The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Monday, November 14, 1988, at 7:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:  Dr. James E. Cronin, Vice President in the Chair
          Mr. Blair G. Ewing
          Mr. Bruce A. Goldensohn
          Mr. Chan Park
          Mrs. Marilyn J. Praisner
          Mrs. Vicki Rafel
          Dr. Robert E. Shoenberg

Absent:  Mrs. Sharon DiFonzo

Others Present:  Dr. Harry Pitt, Superintendent of Schools
                Dr. Paul L. Vance, Deputy Superintendent
                Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian
                Mrs. Catherine E. Hobbs, Board Member-elect

Re:  PUBLIC HEARING - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM AND FACILITIES PROCESS - AREA 2 ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Cronin announced that Mrs. DiFonzo was out of town attending a conference. She would listen to the tapes of the meeting and read the testimony when she returned. Mrs. Praisner said that her telephone answering machine had malfunctioned over the weekend. She apologized to people who had called and left messages because she was unable to contact them because the machine had not recorded their calls.

Re:  MUNICIPALITIES, COUNTYWIDE ORGANIZATIONS, AND CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Edward Milenky, Manor Lake Civic Association
2. Elliot Chabot, Aspen Hill Civic Association
3. Jordan Goodman, Norbeck Manor Civic Association
4. Mark Guyer, Area 2 Center for the Highly Gifted

Re:  BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Dr. Cronin asked staff to look into the question of outside lighting at Parkland and whether this could be done by PLAR. Mrs. Praisner suggested that this was not strictly a Parkland problem. It was an issue the Board might want to look at as schools were used more and more in the evening. Mr. Goldensohn asked that staff look into resetting the timers at the schools when they went off Daylight Savings Time.
Re: BETHESDA–CHEVY CHASE CLUSTER

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Bev Denbo, cluster coordinator
2. Nancy Goldblatt, Rock Creek Forest PTA
3. Peter Galvin, North Chevy Chase PTA
4. Nancy McCloskey, Westbrook PTA
5. Joyce Schwartz, Somerset PTA

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Mrs. Praisner asked about the Somerset request for movable walls, and staff indicated that they would look at this possibility although this was a difficult process.

Board members asked staff to review capacity figures based on discrepancies between CIP-published figures and community testimony. A specific question was raised about capacity figures for Rosemary Hills in Mrs. Denbo's testimony.

Re: CHURCHILL CLUSTER

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Steve Seelig, Hoover PTA
2. Jan Watson, Bridge School

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Mrs. Praisner asked staff to look at options for providing more space for the Bridge School at Churchill High School. Mr. Goldensohn asked about the possibility of creating a larger media center at Churchill, perhaps by using the modulars. Staff indicated that the analysis of space needs would be done next year.

Re: WALTER JOHNSON CLUSTER

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Ann Fink, cluster coordinator
2. Sue Olson, Ashburton PTA
3. Tom Schick, Farmland PTA
3. Brenda Sandler, Walter Johnson PTSA

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Dr. Cronin asked about the 35 ESOL students listed in the Walter Johnson testimony. The Sandler testimony stated that 35 Churchill students assigned to the ESOL center at Richard Montgomery would be coming to Walter Johnson in September, 1989.

Mrs. Praisner asked if staff could look into the suggestion about
reopening Grosvenor Elementary School as part of the space solution in the Walter Johnson cluster. Dr. Cronin asked that they look at the potential pairing of Ashburton and a reopened Grosvenor. Mr. Ewing pointed out the discrepancy in the Walter Johnson capacity figures in the CIP and in the testimony. He asked for information on portables at Walter Johnson, and Dr. Cronin asked that staff work with the principal before the spring decision on portable classrooms.

Re: RICHARD MONTGOMERY CLUSTER

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Marsha Werner, cluster coordinator
3. Eugene Thirolf, West MS and Beall PTA
4. Mona Levine, College Gardens PTA

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Mrs. Praisner asked for staff's reactions to the list of items appended to the Richard Montgomery testimony. She asked whether these could be handled by other than a capital budget project.

Dr. Shoenberg asked whether it would be possible to develop a series of strategies for space modifications for schools not scheduled to be modernized in the near future. For example, older schools were not built to handle all of the support services now in schools.

Mr. Goldensohn inquired about the cost of air-conditioning the all-purpose room at College Gardens. He indicated that he was also interested in other schools with the same problem.

Re: ROCKVILLE CLUSTER

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Mary Shoff, cluster coordinator
2. Richard Durand, Rockville High School PTSA
3. Clyde Heintzelman, Wood PTA
4. Julie Adams, Flower Valley PTA
5. Anita Ehrstein, Barnsley PTA
6. Linda Dubrasky, Maryvale PTA
7. Jackie Smith, Meadow Hall PTA
8. Marlie Suarez, Rock Creek Valley PTA

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

In regard to Rockville cluster options, Board members asked for a staff response to those not covered in previous follow-up responses. Dr. Cronin asked for a map showing all the alternatives (community and staff). Mrs. Praisner requested information on the numbers of students in the various options. Board members asked for information on differences in student projections, particularly the numbers from the Manor Apartments. Mr. Goldensohn asked for information on what
would happen to other area schools if changes were made in the superintendent's plan.

Dr. Shoenberg asked if it would be possible for staff to estimate the number of AP and honors courses that might be affected by enrollment trends in Rockville High School over the next couple of years. Mrs. Praisner asked for a report on building needs at Rock Creek Valley and Lucy Barnsley, as detailed in testimony. Mr. Goldensohn asked what could be done about the copy machine at Barnsley.

Re: WALT WHITMAN CLUSTER

The following individuals appeared before the Board:

1. Beth Tiernan, Walt Whitman PTSA
2. Sharon Short, Pyle PTA
3. Edie Semler, Carderock Springs PTA
4. Linda Tanenbaum, Burning Tree PTA
5. Wendy Cimmet, cluster coordinator

Re: BOARD/COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Mr. Goldensohn asked about the feasibility and cost of installing fans at Carderock Springs Elementary School as suggested in the testimony. Mrs. Praisner asked about the criteria and timetable on building elementary school physical education facilities. She thought the Board had to be clear about the criteria and to have some sense of the numbers of schools that did not have physical education facilities.

Re: ADJOURNMENT

The vice president adjourned the meeting at 10:50 p.m.

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VICE PRESIDENT
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SECRETARY

HP:mlw