsco HS currently scheduled for paving improvements to its parking lots?
  - a. ***The Patapsco HS parking lot is not scheduled for improvements at this time.***
4. Why was one relocatable removed this year from Patapsco and why are two more being removed this summer when enrollment is static?
  - a. Strategic Planning Answer  
Relocatable classrooms are an important resource utilized to address capacity needs as we continue to support the integrity of the instructional program. They are part of the school system's short- and mid-term relief strategies to manage shifting enrolment, population peaks and spikes, and facility renovation.  
  
Patapsco High School's state rated capacity (SRC) is 1302. The school has a projected enrollment in 2011 of 1482 students, or 180 students above the SRC. Relocatable classrooms have a capacity of 25 per classroom at the high school level, therefore we have recommended that 7 classrooms remain on site providing additional capacity for 175 students. Surplus units can then be available to move to where they are needed or, in the case of leased units, to take out of service to save on the lease expense.
  - b.

5. Why is the track not fenced at Patapsco and is that improvement planned in the future?
  - a. ***The Patapsco HS track was not fenced before the track was re-surfaced. Therefore, the scope of work only included replacement of damaged sections of fencing. Although, during design of the track replacement project the school administration, at the time, was offered fencing, they opted to not include it in the scope.***
6. Why was the Charlesmont ES parking lot paved twice; once for the existing lot and then paved over again after an addition was constructed?
  - a. ***Actually, the small addition to the parking lot was built first at Charlesmont ES, to provide adequate parking for staff. The scope of work at that time was to increase parking to meet TABCO requirements. Several years later, the condition of the remaining portion was so poor that the entire paving area was either rebuilt or resurfaced, ADA improvements were added and the sidewalks were replaced.***
7. Why was the Norwood ES parking lot paved twice in a short span of time?
  - a. ***Actually, the Norwood ES parking lot addition was constructed first to meet staff needs and provide a safe student drop off area. Years later when the funding became available, even though the request had been in place for some time, the remainder of the site was in such poor condition that the remaining portion was paved and new sidewalks were added.***

Presentation Period Ended 8:11PM

#### Advisory Council Meeting

The council met briefly, since there were only three members present. Spoke briefly regarding the budget presentation. We also discussed the meeting with the county executive and the proposed operating budget.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:45PM

Next meeting: April 11 at Battle Grove ES – Capital Budget