

APPROVED
20-1984

Rockville, Maryland
March 13, 1984

The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in regular session at the Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, March 13, 1984, at 11:05 a.m.

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

Absent: None

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. 174-84 Re: Board Agenda - March 13, 1984

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for March 13, 1984.

*Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser joined the meeting at this point.

Re: Graduation Requirements

On June 14, 1983, Dr. Greenblatt moved and Mrs. Peyser seconded the following:

Resolved, That the requirements for graduation be increased as follows:

- 1 credit for math including half a credit for computer math
- 1 credit for science
- 1 credit for social studies including world history or non U.S. history
- 1/2 credit for art, music, or drama

and be it further

Resolved, That the total number of credits for graduation be

increased from 20 to 22; and be it further

Resolved, That these requirements be implemented for September, 1983 for the graduating class of 1988; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent develop a proposal for a certificate of academic excellence to be awarded with the general diploma by the Board for the class of 1987.

On July 12, 1983, Mrs. Peyser moved and Dr. Greenblatt seconded the following:

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 note: changed editorially to two years of a foreign language

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.

Resolution No. 175-85 Re: Tabling of Proposals on Increasing Graduation Requirements

On motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson voting in the affirmative):

Resolved, That the proposals on increasing graduation requirements be tabled until the State Board of Education has made its determination on graduation requirements.

Re: Proposed Resolution on Homework (FAILED)

The following motion by Mrs. Peyser failed of adoption with Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser voting in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative; Dr. Cronin and Mrs. Praisner abstaining (Mr. Robertson voting in the negative):

WHEREAS, Research has shown that the single most reliable indicator

of student achievement is homework; and

WHEREAS, The current K-8 Policy includes the requirement that homework be assigned 3-5 times a week; and

WHEREAS, Practice, drill and review outside of class are necessary to reinforce what is taught in class; and

WHEREAS, Research has shown that the more time spent on learning, the more learning will take place, and daily homework can increase student time spent on learning by 10%, 20%, 50% or more; and

WHEREAS, There is not enough time in class for students to thoroughly master all the skills, concepts and knowledge of an academic subject; and

WHEREAS, Students learn to be more independent when they are given opportunities to follow directions and complete assignments outside of class; and

WHEREAS, Daily homework gives students the opportunity to develop self-discipline, which is necessary for success in jobs and college; and

WHEREAS, Regular homework provides more opportunities for creativity and enriches the learning that takes place during the school day; and

WHEREAS, Good study habits are developed when students read and research material, write essays, review lessons, and study for tests at home; and

WHEREAS, There is greater continuity of learning when homework serves as a carry-over from the lessons of one day to the lessons of the next day, and there is a day-to-day sense of purpose in that kind of learning; and

WHEREAS, Daily homework improves communication between the home and school, parents have an understanding of the work their children are doing, a check on their children's progress, and an opportunity to assist their children in their studies; now therefore be it

Resolved, That in the academic subjects, grades 9-12, homework (to be done outside of class) will be assigned 3-5 times a week editorial change: for short overnight assignments or a comparable time requirement for longer assignments, and the length and type of assignment will be determined by the individual teacher and should include a variety of activities: reading, writing, review, drill, short-term and long-term projects, etc., depending on the subject; and be it further

Resolved, That the above resolution be included in the MCPS Homework Policy and the MCPS Senior High Policy.

Resolution No. 176-84

Re: Amendment to the Board Agenda for
March 13, 1984

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education amend its agenda for March 13, 1984, to take up the items on math instruction and rewarding schools prior to lunch.

Re: Task Force on Math Instruction

On February 14, 1984, Dr. Greenblatt moved and Mrs. Peyser seconded the following:

WHEREAS, There is a severe problem with math achievement in county schools as demonstrated on the Maryland Functional Math Test for graduation and other tests; and

WHEREAS, There is a "math phobia" among some students--most notably female; and

WHEREAS, An important part of our students' education is the support of parents to assist and reinforce instruction in the home; and

WHEREAS, Math textbooks are notoriously written to obscure rather than enlighten; now therefore be it

Resolved, That a task force be established to review the validity of continuing "new math" instruction and to review the methods and textbooks by John H. Saxon and other more traditional approaches to mathematical instruction which allow parents and students to understand the language and include sufficient drill, practice, and review to improve math instruction; and be it further

Resolved, That this task force shall include primarily individuals with training in and/or careers which apply mathematics, parents with limited mathematical backgrounds, and a math educator as an ex officio member; and be it further

Resolved, That the task force shall report its findings and recommendations to the Board of Education in three months; and be it further

Resolved, That the superintendent establish for September pilot schools at the elementary, junior, and senior high levels to test the Saxon approach and evaluate the achievement of those students compared with the students in our current program.

