

## HCLS Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2015, 7 pm  
HCLS Administrative Branch

Board members present were: Andy Dalal, Vice Chair; Tom Munns, Treasurer; Richard Alexander; Louise Riemer. Also present were Steve Lewicky, Counsel to the Board, and staff members/citizens Lew Belfont, Angela Brade, Stephanie Darby, Stacey Fields, Cari Gast, Ann Gilligan, Valerie Gross, Holly Johnson, Cindy Jones, Nina Krzysko, Christie Lassen, Suki Lee, Phil Lord, Tanya Malveaux, and Ron Wilson.

Mr. Dalal called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm, welcoming everyone to the new HCLS Administrative Branch. He extended a special welcome to new Board Counsel Steve Lewicky, asking him to briefly introduce himself. Mr. Lewicky shared that he is an attorney with over 27 years of experience, currently practicing with Columbia based law firm Davis, Agnor, Rapaport, Skalny, and that he lives in Ellicott City.

The Board unanimously approved the March 18, 2015 Board meeting minutes, then reviewed and unanimously approved the FY 16 Operating and Capital Budgets as approved by the County Council. I indicated that the Capital Budget, modified with Board consent for a County Council desire to move some renovation funding for Central and East Columbia Branch renovations into FY 16, had reverted back to the County Executive's proposed Capital Budget that the Board had approved in March. I explained that ultimately, the Council had opted not to seek a budget modification for capital spending.

The Board unanimously approved the *HCLS Board of Trustees Policies* Supplement 4, which was proposed with no edits, then agreed also to consider a proposed edit to *HCLS Board of Trustees Policies* Supplement 3. Ms. Brade first briefly showed the reason for the proposal: a new collection item, the Playaway Launchpad. She explained that the Launchpads are re-chargeable Android tablets for children, featuring ad-free educational apps on a durable bumper encased pad. She further noted that we would like to make the Launchpads available to customers this summer and expect demand for the devices to be high. The proposed edits to pp. 10-11 of Supplement 3 were to add Launchpads to the same loan period and fine schedule as Fiction DVDs. The Board unanimously approved the requested edits.

The Board unanimously approved the FY 16 slate of officers, electing Andy Dalal, Chair; Tom Munns, Vice Chair; and Louise Riemer, Treasurer, offering congratulations to the new officers.

Ms. Brade presented updates on the three current HCLS capital projects, outlining that we are expecting discussions with the contracted architects for the Central and East Columbia Branches to begin in the next two weeks. In answer to a question from Mr. Dalal, Ms. Brade noted that it was yet to be determined if the renovations to the Central and East Columbia Branches would proceed simultaneously or consecutively, but that she was hopeful that the design phase for both would be completed in the fall. With regard to the Elkridge Branch, Ms. Brade noted that meetings with the architect would resume this summer, hopefully settling on a final design and footprint for the project. Responding to further questions from Board members, Ms. Brade indicated that (1) we had received no new information on negotiations regarding the County's purchase of the adjacent Verizon property in Elkridge, and (2) renovations proposed for the Glenwood Branch had been pushed out to FY 17 in the Capital Budget.



Cari Gast, Head of Children's & Teen Curriculum provided highlights of the jam-packed summer calendar for youth at HCLS, starting off with the SRO crowds at our Summer Reading Kick-off featuring Batman and his genuine Batmobile, performances by the U.S. Army Field Band, a number of exotic animal exhibits by National Geographic Explorer, author appearances by Marc Tyler Nobleman & Capt. Luis Montalvan, and wrapping up with multiple sessions of the ever-popular Kindergarten Here We Come.

Head of Customer Service Lew Belfont offered an overview of the new HCLS strategic plan for 2015 – 2020, *Vision 2020: Education for All*. Mr. Belfont explained that, while our mission—public education for all—is timeless, *Vision 2020* acknowledges that the way we provide education must continually evolve, as technology and other forces change both teaching methodologies and learning platforms. He also emphasized that communication and collaboration would be imperative in this plan, so strategies for curriculum building and delivery as well as marketing are included in *Vision 2020*. The Board suggested allocating some additional time to fully digest the proposed document, unanimously approving to take an electronic poll for approval of *Vision 2020* by June 30.

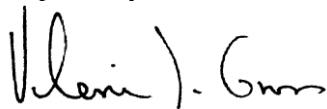
I reviewed some of the high points in my report, including such successful events as Battle of the Books, the Rube Goldberg Challenge, and Summer Reading Kick-Off. I also highlighted HiTech classes, e-book checkouts, new collection features, and HCLS' new website.

Chief Financial Officer Ron Wilson explained the new category listed in our financial report, “County Revenue Adjustment,” which reflects the County's reduction to our FY 15 Operating Budget.

Mr. Dalal thanked everyone for attending, adjourning the meeting at 8:28 pm, which was unanimously approved to reconvene in Executive Session pursuant to §10-508 of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland in order to discuss personnel matters.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for 7 pm on Wednesday, September 16 at the Administrative Branch.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Valerie J. Gross', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Valerie J. Gross  
President & CEO