The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Monday, December 2, 1985, at 8 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present:  Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg, President in the Chair
Dr. James E. Cronin
Mrs. Sharon DiFonzo
Mr. Blair G. Ewing
Dr. Jeremiah Floyd
Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner
Mrs. Mary Margaret Slye
Absent:  Mr. John D. Foubert
Others Present:  Dr. Wilmer S. Cody, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Harry Pitt, Deputy Superintendent
Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

Re:  ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Shoenberg announced that this meeting was a continuation of the November 26-27, 1985 meeting which had been recessed to this date and time. He explained that Mr. Foubert had asked him to apologize for his absence. He had a conflict he could not avoid.

RESOLUTION NO. 572-85 Re:  AMENDMENT TO THE RESOLUTION ON WALTER JOHNSON-WOODWARD- BOUNDARY CHANGE LUXMANOR AND FARMLAND

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

Resolved, That the resolution on Walter Johnson-Woodward be amended by adding the following:

Resolved, That the elementary school attendance areas on and after July 1, 1986, consist of the attendance areas served during the 1985-86 school year with the following modifications:

o Reassign from Farmland Elementary to Luxmanor Elementary students living in the portion of the Farmland Elementary School attendance area north of Montrose Road, east of Jefferson Street, north of Rollins Avenue, and east of Congressional Lane, beginning with grades K-5 in 1988.

RESOLUTION NO. 573-85 Re:  REMOVING FROM THE TABLE THE PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE FOR GARRETT PARK AND KENSINGTON-PARKWOOD

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Slye, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:
Resolved, That the proposed boundary change for Garrett Park and Kensington-Parkwood be removed from the table.

RESOLUTION NO. 574-85  Re: AMENDMENT TO THE RESOLUTION ON WALTER JOHNSON-WOODWARD HIGH SCHOOLS - A SUBSTITUTE MOTION ON A BOUNDARY CHANGE FOR GARRETT PARK AND KENSINGTON-PARKWOOD

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

Resolved, That the resolution on Walter Johnson and Woodward be amended by the addition of the following bullet:

- Change the boundary between Garrett Park and Kensington-Parkwood Elementary Schools, assigning students living in the Timberlawn North and Tuckerman Station subdivisions (10800 to 11000 Snowshoe Lane; Sunday River Lane; Blue Knob Court; Smugglers Notch, Drive, Terrace; Loveland Terrace; Valrock Court; 5501 to 6099 Tuckerman Lane; Brewer House Road; Brewer House Circle; and Kings Riding Way) to Kensington-Parkwood from Garrett Park Elementary School, beginning with grades K-5 students in 1986.

RESOLUTION NO. 575-85  Re: AMENDMENT TO THE RESOLUTION ON WALTER JOHNSON-WOODWARD HIGH SCHOOLS

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

Resolved, That the following be added as a clarification to the first Resolved clause on the Walter Johnson-Woodward resolution:

"close Woodward High School in June of 1987, use Woodward and Walter Johnson as a two-building one school campus in 1987-88 and consolidate all students at the Walter Johnson site in 1988" to now read:

Resolved, That the Board of Education assign all ninth grade students from the Woodward/Walter Johnson area to Walter Johnson in September of 1986, close Woodward High School in June of 1987, use Woodward and Walter Johnson as a two-building one school campus in 1987-88 and consolidate all students at the Walter Johnson site in 1988; and be it further

Re: STATEMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Ewing made the following statement:
"I am going to vote for the resolution, but I have a lot of reservations about it. I expressed those the other night. I don't know that they need to be repeated. I am extremely unhappy over the failure of the Board to deal at all constructively, in my view, with the need for additional students at Richard Montgomery, and I think the action of the Board is faulty in that regard, but I think it is
important for us to get on with the business of moving ahead with decisions and with actions. Therefore, I am going to vote for the motion, but for the record I just wanted to express my extreme displeasure with what the Board had done."

Dr. Floyd made the following statement:
"Mr. President, my views on this matter were, I hope, very clearly stated on the last time we had the matter before us. The Board in its wisdom has determined that the consolidation should occur, and as a consequence and a follow-up to that we had a number of motions before us to ease that and to bring it about, some of which I supported. For that reason and for the reasons that had been stated before, I see no reason at this point to beat the dog in the manger so to speak, and so therefore reluctantly I guess I'd have to vote for the motion as well."

Mrs. Praisner made the following statement:

"I, too, think it is important to indicate that on Tuesday evening there were elements of this package that I did not support, and I still do not support. However, an adequate number of Board members have supported each of those proposals, and it seems to me it serves no purpose at this point to oppose the total motion because of my unhappiness with segments of it. So therefore I will vote for the entire resolution before the Board and hope that we can now work with the community to achieve the kind of quality programs that I think can be achieved."