Resolution No. 177-84

Re: Substitute Motion by Mr. Ewing on
Math Instruction

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner,

and Mrs. Shannon voting in the affirmative; Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson voting in the negative):

Resolved, That the superintendent create a task force including persons from outside the school system to reevaluate the math curriculum in conjunction with the work already underway to achieve the Board's priority goals Nos. 1 and 2 and that recommendations for improvement, if needed, be brought to the Board for review and any needed action.

Dr. Greenblatt indicated that she voted against the substitute motion because she supported the original motion to have a citizen task force and a pilot project to test the Saxon approach.

Re: Proposed Resolution on Rewarding Schools

On January 10, 1984, Dr. Greenblatt moved and Mrs. Peyser seconded the following:

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Education has rewarded excellent schools across this nation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County will establish an awards program for excellent schools within Montgomery County.

Dr. Greenblatt and Mrs. Peyser agreed that the wording should be changed to substitute "a program for recognizing excellent schools within Montgomery County" for "an awards program for excellent schools within Montgomery County."

Resolution No. 178-84 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Resolution on Rewarding Schools

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

Peyser voting in the negative; Dr. Cronin abstaining (Mr. Robertson abstaining):

Resolved, That the proposed resolution on rewarding schools be amended by substituting "to recognize programs within schools that achieve outstanding results" for "excellent schools."

Resolution No. 179-84 Re: An Amendment to the Proposed Resolution on Rewarding Schools

On motion of Dr. Greenblatt seconded by Mrs. Peyser, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Greenblatt, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mr. Ewing, and Mrs. Praisner voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson

voting in the negative):

Resolved, That the proposed resolution on rewarding schools be amended by adding "schools and/or" after "to recognize."

Resolution No. 180-84 Re: Rewarding Schools

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

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Education has rewarded excellent schools across this nation; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education of Montgomery County will establish a program to recognize schools and/or programs within schools that achieve outstanding results in Montgomery County.

Re: Announcement

Mrs. Praisner announced that Mr. Ewing and Dr. Greenblatt left the meeting during the lunch break because of employment responsibilities.

Resolution No. 181-84 Re: Award of Procurement Contracts
 Over \$25,000

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

WHEREAS, Funds have been budgeted for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and contractual services; now therefore be it

Resolved, That having been duly advertised, the contracts be awarded to the low bidders meeting specifications as shown for the bids as follows:

34-84	Steam Cleaner Pressure Washer		
	Name of Vendor(s)	Dollar Value of Contracts	
	Capital Tire Equipment Sales	\$ 8,190	
72-84	Art and School Papers		
	Name of Vendor(s)		
	Chaselle, Inc.	\$173,228	
79-84	Musical Instruments		
	Name of Vendor(s)		
	Dale Music Company, Inc.	\$ 2,100	
	Drums Unlimited, Inc.	649	
	Ideal Music Company	3,387	
	Music & Arts Center, Inc.	92	
	Washington Music Center, Inc.	23,042	
	Wenger Corporation	3,060	

	Zavarella's Music	3,339
	Total	\$ 35,669
83-94	Table Top Mailing Machine	
	Name of Vendor(s)	
	F.M.A. dba Friden Alcatel	\$ 5,552
105-84	Polyethylene Trash Bags	
	Name of Vendor(s)	
	Calico Industries, Inc.	\$ 18,636
	Laniado Wholesale	13,200
	Total	\$ 31,836
	Grand Total	\$254,475

and be it further

Resolved, That the existing lease purchase contracts be converted into installment purchase contracts as follows:

	Key Disk System	
	Name of Vendor(s)	
	Sperry Corporation	\$ 31,208
	Telecommunications Control Unit	
	Name of Vendor(s)	
	IBM Corporation	\$ 34,815
	Total	\$ 66,023

Resolution No. 182-84 Re: FY 1984 Categorical Transfer
Within the School In-service
Coordinator for Mainstreaming
Project

