

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayor



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

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HEARING NOTES

Legislative Oversight: LO22-0021

Baltimore City Public Schools

Committee: Education, Workforce, and Youth
Chaired by: Robert Stokes, Sr.

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022
Time (Beginning): 10:00 AM
Time (Ending): 11:40 AM
Location: Virtual "WebEx" Meeting
Total Attendance: Approximately 30

Committee Members in Attendance:

Robert Stokes, Sr. James Torrence
John Bullock Sharon Green Middleton
Antonio Glover Zeke Cohen
Phylicia Porter

Table with 3 columns: Question, yes, no, n/a. Rows include Bill Synopsis in the file?, Attendance sheet in the file?, Agency reports read?, Video or audio-digitally recorded?, Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file?, Evidence of notification to property owners?, Final vote taken at this hearing?

Major Speakers

(This is not an attendance record.)

- Sonja B. Santelises, CEO Baltimore City Public Schools (BCPS)
• Alison Perkins-Cohen, Baltimore City Public Schools
• Tina Hike-Hubbard, Baltimore City Public Schools
• John Davis, Baltimore City Public Schools
• Joan Dabrowski, Baltimore City Public Schools

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## Major Issues Discussed

1. CEO Santelises introduced her team/staff and gave opening remarks. Some of the areas to be discussed today will be:
  - Impact of Pandemic
  - Recovery Plan (Reconnect, Restore, Reimage)
  - Forthcoming changes relating to the internet
2. Several representatives from the BCPS participated in presenting a PowerPoint Presentation. *A copy is on file.*
3. The committee members asked questions, made comments, and etc. Some highlighted topics of discussion were:
  - Connecting Families
    - What conversations are you having with state departments to keep families and communities connected?
    - Building families, community relationships and engagement, talk about this.
  - Patterson High School – Reading Levels (Low)
    - Can you talk about this? **Answers: There are high profiles/numbers of immigrants attending Patterson High. About 40% of the students attending Patterson are English learning and new to this country. We must watch closely how data and profiles are used (this is of concern); weaponizing data!**
  - Stakeholder Engagement (Slide Pertaining to Same)
    - I noticed that the City Council is not listed as a stakeholder!
    - We are very much a part of the stakeholders
    - Please include the Council on the list
    - We are definitely partners with BCPS and the communities
    - Can you speak to this?
  - Improvised Neighborhoods
    - Trauma, drugs, COVID, and etc.
      - We need data on these neighborhoods! How are you connecting to them academically?
  - Technology/Computers/Etc.
    - Have you connected with the Mayor's Office regarding connectivity efforts?
  - Tutoring
    - You stated that there are approximately 12,000 students participating in your tutoring programs! How are you doing corrective learning and/or tutoring for students who are not in any of the programs?
    - How is tutoring implemented and accounted for? How are we ensuring it is happening? How are you measuring the effectiveness of tutoring? How are you ensuring long-term effectiveness?
  - Trauma/Mental Health
    - There are a lot of shootings occurring in the city! We have a full-blown mental health crisis; worse than I ever seen! This is a sense of emergency!
    - Is looking forward to working with you on this issue!
  - Restorative Practices

- Did not see any restorative practices in your Presentation! How are you positioning this type of work?
  - Requested by Councilman Cohen: Submit an update on the implementation of restorative practices used citywide
  - Communication/Outreach
    - We need to communicate better, we can't continue to do the same thing the same way, each community have different needs.
  - Student Leadership
    - We need to embrace student leadership, more are needed!
    - How are you supporting our school leaders with software programs?
    - Senate Bill 157 – Supports 2 student board members
      - Can you explain some of the opposition to this bill? Some answers were: We are proposing amendments to the bill; students should not be allowed to vote on some matters and/or issues at hand. However, we are creating more opportunities to hear student voices.
4. None of the attendees requested to give public testimony. The chairman gave brief closing remarks, thanked everyone for participating. Hearing recessed.
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### Further Study

Was further study requested?

Yes  No

If yes, describe. See yellow highlights in "Major Issues Discussed Section" above.

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*Marguerite M. Currin*

Marguerite Murray Currin, Committee Staff

Date: February 22, 2022

cc: Bill File  
OCS Electronic File



## Baltimore City Council Committee Hearing Attendance Record

<b>Subject:</b> <span style="background-color: yellow;">Legislative Oversight</span> – Baltimore City Public Schools	<b>LO #22-0021</b>
<b>Committee:</b> Education, Workforce, and Youth	<b>Chair:</b> Robert Stokes, Sr.
<b>Date:</b> <span style="background-color: yellow;">Thursday, February 17, 2022</span>	<b>Time:</b> 10:00 AM
<b>Location:</b> <span style="color: red;">WebEx Meeting</span>	

<b>PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY</b>				What is your position on this bill?	Lobbyist: Are you registered in the City?*		
<b><u>CHECK HERE TO TESTIFY</u></b>			Testify	For	Against	Yes	No
First Name	Last Name	Address / Organization / Email					
John	Doe	400 N. Holliday St. Johndoenbmore@yahoo.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		<i>See hearing notes</i>					

\*NOTE: IF YOU ARE COMPENSATED OR INCUR EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BILL, YOU MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO REGISTER WITH THE CITY ETHICS BOARD AS A LOBBYIST. REGISTRATION CAN BE DONE ONLINE AND IS A SIMPLE PROCESS. FOR INFORMATION VISIT: [HTTPS://ETHICS.BALTIMORECITY.GOV/](https://ethics.baltimorecity.gov/) OR CALL: 410-396-4730

# City of Baltimore

City Council  
City Hall, Room 408  
100 North Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Education Workforce and Youth

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Thursday, February 17, 2022

10:00 AM  
Webex Hearing: Phone: +1-408-418-9388, Access Code:  
2334 278 9714, Password: Public, Link:  
[https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?](https://bmore.webex.com/bmore/onstage/g.php?MTID=e288bd0f085d952d125d3d2edd386e2a0)  
MTID=e288bd0f085d952d125d3d2edd386e2a0

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Legislative Oversight: LO22-0021

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### **INTRODUCTIONS**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Present 7 - Robert Stokes Sr., John T. Bullock, Zeka Cohen, Antonio Glover, Sharon Green  
Middleton, Phylcia Porter, and James Torrence

#### **ITEM SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

##### LO22-0021

##### **Baltimore City Public Schools (BCPS)**

For the purpose of holding periodic hearings to review education and performance data for BCPS and to monitor the impact of the pandemic on the progress of the Blueprint for Success.

Hearing was called to recess.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**