The Board of Education of Montgomery County met in special session at the Carver Educational Services Center, Rockville, Maryland, on Thursday, February 4, 1993, at 7 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:  Dr. Alan Cheung, President
          in the Chair
          Mr. Stephen Abrams
          Mrs. Frances Brenneman
          Mr. Blair G. Ewing
          Mrs. Carol Fanconi
          Mrs. Beatrice Gordon
          Ms. Ana Sol Gutierrez
          Mr. Jonathan Sims

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.

Re: REPORT FROM TASK FORCE ON LONG-RANGE PLANNING AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Dr. Cheung welcomed former Congressman Michael Barnes, co-chair of the Task Force on Long-range Planning and Resource Allocation.

Congressman Barnes explained that the task force has been learning, studying, and analyzing the current situation in the school system. They had received briefings from the superintendent's staff and had visited schools to learn about the school system offerings and the challenges faced by MCPS. They had recently divided into four working groups. The first group, "Improve the Present System," would examine administrative overhead, privatization issues, paraprofessionals, classroom uses of computers and video equipment, resource allocations, and current labor negotiations. The second group, "New and Better Ways to Teach and Learn," would look at experiential learning, team teaching, interdisciplinary curricula, tele-learning, decentralization, school choice, and future labor negotiations looking at paper for performance and other compensation innovations. The third group, "Fiscal Outreach," would explore possible new revenue sources, taxing authority, private/public partnerships, user fees, the budget process, integration with other county government operation, and marketing of school system products and services. The fourth group, "Measuring and Rewarding Educational Performance," would attempt to compile
available data for use by all task groups and evaluate the quality of existing MCPS performance criteria. They would assess alternative performance assessment and reward systems for teachers, for staff, and for students.

Congressman Barnes reported that they would continue to coordinate their work with efforts being made by the corporate partnership group to make sure they were not duplicating efforts. He indicated that to do justice to the Board's charge they would need additional time. They hoped to have an interim report in September and a final report in early 1994. In addition, they would be doing some public outreach to find out what the public thought the task force should be examining.

Board members expressed their appreciation to Congressman Barnes and the members of the task force in the audience.

RESOLUTION NO. 85-93  Re: AMENDMENT TO CHARGE FOR TASK FORCE ON LONG-RANGE PLANNING AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION

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

Resolved, That the original time frame for the reports of the Task Force on Long-range Planning and Resource Allocation be amended to have the interim report in September, 1993 and the final report by the end of 1993 or the beginning of 1994 unless advised otherwise by the Task Force.

Re: ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Cheung announced that the Board had met in closed session from 7:50 to 8:40 to discuss negotiations issues.

Re: A MOTION BY MR. ABRAMS TO AMEND THE FY 1994 OPERATING BUDGET, EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN - RETIRED (FAILED)

A motion by Mr. Abrams to reduce the Employee Benefit Plan - Retired by up to $3 million in order to offset amounts included in the final budget recommendation above the spending affordability guideline failed with Mr. Abrams and Mrs. Gordon voting in the affirmative; Mrs. Brenneman, Dr. Cheung, Mr. Ewing, and Ms. Gutierrez voting in the negative; Mrs. Fanconi and (Mr. Sims) abstaining.
Re: A MOTION BY MR. EWING TO AMEND THE FY 1994 OPERATING BUDGET, MANAGEMENT, BUDGET, AND PLANNING

Mr. Ewing moved and Ms. Gutierrez seconded a motion to create a position in Management, Budget, and Planning for a grants coordinator, Grade 24, starting at mid-year in the amount of $27,898.

Re: A MOTION BY MR. ABRAMS TO AMEND MR. EWING'S MOTION ON THE GRANTS COORDINATOR (FAILED)

A motion by Mr. Abrams to amend Mr. Ewing's motion by funding the grants coordinator position through an offset in the Employee Benefit Plan - Retired failed for lack of a second.

RESOLUTION NO. 86-93 Re: AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 1994 OPERATING BUDGET, MANAGEMENT, BUDGET AND PLANNING

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

Resolved, That the FY 1994 Operating Budget be amended by the addition of grants coordinator, Grade 24, for half a year, in Management, Budget, and Planning in the amount of $27,898.

Re: A MOTION BY MRS. FANCONI TO AMEND THE FY 1994 OPERATING BUDGET, PAYROLL

Mrs. Fanconi moved and Mr. Ewing seconded a motion to amend the FY 1994 Operating Budget, Payroll, by adding $177,138 to implement the on-line payroll system to be pilot tested in 1994 and completed in 1995, with the understanding that the question of positions would be left open until the Board determined what the best approach might be for accomplishing this task.

Re: A MOTION BY MR. ABRAMS TO AMEND MRS. FANCONI'S MOTION ON PAYROLL (FAILED)

A motion by Mr. Abrams to amend Mrs. Fanconi's motion on payroll by funding the on-line system through an offset in the Employee Benefit Plan - Retired failed for lack of a second.
RESOLUTION NO. 87-93  Re:  AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 1994 OPERATING BUDGET, PAYROLL

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

Resolved, That the FY 1994 Operating Budget, Payroll, be amended by adding $177,138 to implement the on-line payroll system to be piloted tested in 1994 and completed in 1995, with the understanding that the question of positions would be left open until the Board determined what the best approach might be for accomplishing this task.

RESOLUTION NO. 88-93  Re:  AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 1994 OPERATING BUDGET, TRANSPORTATION

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

Resolved, That the FY 1994 Operating Budget, Transportation, be amended by placing $500,000 for reimbursable field trips in an enterprise fund.

RESOLUTION NO. 89-93  Re:  AN AMENDMENT TO THE FY 1994 OPERATING BUDGET, SATURDAY SCHOOL AND EVENING HIGH SCHOOL

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

Resolved, That the FY 1994 Operating Budget be amended by removing Saturday School and Evening High School from the Enterprise Fund and returning it to the regular program at a total cost of $505,264.

Re: REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Mr. Abrams asked staff to give him a perspective on an open ended version of his motion on the Employee Benefit Plan - Retired to conform to where they were on Tuesday and an alternative amendment to identify it as the amounts necessary for cuts that would have to be made to conform to spending affordability guidelines.

2. Mr. Ewing suggested that the efficiency measures and cost savings achieved by the staff be highlighted in the letter of transmittal to the County Council.
3. Mr. Ewing asked for the staff's advice on a motion to make on February 9, 1993, to request the County Council to place the Community Use of Schools Program in the Board's budget with a reduction of operating cost by 5 percent.

4. In regard to transportation, Mr. Ewing asked to see options the staff considered that would save some money but not lengthen the school day.

5. Ms. Gutierrez requested information on possible reductions in cost if three (transportation dispatchers, assistant dispatchers, and transportation time and attendant assistant) of the classes of 12-month positions in transportation were reduced to 10-month positions. She also wanted to know how many people were being supervised by the 24 supervisory positions in transportation.

6. Mr. Abrams asked how they would have to adjust class size to achieve a savings in the evening high school program of $32,000.

7. Mrs. Fanconi requested information on what they were charging for the GED program, how much income was derived, and what was the cost per student other than tuition.

8. In regard to the autism program, Mr. Ewing asked for a staff reaction to his suggestion that the program needed a director position, greater consultant time, and speech pathology assistance.

RESOLUTION NO. 90-93 Re: ADJOURNMENT

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

Resolved, That the Board of Education adjourn its meeting at 11:25 p.m.

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PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

PLV:mlw