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to effect the following transfer within the School In-service Coordinator for Mainstreaming Project funded by the U.S. Department of Education under the Education of the Handicapped Act in accordance with the FY 1984 Provision for Transfer as adopted by Council Resolution 10-470 of November 15, 1983:

Category	From	To
04 Special Education		\$3,652
10 Fixed Charges	\$3,652	

and be it further

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

Resolution No. 183-84 Re: FY 1984 Supplemental Appropriation
for the Intensive Vocational
English Classes

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized, subject to County Council approval, to receive and expend the grant award within the following categories from the Maryland Department of Human Resources under the Immigration and Nationality Act Targeted Assistance for Refugees, Title IV for the FY 1984 Intensive Vocational English Classes for Nonliterate or Low Beginners in English:

Category	Supplemental
02 Instructional Salaries	\$85,576
03 Instructional Other	5,299
08 Operation of Plant and Equipment	500
10 Fixed Charges	7,274
Total	\$98,649

and be it further

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

Resolution No. 184-84 Re: FY 1984 Supplemental Appropriation
for On-job-site Specific English
Classes for Employed Refugees

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

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized, subject to County Council approval, to receive and expend the grant award within the following categories from the Maryland Department of Human Resources under the Immigration and Nationality Act Targeted Assistance for Refugees, Title IV for the FY 1984 On-job-site Specific English Classes for Employed Refugees:

Category	Supplemental
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02	Instructional Salaries	\$36,956
03	Instructional Other	3,444
10	Fixed Charges	3,142
	Total	\$43,542

and be it further

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

Resolution No. 185-84 Re: Submission of an FY 1985 Grant
 Proposal to Investigate
 Mathematics Course Enrollment
 Patterns of Minorities and Females

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Peyser abstaining (Mr. Robertson voting in the affirmative):

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to submit an FY 1985 grant proposal to the National Science Foundation to investigate the differential mathematics course-taking patterns of elementary and secondary school students and the factors related to their course selections; and be it further

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

Resolution No. 186-84 Re: FY 1984 Supplemental Appropriation
 to Improve Instruction Through the
 Use of Humanities Themes and
 Concepts in Grades 9-12

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Peyser abstaining (Mr. Robertson voting in the affirmative):

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized, subject to County Council approval, to receive and expend \$174,800 in the following categories from the National Endowment for the Humanities to train teachers through a humanities institute in the summer of 1984 and in the summer of 1985 including authorization of 1.5 positions:

Category	Positions	Supplemental
01 Administration	1.5*	\$140,694
10 Fixed Charges		34,106
	Total	\$174,800

* Position detail:

Coordinator (N)	.5
Teacher/Specialist (C-D)	.5
Secretary (10)	.5
Total	1.5

and be it further

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

Resolution No. 187-84 Re: Personnel Monthly Report

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Dr. Cronin, 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. 188-84 Re: Extension of Sick Leave

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Dr. Cronin, 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
Lois Bell	Assistant Principal Julius West Middle	30
Joyce Cooper	Bus Attendant Area 1 Office	30
Jane Hermansen	Diagnostic Teacher Mark Twain	30
Reni (Irene) Malloy	Special Education Instructional Assistant	20

Stanley Peet

Rockville High
Building Service Worker
J. F. Kennedy High

30

Resolution No. 189-84

Re: Death of Mrs. Genevieve S. Johnson,
Media Assistant at Westover E.S.

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

WHEREAS, The death on February 24, 1984, of Mrs. Genevieve S. Johnson, a media assistant at Westover Elementary School, has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson had been a dedicated member of the media center staff for more than twelve years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson was a competent and personable staff member whose contribution to the school program was highly appreciated by students and staff; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Genevieve S. Johnson 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 Mrs. Johnson's family.

Resolution No. 190-84

Re: Death of Mrs. Louise J. Brown,
Administrative School Secretary,
McKenney Hills Learning Center

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

WHEREAS, The sudden death on March 8, 1984, of Mrs. Louise J. Brown, an administrative school secretary at McKenney Hills Learning Center, has deeply saddened the staff and members of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Brown had been a respected and dedicated employee of Montgomery County Public Schools for more than twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Brown's patience, good humor, and consideration for others made her a valuable asset to the staff, students, and community; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education express their sorrow at the death of Mrs. Louise J. Brown 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 Mrs. Brown's family.

