

APPROVED
46-1983

Rockville, Maryland
July 12, 1983

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, July 12, 1983, at 10:15 a.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Mr. Blair G. Ewing, President in the
 Chair
 Dr. James E. Cronin
 Dr. Marian L. Greenblatt*
 Mrs. Suzanne K. Peyser
 Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner
 Mrs. Odessa M. Shannon

Absent: Mr. Peter Robertson
 Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg

Others Present: Dr. Wilmer S. Cody, Superintendent of
 Schools
 Dr. Harry Pitt, Deputy Superintendent
 Dr. Robert S. Shaffner, Executive
 Assistant
 Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

Resolution No. 587-83 Re: Board Agenda - July 12, 1983

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for July 12, 1983, with the Board coming back into afternoon session at 1:45 p.m.

* Dr. Greenblatt joined the meeting at this point.

Re: Welcome to the New Superintendent

Mr. Ewing stated that the Board was delighted to welcome Dr. Cody to his first Board meeting as superintendent of schools. Dr. Cody said he had been made welcome by the community, Board, and staff. He indicated that the experience of coming into a new organization could not have been more constructive.

Re: Board Member Comments

1. Dr. Greenblatt welcomed Dr. Cody. She called attention to an article in the Post about Prince George's selling its unused public school properties. She said that unfortunately there had been a big play in the press about Larchmont Elementary School. Today's paper had an article about the leaders of Grace Episcopal Church being pressured by Board members and Mr. Scull and the release of a confidential memo to the reporter. The article spoke about threats

to file a suit. She distributed copies of the May 23 minutes which contained the only action the Board had taken with regard to Larchmont. She pointed out that the minutes did not authorize the president of the Board to negotiate with the Church or to consider a law suit against the Church. She questioned the authority of the president to engage in these activities because there was no Board position or phone calls to discuss this issue. She said that the president was the spokesman for the Board when the Board made a decision.

2. Mr. Ewing explained that he had entered into no negotiations. The purpose of the meeting he had attended was to exchange views and discuss possibilities. He had not committed the Board to anything, and he felt it was important that he bring to the Board as much information as possible. He regretted the fact that someone had given his memo to the press. He pointed out that the Board had expressed grave concerns about this issue. The president of the Council had suggested a meeting with the Church, and he thought it was appropriate to obtain solid legal information. He had repeatedly said he was not speaking on behalf of the Board because the Board had taken no action. All he was doing was providing the Board with information. He rejected any notion that he had behaved improperly.

3. Dr. Cronin suggested that if Board members have disagreements among themselves that they express this individually and at the session when it was scheduled. He read the following into the record:

A memo from Mr. Ewing to the Board of Education regarding Larchmont: "On Tuesday the Council expects to act on the resolution which is in the Scull packet and I expect to receive the letter with all signatures except mine on Tuesday by about noon. I am personally prepared to sign it, but I would not want to do so without ascertaining the views of the Board first."

Dr. Cronin pointed out that that comment was available to the Board, and therefore the chair intended to ascertain the views of the Board before acting as president. He said that while they might disagree on how public they would go on this matter, the chair had been clear about maintaining his role as chair.

3. Mrs. Shannon stated that there had been a new interest and concern with public education. At the same time they were all aware of certain Supreme Court decisions which went to tuition tax credits and which would have a severe impact on public education. She asked that the Board officers explore with the Montgomery County Delegation a strategy for dealing with what could possibly be a very dangerous bill if the administration did get one through. Mr. Ewing said that could be done if the Board wanted to do this. He said he and Mrs. Praisner would be happy to explore that and perhaps have a meeting with the leaders of the Delegation at a time when other Board members could be notified of it.

4. Mrs. Peyser stated that she disagreed with Dr. Cronin and Mr. Ewing on the Larchmont issue. She said she never had an opportunity to tell Mr. Ewing that she objected to his actions because she did not know of these meetings. All she knew was that a contract had been signed between the executive and the Church in good faith. She thought it was entirely appropriate for the Board to discuss this in public. She explained that the community was concerned because the building had been vacant and was consistent in its support for the Grace Church School in that building. She felt that the actions taken by Mr. Ewing, Mr. Scull, and the NAACP had not been in the best interest of the school system. She said parents had questioned the panic because Montgomery County had 25,000 students attending private schools and two children were transferring from one school to the Church school. She said some people in the community are wondering if something is wrong with their schools. She said they would be doing youngsters much more good if instead of spending their time on pressuring the people to leave the building they would work instead to improve the public schools.

5. Mr. Ewing said Mrs. Peyser was suggesting he had taken actions. Actions implied commitments. He had made no commitments. It needed to be said for the record that there have been no actions that bind the Board in any way. He had been very clear about that with everyone with whom he had talked, with the press, with Dr. Cody, and with the attorneys. He said all he had done was gather information to present to the Board, and he thought it was unfair for Mrs. Peyser and Dr. Greenblatt to suggest he had done something wrong.

6. Mrs. Praisner said she was sorry that she was away on business for three weeks because she missed meetings with the secondary principals, the Blair community, and Kurt's reception. She especially regretted missing the discussion with the county executive and County Council on drug abuse issues. She said she intended to pursue between now and February when funding ran out with the executive and Council alternative funding for PACT II. She thought this was a valuable program, and in listening to the tape of the meeting she heard some staff and community members supporting the program. She said they should work very hard to find alternative funding.

7. Mrs. Praisner reported that before she left she had an opportunity to represent the Board with Dr. Andrews at the first annual luncheon for the junior board of directors for Fairchild Industries. Although part of Fairchild was leaving the County, they had agreed to continue the program for the coming year. She would encourage all students to apply for that program.

8. Dr. Cronin noted that the Gaithersburg Gazette had an article relating to staffing and programs in the up-county schools. He could feel a sense of panic in letters stating that the up-county was being ignored. He pointed out that when the Board approved the budget they did not see the translation of that budget over to allocations and services within particular schools. He would like

to see a comparison by area or a comparison of equity so that they were sure the formulas which should be in place were in place. They could then demonstrate that some schools may be receiving more resources, and some of these schools might be up-county.

9. Dr. Cronin called attention to a report the Board had received from Women in Education. It contained a ranking of topics such as day-care, latch key help, and children from families in trauma. He thought that one of the aspects in facilities should be the idea of all-day kindergartens, day-care, and other special programs including special education needs.

10. In light of the meeting they had in Chevy Chase, Dr. Cronin called attention to a letter from Robert Perry, PTA president at North Chevy Chase. The letter asked that the public be aware of transportation that was available to Rosemary Hills, North Chevy Chase, and Chevy Chase from the various child care centers in the area.

11. Dr. Cronin reported that he had explored these areas with some housing people about how MCPS building trades students could be useful. Students could be used for building a house which would be available to handicapped students so that in eleventh and twelfth grades they could begin to get experience in independent living. Dr. Cronin said there were situations where emergency housing was needed in the County. He was not talking about shelters for homeless people but rather emergency housing which occurred when people were burned out or various emergencies arise. This might be a way to look at the refitting of schools for this purpose. There were also some preservation projects which could be done in conjunction with Park and Planning and the Historic Preservation Society.

