The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Tuesday, March 31, 1992, at 7:55 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present:  Mrs. Catherine Hobbs, President in the Chair
Mrs. Frances Brenneman
Dr. Alan Cheung
Mrs. Sharon DiFonzo
Mr. Blair G. Ewing
Mrs. Carol Fanconi
Ms. Ana Sol Gutierrez
Mr. Shervin Pishevar

Absent:  None

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. 267-92  Re:  BOARD AGENDA - MARCH 31, 1992

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education approve its agenda for March 31, 1992, with the addition of an item on the settlement of an arbitration.

RESOLUTION NO. 268-92  Re:  SETTLEMENT OF ARBITRATION

On recommendation of the superintendent and on motion of Mr. Pishevar seconded by Ms. Gutierrez, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Fanconi, Ms. Gutierrez, Mrs. Hobbs, and (Mr. Pishevar) voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Brenneman and Mrs. DiFonzo voting in the negative#:

Resolved, That the Board of Education authorize its counsel to settle any and all claims arising out of the Highland Elementary School renovation and expansion project in accordance with the proposal presented by counsel in his letter of March 26, 1992, and direct staff to work with counsel in implementing this settlement.
Re: FACILITIES ISSUES AND ALTERNATIVES

Mrs. Hobbs explained that the purpose of the meeting was for Board members to ask questions of staff on various facilities issues and to propose alternatives to the superintendent's recommendations.

Re: KENSINGTON-PARKWOOD CENTER FOR THE HIGHLY GIFTED

Mrs. Hobbs requested information on how many buses would actually be needed if the current fourth graders remained at Kensington-Parkwood for one additional year.

Re: OPTIONS FOR BLAIR CLUSTER SPACE NEEDS

Mr. Ewing said it would be helpful to have some breakout of the Blair/Einstein piece of I-C because it was not clear to him. Mrs. Brenneman asked that the Board be provided with the information on large high schools that had been provided to the Blair cluster. Mr. Ewing asked staff to confirm his view of zoning law and the Kay tract. He also requested staff to try to provide an estimate of maintenance and utilities savings over the years if a new Blair High School were built on the Kay tract. He asked staff if they could provide information on other large schools and what had been done to design the facility and to organize the school to offer the benefits of "smallness" in a large facility.

Mrs. Fanconi asked for some information on all of the options that would give the Board some idea of how many magnet students, which magnets, how many ESOL students, etc. would be in each option to show how many students they would have for a comprehensive program. She also requested information on what would happen if they had a magnet in a small middle school.

Mr. Ewing asked that the Board receive legal advice on all of the Blair options.

RESOLUTION NO. 269-92 Re: RESCISSION OF RESOLUTION NO. 792-90, REGARDING THE BLAIR CLUSTER

On motion of Mrs. Fanconi seconded by Mr. Pishevar, the following resolution was adopted with Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mrs. Fanconi, Mrs. Hobbs, and (Mr. Pishevar) voting in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing and Ms. Gutierrez voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education rescind Resolution No. 792-90, dated December 11, 1990, which called for enlarging

RESOLUTION NO. 270-92  Re: BLAIR ALTERNATIVE - PLAN II

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Mr. Pishevar, the following resolution was adopted with Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Fanconi, Ms. Gutierrez, and (Mr. Pishevar) voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Brenneman, Mrs. DiFonzo, and Mrs. Hobbs abstaining#:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt as an alternative Plan II which would create a new Blair High School on the Kay tract.

RESOLUTION NO. 271-92  Re: BLAIR ALTERNATIVE - PLANS I-B AND I-C

On motion of Mr. Ewing seconded by Dr. Cheung, the following resolution was adopted with Mrs. Brenneman, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Fanconi, and Mrs. Hobbs voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cheung, Ms. Gutierrez, and (Mr. Pishevar) voting in the negative#:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt as an alternative a combination of Plans I-B and I-C which both provide for a split campus.

Re: A MOTION BY MRS. FANCONI ON A BOARD ALTERNATIVE FOR BLAIR (FAILED)

A motion by Mrs. Fanconi that the Board of Education adopt as an alternative Plan III which would reopen Northwood High School failed for lack of a second.

For the record, Mrs. Fanconi stated that she did not support this option but thought it should be on the table for public discussion.

Dr. Cheung assumed the chair.

Re: A MOTION BY MRS. HOBBS ON A BOARD ALTERNATIVE FOR BLAIR (FAILED)

A motion by Mrs. Hobbs that the Board of Education adopt as an alternative a plan that would open Northwood as a center for innovative language Grades 6-12, and it would be a second high school in the Blair cluster failed with Mrs. Hobbs voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mr. Ewing, Mrs. Fanconi, and Ms. Gutierrez voting in the negative; (Mr. Pishevar) abstaining.
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Mrs. Hobbs assumed the chair. Dr. Vance stated that at some point he would like to come back and revisit the concept of a language school with an array of languages as well as cost implications.

Re: EASTERN AREA PROPOSALS

Mr. Ewing asked that the Board be provided with an analysis of the option of massive redistricting so that the Board could focus on this issue on April 14. The Board could come to some consensus about redistricting so that they could tell the Council their position on this issue.

RESOLUTION NO. 272-92 Re: BOARD ALTERNATIVE - FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

On motion of Mrs. Fanconi seconded by Ms. Gutierrez, the following resolution was adopted with Mrs. Brenneman, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mrs. Fanconi, Ms. Gutierrez, and Mrs. Hobbs voting in the affirmative; Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, and (Mr. Pishevar) voting in the negative:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt as an alternative that the Board discontinue the French Immersion Program and return the students to their home schools; and be it further

Resolved, That the alternative would look at the impact on the home schools and the cost of this.

Dr. Cheung assumed the chair.

RESOLUTION NO. 273-92 Re: BOARD ALTERNATIVE - FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

On motion of Mrs. Hobbs seconded by Mrs. DiFonzo, the following resolution was adopted with Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, Mrs. DiFonzo, Mrs. Fanconi, Ms. Gutierrez, and Mrs. Hobbs voting in the affirmative; Mr. Ewing voting in the negative; and (Mr. Pishevar) abstaining:

Resolved, That the Board of Education adopt an alternative that would modify the Board action of November 25, 1992, by retaining the French Immersion Program at Maryvale and continuing it as a magnet.

Mrs. Hobbs assumed the chair.
Re: ADJOURNMENT

The president adjourned the meeting at 11:55 p.m.

___________________________________
PRESIDENT

___________________________________
SECRETARY

PLV:mlw