Re: Board Member Comments

1. Mrs. Shannon reported that she had been invited to speak to a class at Tilden Intermediate School during Foreign Language Week. One student from the Dominican Republic indicated that the films being shown were reinforcing stereotypes and thought that the true picture of her country was not being presented. Mrs. Shannon asked that foreign language films be reviewed.
2. Mrs. Shannon said some staff had gone to Japan and suggested that Board members might like to have staff share some of their experiences. Dr. Shoenberg commented that there were a number of teachers and students in Montgomery County who had experience of other school systems. He thought it might be of interest to the Board and the public to hear about the experience of those people. He suggested setting aside an evening for a panel presentation.
3. Mrs. Shannon asked about plans for celebrating Maryland's 350th Anniversary. Mr. John Burley, administrative assistant, provided the Board with copies of suggested celebration activities for Maryland's 350th anniversary. He explained that schools were also provided with a calendar of events and suggested uses of materials. Mrs. Shannon asked that the Board be provided with feedback as to what activities had taken place.
4. Mrs. Shannon called attention to Hawkins Bill on effective schools. She asked that the staff obtain copies of HR 4731 so the Board could take a position on the bill.
5. Mr. Robertson reported that on March 1 the Board had had a hearing on the Walter Johnson High School yearbook, and he was not able to be present. He had submitted a confidential memo to the Board that he was now placing in the record. He hoped they could take up the offer of assistance from the Student Press Law Center in developing guidelines.

As I will not be at the March 1 hearing and I have strong convictions on this issue, I herein relate my view of the situation. I emphasize that I have only what information we have received in writing, and my opinion must therefore be a provisional one. Were I to participate in the hearing my decision could be different.

I think we should reverse the decision of the Superintendent and allow the students to run the "ads" that have been censored. I am not convinced that the "ads" fit the guidelines used by MCPS to defend its action. Furthermore, I think the guidelines, as demonstrated in the ACLU brief, are dated and I don't think they will hold up in court.

The crux of the issue is whether or not the censored "ads" are truly advertisements that promote certain behaviors or specific products. My view is that the "ads" in question are not advertisements at all, but an integral part of the Walter Johnson Windup, a publication that is clearly a forum for W. J. students. Student "ads" are common in MCPS yearbooks and, unlike local business advertisements that clearly promote products, and services, they are used by students to make statements about their high school experiences in the same manner that quote, activity, and candid photo sections do. I do not believe student "ads" in school yearbooks promote or encourage any sort of activity of product. I do not believe the "ads" in question advertise "harmful drugs, alcohol, and tobacco" or advocate "the commission of criminal acts." I think the students submitting the ads are making statements that we, as a board of education, should no doubt be concerned about. But we have neither the moral nor the legal right to decide what statements students can and cannot make about their high school experiences if they do so in an open forum like a yearbook. Having read through the materials given us by the ACLU, I think our only chance of winning this case in court lies in the short amount of time that the Windup has been running student "ads" (since 1982) and in asserting that, as advertisements, these "ads" do not have First Amendment protection. I have already stated that I do not think these "ads" are genuine advertising. Furthermore, because the practice of running student "ads" is much better established in other high schools, I think our policy is ultimately indefensible.

All of the legal argument aside, I think the particular "ads" in question are inoffensive and well within the standards of decency followed by such publications as Time Magazine. I do not believe the "ads" advocate any illegal activity even if they do in fact depict it (which is in question). I think we should return the editors of the Windup their rights, bring our regulations up to date with First Amendment case law, and spare ourselves unnecessary legal fees.

5. Mrs. Peyser requested information about the final examinations given at the end of the first semester and plans for final examinations to be given in June. She asked in what subject areas and in how many schools were countywide finals given, in what subjects and in how many schools were the available countywide data bank questions used and for percentage of the exams, and the same things for the departmental examinations. She requested similar information for teacher-made exams. She asked whether there was collaboration with the rest of a department if a teacher was the only one to teach a particular course. Dr. Cody asked whether she was concerned about a particular area. Otherwise, they would have to ask every teacher about every exam. Mrs. Peyser suggested they get information on her final question from resource teachers and department chairmen.