12. Mr. Ewing said that last evening he had met with the Minority Affairs Advisory Committee. The Committee had some suggestions about the kind of things it would like to do and its membership needs. It wanted a task and wanted to get going, and he thought the Board needed to address this.

13. Mr. Ewing commented that the Board with the superintendent and senior staff was about the business of developing priorities for the coming year. They would be working during the summer on this.

14. Mr. Ewing reported that he had received a phone call from a staff member who congratulated him on his forthcoming marriage. He explained that his son was getting married and his name is Blair G. Ewing, Jr.

15. Mrs. Praisner said she had submitted to the superintendent a request for a periodic update on the status of the counseling and guidance study which had been adopted by the Board. She had submitted, with that, copies of materials she had received from interested citizens. She requested a response to the memo she had for exploration of options for the central office position and

strategies for meeting needs.

Resolution No. 588-83 Re: Minutes of May 2, 1983

On motion of Mrs. Shannon seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the minutes of May 2, 1983, be approved as corrected.

Resolution No. 589-83 Re: Minutes of May 5, 1983

On motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Praisner, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the minutes of May 5, 1983, be approved as corrected.

Resolution No. 590-83 Re: Word Changes in Drug Abuse Policy

On motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education discuss changing its Drug Abuse Policy to read "drug and alcohol" where the policy states "drug-related," "drug abuse," "drug problems," etc.

Resolution No. 591-83 Re: Contract Award of Rebid for
Air-conditioning for the I.M.C.
and Communications Room at
Farmland Elementary School (Area
2)

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Mrs. Praisner, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Sealed bids were received on June 30, 1983, to furnish and install an air-conditioning unit in the I.M.C. and communications room at Farmland Elementary School as indicated below:

Bidder	Base Bid
W. B. Maske Sheet Metal Works, Inc.	\$13,985
J. W. Cullop, Inc.	15,500
J & M Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc.	17,500

and

WHEREAS, The low bidder W. B. Maske Sheet Metal Works, Inc., has performed similar projects satisfactorily; and

WHEREAS, The low bid is reasonable and funds are sufficient for contract award; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a contract for \$13,985 be awarded to W. B. Maske Sheet Metal Works, Inc. to furnish and install an air-conditioning unit at Farmland Elementary School in accordance with plans and specifications dated June 14, 1983, prepared by the Department of School Facilities.

Resolution No. 592-83 Re: Architectural Appointment - Lake Seneca Elementary School (Area 3)

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Mrs. Praisner, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, It is necessary to appoint an architect to provide required design services and administration of the construction contract for the Lake Seneca Elementary School project; and

WHEREAS, Staff has employed the Architect/Engineer Selection Procedures approved by the Board of Education in November, 1975, as modified to include a design competition; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education enter into a contractual agreement with the firm of Grimm & Parker to provide required design services and administration of the construction contract for the lump sum total of \$179,479.00 for the Lake Seneca Elementary School project; and be it further

Resolved, That the State Interagency Committee for Public School Construction be informed of this appointment.

Re: Accessibility Modifications for the Handicapped - Various Schools

It was the consensus of the Board to postpone this item.

Resolution No. 593-83 Re: Architectural Appointment - Montgomery Blair High School (Area 1)

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Mrs. Praisner, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, It is necessary to appoint an architect to provide required design services and administration of the construction contract for the Montgomery Blair High School modernization project; and

WHEREAS, Staff has employed the Architect/Engineer Selection Procedures approved by the Board of Education in November, 1975; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education enter into a contractual agreement with the firm of Eugene A. Delmar to provide required design services and administration of the construction contract for

the lump sum of \$133,500.00 for the Montgomery Blair High School project; and be it further

Resolved, That the State Interagency Committee for Public School Construction be informed of this appointment.

Resolution No. 594-83 Re: Architectural Appointment - Oak View Elementary School (Area 1)

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Mrs. Praisner, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, It is necessary to appoint an architect to provide the required design services and administration of the construction contract for the Oak View Elementary School modernization and addition project; and

WHEREAS, Staff has employed the Architect/Engineer Selection Procedures approved by the Board of Education in November, 1975; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education enter into a contractual agreement with the firm of Arley J. Koran, Inc. to provide required design services and administration of the construction contract for the lump sum total of \$79,800.00 for the Oak View Elementary School project; and be it further

Resolved, That the State Interagency Committee for Public School Construction be informed of this appointment.

Resolution No. 595-83 Re: Bid 24-83, the Lease/Purchase of a Forms Processor

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the lease/purchase of a forms processor; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised August 27, 1982, the contract for the lease/purchase of a forms processor under Invitation to Bid 24-83 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

Annual Dollar Volume

Moore Business Forms, Inc.
Riverdale, Maryland

\$8,892

Resolution No. 596-83 Re: Bid 144-83, Health Room Supplies

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr.

Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of health room supplies; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised April 27, 1983, the contracts for the furnishing of health room supplies for the period of July 13, 1983, through June 14, 1984, under Invitation to Bid 144-83 be awarded to the low bidders meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume	Line Items	Awarded
Bialek's Medical Arts Supply, Inc.			
Gaithersburg, Maryland	\$ 202		2
Chaston Medical & Surgical			
Dayville, Connecticut	8,180		9
J. Cole Associates			
Woodbine, Maryland	9,097		11
Commercial Wiping Cloth, Inc.			
Capitol Heights, Maryland	11,600		1
Gamma Medical System, Inc.			
Frederick, Maryland	3,264		3
Med-Electronics, Inc.			
Silver Spring, Maryland	33		1
Olympic Reconditioning Company			
Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania	1,852		3
Owens & Minor, Inc.			
Capitol Heights, Maryland	952		1
Tri-Med Surgical Company, Inc.			
Garden City, New York	6,694		19
Zee Medical Services			
Timonium, Maryland	5,870		3
TOTAL	\$47,749		53

Resolution No. 597-83 Re: Bid 150-83, Air Conditioning and Temperature Control Service Contract

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the air conditioning and temperature control service contract; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised May 4, 1983, the contracts for the air conditioning and temperature control service contract for the period of July 13, 1983, through June 14, 1984, under Invitation to Bid 150-83 be awarded to the low bidders meeting specifications as follows:

Dollar Volume Line Items Awarded

A.T.C. Systems Engineering, Inc.		
Temple Hills, Maryland	\$ 6,380	1
Mechanical Systems Maintenance, Inc.		
Falls Church, Virginia	6,300	1
Williard, Inc.		
Suitland, Maryland	48,984	3
Total	\$61,664	5

Resolution No. 598-83 Re: Bid 165-83, Graphic Arts Equipment

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of graphic arts equipment; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised June 3, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of graphic arts equipment under Invitation to Bid 165-83 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

Dollar Volume Line Items Awarded

Standard Duplicating Machines Corp.		
Arlington, Virginia	\$19,804	2

Resolution No. 599-83 Re: Bid 167-83, CPR Training Manikins

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of CPR Training Manikins; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised June 3, 1983, the contracts for the furnishing of CPR training manikins for the period of July 13, 1983, through October 12, 1983, under Invitation to Bid 167-83 be awarded to the low bidders meeting specifications as follows:

Dollar Volume Line Items Awarded

Armstrong Industries, Inc.		
Northbrook, Illinois	\$ 3,654	1
Maryland Fire Equipment Corporation		
Rockville, Maryland	14,186	1
Total	\$17,840	2

Resolution No. 600-83 Re: Bid 170-83, Lamps

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr.

Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of lamps; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised June 6, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of lamps for the period of July 13, 1983, through July 12, 1984, under Invitation to Bid 170-83 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume	Line Items Awarded
Maurice Electrical Supply Co., Inc. Washington, D.C.	\$130,485	61
Resolution No. 601-83	Re: Bid 173-83, Film Inspection and Cleaning Machine	

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of a film inspection and cleaning machine; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised June 6, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of a film inspection and cleaning machine for the period of July 13, 1983, through October 12, 1983, under Invitation to Bid 173-83 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume	Line Items Awarded
Research Technology International Lincolnwood, Illinois	\$10,800	1
Resolution No. 602-83	Re: Bid 170-83, Preprinted Continuous Forms Student Grade Report	

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of preprinted continuous forms - student grade report; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised June 17, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of preprinted continuous forms - student grade report for the period of July 13, 1983, through January 12, 1984, under Invitation to Bid 176-83 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume	Line Items Awarded
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Toucan Business Forms, Inc.
Bethesda, Maryland

\$10,659

5

Resolution No. 603-83

Re: Bid 175-83, Printing, Adult
Education Course Bulletin

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of printing the Adult Education Course Bulletin; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised June 8, 1983, the contract for the printing of three editions of the Adult Education Course Bulletin for the period of July 15, 1983, through July 14, 1984, under Invitation to Bid 175-83 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

Dollar Volume Line Items Awarded

Record Composition Company
Silver Spring, Maryland

\$42,002

5

Resolution No. 604-83

Re: Installment Purchase of Xerox
Copying Machines

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Ten Xerox brand copying machines are currently being rented at an estimated cost of \$6,435 per month; and

WHEREAS, These machines can be purchased under the Xerox equity plan at a total of \$345,540, which includes 60 equal payments for principal and interest and the then prevailing rates for maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Principal and interest costs will not change and will stop after five years; and

WHEREAS, The maintenance costs for each year are payable on machines based on usage at different rates whether a machine is rented or purchased and will change each October 1; and

WHEREAS, Xerox Corporation allows the contract for any of these machines to be cancelled at the end of any fiscal year if the Board of Education does not appropriate the necessary funds; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent be and is hereby authorized to effect the installment purchase of the equipment at a total cost of \$345,540 over 60 monthly installments.

Resolution No. 605-83

Re: Bid 158-83, Scholastic, Football,
and 24 Hour Insurance Coverages

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Praisner, and Mrs. Shannon voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Peyser being temporarily absent:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the award of a one-year contract for Interscholastic Football Insurance Coverages, and the parents and/or employees will pay for the Scholastic Accident Insurance and 24-Hour Insurance Coverages; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised on May 11, 1983, the contract totaling \$187,734 for the scholastic, football, and 24-hour insurance coverages (which includes the Board share of \$58,560 for football coverage only) for the period of August 15, 1983, through August 14, 1984, under Invitation to Bid 158-83 be awarded to:

Sentry Life Insurance Company
Annandale, Virginia

Resolution No. 606-83

Re: RFP No. 83-21, Microcomputer
Equipment

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The FY 1984 Department of Educational Accountability operating budget includes funds for replacement of all but three IBM word processing terminals and one printer by less costly microcomputers and printers; and

WHEREAS, Through RFP Number 83-21, dated June 3, 1983, MCPS solicited proposals from vendors to supply the desired equipment through lease/purchase agreements; and

WHEREAS, That proposal from Community Computers of Greenbelt, Inc., meets all of the requirements of the RFP at the lowest cost for each line item; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a one year contract for the period July 12, 1983, to July 11, 1984, be awarded to Community Computers of Greenbelt, Inc., the low bidder meeting specifications, to meet the requirements of DEA and other offices; and be it further

Resolved, That MCPS lease/purchase on a two-payment lease basis eight Kaypro Model four microcomputers, six Kaypro Model 10 microcomputers, four C. Itoh F-10 Starwriter 55-CPS parallel printers with tractor feeds, and ten C. Itoh Prowriter parallel printers for the Department of Educational Accountability at a total cost of \$39,320.

	Dollar Volume	Line Items
Community Computers of Greenbelt, Inc.	\$39,320	4

Resolution No. 607-83 Re: RFP 83-02, Request for Vocational
Education Microcomputer Equipment

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of vocational education microcomputer equipment; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised June 9, 1983, the contract for the furnishing of vocational education microcomputer equipment under RFP 83-22 be awarded to the low bidder meeting specifications as follows:

	Dollar Volume
IBM Corporation Bethesda, Maryland	\$145,448
Resolution No. 608-83 Re: FY 1983 Supplemental Appropriation for the Continuation of the Drug/Alcohol Referral Program	

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized, subject to County Council approval, to receive and expend \$84,135 from the Montgomery County Health Department to conduct an FY 1983 Central Intake and Referral Unit for Juvenile Alcohol and Drug Abusers Project (PACT II) in the following categories:

Category	Supplemental
02 Instructional Salaries	\$70,704
10 Fixed Charges	13,431
Total	\$84,135

and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend the approval of this resolution to the County Council and a copy be sent to the county executive and the County Council.

Resolution No. 609-83 Re: Participation in a Grant
Proposal

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The University of Maryland Department of Special Education will submit an application to the United States Department of Education/Special Education Programs to develop, implement, and evaluate an extension of current MCPS programming for severely mentally handicapped students; and

WHEREAS, The proposal consists of the following components:

1. Special classes in regular school buildings
2. Community-based instruction
3. Parent input into long term goals for students' individualized educational programs
4. Home learning activities
5. Transition to work and, if applicable, group homes upon graduation; and

WHEREAS, The University of Maryland will function as fiscal agent and, as such, will receive and manage project funds and provide project-related staff and support services to MCPS, and MCPS will retain the final authority on all project-related decisions that affect the education of its students; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to participate in a grant proposal submitted by the University of Maryland Department of Special Education; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of the resolution be sent to the county executive and County Council.

Dr. Cronin left the meeting temporarily.

Resolution No. 610-83 Re: Monthly Personnel Report

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the following appointments, resignations, and leaves of absence for professional and supporting services personnel be approved: (TO BE APPENDED TO THESE MINUTES).