Mrs. DiFonzo made the following statement:

"I, too, am going to support the entire package. There were parts of it that I voted for gladly and willingly. There were parts of it that I voted for very, very reluctantly because I did not care for the alternatives that we were developing. I am unhappy with that. I do not feel good about it. I have not slept well with myself because of it, and for those of you who have called and complained about it, you certainly have every right to. I don't love what I felt I had to do in certain circumstances. Given the opportunity to do it again under the same set of circumstances, I would more likely than not vote the same way. There are other segments of the Resolveds that I voted against, and I did it because that was the way I wanted to or because I felt that I didn't like the alternative there, and there were other instances on which I abstained. So I don't love every aspect of it. I don't think it is a perfect plan by any means, but considering the dragons with which we had to wrestle, the windmills with which we had to tilt, the inherent contradictions in terms of what we were doing, I think that seven people were able to come to closure on as many things as we did whether or not people feel that we have done anything or not. I think we did, and I think that that is, indeed, a tribute to seven people who were trying to do what we truly believe is best and right. It may not be perfect, but I think it is way ahead of what is in second place."
Dr. Cronin made the following statement:

"I, too, will accept the vote. What concerns me, however, is that stuck in the midst of this we have a school which I am afraid perhaps within two to three years we may be ending up voting to close, and I am not particularly happy with that. We have agreed to put a special emphasis in Richard Montgomery. We have agreed to go in with a special program. What I would hope I would hear from other communities which can go away with much more security that RM can is that they are committed to the success of Richard Montgomery, and therefore as we build a program at Richard Montgomery I would hope to be able to go out to the leaders of the other high schools and elicit your support in the strengthening of the academic program at RM so that in the future we can guarantee equity to all our kids."

Mrs. Slye made the following statement:

"I share some of the reservations that have been expressed by other Board members. I think mine center particularly around two issues. One is the support that these schools will need for a successful merger and consolidation, particularly under the circumstances that we have described. The other as has been noted by Dr. Cronin and Mr. Ewing is that, indeed, it will require all community support for the programs and the efforts at Richard Montgomery, which I think is equally important. I will support this whole package."

RESOLUTION NO. 576-85  Re:  WALTER JOHNSON AND CHARLES W. WOODWARD HIGH SCHOOL CLUSTERS

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

WHEREAS, The Board of Education in January 1985 requested a comprehensive plan for addressing program and facilities matters in Area 2 schools; and

WHEREAS, A procedure and time line for study, recommendations, alternatives, community comment, and Board action was established so that the plan could be constituted and action taken by December 1985; and

WHEREAS, That procedure and time line have been completed; and

WHEREAS, Notice has been provided to concerned citizens who submitted their views in writing and at public hearings on November 13 and November 23 on recommendations and Board-requested alternatives for addressing program and facilities matters in the area; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Board of Education assign all ninth grade students from the Woodward/Walter Johnson area to Walter Johnson in September of 1986, close Woodward High School in June of 1987, use Woodward and
Walter Johnson as a two-building one school campus in 1987-88 and consolidate all students at the Walter Johnson site in 1988; and be it further

Resolved, That the Charles W. Woodward High School building and site be retained by MCPS for other school uses; and be it further

Resolved, That the following capital budget related action be taken:
  o Place 10 relocatables classrooms at Walter Johnson High School in 1988
  o Place relocatable classrooms at the following schools in FY 1987 (1986-87)
    o three at Farmland Elementary School
    o one at Luxmanor Elementary School
  o Submit a request in FY 1987 (1986-87) for planning funds and for construction in FY 1988 (1987-88) for construction and equipment funds for the 11-classroom and physical education facility addition and expansion of core facilities at Luxmanor Elementary School

and be it further

Resolved, That the elementary school attendance areas on and after July 1, 1986, consist of the attendance areas served during the 1985-86 school year with the following modifications:
  o Reassign from Farmland Elementary to Luxmanor Elementary students living in the portion of the Farmland Elementary School attendance area north of Montrose Road, east of Jefferson Street, north of Rollins Avenue, and east of Congressional Lane, beginning with grades K-5 in 1988.
  o Change the boundary between Garrett Park and Kensington-Parkwood Elementary Schools, assigning students living in the Timberlawn North and Tuckerman Station subdivisions (10800 to 11000 Snowshoe Lane; Sunday River Lane; Blue Knob Court; Smugglers Notch, Drive, Terrace; Loveland Terrace; Valrock Court; 5501 to 6099 Tuckerman Lane; Brewer House Road; Brewer House Circle; and Kings Riding Way) to Kensington-Parkwood from Garrett Park Elementary School, beginning with grades K-5 students in 1986.

and be it further

Resolved, That the Board of Education assures that quality education programs will be maintained at Walter Johnson and Woodward High Schools; and be it further

Resolved, That the rationale for these actions and the anticipated impact of these actions as contained in the Board of Education minutes of November 26, 1985, and the documents comprising the Board's consideration of this matter are hereby incorporated as a part of these decisions; and be it further

Resolved, That the Walter Johnson and Charles W. Woodward High School communities be notified to the right to appeal in writing the closing
decision affecting its school to the state Board of Education within 30 days of these decisions; and be it further

Resolved, That the state superintendent of schools, County Council and county executive be made aware of these actions.