6. Mrs. Peyser said she was unable to attend the night the Board

took a vote on the Walter Johnson yearbook situation. She would have supported the teacher, the principal, and the superintendent for a number of reasons. She said that the eight or ten pages of youngsters illegally drinking beer did not belong in a school publication. She thought that the school and the school system had control over the contents of publications. She was concerned about the way this ended up. She noted that one of the Board's priorities was to teach good citizenship and in her view good citizenship meant more than having students miss their English classes to vote for the student Board member. She thought that good citizenship required teaching students to obey the law and not condoning something by allowing these ads in the yearbook. She urged her colleagues on the Board on the prevailing side to entertain a motion to reconsider this.

7. Dr. Cronin commented that Mrs. Peyser did not have the benefit of being at the discussion with the Board's attorney. He thought that good citizenship meant heeding the advice of one's attorney. When an attorney advised that the Board might be in an indefensible position, he believed they should listen to their attorney.

8. Dr. Shoenberg reported that he had attended a dinner meeting of Regions 5 and 6 of the Future Farmers of America. He said that this organization put a great deal of emphasis on student management of their own matters. He explained that students accepted responsibility for things they did well and for their gaffes.

9. Dr. Shoenberg said he also had occasion to attend the Education Fair at Montgomery Mall. He thought there had been a major effort made to represent the school system well in all of its variety, particularly with examples of student work. He said they could be pleased with the imaginativeness of the instruction going on. He expressed his gratitude to all the people involved, particularly the people who gave up Friday evening and Saturday time to be there.

10. Mrs. Peyser stated that she had a lengthy discussion with the Board's attorney, Mr. Titus, the day after the Board took its action on the Walter Johnson High School yearbook. She did have a question about Mr. Robertson's suggestion about involving the Student Press Law Center in drafting guidelines for the school system because the Board had received a letter from an individual stating that the director of the center supported the legalization of marijuana. She hoped that this would be checked out. Mrs. Praisner noted that she had not heard any Board members or staff decision to use this group.

11. Mrs. Praisner reported that Mr. Robertson had indicated he had prepared an opinion on the Walter Johnson issue prior to the hearing. She emphasized that Board members deliberating on that issue did not receive these comments before they made their decision. After the Board made its determination and while the opinion was being drafted for their signature, they were given Mr. Robertson's paper. She said it was not her interpretation that Board members were ruling on this as a First Amendment issue. The concerns raised centered around the wording and context of the

advertising guidelines. They focused on the legal weakness of the guidelines rather than the First Amendment.

12. Mrs. Praisner said that the individuals working at the Education Fair were doing a super job as usual. She thought that the Board owed them a great deal of gratitude.

13. Mrs. Praisner reported that as a parent and Board member she had attended a performance by the Junior High School Honors Chorus. It was a delightful occasion.

14. Mrs. Praisner said the Board had received a letter from the Silver Spring Child Care Center asking the Board to reconsider. From her standpoint, their interpretation of the rationale of Board members voting against this was incorrect. She voted against the change which would allow a day care center's kindergarten group to stay together as a group because this would mean a difference in the transfer policy. She voted against this because she did not think the transfer policy which was drafted for individuals should be used to deal with a group. It is an individual policy and an individual request.

15. Mrs. Praisner had a statement for the record involving an incident at a Walt Whitman High School faculty holiday party and some songs written by a staff member and sung at the party:

"The Board of Education learned of this incident long before the recent media comments and before receiving a resolution regarding the incident adopted by the Montgomery County Chapter of the NAACP. It was reported to Board members as part of a regular monthly human relations report and was discussed in executive session at the January all-day meeting. I would like to assure the community that individual Board members were not happy about the incident, to say the least. At the same time discussion of the incident involved a report of staff response, both planned and already taken. In that discussion with the superintendent and staff it was determined that no formal Board action would be taken. Therefore, although the Board has officially been silent on this matter, it should not be construed as disinterested or unconcerned."

Dr. Cronin suggested that other Board members might want to add their names to that statement. Mrs. Praisner agreed that it would be a Board statement.

Dr. Shoenberg assumed the chair.

Resolution No. 191-84 Re: Minutes of December 13, 1983

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

Resolved, That the minutes of December 13, 1983, be approved.

Mrs. Praisner assumed the chair.

Resolution No. 192-84 Re: Minutes of February 6, 1984

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

Resolved, That the minutes of February 6, 1984, be approved.