Resolution No. 611-83 Re: Extension of Sick Leave

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The employees listed below have suffered serious illness;

and

WHEREAS, Due to the prolonged illness, the employees' accumulated sick leave has expired; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education grant an extension of sick leave with three-fourths pay covering the number of days indicated:

Name	Position and Location	No. of Days
James Jett, Jr.	Building Service Worker Clarksburg Elementary	12
Leroy A. Johnson	Building Service Worker Damascus High School	20

Resolution No. 612-83 Re: Personnel Reassignment

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the following personnel reassignment be approved:

Name	From	To
Florence Henderson	Teacher Gaithersburg JHS M+30-L3	Instr. Assistant To be determined To maintain salary To retire July 1, 1984

Resolution No. 613-83 Re: Death of Mrs. Edith I. Lewis, Bus Operator in the Division of Transportation

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The death of Mrs. Edith I. Lewis, a bus operator in the Division of Transportation, has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, In the very short time Mrs. Lewis was able to work for Montgomery County Public Schools she demonstrated competence as a school bus operator; and

WHEREAS, Her pleasant personality and friendly manner in dealing with the children made her a valued employee of the school system; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Edith I. Lewis and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

Resolution No. 614-83

Re: Death of Mr. John L. Offutt,
Building Service Work Leader I,
Garrett Park Elementary

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The sudden death on June 21, 1983, of Mr. John L. Offutt, a building service work leader at Garrett Park Elementary School, has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Offutt had been a loyal employee of Montgomery County Public Schools and a member of the building services staff for over eight years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Offutt's knowledge of his position and his good rapport with students and community were recognized by staff and associates alike; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mr. John L. Offutt and extend deepest sympathy to his family; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be made part of the minutes of this meeting and a copy be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

Resolution No. 615-83

Re: Death of Mrs. Sandra L. Shipman,
Data Conversion Operator in the
Division of Data Processing
Operations

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The sudden death on June 13, 1983, of Mrs. Sandra L. Shipman, a data conversion operator in the Division of Data Processing Operations, has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Shipman had been a loyal employee of Montgomery County Public Schools for over six years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Shipman's pleasant attitude and willingness to put forth extra effort earned her the respect of both co-workers and supervisors and made her a highly valued employee of Montgomery County Public Schools; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Sandra L. Shipman and extend deepest sympathy to her family; and be it further

Edward Shirley

Assistant Principal
Pyle Intermediate

Asst. Principal
Cabin John Jr. High
Eff. July 13, 1983

Margaret Keller

Assistant Principal
Rockville High

Asst. Principal
Pyle Intermediate
Eff. July 13, 1983

Dr. Cronin rejoined the meeting at this point.

Re: Board/Press/Visitor Conference

The following individuals appeared before the Board of Education:

1. Ann Hunter, Silver Spring Child Care Center
2. Gail Castle, Candlewood Parents for Equal Education
3. Suzanne Hines
4. Barbara Giolakis Stockman
5. Hanley Norment, NAACP

Resolution No. 617-83

Re: Agenda for July 12, 1983

On motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the afternoon session of the Board of Education start with the item on the Facilities Plan and Racial Balance Policies for one hour and a half, then 45 minutes for student rights and responsibilities, and extend the remainder of the agenda to 5:30 p.m.

Re: Announcement

Mr. Ewing apologized for the delay in returning to open session and explained that the Board had been discussing personnel issues, etc. He announced that, as a result of discussion, the Board had authorized the superintendent to explore alternative locations for the Grace Episcopal Church school now scheduled to be located at Larchmont, with the church, County Council and executive assistant, and that neither the superintendent, nor staff, nor the Board members will have anything else to say until that action has been taken.

Resolution No. 618-83

Re: An Amendment to the Agenda for
July 12, 1983

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following motion was approved unanimously (Dr. Greenblatt temporarily absent):

Resolved, That the Board of Education will discuss until approximately 3:30 item 5.0, Procedures and Plan for Reviewing Facilities Plan and Racial Balance Policies, after which they will take up item 4.0, Student Rights and Responsibilities, and spend 45 minutes on that followed by item 7.0, Countywide Final Examinations, and item 6.0, Plan for Reviewing Board of Education Policies, and then come back to item 2.2, Accessibility Modifications for the Handicapped at Eleven Schools.

Re: Procedures and Plan for Reviewing
Facilities Plan and Racial Balance
Policies

Mrs. Shannon commented that while the intention of the policy was excellent, she was concerned about some statements in it. She felt the supplement seemed to go to legal reasons for having a policy and that, while the policy states that integrated education is an important goal, it goes on to say it's because the Board wants to escape legal ramifications that they have the statement without saying why integrated education is quality education. Mrs. Shannon added that she would like to see the policy called "Quality Integrated Education" without the going into the racial balance. She thought the policy statement indicates the Board has experienced a growing concentration of minority students in several schools and this is interfering with quality education. She said the policy statement speaks to avoiding socioeconomic imbalance yet nowhere is it addressed and how do you do it. She also said the policy has as one of the Board's objectives the avoidance of transporting students over long distances but does not define "long distance." She stated she would like everything removed which seems to imply that percentages of minority students unilaterally affect quality of education in the schools.

Dr. Martin, associate superintendent, stated that staff had responded to some of these kinds of concerns when they responded to principals' concerns and Mrs. Shannon's objections were consistent with input staff received and also related to input received about the quality of the educational program. She added they had a problem defining transportation "long distance." In response to Mrs. Shannon's question as to where in the implementation of the policy it directs socioeconomic, Dr. Martin stated it is a consideration in assigning attendance areas of schools; they try to keep diversity--not to exclude either high income or low income students. Dr. Martin believed socioeconomic may be defined outside of the policy and that transportation over long distances was discussed in terms of time to transport students rather than mileage.

Ms. Judy Patton, director of quality integrated education, commented that although they have no way of looking at it, socioeconomic status is one of the criteria in transfers to determine if students are transferred or not. She said they look at socioeconomic status and race as being closely related; that minority students are associated with lower socioeconomic status and the majority students with higher socioeconomic status. She agreed with Mrs. Shannon that they should look at the title in terms of quality integrated education rather than having the racial balance together with it. Mrs. Shannon left the meeting at this point.

Mrs. Praisner stated she agreed almost in whole with Mrs. Shannon's comments but she had a concern about defining long-distance busing. She thought it would be hard for the Board to to try to define it in terms of either mileage or time.

Mr. Ewing thought the policy left a lot of things unspecified on purpose to give the Board flexibility and that there is some reason to leave things undefined.

Ms. Judy Bresler, Board attorney, commented that the phrasing of the policy was in terms of positive rather than negative statements; the Board addressed socioeconomic status rather than implying imbalance. She added that there were so many factors that the Board might want to consider in the policy, and as soon as they thought they had named all of them some community would come up with a new one.

Dr. Cronin stated that the County Government had done a study on the effect of housing units upon the school system and whether there was a racial impact, and found a greater impact for socioeconomic status than race. He suggested that staff ask for the report from the County Government.

Dr. Martin said they had reviewed the policy purely in relation to school bylaw and in their view the policy required modest amendments and the Board adopted them. She stated the Board had raised questions about the extent the policy was responsive to the state bylaw and staff had requested copies of policies or procedures regarding school closures from other jurisdictions; the responses received so far had been sent to the Board. Following Board action on April 12, staff had notified community groups, PTA's, municipalities, etc., that the Board was going to review the policies and requesting comments and suggestions. Dr. Martin reported that as they analyzed the 26 responses they had received, there seemed to be greater concern about specific acts of implementation than about policy content, and most agreed with it. She added that several who wrote said they agreed with the policy but sent suggestions, and most of those could be taken care of in terms of implementation rather than change the policy.

