The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, November 5, 1987, at 8:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL     Present:  Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner, President
                in the Chair
                Dr. James E. Cronin
                Mrs. Sharon DiFonzo
                Mr. Blair G. Ewing
                Mr. Bruce A. Goldensohn
                Mr. Andrew Herscowitz
                Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg
                Mrs. Mary Margaret Slye

Absent:  None

Others Present:  Dr. Harry Pitt, Superintendent of Schools
                Dr. Paul L. Vance, Deputy Superintendent

Re:  WORK SESSION ON CAPITAL BUDGET AND FACILITIES ALTERNATIVES

Mrs. Praisner explained that the purpose of the meeting was for Board members to raise questions about the facilities process and the capital budget and to add any recommendations they would like for the public hearing process. In order for there to be an alternative, four votes were required.

Re:  REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Board members requested the following information:

1. Information on portables. Dr. Pitt stated that he would provide Board members with a break-out showing where they were placing portable classrooms in relation to requests for portables.
2. Mr. Ewing asked when the superintendent would be addressing the issue of housing students at Oak View next year.
3. Mr. Ewing asked about program delivery at Olney Elementary if the upper grades were sent to another location.
4. Mrs. Praisner asked staff to check into signs for a new entrance at Rock Creek Forest Elementary School.
5. Mrs. Slye asked that in the next year staff look at the feasibility of reopening an elementary school in the Churchill/Walter Johnson area.
6. Dr. Cronin asked for a listing of the tenants in the Cabin John building.
7. Mr. Ewing suggested that the final version of the facilities plan include more narrative in descriptions of schools in the Richard Montgomery cluster.
8. Mr. Goldensohn asked staff to review the timing of the Clarksburg modernization and to supply him with some details on future
enrollments and plans for modernization. Mrs. DiFonzo asked about problems with the younger children using the old one-room school house on the Clarksburg site.

9. Mrs. Praisner asked Dr. Rohr to supply his reactions to the letter received from the Montgomery Village Junior High School PTSA.

10. Mr. Goldensohn asked for information on stadium seating at Magruder High School in relation to seating at other high schools. He also asked staff to relook at the gym doors which had been raised as an issue last year.

11. Mrs. DiFonzo asked for information on schools with problems similar to those of Mill Creek Towne (age, need for renovation and need for air conditioning). Mr. Goldensohn requested a report on spaces used for instruction at Mill Creek Towne which did not have windows.

12. Mrs. Slye asked staff to look at a new school in the upper county area to see whether housing development came in faster when a school was available. Mrs. Praisner suggested they work with Park and Planning to take a planned school location and follow the projections, development and occupancy in that area and monitor whether development increased more rapidly when it was decided to place a school. Dr. Cronin asked staff to check into whether a graduate school or students would be interested in doing such a study.

13. Mr. Ewing asked about the projections in enrollment in special schools in relation to increased student projections in regular schools.

14. Mr. Ewing suggested that the Board might want to decide for itself whether the Council approach to stadium lighting was something the Board agreed with. Mrs. Praisner said it would be useful if they had a position with clear information on options and process and with recommendations from the superintendent.

15. Mrs. Praisner asked that the Board receive a schedule for the construction of elementary school gyms and the process the staff was using for assessing needs.

Mrs. DiFonzo assumed the chair.

RESOLUTION NO. 516-87  Re:  ALTERNATIVE - PAINT BRANCH CLUSTER

On motion of Mrs. Praisner seconded by Mrs. Slye, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cronin, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Praisner, Dr. Shoenberg, and Mrs. Slye voting in the affirmative; Mr. Goldensohn and (Mr. Herscowitz) being temporarily absent:

RESOLVED, That the superintendent develop an alternative to request a supplemental appropriation for the construction of a middle school in the Paint Branch cluster area with planning approval in 1988, construction in 1989, to open in 1990 with conversion to middle schools at that time.

Mrs. Praisner assumed the chair.

RESOLUTION NO. 517-87  Re:  ALTERNATIVE - SHERWOOD CLUSTER
On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Dr. Cronin, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, That the superintendent develop an alternative to request planning funds for the modernization of Olney Elementary School in a supplemental appropriation in FY 1988, with construction funds requested in FY 1989, and with the modernization taking place in FY 1990 and to look at the location and timing of the new elementary school in the Olney area.

Mrs. Praisner asked that the record show the Board had requested information about asbestos abatement. Dr. Pitt indicated that the Board would be receiving information on this issue in the spring at the latest. At present they were not sure of the cost or personnel needs required for asbestos abatement.

For the record, Mr. Goldensohn stated that while he had missed the vote on the Paint Branch cluster, he did agree with the majority on this alternative.

Re:  ADJOURNMENT

The president adjourned the meeting at 12:07 a.m.

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President
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Secretary

HP:mlw