Resolution No. 193-84 Re: Minutes of February 7, 1984

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

Resolved, That the minutes of February 7, 1984, be approved.

Resolution No. 194-84 Re: Minutes of February 8, 1984

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

Resolved, That the minutes of February 8, 1984, be approved.

Resolution No. 195-84 Re: Minutes of February 15, 1984

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

Resolved, That the minutes of February 15, 1984, be approved.

Resolution No. 196-84 Re: Minutes of February 16, 21, and
22, 1984

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

Resolved, That the minutes of February 16, 21, and 22, 1984, be approved.

Resolution No. 197-84 Re: BOE Case 1984-2

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

Resolved, That BOE Case 1984-2 be referred to a hearing examiner.

Resolution No. 198-84 Re: BOE Case 1984-4

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education hear BOE Case 1984-4, transportation, after responses by the parties at interest to questions raised by the Board; and be it further

Resolved, That oral statements of no more than five minutes each be allowed.

Resolution No. 199-84

Re: BOE Case 1984-5

On motion of Dr. Shoenberg seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Peyser voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson voting in the negative):

Resolved, That the Board of Education dismiss BOE Case 1984-5 on the grounds that the appeal constitutes merely the continuing effects of the original decision which became final and no longer subject to appeal.

Resolution No. 200-84

Re: State Superintendent's Proposal
on Community Service

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt a position on the state superintendent's proposal on community service as contained in the draft presented to the Board and as modified by the Board.

Mrs. Praisner indicated that both Mr. Ewing and Dr. Greenblatt had previously indicated their opposition to the recommendation.

Resolution No. 201-84

Re: Commendation of Damascus High
School Band

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

WHEREAS, The Damascus High School Marching Band was invited to participate in the thirty-fifth anniversary celebration of the invasion of Europe (D-Day); and

WHEREAS, The British Tourist Board appreciated their excellent and spirited performance and now extends an invitation to the Damascus High School Marching Band to join in the fortieth anniversary celebration and to perform at Omaha Beach; and

WHEREAS, They are the only American high school band to be so honored; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education and the superintendent of schools on behalf of the staff and students of the Montgomery County Public schools extend congratulations to the Damascus High School Marching Band; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to Matt Kuhn, band director, to be shared with all 170 members of the Damascus High School Marching Band.

Resolution No. 202-84

Re: Amended FY 1985-90 Capital
Improvements Program

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

WHEREAS, The Interagency Committee for Public School Construction has recommended, and the Board of Public Works has approved, \$3,306,000 in FY 1985 for capital projects for the Montgomery County Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Local funds are required in addition to the allocations received from the State of Maryland's Public School Construction Program; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education's FY 1985-1990 Capital Improvements Program must be amended to reflect the actions of the Board of Public Works, actions by the Board of Education on the 15-Year Comprehensive Master Plan for Educational Facilities, and recent information on each capital project; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education amends its FY 1985 Capital Budget Request to \$26,015,000, of which \$3,306,000 is to be provided by the state and \$22,709,000 is to be provided by the county, as detailed in the recapitulation sheet; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of these actions to the County Council.

Resolution No. 203-84

Re: Amendment to Ethics Policy

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

Resolved, That Item I - Definitions Section - IIA 3 be revised to read:

3. "Doing business with" means having or negotiating a contract that involves the commitment, in a single or combination of transactions, of \$1,000.00 or more of school system funds during a calendar year, or being subject to the authority of the school system, or being registered as a lobbyist in accordance with Section IID of this policy.

Resolution No. 204-84

Re: Amendment to Ethics Policy

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

Resolved, That Item II - Conflict of Interest - IIB1 (f) be revised

to read:

f) Solicits any gifts or accepts any gifts or series of gifts exceeding \$75 in value in a calendar year, from any person subject to the authority of the school system or who has or is negotiating a contract with the school system, except where such gifts would not present a conflict of interest as determined by the Ethics Panel.