Dr. Cronin suggested that computerized data from a single source for instant data retrieval would be helpful because there was no way at the table for Board members to see the immediate results of their decisions.

Mrs. Praisner stated the Board had to come up with recommendations for changes at the end of this month to allow time for community input before the next process of review in the fall. She asked how the Board was going to proceed and whether it was best to proceed by looking at sections where Board members wanted changes.

Mr. Ewing said the Board had originally scheduled two hours and he thought they should see what Board members had to say about the issues they would like to see addressed in a revised draft. He noted they couldn't go into great detail, section by section, but they could show areas of concern and interest and that there might be other areas where they were in agreement and they might suggest

what some of them are such as special programs, etc. He thought there was concern more specifically about educational impact as an issue in closing decisions and, although there were only a few comments about impact on community, the Board should be aware of it. He thought there was a need to rethink the percentages because they didn't help very much and were really only tripwires that did not give much guidance about what to do. He felt there were schools open today which had been consistently unaddressed although tripwires were there, and the number of those was increasing, so the policy was inconsistent with the facts.

Dr. Greenblatt stated she believed in the concept of simply stating the specific goals or objectives the Board wants and to get away from a lot of the detail that trips up the policy for everybody. She suggested that the Board consider moving more toward the Prince George's policy if it were possible to revamp the policy in simple language that would be legal and would hold. She believed the objectives were already embedded in the policy. Dr. Greenblatt thought the Board was going to run into a lot of problems defining socio-economic balance because she didn't believe one could go by parent income and she thought the Board should be very cautious in any changes that dealt with percentages in the policy. She pointed out that Mr. Derby had urged the Board to have a floating number and not lock themselves in to any number. She asked, if the Board changed the number, what it was going to do when a very, very large number of schools were going to be over that number? She pointed out the Board would have to be prepared to do something.

Mrs. Peyser basically agreed with most of what Mrs. Shannon and Dr. Greenblatt had said. She suggested eliminating the socioeconomic item altogether from the policy because if it was in there, the policy should say what the Board was going to do about it. Mr. Ewing agreed it was a hard problem and there was no good way of measuring the data in school system but that that didn't mean it was not real. He noted that some teachers and some parents would say that one of the most serious problems they face in teaching and sending children to school are class differences, not race differences. He felt it was not so much income; sociologists define socioeconomic status as income, class level, etc. He said the Board can't change people's class but can't change their race, either; however, it could understand how class and race affect learning and it may be able to define ways to improve the Board's instructional ability and the children's learning ability. He added that if the Board didn't want to deal with it in the policy they should deal with it in another way because it affected how parents think of schools.

Mrs. Peyser questioned whether the Board didn't raise more problems than it solved when it included that, but if it was included, the Board should say what it was going to do about it.

Mr. Ewing responded that he had suggested that the Board needed to know more about what the relationship was between class and learning.

Dr. Cronin was concerned with the number system. He suggested that where a school doubled the minority county percentage it ought to be looked at. He added that in the past where schools had grown out of proportion to the balance within the community, either racially or by socioeconomics, the schools tended to lose resources; therefore, one of the major issues had been where there were impacted schools the minority schools did not get the necessary resources for education. He suggested that if a school was successful, the trigger figure could be set aside as not relevant to the object of the school system which is good education. He argued that if housing was creating an issue, or a boundary of the county as in Takoma Park, the Board should address the issue of education and program rather than race; if students were in a school which was not succeeding, it was not relevant what race they were, what socioeconomics, what was relevant was they were not succeeding.

Mrs. Praisner commented that when talking about utilization and percentages and only talking about regular classes, the Board was working at cross purposes to the other goals of having special education classes throughout the county so that students could be educated within their community. She understood the rationale for only including regular enrollment, but at some point the Board needed to also speak to how much of the school was being utilized for special education classes and how much really underutilized that school actually was. She believed the Board needed to include racial balance as a screening criteria. She also thought the Board needed to include impact on communities within the policy and she would define it to be consideration of other closures that had taken place within in that area, programs available in that school, use by the community, day care, etc.; that the Board needed to know what happened if that school was no longer available to that community.

In regard to the guidelines for studying and recommending solutions to problems of changing enrollment where it said, "Consider a variety of options in response to conditions that require change," she believed the Board might be limited in considering a variety of options by the high school cluster way of looking at things. She pointed out the paper spoke to that to some extent by talking about areas or high schools being grouped together. When talking of high schools in the future, Mrs. Praisner thought the Board should do as they did with the Blair-Einstein-Northwood area: talk about groups of high schools rather than looking at one cluster at a time or one high school at a time and they should talk about what were positive and negative parts of it. She believed the Board would be doing more boundary changes in future than closures, which would mean changing feeder patterns, and Board members would need information that would allow them to go across high school clusters. Under feedback indicators, she stated the policy spoke more to review of enrollment and she would like to see feedback indicators on consolidations because they needed to monitor the effect of consolidations they had made, such as, had staffing come through better than before. She thought the Board should have a report on utilization and staffing and enrollment projections.

Ms. Bresler stated that it was her observation that all the comments of all the Board members were toward making long-range policy and quality integrated education more useful to the Board. She said that some flexibility was built into the policy the way it was currently written although the community did not see that flexibility being there and saw it as some exceptional deviation. She pointed out that if the language in the policy as currently written made that flexibility more apparent, then the Board would have an easier time looking across high school clusters. She questioned whether the Board needed specific percentages, as opposed to some other method which didn't lock the Board in. She stated that the only percentage the Board needed to be aware of was the 20% figure, not whether it was useful to the Board but because it came from the Office of Civil Rights. She explained that when a school exceeded 20% of the average minority for the county, it was required to give a letter of explanation and the Board should be aware of that. She added that it might not fit the needs of the Board and the Board was not tied into any particular percentage.

Mr. Ewing observed that definition and clarity didn't necessarily mean precision and quantification. He stated the Board wanted flexibility although it did not want a policy with nothing but flexibility in it which would mean the Board could do anything it liked whenever it wished. He believed the Board should be guided more than that. He added that he wished the Board had had more time to give staff more help and perhaps the next step was for staff to come back and give Board members the best cut it could give them in terms of recommendations.

Dr. Martin stated staff had given the Board two calendars and the timetable was very bad either way because it left very little time for internal staff discussion. She said that if appropriate, they would not rewrite the policy but make changes in specific lines for the Board's consideration and attempt to bring it back on July 25.

Re: Student Rights and
Responsibilities

During the discussion of proposed changes in the student rights and responsibilities policy, Mrs. Peyser read the following into the record:

"That under V. I do not approve of students being excused from classes to demonstrate. I believe that if students want to hold demonstrations they should hold them before school or after school or during lunch."

Mrs. Praisner read the following into the record:

"I don't think students are excused to demonstrate."