RESOLUTION NO. 577-85  Re: FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - QUINCE ORCHARD AND WATKINS MILL HIGH SCHOOLS

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education open the Quince Orchard High School in 1988 and Watkins Mill in 1989 and phase planning and construction requests accordingly.

For the record, Mr. Ewing made the following statement:

"Surely as we discuss this with the executive and Council they will ask questions about all of the assumptions which are built into this paper. I would assume that what we will tell them is that these are assumptions and illustrative rather than part of the Board action. The Board action refers only to the schedule and not to the adoption of all of these assumptions. I think that ought to be very clear for the record."

RESOLUTION NO. 578-85  Re: FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - OAK VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITION

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve the FY 1987 capital budget request for the Oak View Elementary School addition.

Re: A MOTION BY MR. EWING ON ROLLING TERRACE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Ewing moved and Dr. Floyd seconded that the Board add two of the three rooms requested by the Rolling Terrace community for Head Start and for the magnet room headquarters as described in the paper received by the Board.

Re: AN AMENDMENT TO MR. EWING'S MOTION ON ROLLING TERRACE ELEMENTARY (FAILED)

On motion of Mrs. DiFonzo an amendment to Mr. Ewing's motion that the Board approve one additional room at Rolling Terrace for special education failed with Mrs. DiFonzo, Mr. Ewing, and Mrs. Slye voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Dr. Floyd, Mrs. Praisner, and Dr.
Shoenberg voting in the negative.

RESOLUTION NO. 579-85  Re: FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - ROLLING TERRACE
          ADDITION OF ONE ROOM FOR HEAD START

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Dr. Floyd, the following
resolution was adopted with Mrs. DiFonzo, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Floyd, and
Mrs. Slye voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mrs. Praisner, and
Dr. Shoenberg voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the FY 1987 capital budget be amended by adding one
additional room for Head Start to the Rolling Terrace capital
project.

RESOLUTION NO. 580-85  Re: FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - ROLLING TERRACE
          ADDITION OF ONE ROOM FOR THE MAGNET
          PROGRAM

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Dr. Floyd, the following
resolution was adopted with Mrs. DiFonzo, Mr. Ewing, Dr. Floyd, and
Dr. Shoenberg voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Mrs. Praisner,
and Mrs. Slye voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the FY 1987 capital budget be amended by adding one
additional room for the magnet program to the Rolling Terrace capital
project.

RESOLUTION NO. 581-85  Re: FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - RELOCATABLE
          CLASSROOMS

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

Resolved, That the FY 1987 capital budget request for relocatable
classrooms be approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 582-85  Re: FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - DAMASCUS/
          WOODFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Resolved, That the FY 1987 capital budget be amended to move the
Damascus/Woodfield Elementary School project up a year with planning
in FY 1987, construction in FY 1988, to be available in September

RESOLUTION NO. 583-85  Re: FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - WALTER
          JOHNSON HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. DiFonzo, the following
resolution was adopted unanimously:
Resolved, That the FY 1987 capital budget be amended by deleting funds for an addition to Walter Johnson High School.

RESOLUTION NO. 584-85  Re:  FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - FIELDS ROAD AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Resolved, That the FY 1987 capital budget be amended by advancing the Fields Road Area elementary school by one year for planning in FY 1988 and construction in FY 1989.

Re:  A MOTION BY MR. EWING TO AMEND THE FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - MONOCACY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (FAILED)

A motion by Mr. Ewing to amend the FY 1987 capital budget by advancing the Monocacy Elementary School modernization project for planning in FY 1987 with construction in FY 1988 failed with Mr. Ewing voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cronin, Dr. Floyd, Mrs. Praisner, Dr. Shoenberg, and Mrs. Slye voting in the negative; Mrs. DiFonzo abstaining.

Re:  A MOTION BY MR. EWING TO AMEND THE FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - TAKOMA PARK INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL (FAILED)

A motion by Mr. Ewing to amend the FY 1987 capital budget by advancing the Takoma Park Intermediate School modernization project to planning in FY 1988 with construction in FY 1989 failed with Mr. Ewing voting in the affirmative; Mr. Cronin, Dr. Floyd, Mrs. Praisner, and Dr. Shoenenberg voting in the negative; Mrs. DiFonzo and Mrs. Slye abstaining.

Re:  A MOTION BY MRS. SLYE TO AMEND THE FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET FOR LAYTONSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mrs. Slye moved that the FY 1987 capital budget be amended by moving the Laytonsville Elementary School renovation project forward by two years.

RESOLUTION NO. 585-85  Re:  FY 1987 CAPITAL BUDGET - LAYTONSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MODERNIZATION - A SUBSTITUTE MOTION

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

Resolved, That the FY 1987 capital budget be amended by advancing the
Laytonsville Elementary School renovation project by one year with planning in FY 1988 and construction in FY 1989.

Re: ADJOURNMENT

The president adjourned the meeting at 11:05 p.m.

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President

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Secretary

WSC:mlw