Resolution No. 205-84

Re: Amendment to Ethics Policy

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

Resolved, That Item III Conflict of Interest - 2B1(c) through (h) be revised as follows:

2. Except as otherwise permitted in this Policy, Board of Education members, school officials and employees may not:

a) Hold any outside employment relationship that would impair their impartiality or independence of judgment;

b) Represent any party for a contingent fee before the school system;

c) Act as a compensated representative of another, within 1 year following termination of school system service, in connection with any specific matter in which he participated substantially as a school official or employee;

d) Solicit any gift or accept any gift or series of gifts exceeding \$75 in value in a calendar year, from any person subject to the authority of the school system or who has or is negotiating a contract with the school system, except as provided below or where such gifts would not present a conflict of interest as determined by the Ethics Panel:

Unless a gift or any of the following would tend to impair the impartiality and the independence of judgment of the school official or employee receiving it, or would give the appearance of doing so, or the recipient has reason to believe that it is designed to do so, this section does not apply to: meals and beverages, ceremonial gifts or awards of insignificant monetary value; unsolicited gifts of nominal value or trivial items of informational or advertising value only; reasonable expenses for food, travel, lodging and scheduled entertainment given in return for participating on a panel or for speaking at a meeting; or tickets or free admission to attend an interscholastic or intercollegiate sporting event or charitable, cultural, or political event, if the gift is a courtesy extended to the office.

e) Use the prestige of their office for their own economic benefit or that of another. The performance of usual and customary constituent services without additional compensation does not constitute the use of prestige of office.

f) Disclose or use confidential information acquired in their official school system position for their own economic benefit of that of another person.

Resolution No. 206-84 Re: Amendment to the Ethics Policy

On motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously (Mr. Robertson being temporarily absent):

Resolved, That Item IV Financial Disclosure IIC be revised as follows:

7. In addition to the financial disclosure provision set forth in this section, persons specified in Section C.1. shall file a statement with the Ethics Panel disclosing any interest or employment, the holding of which would require disqualification from participation pursuant to B.1. of this policy, sufficiently in advance of any anticipated action to allow adequate disclosure to the public.

Resolution No. 207-84 Re: Amendment to the Ethics Policy

On motion of Dr. Cronin seconded by Mrs. Shannon, the following resolution was adopted unanimously (Mr. Robertson abstaining):

Resolved, That the ethics policy be changed to substitute "gifts in excess of \$25 or a series of gifts in excess of \$100" for \$75."

Re: Passing Grades for SGA Officers

On July 12, 1983, Mrs. Peyser moved and Dr. Greenblatt seconded the following:

WHEREAS, Students who are student government officers and class officers spend a great deal of time on these activities outside of school and during the school day; 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.

At the September 13, 1983, Board of Education meeting, Mrs. Peyser introduced a resolution requiring student government officers and class officers to maintain passing grades in all their subjects which was amended by Dr. Greenblatt to read that they must maintain an overall C average and passing grades in all subjects. Both motions were deferred for one month pending receipt of comments.

Re: A Motion by Dr. Greenblatt to
Amend Mrs. Peyser's Proposed
Motion on Passing Grades for SGA
Officers (FAILED)

A motion by Dr. Greenblatt (September 13, 1983) to amend Mrs. Peyser's proposed motion on passing grades for SGA officers by requiring student government officers and class officers to maintain an overall C average and passing grades in all subjects failed with Mrs. Peyser voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mrs. Praisner, Mrs. Shannon, and Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson voting in the negative).

Resolution No. 208-84 Re: Passing Grades for SGA and Class
Officers

On motion of Mrs. Peyser seconded by Dr. Greenblatt (July 12, 1983), the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mrs. Peyser, Mrs. Praisner, and Mrs. Shannon voting in the affirmative; Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative (Mr. Robertson voting in the negative):

WHEREAS, Students who are student government officers and class officers spend a great deal of time on these activities outside of school and during the school day; 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.

Mrs. Praisner reported that Mr. Ewing had indicated he was in opposition to both motions until the Board could deal comprehensively with all student activities.

Resolution No. 209-84 Re: Grade Organization and Student
Assignment Changes for Woodfield

and Laytonsville Elementary
Schools until Completion of the
Woodfield Project

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education finalize the superintendent's recommended action in this matter with the understanding that if a more generally satisfactory solution arises that the superintendent wishes to recommend or implement if he finds it necessary to seek Board approval that the matter be brought to the Board's attention (see Resolution 171-84, dated March 6, 1984).

Dr. Cronin asked that the record show this was not a precedential action.

Re: Items of Information

Board members received the following items of information:

1. Items in Process
2. Construction Progress Report

Resolution No. 210-84 Re: Adjournment

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting at 4:10 p.m.

President

Secretary

WSC:mlw