Re: A Motion by Dr. Cronin to Amend
the Policy on Student Rights and

Responsibilities (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Cronin to amend the policy on student rights and responsibilities by adding under XII.B.6, a new "d" "Every effort will be made to have parents present for this hearing" failed with Dr. Cronin voting in the affirmative; Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, and Mrs. Praisner voting in the negative; Mr. Ewing abstaining. Under XIII, C. it was agreed that this section would be rewritten to state, "...right to seek redress of grievances and the responsibility to do so through established MCPS procedures."

Re: A Motion by Dr. Cronin to Amend
the Policy on Student Rights and
Responsibilities (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Cronin to amend the policy on student rights and responsibilities by adding "in writing" to Section XIII. E.4. failed for lack of a second.

Resolution No. 619-83 Re: An Amendment to the Student Rights
and Responsibilities Policy

On motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Dr. Greenblatt, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Greenblatt, and Mrs. Peyser voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Praisner abstaining:

Resolved, That the student rights and responsibilities policy be amended by changing "regularly" to "every day" in A.1 and B.1 on page 7.

Resolution No. 620-83 Re: Student Rights and
Responsibilities Policy

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Hirsch seconded by Mrs. Shannon (moved and seconded on June 14, 1983), the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

WHEREAS, The committee was established as required by the Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy to conduct a biennial review; and

WHEREAS, This committee submitted its report to the superintendent;

and

WHEREAS, The superintendent has made his recommendation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent's recommended changes and amendments made by the Board of Education be adopted.

Re: Countywide Final Examinations

The superintendent explained that the report before the Board came as a result of a three-year study of countywide final examinations.

The report responded to inquiries concerning costs and other items, and he pointed out that his introduction to the report did not deal with a recommendation at this point in time. He explained that he was really not prepared to make a specific recommendation because he did not feel he had been able to pull together sufficient information to conclude final examinations should be continued or should be terminated. If they were to be terminated, he wanted to do so in the context of other alternatives.

Dr. Martin explained she had invited resource teachers and staff who had worked on the study to participate in the discussion. Dr. Ellen Hocking recalled that several years ago the Board adopted a policy to have end-of-course tests in math and 200 teachers were involved over a four-year period in constructing items, field testing, piloting, and implementing. They now had tests that the teachers and students liked. However, they had to address a lot of things to implement this countywide. She felt that the teachers who had constructed the items had learned a lot. She said that one of the original intents of the Board was to have consistency in program, and where they had piloted the tests they had had teachers arguing over objectives. She thought that the problems to implement countywide were huge; however, the effort of developing the tests were good staff development activities. She called attention to the problems on the second page of the February 8 memo. They had found no way to do the countywide scores, and they had no way of telling teachers a test had to be given on a particular day. They needed a less expensive way to regenerate items.

Mr. David Chalfant, teacher specialist, explained that at the central office level in January they had distributed Form A of two end-of-course exams. The form was sent to all schools with accompanying analyst sheets, directions for administrators and an answer sheet. The test analyst sheet which was returned to the central office indicated only the number of students answering each question incorrectly. They were unable to get a more complete item analysis. In June they distributed Form B, and again they did not receive any thorough item analysis but did know the number of students who were missing the items. He would agree that the feedback from resource teachers indicated that closer cooperation was occurring among English teachers. There was a far more professional approach to planning and closer attention to teaching the curriculum. In the summer teachers were learning a great deal about test item construction. Resource teachers saw problems with the security of the test, felt they had no direction on assigning grades to exam scores, and had objections to certain test items. Mrs. Joan Burks, Woodward High School, reported that during the last three summers she had served as an editor and had seen the beginning of a project, a procedure being implemented, and a product which was being finalized. She was also involved in the field testing in her classes. In regard to the procedures for implementing the project, she thought it had allowed an opportunity for a lot of very interested and enthusiastic teachers to get involved. The project allowed time for evaluation, refinement, revision, analysis, and feedback. The procedure allowed the schools to actually determine

the extent to which the students in that particular course had achieved the objectives by an item analysis. The procedure had also created a fantastic amount of time-consuming work, but it had resulted in over 40 good countywide tests in math. She said that the county portion of the exams had items which were better than those produced at the school level. She said in math it took about three people working ten days to produce two forms of the same course. In addition, they needed editing, typing, graphic arts, and revision. The product had resulted in teachers teaching to the objectives. As an ongoing project, there was a need for revisions and additional tests.

Mr. Bruce Lewis, Westland Intermediate, said that since 1980 he had been involved in constructing end-of-course exams in English. During the summers approximately 60 different individuals were involved in test writing, and by the end of 1983 they would have 12 tests in various stages of completion. Of these, four would have been revised and ready to administer. He thought that the entire test-making effort had a multiplicity of benefits. The workshop had served as a training vehicle for test writers. He said that the entire concept of end-of-course examinations had persuaded teachers to examine and discuss the Program of Studies and instructional objectives. He felt that constructing these tests was a painful, time-consuming process. In English three individuals worked from 15 to 20 days to produce two tests. However, they felt the generated test items were better than some of the tests they had seen generated at the school level. He personally believed that they should continue with the exams since they had encouraged a fidelity to the program and insured a uniformity in instruction.

Ms. Rosalva Rosas, Magruder High School, reported she had seen the positive change in the last three years as the exams had been piloted. She explained she was responsible to the principal and the Board for implementing program. She felt they now had a more unified delivery of the math program. Teachers got together to look at the objectives and the Program of Studies. Now teachers were talking not only about what curriculum was to be covered but about sharing teacher-made exams. They had been working on a uniform grading procedure for the various courses. In evaluating the test results, she said teachers were able to get item analysis by classes and by departments. As a result they were able to program evaluation and individual student evaluations of achievement. She pointed out that in math it was very important that a student achieve the objectives of a given course before going into a subsequent course. Therefore, comprehensive testing was very valuable. She said that should the Board decide to eliminate the program, she could see her department continuing with the departmental examinations. However, there was still the problem of time to construct valid items and valid tests.

Mrs. Colleen Hammon, Parkland Junior High, said that the response to the ninth grade English examination was positive and brought about a more thorough teaching of the objectives. They also thought the test items were well developed. For the departmental part of the

exam, they had a limited amount of time to work on it, and she could see a difference in the quality of the items. They would recommend that the countywide exams be expanded. They would recommend that the vocabulary might be simplified in some areas because they saw a group of students who had difficulty with it because of reading problems. She indicated that they would like to have more feedback from the central office. When they saw that large numbers of students were missing a particular item, they did not know if this was a result of their teaching process or if it was a poor item.

Ms. Stella Hoing, Blair High School, said her teachers were not enthusiastic about the final examinations. They thought the county exam did not provide them with any additional information. They did not have an opportunity to see the exam in advance, and they thought their students were not prepared for the format of the questions. Another problem was that Form B at the ninth grade level had a long ballad for students to read. The ballad had unusual spelling which caused some confusion among students. She pointed out that some students read the Odyssey in verse form, and others in prose. The examination had a question about a passage in verse form; therefore, some students were at a disadvantage. She said it was true that teachers worked together; however, that occurred not with the countywide exam but with the departmental examinations.

