The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, February 25, 1992, at 7:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:  Mrs. Catherine Hobbs, President in the Chair
Mrs. Frances Brenneman
Mrs. Sharon DiFonzo*
Mr. Blair G. Ewing
Mrs. Carol Fanconi
Ms. Ana Sol Gutierrez

Absent:  Dr. Alan Cheung
Mr. Shervin Pishevar

Others Present:  Dr. Paul L. Vance, Superintendent
Mrs. Katheryn W. Gemberling, Deputy
Dr. H. Philip Rohr, Deputy
Mr. Thomas S. Fess, Parliamentarian

*indicates student vote does not count. Four votes are needed for adoption.

RESOLUTION NO. 140-92  Re:  BOARD AGENDA - FEBRUARY 25, 1992

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for February 25, 1992.

*Mrs. DiFonzo joined the meeting at this point.

Re:  ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Hobbs announced that Dr. Cheung had another commitment and Mr. Pishevar was ill. The purpose of the meeting was to review and consider alternatives to the superintendent's facilities recommendations. Four votes were necessary for an alternative to be adopted. She pointed out that the situation had changed somewhat because today the County Council's education committee had voted unanimously to recommend that the full Council reject a 33-room addition to Blair High School; however, the committee did recognize the need for some renovations and some additional classroom space at the school.
Re: UPDATE ON TAYLOR CONSOLIDATION

Staff announced that the superintendent would not be making a recommendation at this time on the consolidation of the Taylor Learning Center.

Re: UPDATE ON WOOTTON-CHURCHILL MID-LEVEL FACILITIES

Staff announced that the superintendent would not be making a recommendation at this time on mid-level facilities in the Wootton-Churchill clusters.

Re: EASTERN AREA STUDY

Staff reviewed the superintendent's recommendations for the Eastern area of the county which included the construction of a new high school and additions to existing high schools.

Re: BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL

Board members discussed the proposal adopted by the County Council's education committee and its implications for current plans to expand Blair High School. Dr. Vance suggested that the situation faced by the Board fell under the "Unusual Circumstances" section of the Long-range Educational Facilities Planning policy which allowed for a condensed time schedule for making recommendations to the Board, for scheduling hearings, and for Board action.

Re: A MOTION BY MR. EWING ON BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Ewing moved and Mrs. Brenneman seconded a proposed alternative to explore the possibility of utilizing one of three schools (Eastern, Takoma Park IS, or Northwood) which were now slated to be middle schools as part of a second campus for Blair High School.

RESOLUTION NO. 141-92 Re: POSTPONING OF MR. EWING'S MOTION ON BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL

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

Resolved, That Mr. Ewing's proposed motion on Blair High School be postponed until the superintendent developed recommendations on Blair High School.
Re: FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

Staff reviewed information regarding the possibility of housing the French Immersion Program at Connecticut Park. Mrs. Hobbs indicated that the Board had already taken a position to locate the program at Maryvale; therefore, she would entertain a motion for reconsideration. Mr. Ewing challenged the ruling of the chair.

Re: RULING OF THE CHAIR

Mrs. Brenneman, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mrs. Fanconi, and Mrs. Hobbs supported the ruling of the chair. Mr. Ewing did not, and Ms. Gutierrez abstained.

RESOLUTION NO. 142-92 Re: RECONSIDERATION OF LOCATION OF FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education reconsider the location of the French Immersion Program.

RESOLUTION NO. 143-92 Re: BOARD ALTERNATIVE - FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt the following alternative:

 Relocate the French Immersion Program to Connecticut Park

RESOLUTION NO. 144-92 Re: RECONSIDERATION OF GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM - KENSINGTON-PARKWOOD ELEMENTARY

On motion of Mrs. Brenneman seconded by Ms. Gutierrez, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the Board of Education reconsider the assignment of the fourth grade students in the G&T program at Kensington-Parkwood Elementary School.

RESOLUTION NO. 145-92 Re: GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM - KENSINGTON-PARKWOOD ELEMENTARY

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt the following alternative:
Grandfather the current G&T fourth grade students at Kensington-Parkwood for the fifth grade

RESOLUTION NO. 146-92  Re: DECLARATION OF UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER LONG-RANGE FACILITIES POLICY

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

Resolved, That the members of the Board of Education hereby declare that an unusual circumstance exists as defined in the Long-range Educational Facilities Planning Policy and requests the superintendent to set dates for Board facilities alternatives, a public hearing, and action prior to mid-April; and be it further

Resolved, That the public hearing scheduled for March 5, 1991, is hereby cancelled providing that the Kensington-Parkwood community is amendable to testifying at a later date.

Re: ADJOURNMENT

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

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PRESIDENT  SECRETARY

PLV:mlw