

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Strategic Planning Committee  
April 21, 2009  
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m. with the following committee members and staff present: Dr. Judy Docca (Chair), Ms. Laura Berthiaume, Ms. Laura Steinberg (staff assistant) and Kathy Yorro (recorder).

MCPS Staff Present: Mr. Larry Bowers, chief operating officer; Mr. Brian Edwards, chief of staff, Office of the Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Jody Leleck, chief academic officer; and Ms. Jody Silvio, executive assistant to the chief academic officer.

Minutes

The minutes from the March 13, 2009, committee meeting were approved unanimously. Ms. Berthiaume questioned that her request for Facilities Management data points was not included in the minutes. Mr. Bowers responded that Facilities Management would be scheduled to present their survey findings to the committee as reported in the March 13 minutes.

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Docca welcomed all in attendance foregoing introductions.

Strategic Plan, *Our Call to Action: Pursuit of Excellence*

Mr. Bowers presented the draft revisions to the strategic plan. He explained that the Guiding Tenets section of the plan is not totally finished. He also explained that the draft Core Values would be completed at the May 8, 2009, Board retreat and would be incorporated into the document after the retreat. Mr. Bowers also explained that staff has been working on the equity framework, which is still in the formative stage, and that the framework would be brought to the Board at their retreat on May 8 and to the committee at the May 20 committee meeting. He noted that related to the equity framework would be an action plan that would include the details of the framework.

Performance Targets

Mr. Bowers continued with a discussion of the strategic plan Performance Targets. Ms. Leleck continued the discussion explaining proposed additions, deletions, and corrections. Specifically, MS Ineligibility—Percentage Ineligible and HS Ineligibility—Percentage Ineligible were added. Corrections were made to HSA Reading and HSA Math, Honors/AP/IB College-Level Course Enrollment—Percentage enrolled in at least one course and AP/IB—Percentage of graduating seniors who took at least one exam while in high school.

There was lengthy discussion about adding targets for advanced performance on the MSA's, delivery of services to gifted and talented students, and 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade retention rates. Staff commented that the Annual Report provides performance on the strategic plan's targets and data points and that the MSA in the Annual Report includes the percentage of students at basic, proficient, and advanced. There was further discussion about the differences in data monitoring by teachers, principals and community superintendents, which includes drilling down to a granular level, versus higher level accountability measures (data points,

milestones, and targets) established in the strategic plan and monitored by the Board. Staff also explained that the monitoring of the delivery of gifted and talented services is an on-going effort and not a “data point.” Staff explained that this could be discussed in the Gifted and Talented presentation to the Board in the summer/early fall.

Deployment of Guiding Tenets and Overview

Mr. Bowers gave a brief summary of the section on Deployment of Guiding Tenets (how this guides the work of the plan) and the Overview explaining very minor additions and deletions of text. Committee members noted very minor errors/incomplete sentence on page 8 of draft.

Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act

Mr. Bowers explained that changes to this section would be determined after the MSDE meeting on Bridge to Excellence on April 29, 2009.

Goal 1 – Ensure Success for Every Student and Goal 2 – Provide an Effective Instructional Program

Mr. Bowers explained that work remains regarding the alignment of data points and milestones within each of these goals with Goal 1 intending to apply to “all students” and Goal 2 intending to apply to “all schools”. He explained that this was something that could be reviewed for next year and that if the committee was interested in looking at this, a group could be pulled together to review the alignment and report back to the committee.

Committee members discussed:

- Graduation rates and the impact of drop out rates on that calculation. Staff noted that there would be a review of the graduation rates at an upcoming committee meeting.
- Inclusion of William and Mary program being included as a data point. Staff explained that this is a “strategy” not a data point.
- Transportation for middle school students attending extended day program.
- Continuing need for evening high school. Committee is interested in how many students were able to make up all credits in High School Plus.
- Truancy rates.
- Suspension rates.
- Exit interviews when a student drops out of school.
- Deputy Superintendent of School’s Minority Achievement Advisory Council.

**Action: There was a motion by the committee which was seconded to recommend adding a target for advanced performance on the MSA’s.**

**Agenda Items for May 20 Meeting:**

- Bring back all strategic plan goals and perhaps the core values and equity framework.
- Graduation Rates

**Future Agenda Items:**

- Foreign Language
- Miscellaneous Principal Survey Results

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m.