Dr. Frank Bready, Churchill High School, reported that each of the senior high school principals was surveyed. It was unanimous that they should continue with the departmental exams rather than the countywide exams. They felt they could better expend funds in other directions. They felt that the departmental exams could get the same positive result. They agreed that teacher involvement was very important in test making. He pointed out that teachers had to develop their own exams all through the year, and unless they could have the same quality of exam all through the year, the important thing was teacher involvement in making the exams. He thought it was difficult to make an exam that challenged youngsters at the various levels. He said this could also lead to comparisons of schools that they had seen through test results. He said they had different populations and tried to improve achievements from where they were. He indicated that there had been security problems with the exams. Overall, the principals were in favor of continuing the departmental exams because there had been very positive student and teacher involvement.

Mr. Ewing said the Board had been asked to think about options. If the Board wanted to make a change in direction, it should do so in the expectation that it would find some way of replacing the existing thrust with something that would achieve the same objective.

It appeared to Dr. Cronin that what he had heard might be a false set of impressions. He heard what they thought was useful which included test construction, uniform presentation, closer analysis of the objectives, and a better departmental fusion. What he also heard was that prior to the introduction of the exam some of these

areas might have been weak. He asked whether final exams were the way to achieve uniform objectives within a course or whether uniform objectives were what they were aiming at. Final exams were one way to achieve this, but there were other ways. Given the resources and time, he asked whether they had other suggestions of how to accomplish the same positive benefits. He heard there was a lack of feedback from the county and that grading was difficult. He knew of instances where in a particular class all students scored 60 or below, but by a curve process 60 became an A and 40 became a C. In other schools, 60 may have failed. He asked how they assured themselves the exams were uniformly graded. He asked whether the final exams were the way to achieve better test construction and what they felt about the curving and use of the grading process.

Ms. Hoing replied that common planning time would give teachers the opportunity to work together. The resource teacher's time in monitoring the program was another way of assuring that objectives were being met. In English they had a special problem in the comparison of scores and giving one test to one course. In math classes there was a kind of selection. At the ninth grade they might have students taking the English course who had stanines ranging from 3 to 9. Dr. Cronin was concerned they were going to be putting the accent on the exam rather than on the positive benefits and how to achieve them. Ms. Hoing was not sure the exam was the only way to assure that they were covering the course content. Dr. Cody commented that he did not think they knew, which was the problem. He said that no reference had been made to the clear objective of the whole exercise as to the improvement of achievement. If that were the objective, there was no information to indicate one way or the other whether it had had an impact. It seemed to him before any decision was made they would need to know that. That was the biggest problem he had with the final report which presumably led to some final decision. In absence of that, they did have extremely valuable information about people's experience.

Mrs. Peyser thanked the staff for their information. She said she was shocked at the discrepancy between the opinions of the teachers and unanimous opinion of the principals. She would like to get some information from the staff as to the costs for the extra days for teachers to write the departmental exams. She believed that time going into writing either individual exams or the departmental tests was money. She believed that the problems that were mentioned as far the security of the exams and the grading could be resolved very easily. It seemed to her that the tremendous benefits of the countywide exams clearly outweighed the problems.

Dr. Greenblatt thanked the staff for their presentations. She thought it was worthwhile to come to the point of assessment after three years. She asked whether any of this should be expanded to other subject areas. It seemed to her it would worthwhile to identify specific courses in social studies and science that all students took. She thought that the same learning process and group cohesion would occur in those departments. She said that learning

how to make better test items was a very important process. It was not a question of giving it in all subject areas but in hitting some key ones that were critical. She said she was not clear as to why there were so many tests being developed. She suggested it might be necessary to limit the test to two levels of the eight semesters of English and then some of the math courses. Dr. Martin replied that it was interpreted by staff to mean all English and math courses. Mr. William Clark, director of the Department of Academic Skills, explained that after three years if the Board decided to implement the exams, they should have the exams for all the math and English courses.

Dr. Greenblatt said that in regard to the cost of the EYE days the Board had to be aware that by contract a certain amount of EYE days were allocated for teachers to be working in the summer. That money would be spent regardless. She would like to see the costs separated from EYE. Dr. Steven Frankel, director of the Department of Educational Accountability, explained that 90 to 95 percent of the costs were opportunity costs. If teachers worked on an exam during their free period, they did not get any extra money. He pointed out that if a teacher was not doing that they would be doing something else during the summer. Mr. Clark added that some things had to be deferred or cancelled if EYE days were used for this purpose.

Dr. Pitt explained that they had to separate out the days that were required for certain people, such as for counselors and resource teachers and for teaching summer school. This left X-number of days available. Then they had to look at how these remaining days were used.

Dr. Greenblatt thought that they could get a handle on the issue of test security because New York State had given Regents for over a hundred years and did not have a security problem. She suggested that the staff could come up with a better solution. She thought that the English test could be given at one time, and the math test another time. With regard to the concern of the principals that schools would be compared, she thought this was at the crux of the problem. She did not see why people were afraid of that. It was critical for a principal to show that a student was able to learn and master the countywide curriculum as well as if they were being educated in any other school in the county. She said they had an opportunity to say they had a countywide curriculum and teachers were teaching to those objectives. She thought they were missing something if they overlooked the fact they were in a county and were not running 22 separate schools. She remarked that there were things that had to be improved upon in any pilot, and they should look at this and see what needed to be done. She said they should not be throwing away the concept when there had been some significant changes with regard to teaching.

Mrs. Praisner recalled that originally when they were talking about the pilot the purpose was to determine the extent to which each student had achieved the MCPS objectives for the course. She was

still waiting to find out how these final exams did that. She wanted to know how they were going to use this information, what information was being generated, and whether it was worth the cost. Before they proceeded with expansion, they had to see whether there were other alternatives for getting the same kinds of information. She thought it was extremely valuable from the standpoint of the teachers who had been involved with the EYE time, but she had heard from teachers who were not part of that process and whose experience had not been as positive.

Mr. Ewing said it was no secret he had not been enthusiastic about countywide standardized finals. It was not because he didn't think students ought to have the opportunity to be measured. He believed they should require students to learn what was in the curriculum. He was not convinced that standardized finals were the only way to do that. He thought that departmental tests could do that together with an intensive effort on the part of principals, departments, and the school system to assure that those same objectives were achieved. The other alternatives involved good departmental tests with help from the central office. They also needed the interpretation of test results with the help of the central office. They needed intensive efforts to assure that students were, in fact, learning what they needed to learn. He agreed with the principals they should not continue these, but the principals had an obligation to undertake to assure in their schools these same results were being achieved for every student. He was worried by an emphasis on final exams as a way to measure student and teacher effectiveness. He thought this might work in math and freshman English as well. It probably worked less well as one got into far more subjective areas in social sciences and English. He said that if they were voting today he would vote to stop the effort. Not because he did not think those who had worked on it had not done well or learned a great deal; he was sure they had benefited greatly. It was his view that if they had a problem with student learning and the quality of instruction they should address those things directly not through some standardized test. They should put their attention to the quality of learning and the quality of instruction.

