



**MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2010
Frederick Campus**

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Benjamin Bahan, Ph.D.; Cynthia Neese-Bailes, Ph.D.; Charles Poyer, Jr.; Sheryl B. Cooper, Ph.D.; Laurie Corcoran; John Ertel, Ph.D.; Ricardo Hernandez, Ph.D.; David Martin; Heather Zeolla.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Connie Briscoe-Woodruff; Ernest Hairston, Ph.D.; Roslyn Hannibal-Booker; Sandra Harriman; Robin Kittleman; Angela McCaskill, Ph.D.; Khadijat Rashid, Ph.D.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL: William Fields, Esq.

INTERPRETERS: Bobbie Quinn; Brenda Kelly-Frey

President Benjamin Bahan called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

Introductions were made since the Board now has 3 new board members, Dr. Sheryl B. Cooper, Dr. Ricardo Hernandez, and David Martin.

President's Report: President Benjamin Bahan stated that the Board would be saying farewell to 3 members today, but that there were capable people coming in and the Board is happy to have them. President Bahan stated that a few years ago the Board had a retreat and he believes it is time to have another one. The outcomes of the retreat should be to talk about and define roles, how can the Board make better use of the roles and the committees within the board, and how can the Board best serve the school. The Board and school personnel should come together and discuss things. Ms. Elise Durland, the Independent Consultant hired to conduct the Superintendent's 360 degree evaluation will come at 11:15am to share with the Board the results of the evaluation.

Vice President's Report: No report.

Secretary's Report: No report.

Treasurer's Report: No report. President Bahan stated that William Bowman asked President Bahan to share his thoughts, though unrelated to the treasurer's report, about the Denton Dedication. Mr. Bowman said it was wonderful but it would have been nice to have it recorded (video-taped) for historical purposes.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent James E. Tucker stated that he had several items to discuss and would like to move the Budget discussion to the end of his report since the Board would need to go into Executive Session as the information to be presented is 'proprietary'.

Approximately 20 Benton family members attended the Nancy Benton Track dedication. It was really nice to be able to have so many of Nancy's family members in attendance on that special day. We had one living relative, Ms. Kathleen Marrone, attend the Kent-McCanner building dedication. We had two 1951 graduates of MSD show up and at the last minute gave a little presentation to the audience.

The David M. Denton building dedication was a wonderful, lovely ceremony. Many wonderful people came. Three past Board Presidents attended. Former Governor Harry Hughes was there and spoke at the ceremony. Newly elected State Senator Ron Young was also there and also spoke. A few State Delegates also attended. Laurie Corcoran shared with the Board that it was a very powerful and moving experience.

White House Disability Advisor Kareem Dale came and toured MSD. Two high school students led the tour and they did a wonderful job. He had a great time with us. We brought him here because CEASD is moving ahead with the Child First Campaign and we are trying to rewrite the LRE provision in the IDEA. USDOE's Dr. Alexa Posney also came and toured MSD. Again two high school students led the tour. This was a huge visit for us and it went very well.

I have some sad news to report: SFC Lance Vogeler died in action in Afghanistan. His parents are Donna and Tim Vogeler, employees at MSD. Chad Baker has retired, Lisa Houck has suddenly retired, and John Snavlin is retiring this summer. There will be a shared Leadership Team to finish out the year for the Frederick Campus Principal. Lori Bonheyo will serve as the administrative side of the principal's job and Christopher Kaftan will serve as the academic side of the principal's job. At the next meeting we will be talking about restructuring the principal's office. Historically the principal's office has done too much. I met with CCAT last Wednesday and we've started a dialog about what will happen when John Snavlin retires. Chad Baker's position is dissolved but he will come back in January on a contract for 20 hours per week to continue his work on the restoration of the Barrack and the history of MSD book that he is writing.

At 10:00 a.m. a **MOTION** was made to go into Closed Session to discuss privileged executive information – **SECONDED – PASSED.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Benjamin Bahan, Ph.D.; Cynthia Neese-Bales, Ph.D.; Charles Poyer, Jr; Sheryl Cooper, Ph.D.; Laurie Corcoran; John Ertel, Ph.D.; Ricardo Hernandez, Ph.D.; David Martin; Heather Zeolla.

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At 10:55 a.m. a **MOTION** was made to return to Open Session – **SECONDED – PASSED.**

Presentation on Board funds by Denise Phelps, MSDF Treasurer: Ms. Phelps shared with the Board the history of the Board's funds and the reason the Foundation took over the management of the funds. Ms. Phelps went through a handout that she disbursed to the board members and explained that the funds had grown but because of the economic recession the funds have dropped. There have been some recent withdrawals to pay for the Board's portion of the audit and the Superintendent's evaluation. Ms. Phelps closed her presentation by stating that the investments are a little more conservative but very well protected so the yield is slow, steady, continuous growth.

At 11:23 a.m. a **MOTION** was made to go into Closed Session to discuss privileged executive information – **SECONDED – PASSED.**

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At 12:10 p.m. a **MOTION** was made to return to Open Session – **SECONDED – PASSED.**

Recognize William Bowman, Barbara Raimondo, and Edgar B. Palmer for their years of service: President Bahan shared with the Board that William Bowman was not able to attend, but nonetheless the Board thanked him for his service. President Bahan then thanked Ms. Raimondo and Mr. Palmer for their years of service and presented them with a gift on behalf of the Board. President Bahan then invited Ms. Raimondo and Mr. Palmer to say a few words. Ms. Raimondo said that it was a good experience for her to learn the behind the scenes work of the school and that she learned a lot. Mr. Palmer thanked the Board for the experiences and opportunity to serve.

Open Forum: No one signed up.

President Bahan began a dialog regarding the Board Retreat: President Bahan stated that he would like to establish an Adhoc committee to set up the board retreat dates and location. There are 3 main areas that the Board should address – 1. Team Building; 2. Our function/role as the Board; and 3. Committee work. Perhaps the school administrative team could meet with the Board at the retreat. President Bahan named the following individuals as members of the Adhoc committee to coordinate the board retreat – Charles Poyer, Jr., Ben Bahan, John Ertel, Laurie Corcoran, and Jenny Lake.

Update on Accreditation presented by Marcia Virts, Lead Internal Coordinator for 2010-2011 Accreditation Planning Team: Ms. Virts stated that 2010-2011 is MSD's self study year and that in November of 2011 there would be a combined MSA/CEASD validation team visit to MSD. Ms. Virts stated that the collection of surveys through Survey Monkey was complete and that there was a very good response. A summary of the responses received will be part of the report given to the accreditation panel. Staff at both campuses are working hard on collecting artifacts for all 12 standards and monthly minutes are posted on the web-site for review. Ms. Virts stated that MSD is required to have an accreditation team that represents all of MSD's stakeholders and MSD has done a good job of assembling such a team.

David Martin shared some remarks: Mr. Martin shared with the Board that MSD has been in the newspaper for different sports accomplishments and that congratulations should be expressed to the students for their accomplishments. The members of the Board echoed his sentiments.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: No new business.

A **MOTION** was made to adjourn at 1:50 p.m. – **SECONDED – PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Poyer, Jr.
Secretary