Dr. Cody thought the next step was to get some measure of learning, perhaps not a standardized test. There may be some areas of the curriculum where there is a common curriculum that is more subject to countywide coordinated objectives. He asked whether two different forms of the exams had been given over two years to see any evidence of change from year to year. Dr. Hocking replied that they had program analysis rather than individual student analysis. Dr. Joy Frechtling, director of the Division of Instructional Evaluations and Testing, added that just making simple comparisons without taking other information into account might lead them to draw erroneous conclusions. She felt there was not enough information about the nature of the students and the program to release the data. Dr. Frankel explained that they had a lot more courses than they had course numbers and titles. There were many different levels among English, and they were trying to force a uniformity among programs that they knew were not uniform.

Dr. Hocking said that in math they had ten good assessment items for each of seven objectives in each course. She felt that the schools would like to have those items. She did not think they could ever get to the point of doing these tests countywide because it was too expensive and too much had to be addressed. She did think they should send the schools half the items for each objective, and the schools could report on those. The other five items could be kept for program assessment. She could tell staff at the end of the year which questions were missed the most. They could choose 12 schools at random and do a program assessment on those schools. She said the schools already had the opportunity to tell parents whether students had attained the objectives by looking at the test results. She thought they should look at a compromise rather than institute a massive effort with so many problems.

Mr. Clark suggested that they look at the state's ruling on countywide exams in which a statement was made about the fairness of application of the test items for all students in a course. In selecting schools, they would have to look at that. Mr. Ewing said that if they didn't use the data as part of a student's grade there would not be a question. Dr. Frankel commented that if they went further with this, there probably would be too much multiple-choice testing.

Dr. Cody remarked that preoccupation with purposes and objectives seemed to be an extremely valuable activity for teachers. Not the preoccupation with planning classroom activities, but the preoccupation as to what those activities were to accomplish. He was still concerned that they had to measure things somehow.

Mrs. Hammon hoped that the test items could be available to teachers if they did go to all departmental exams. She also pointed out that they did not receive release time to work on the departmental exams.

Dr. Shaffner asked about the evidence the Board needed to make a decision. Mr. Ewing thought the Board was interested in the set of questions raised by Dr. Cody. They needed to know about the impact they were having or likely to have with this approach. They needed to know options for achieving the same results for teachers. Dr. Cody agreed that they should come back with a further report and recommendations.

Re: Plan for Reviewing Board of
Education Policies

Mrs. Praisner thought the plan proposed by staff was excellent and provided for the superintendent and Board to make recommendations. However, it did not provide for community comment. Dr. Cody thought this would take place. The plan was for a systematic review by the Board every two years. Dr. Frankel thought there would be opportunity for people to raise questions. Mrs. Praisner asked how they would make the public aware they would be looking at certain

policies. Mr. Clifford Baacke, director of the Division of Administrative Analysis and Audits, explained that the key to the policy review was that it be structured, scheduled, and announced. The Department of Information would get word out to people. Mrs. Praisner suggested using MCCPTA and the Bulletin to make the public aware of the policies under consideration.

Dr. Greenblatt inquired about the rationale for a two-year review. She thought the schedule was very tight. She asked about staff review on a routine basis. Mr. Baacke replied that it had been an annual review prior to the development of the new books. They were proposing the review of the regulations only after the Board had reviewed the policy. Dr. Frankel said it was his first inclination to have a three-year review.

Mr. Baacke reported that this was the first time the policies had been available in this format. Some of the policies dated back to 1950, and there might be urgency to have the first review in a shorter time. Subsequent reviews could be stretched out over a longer period. Dr. Cronin suggested the schedule be expanded to three years and then to a two-year cycle.

Mr. Ewing suggested that staff prepare an action paper for Board consideration at the next business meeting. Dr. Greenblatt asked if the review could take into account that the Board is busier in certain periods of the year. Mr. Baacke indicated that extending the review to three years would lighten up the schedule.

Re: Accessibility Modifications for
the Handicapped - Various Schools

Mrs. Praisner moved and Dr. Cronin seconded the following:

WHEREAS, Sealed bids were received on June 30, 1983, for the construction of accessibility modifications for the handicapped at various schools, as indicated below:

Bidder	Base Bid
1. Jesse Dustin & Son, Inc.	\$135,000.00
2. Deneau Construction, Inc.	186,079.00

and,

WHEREAS, The low bidder, Jesse Dustin & Son, Inc., has performed similar projects satisfactorily; and

WHEREAS, low bid is within staff estimate and sufficient funds are available to effect award; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a contract for \$135,000.00 be awarded to Jesse Dustin & Son, Inc. to accomplish accessibility modifications for the handicapped at various schools (listed below) in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by Arley J. Koran, Inc.,

architect:

Beall Elementary School
Bells Mill Elementary School
Cabin John Junior High School
College Gardens Elementary School
Lakewood Elementary School
Meadow Hall Elementary School

Potomac Elementary School
Seven Locks Elementary School
Twinbrook Elementary School
Wayside Elementary School
Julius West Middle School

Re: A Motion by Dr. Greenblatt to
Amend the Proposed Resolution on
Accessibility Modifications for
the Handicapped (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Greenblatt to amend the proposed resolution by adding "Resolved, That the superintendent be authorized to negotiate a credit change order with the general contractor for the construction that was specified to be performed at Seven Locks and Cabin John Junior High; this work to be deferred until further notice" failed with Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, and Mrs. Praisner voting in the negative.

Resolution No. 621-83

Re: Postponement of Resolution on
Accessibility Modifications for
the Handicapped

On motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Dr. Greenblatt, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the proposed resolution on accessibility modifications be postponed.

Re: New Business

1. Mrs. Praisner moved and Dr. Cronin seconded that the Board place on a future agenda a discussion of the results of the Maryland Functional Math Test and the superintendent's strategies for dealing with that.

2. Mrs. Peyser moved the following which was seconded by Dr. Greenblatt:

Resolved, That Algebra I be a one credit course whether it is taken in one year, two years, or three years; and be it further

Resolved, That math courses taken to fulfill the two credit requirement which may be changed to a three credit requirement be courses in the math department taught by math teachers; and be it further

Resolved, That students be required for graduation to take one year of a foreign language; and be it further

Resolved, That MCPS establish a certificate of academic achievement to be awarded to students who take a specified number of additional academic courses beyond the basic requirements and maintain a specified grade point average and that the requirements for this certificate of academic achievement be developed by the superintendent and approved by the Board of Education.

3. Mrs. Peyser moved the following which was seconded by Dr. Greenblatt:

WHEREAS, Students who are student government officers and class officers spend a great deal of time outside of their school and outside of classes; and

WHEREAS, According to the Student Rights and Responsibilities document, students have excused absences from classes when they are working on student government activities; and

WHEREAS, Students who participate in athletics and pom poms and cheerleading are required to maintain a certain scholastic average; now therefore be it

Resolved, That student government and class officers must maintain passing grades in all of their subjects.

Re: Items of Information

Board members received the following items of information:

Items in Process
Construction Progress Report
Technical Services Positions

Resolution No. 622-83 Re: Adjournment

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting at 6:05 p.m.

President

Secretary

WSC:mlw